

U.S. ECONOMIC SANCTIONS 2023 PUBLICATION

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February 14, 2023

BACKGROUND:

On 2013 INTA made the following publication: U.S. Economic Sanctions and Anti-Boycott Laws. July 15, 2013. Paul F. Kilmer. The Embargoes and Sanctions SC has worked on the update of such publication for the 2020-2021 and 2022-2023 terms.

DISCLAIMER:

All information provided by the International Trademark Association in this document is provided to the public as a source of general information on (1) the ability of U.S. nationals or U.S. companies to protect their trademark rights in countries that are the subject of current U.S. economic sanctions and (2) non-use cancellation and renewal of trademark registrations in the sanctioned countries. In legal matters, no publication, whether in written or electronic form, can take the place of professional advice given with full knowledge of the specific circumstances of each case and proficiency in the laws of the relevant country. While efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this document, it should not be treated as the basis for formulating business decisions without professional advice. We emphasize that intellectual property laws vary from country to country, and between jurisdictions within some countries. The information included in this document will not be relevant or accurate for all countries or states.

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Balkans



Map of Balkans.¹

Namely: Albania, Bosnia, Croatia, Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Slovenia, Serbia, Romania, and Bulgaria.²

The U.S. Sanctions Program regulations against the Balkans do not prohibit U.S. nationals or U.S. companies from engaging in activities to protect their intellectual property rights. The current regulations do not require a Specific License for the filing and prosecution of trademark applications, receipt of trademark protection, renewal or maintenance of a trademark registration, or the filing and prosecution of opposition or infringement proceedings.³ Furthermore, the U.S. sanctions regarding the Balkans do not specifically block trademark-related transactions unless the transactions are with persons identified as a threat.

1. Albania

- a. Non-use Cancellation: If the mark owner does not use its trademark for the goods or services for which it was registered for an uninterrupted period of five (5) years, the trademark is subject to cancellation, unless reasonable causes have prevented use of the trademark.⁴
- b. Renewal: Registered trademarks in Albania have a validity of ten (10) years from the application date and can be renewed indefinitely for further periods of ten (10) years. The trademark renewal can be requested as early as twelve (12) months before the expiration date.⁵

2. Bosnia

- a. Non-use Cancellation: A registered trademark can be cancelled for non-use if the trademark owner has not seriously used, without justified reasons, the trademark in Bosnia and Herzegovina to designate the goods or services for which it was registered for an uninterrupted period of five (5) years.⁶

¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balkans>

² <https://www.mondaq.com/intellectual-property/115214/the-challenges-of-ip-protection-in-the-balkans>

³ <https://www.mondaq.com/unitedstates/export-controls-trade-investment-sanctions/308040/implications-of-us-sanctions-program-on-intellectual-property-owners?>

⁴ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=9e95115a-1144-497e-aeb2-e7030b669846>

⁵ <https://igerent.com/trademark-registration-albania>

⁶ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=a3c1862e-1f12-4bab-8d35-3999ccf05e9b>

- b. Renewal: The term of protection is ten (10) years from the application filing date. The registration can be renewed for an indefinite number of times by filing a request for renewal and payment of the prescribed fees.⁷
3. Croatia
- a. Non-use Cancellation: A trademark may be revoked if it has not been put to genuine use in Croatia for a continuous period of five (5) years in relation to the goods or services for which it is registered and there are no justified reasons for non-use.⁸
- b. Renewal: Registration is valid for ten (10) years. The registration of a trademark may be renewed an indefinite number of times, for ten (10)-year periods, provided that the trademark owner files with the State Intellectual Property Office a request for renewal of the registration of the trademark; and pays the prescribed fee and procedural charges in the course of the last year of the ten (10)-year period of protection.⁹
4. Macedonia
- a. Non-use Cancellation: Cancellation can occur if the rights holder, without any justified reasons, fails to use the trademark in the course of trade for a continuous period of over five (5) years from the date when the trademark has been entered in the register of trademarks.¹⁰
- b. Renewal: A trademark is valid for ten (10) years from the date of filing the application. The validity of the trademark can be extended an unlimited number of times for a period of ten (10) years if the holder, during the last year of validity or at the latest nine (9) months after the expiration of the validity, files an application for renewal and pays the appropriate fees.¹¹
5. Kosovo
- a. Non-use Cancellation: A request for cancellation for non-use may be submitted if, within a continuous period of five (5) years from the trademark registration date or date of last use the trademark has not been put to genuine use in Kosovo in connection with the goods or services for which it is registered; and there are no proper reasons for non-use.¹²
- b. Renewal: The term of protection is ten (10) years. Registration can be renewed an indefinite number of times for ten (10) years each time, provided that the trademark rights holder files a request for renewal at least six (6) months before the registration expires.¹³
6. Montenegro
- a. Non-use Cancellation: Cancellation of a registered trademark may occur if the owner has failed, without justified reason, to use the trademark genuinely within the national marketplace in respect of the goods or services to which the trademark relates for an uninterrupted period of five (5) years.¹⁴

⁷ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=a3c1862e-1f12-4bab-8d35-3999ccf05e9b>

⁸ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=98437306-d6c9-4009-8bb2-332daf1816e0>

⁹ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=98437306-d6c9-4009-8bb2-332daf1816e0>

¹⁰ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=b14e7a1c-5468-4334-b874-907de243d94f>

¹¹ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=b14e7a1c-5468-4334-b874-907de243d94f>

¹² <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=6db098c5-b56b-4536-8477-fd1ae54cc2a8>

¹³ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=6db098c5-b56b-4536-8477-fd1ae54cc2a8>

¹⁴ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=01a183f2-2264-4220-bee9-443d49a46021>

- b. Renewal: The term of protection is ten (10) years from the application date. Trademarks can be renewed an unlimited number of times. Renewal claims can be filed six (6) months before the respective renewal due date.¹⁵
7. Slovenia
- a. Non-use Cancellation: A mark can be cancelled for non-use if, within a consecutive five (5)-year period from the date of entry of the trademark in the register, or the last day on which the mark has been seriously and effectively used in Slovenia, the owner without proper reasons fails to use the mark in connection with the goods or services in respect of which it is registered.¹⁶
- b. Renewal: The term for the protection of a mark is ten (10) years from the application's filing date. The mark can be renewed an unlimited number of times (each time for ten (10) years), calculated from the application's filing date upon the payment of a maintenance fee.¹⁷
8. Serbia
- a. Non-use Cancellation: Competent authority may issue a decision on the revocation of a trademark if the holder of the trademark fails, without a justified reason, to use the trademark on the domestic market for marking goods or services for an uninterrupted period of five (5) years.¹⁸
- b. Renewal: The duration of a trademark is ten (10) years from the date of filing the application, and its validity may be renewed an indefinite number of times on the filing of a request and payment of the prescribed fee.¹⁹
9. Romania
- a. Non-use Cancellation: Anyone with a legitimate interest may request the court to deprive a trademark owner of its rights if, without legitimate reason, the mark was not effectively used in Romania within an uninterrupted period of five (5) years as from registration of the trademark in the Trademarks Register, or if this use has been suspended for an uninterrupted period of five (5) years.²⁰
- b. Renewal: A registered trademark is valid for ten (10) years from its filing date and may be renewed indefinitely for consecutive ten (10)-year periods.²¹
10. Bulgaria
- a. Non-use Cancellation: In case registered trademark in Bulgaria is not used in this territory within five (5) years from registration, the registration may be revoked, unless there are legitimate reasons for non-use.²²
- b. Renewal: The trademark in Bulgaria is registered for the period of ten (10) years starting from the date of filing. Trademark in Bulgaria may be renewed for ten (10)-year periods. The renewal fees can be paid during the last year of the protection period or within six (6) months after the due date by paying the extra fee.²³

¹⁵ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=01a183f2-2264-4220-bee9-443d49a46021>

¹⁶ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=04315aed-6700-46c4-87cc-4da86632d79c>

¹⁷ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=04315aed-6700-46c4-87cc-4da86632d79c>

¹⁸ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=5ebeb2e3-7533-4be8-bf72-f9976cc0eced>

¹⁹ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=5ebeb2e3-7533-4be8-bf72-f9976cc0eced>

²⁰ <https://www.worldtrademarkreview.com/portfolio-management/romania>

²¹ <https://www.worldtrademarkreview.com/brand-management/trademark-procedures-and-strategies-romania>

²² <https://www.ip-coster.com/IPGuides/trademark-bulgaria>

²³ <https://www.ip-coster.com/IPGuides/trademark-bulgaria>

Belarus



Map of Belarus.²⁴

In the context of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, and Belarus' participation, economic sanctions have impacted IP related payments in the country. Although sanctions generally did not prohibit trade or the provision of banking or other financial services to the country of Belarus, as of March 2022 there are difficulties with payments to Belarus. Therefore, it may be difficult to send funds to the country²⁵.

Offices around the world, including the USPTO have terminated their engagement with officials from IP agencies in Russia (Rospatent) and Belarus, as well as with the Eurasian Patent Organization.

Non-use Cancellation: Legal protection of a trademark may be terminated early in relation to all or part of the goods for the individualization of which the trademark is registered, due to non-use of the trademark without good reason continuously for any three (3) years after its registration. When deciding on the early termination of the legal protection of a trademark due to its non-use, the evidence presented by the owner of the trademark that the trademark was not used due to circumstances beyond his control must be taken into account.²⁶

²⁴ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/70/Europe-Belarus_%28orthographic_projection%29.svg

²⁵ <https://www.mondaq.com/unitedstates/export-controls-trade-investment-sanctions/1174600/intellectual-property-update-regarding-russia-belarus-and-ukraine?login=true&debug-domain=.mondaq.com>

²⁶ <https://wipolex.wipo.int/en/text/514316>

Renewal requirements: The trademark registration is valid for ten (10) years from the date of filing an application. The validity of the trademark registration can be extended upon request of the trademark right holder filed during the last year when the trademark registration is valid, each time extending validity for ten (10) years.²⁷

It will also be necessary to obtain a foreign filing license from the USPTO before filing any patent applications in Russia and/or Belarus.²⁸

²⁷ <https://www.ncip.by/en/promyshlennaya-sobstvennost/obekty/registratsiya-v-respublike-belarus-tm/>

²⁸ <https://www.inta.org/resources/the-status-of-intellectual-property-in-russia-and-ukraine/>

Burma (Myanmar)



Map of Myanmar.²⁹

Executive Order 14014 regards sanctions of Myanmar. It does not specifically block any trademark-related transactions, unless the transaction is with a person who is deemed a threat under section 1.³⁰

Non-use Cancellation: The cancellation of a trademark may also be justified by the non-use of a registered mark with no appropriate reason, with the period of non-use constituting three (3) years from the filing date.³¹

Renewal: A trademark registration is valid for ten (10) years from the application filing date and it can be renewed every period of ten (10) years within six (6) months prior to its expiration date. Renewal during a grace period of six (6) months after the expiration date is possible.³²

Prior to Myanmar's implementation of TML2019, there was neither examination nor opposition procedures, and registration was granted after a Declaration of Trademark Ownership was declared with the Office for Registration of Deeds.³²

²⁹ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/cb/Myanmar_%28orthographic_projection%29.svg

³⁰ <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/14014.pdf>

³¹ <https://www.ip-coster.com/News/myanmar-implements-official-trademark-law/366>

³² <https://www.lawplusltd.com/2020/08/tm-regis-use-and-enforcement-in-myanmar/>

Democratic Republic of the Congo



Map of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.³³

Executive Order 13671 regarding sanctions of the Democratic Republic of the Congo does not specifically block any trademark-related transactions, unless the transaction is with a person who is deemed a threat under section 1.³⁴

Furthermore, it is also notable that the Congo is a member country of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI).³⁵

Non-use Cancellation: Registration of the trademark in OAPI can be cancelled on the grounds of non-use upon a third party's request if it has not been used for a continuous period of five (5) years from registration of a trademark.³⁶ The use in one of the OAPI member states is sufficient to satisfy the use requirement for all member countries.³⁷

Renewal: The trademark in OAPI is valid for ten (10) years from the date of filing. This term is renewable an unlimited number of times for ten (10)-year periods. Renewal fees may be paid within one (1) year prior to the expiry of protection term. Late renewal of a trademark in OAPI is possible within six (6) months after the expiry date by paying the fine.³⁸

³³[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic_Republic_of_the_Congo#/media/File:Democratic_Republic_of_the_Congo_\(orthographic_projection\).svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic_Republic_of_the_Congo#/media/File:Democratic_Republic_of_the_Congo_(orthographic_projection).svg)

³⁴<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/13671.pdf>

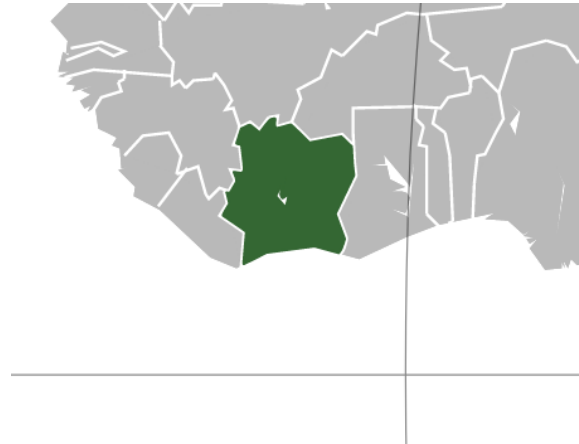
³⁵<https://www.worldtrademarkreview.com/guide-oapi-what-you-need-know>

³⁶<https://www.ip-coster.com/IPGuides/trademark-oapi>

³⁷<https://www.worldtrademarkreview.com/guide-oapi-what-you-need-know>

³⁸<https://www.ip-coster.com/IPGuides/trademark-oapi>

Cote D'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)



Map of Ivory Coast.³⁹

There are no sanctions programs relating to restricting U.S. citizens' transactions with the Ivory Coast.⁴⁰

Non-use Cancellation: A trademark must not go unused for more than five (5) years after registration or it will become vulnerable to cancellation actions based on lack of use of the trademark.⁴¹

Renewal: Registered trademarks in OAPI have a validity of ten (10) years from the application date and can be renewed indefinitely for further periods of ten (10) years.⁴²

³⁹ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:C%C3%B4te_d'Ivoire_\(orthographic_projection\).svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:C%C3%B4te_d'Ivoire_(orthographic_projection).svg)

⁴⁰ <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/sanctions-programs-and-country-information>

⁴¹ <https://igerent.com/trademark-registration-ivory-coast>

⁴² <https://igerent.com/trademark-registration-ivory-coast>

Iran



Map of Iran.⁴³

Executive Order 13949 regarding sanctions of Iran does not specifically block any trademark-related transactions, unless the transaction is with a person who is deemed a threat under section 1.⁴⁴

The Code of Federal Regulations states that filing and prosecution of any trademark application, receipt of a trademark, renewal of a trademark, and filing and prosecution of opposition to a trademark in Iran is authorized.⁴⁵

Renewal: The validity of registration of a Mark shall be ten (10) years from the filing date of its application for registration. This period may, at the request of its owner, be renewed for consecutive periods of ten (10) years, upon payment of the prescribed fees. A grace period of six (6) months running from the expiration date of the said period shall be allowed for the late payment of the renewal fee on payment of the prescribed fine.⁴⁶

Non-use Cancellation: Any interested person may request the court to invalidate the registration, if he establishes that, the owner of a registered Mark, or a person authorized by him, has not used the said Mark for a period of at least three (3) full years running from the date of registration up to one (1) month prior to filing the request. If it is established that use of the Mark has been prevented due to Force Majeure, the registration shall not be invalidated.⁴⁷

⁴³ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a8/Iran_%28orthographic_projection%29.svg

⁴⁴ <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/13949.pdf>

⁴⁵ <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CFR-2010-title31-vol3/pdf/CFR-2010-title31-vol3-sec560-509.pdf>

⁴⁶ <https://wipolex.wipo.int/en/text/197776>

⁴⁷ <https://wipolex.wipo.int/en/text/197776>

Iraq



Map of Iraq.⁴⁸

There currently are no broad-based sanctions in place against Iraq, but there are certain prohibitions and asset freezes against specific individuals and entities associated with the former Saddam Hussein regime, as well as parties determined to have committed, or to pose a significant risk of committing, acts of violence.⁴⁹

Renewal: The duration of protection of a registered mark⁵⁰ shall be for fifteen (15) years, renewable from time to time by the proprietor for like periods upon application made during the last year in the manner prescribed in the regulation and payment of the prescribed fee.⁵¹

Non-use Cancellation: A registered trademark may be cancelled if it had not been used during the two (2) years following the date of its registration unless such non-use may be proved to be due to uncontrollable cause or lawful excuse.⁵²

⁴⁸ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5c/Iraq_%28orthographic%29.svg

⁴⁹ <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/iraq.pdf>

⁵⁰ There is a separate trademark jurisdiction in Northern Iraq (Kurdistan region). In order for brand owners to obtain protectable rights for Northern Iraq, the owners must register their trademarks in Kurdistan. The Kurdistan authorities do not recognize "national" Iraqi registrations.

⁵¹ Article 20 <http://appimaf.org/english/download.asp?myfile=../uploads/laws/Iraq%20-%20Trademarks%20Law%20no.%2021%20of%201957.pdf>

⁵² Article 21 <http://appimaf.org/english/download.asp?myfile=../uploads/laws/Iraq%20-%20Trademarks%20Law%20no.%2021%20of%201957.pdf>

Lebanon



Map of Lebanon.⁵³

The sanctions applied to Lebanon generally do not prohibit trade or the provision of banking or other financial services to the country, unless the transaction or service in question involves a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the sanctions.⁵⁴

Renewal: The validity term of a trademark in Lebanon is fifteen (15) years from the date of registration which can be renewed for further periods of fifteen (15) years if the corresponding request for renewal is filed within twelve (12) months before the due date or within three (3) months after its expiration by paying a surcharge.⁵⁵

Non-use Cancellation: Cancellation of a trademark can be based on the grounds that the trademark is not used seriously for more than five (5) consecutive years⁵⁶. A cancellation action for an international application cannot be filed in Lebanon since Lebanon is not part of the relevant international agreements. If the reason for cancellation is due to non-use, the opponent must apply directly at the civil court asking for the cancellation of the mark and specifying the reasons for this request.⁵⁷

⁵³ <https://www.beautifulworld.com/asia/lebanon/>

⁵⁴ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/fr75_44907.pdf

⁵⁵ <https://www.ip-coster.com/IPGuides/trademark-lebanon>

⁵⁶ There is no formal non-use cancellation or opposition process in Lebanon. Cancellation has to be brought on other grounds (such as earlier rights in Lebanon), but there is a five (5) year acquiescence period in relation to registered marks. After that period, cancellation can only be sought where the target registration was filed in bad faith.

⁵⁷ [https://uk.practicallaw.thomsonreuters.com/w-010-2628?transitionType=Default&contextData=\(sc.Default\)&firstPage=true](https://uk.practicallaw.thomsonreuters.com/w-010-2628?transitionType=Default&contextData=(sc.Default)&firstPage=true)

Libya



Map of Libya.⁵⁸

The U.S. sanctions of Libya do not specifically block any trademark-related transactions, unless the transaction is with a person who is deemed a threat under section 1.⁵⁹ On the other hand, General License No. 11 unblocked transactions involving the Government of Libya, with certain exceptions.⁶⁰

Non-use Cancellation: The court of first instance may, upon the application of any person concerned, order the cancellation of registration where it is satisfied that the trademark in question has not been seriously used for five (5) consecutive years unless the proprietor of the marks shows a reasonable cause for non-use.⁶¹

Renewal: The protection period of a registered trademark shall be ten (10) years. The holder of a title to the registered trademark may obtain a renewal of such period if he submits an application for renewal during the last year. Further renewals may be granted at the end of each succeeding period subject to the same procedure.⁶²

⁵⁸ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/9e/Libya_%28centered_orthographic_projection%29.svg

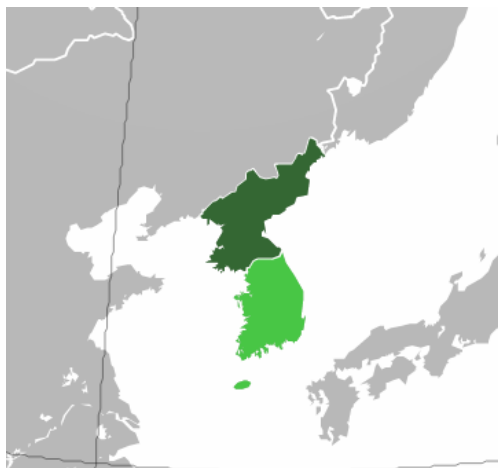
⁵⁹ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/libya_eo_20160419.pdf

⁶⁰ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/libya2_gl11.pdf

⁶¹ <https://wipolex.wipo.int/en/text/234358>

⁶² <https://wipolex.wipo.int/en/text/234358>

North Korea



Map of North Korea.⁶³

Executive Order 13810 regarding sanctions of North Korea does not specifically block any trademark-related transactions, unless the transaction is with a person who is deemed a threat under section 1.⁶⁴

Transactions in connection with a patent, trademark, copyright, or other form of intellectual property protection in the United States or North Korea are authorized, including exportation of services to North Korea, payment for such services, and payment to persons in North Korea directly connected to such intellectual property protection.⁶⁵

Renewal: The period of trademark protection shall be ten (10) years from the date of application for trademark registration. The period of trademark protection is renewable for every ten (10) years upon the request of the institutions, enterprises, organizations or citizens that own the trademark.⁶⁶

Non-use Cancellation: If trademark registration has been cancelled or a trademark is not used for five (5) years from the date of registration, the trademark right shall be invalid.⁶⁷

⁶³https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b2/Democratic_People%27s_Republic_of_Korea_%28orthographic_projection%29.svg

⁶⁴ <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/13810.pdf>

⁶⁵ https://www.govregs.com/regulations/title31_chapterV_part510_subpartE_section510.517

⁶⁶ <https://wipolex-res.wipo.int/edocs/lexdocs/laws/en/kp/kp002en.pdf>

⁶⁷ <https://wipolex-res.wipo.int/edocs/lexdocs/laws/en/kp/kp002en.pdf>

Russia



Map of Russia⁶⁸

* IN LIGHT OF THE ON-GOING CONFLICT IN UKRAINE, THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BELOW IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Unprecedented international sanctions have been imposed on the Government of the Russian Federation since its invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.⁶⁹ The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), which administers and enforces multiple authorities under which such sanctions have been imposed, established exemptions and authorities, pursuant to those sanctions' programs, to support the people of Russia and Ukraine.⁷⁰ Russia-related General License No. 31 (General License) describes the transactions which are authorized in connection with the acquisition, maintenance, and defense of intellectual property protections.⁷¹

Specifically, the General License authorizes transactions in connection with trademarks, copyrights, and other forms of intellectual property protection, involving (1) the filing and prosecution of an application, (2) receipt, maintenance, and renewal (3) the filing and prosecution of an opposition or infringement proceeding and (4) the entrance of a defense to such a proceeding.⁷²

The General License does not authorize the opening or maintaining of accounts subject to the prohibitions of Directive 2 under Executive Order (E.O.) 14024, *Prohibitions Related to Correspondent or Payable-Through Accounts and Processing of Transactions Involving Certain Foreign Financial Institutions*.⁷³

Non-Use Cancellation: A registered trademark can be canceled for non-use if the trademark is not used on a commercial scale in the three (3) years after the registration dated, or for a three (3)-year

⁶⁸ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russia#/media/File:Russian_Federation_\(orthographic_projection\)_-_Crimea_disputed.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russia#/media/File:Russian_Federation_(orthographic_projection)_-_Crimea_disputed.svg)

⁶⁹ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/russia_fact_sheet_20220419.pdf

⁷⁰ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/russia_fact_sheet_20220419.pdf

⁷¹ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/russia_gl31.pdf

⁷² https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/russia_gl31.pdf

⁷³ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/russia_fact_sheet_20220419.pdf

period preceding the initiation of a cancellation action.⁷⁴ An action for non-use of a trademark can be brought by any interested third party.⁷⁵ For international registrations, this three (3)-year period can be counted from the date on which the Federal Service for Intellectual Property in Russia (Rospatent) issued a confirmation of legal protection of the mark within the Russian territory.

Renewal: A trademark in Russia is registered for a period of ten (10) years after the application filing date and may be renewed every ten (10) years thereafter.⁷⁶ A renewal payment may not be made more than twelve (12) months before the renewal date.⁷⁷ The registration can be renewed for up to six (6) months after the renewal date has expired, provided that the trademark owner pays a fine as a penalty for late renewal.⁷⁸

⁷⁴ <https://www.inta.org/practice-guide/country-guides/>

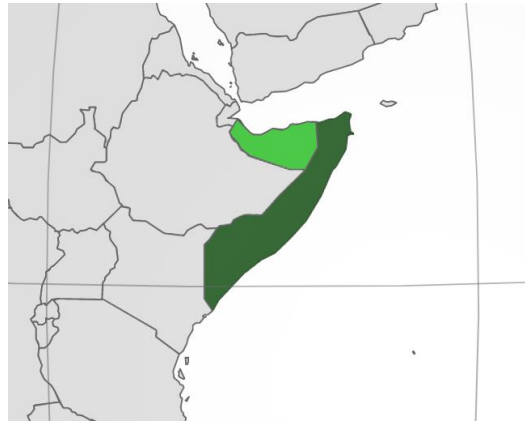
⁷⁵ <https://www.inta.org/practice-guide/country-guides/>

⁷⁶ <https://www.inta.org/practice-guide/country-guides/>

⁷⁷ <https://www.inta.org/practice-guide/country-guides/>

⁷⁸ <https://www.inta.org/practice-guide/country-guides/>

Somalia



Map of Somalia.⁷⁹

The sanctions in amended Executive Order 13536 and Executive Order 13620 do not generally prohibit trade or the provision of banking or other financial services to the country of Somalia, unless the transactions are with a person deemed a threat.⁸⁰

Renewal: A trademark is valid for ten (10) years from the filing date of the application and may be renewed indefinitely every ten (10) years.⁸¹

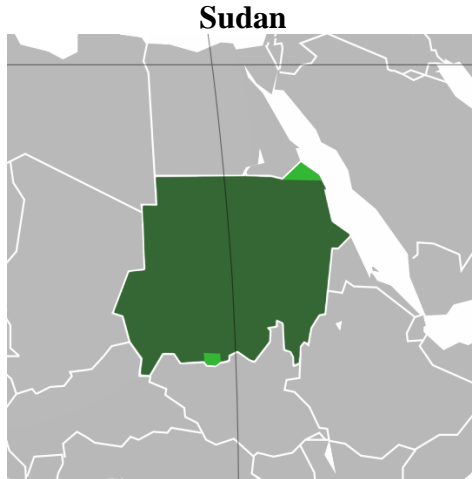
Non-use Cancellation: A registered mark may be subject to cancellation by interested parties if it has not been used for three (3) consecutive years.⁸²

⁷⁹ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4c/Somalia_%28orthographic_projection%29.svg

⁸⁰ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/fr86_22346.pdf

⁸¹ <https://www.worldtrademarkreview.com/article/trademark-registration-in-somalia-and-somaliland-what-you-need-know#:~:text=Further%2C%20a%20trademark%20is%20valid,the%20application%20is%20then%20filed.>

⁸² According to the Ministerial Decree number 1/2019 issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Trademark Office (TMO) in the Federal Republic of Somalia resumed its operations as of November 2019. As of the date of preparation of this document, it is not clear whether common-law and/or well-known trademarks are recognized in Somalia. Regarding the pre-1991 registrations, it is currently unclear whether these registrations will be recognized, although there is some indication that the registrations can be revalidated on payment of an official fee for each renewal term.



Map of Sudan.⁸³

All transactions prohibited by part 530 of OFAC's Code of Federal Regulations (31 CFR § 538) and Executive Orders 13067 and 13412, including all transactions that involve property in which the Government of Sudan has an interest, are authorized.⁸⁴

Renewal: The period of duration of the registration of a trademark shall be ten (10) years from the date of registration. At any time within six (6) months before the expiration of such term or any subsequent term of ten (10) years, the registration may be renewed upon the filing of an application therefore in the prescribed form and upon payment of the prescribed fee.⁸⁵

Non-use Cancellation: If the mark has, without legitimate reason, not been used in the Republic of Sudan, after registration, during five (5) consecutive years preceding the allegation of non-use the court shall order the cancellation of the registration of a trademark.⁸⁶

⁸³ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f8/Sudan_%28orthographic_projection%29_highlighted.svg

⁸⁴ <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CFR-2017-title31-vol3/xml/CFR-2017-title31-vol3-part538.xml#seqnum538.540>

⁸⁵ <http://appimaf.org/english/download.asp?myfile=../uploads/laws/SD%20-%20TM%20LAW.pdf>

⁸⁶ <http://appimaf.org/english/download.asp?myfile=../uploads/laws/SD%20-%20TM%20LAW.pdf>

Syria



Map of Syria.⁸⁷

Executive Order 13608 regarding sanctions of Syria does not specifically block any trademark-related transactions, unless the transaction is with a person who is deemed a threat under section 1.⁸⁸

Transactions in connection with patent, trademark, copyright or other intellectual property protection in the United States or Syria are authorized, including exportation of services to Syria, payment for such services, and payment to persons in Syria directly connected to such intellectual property protection.⁸⁹

Non-use Cancellation: The Competent Court at request of any party of interest shall adjudge to cancel the registration of the trademark if it has been proved that the same was not seriously used for three (3) successive years on all the products or the services for which the trademark was registered or for part of which unless the trademark's proprietor has presented a justification to its non-use within such period.⁹⁰

Renewal: The trademark's period of protection shall be ten (10) years starting from the date when the registration application has been submitted, and the period of registration shall end after ten (10) years from the last day of the month in which the registration application has been submitted. The trademark may be renewed for similar periods at request of its proprietor or his legal representative as such renewal shall be made within the last year of the period of protection against a specified fee.⁹¹

⁸⁷ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/11/Syria_%28orthographic_projection%29.svg

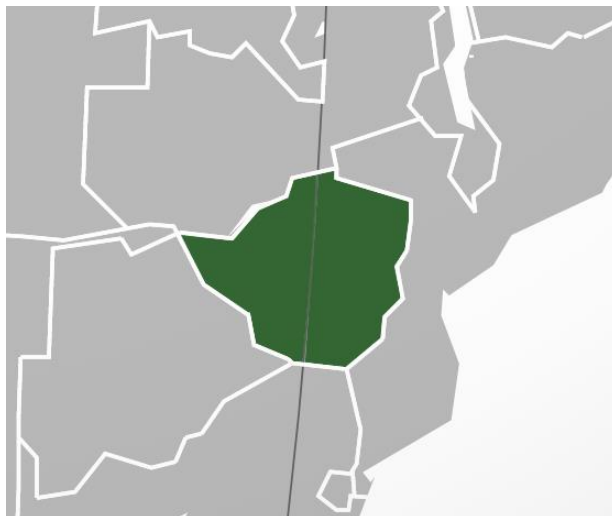
⁸⁸ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/fse_eo.pdf

⁸⁹ <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/31/542.520>

⁹⁰ <http://appimaf.org/english/download.asp?myfile=../uploads/laws/Syria-Trademark-Design-Law-8-of-2007.pdf>

⁹¹ <http://appimaf.org/english/download.asp?myfile=../uploads/laws/Syria-Trademark-Design-Law-8-of-2007.pdf>

Zimbabwe



Map of Zimbabwe.⁹²

Executive Order 13469 regarding sanctions of Zimbabwe does not specifically block any trademark-related transactions, unless the transaction is with a person who is deemed a threat under section 1.⁹³ There is no mention of trademark-specific blocks within the sanctions.

Non-use Cancellation: A mark may be removed for non-use, provided the mark has not been used by the owner for a continuous period of five (5) years, calculated two (2) months prior to filing of the action.⁹⁴

Renewal: Trademark registration lasts for ten (10) years and can be renewed in perpetuity.⁹⁵ An application for renewal may be made at any time not more than one (1) year before the expiration of the last registration of the trademark.⁹⁶

⁹² https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/50/Zimbabwe_%28orthographic_projection%29.svg

⁹³ <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/13469.pdf>

⁹⁴ <https://www.mondaq.com/intellectual-property/795090/trademarks-comparative-guide>

⁹⁵ <https://www.mondaq.com/intellectual-property/795090/trademarks-comparative-guide>

⁹⁶ <https://wipolex-res.wipo.int/edocs/lexdocs/laws/en/zw/zw032en.pdf>

Burundi



Map of Burundi.⁹⁷

Executive Order 13712 regarding sanctions of Burundi does not specifically block any trademark-related transactions, unless the transaction is with a person who is deemed a threat under section 1.⁹⁸

Non-use Cancellation: A registered trademark is subject to cancellation if it has not been used for three (3) consecutive years.⁹⁹

Renewal: Registered marks can be renewed for an additional ten (10) years if the renewal application is made within six (6) months before expiry.¹⁰⁰

⁹⁷ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/27/Burundi_%28orthographic_projection%29.svg

⁹⁸ <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/13712.pdf>

⁹⁹ <https://njq-ip.com/country/burundi/trademarks/general-information/>

¹⁰⁰ <https://njq-ip.com/country/burundi/trademarks/general-information/>

Cuba



Map of Cuba.¹⁰¹

Transactions dealing with trademarks relating to filing and prosecution of any application, receipt, filing and prosecution of opposition or infringement, and payment of fees are all authorized under 31 CFR § 515.528.¹⁰²

Non-use Cancellation: Non-use cancellation is possible, and the relevant non-use term is three (3) years from the registration date.¹⁰³

Renewal: Cuban trademarks are effective for ten (10) years. Subsequent renewals are available in perpetuity for ten (10)-year terms, provided that the owner meets the renewal obligations. Renewal applications must be submitted in the six (6)-month period preceding the renewal date.¹⁰⁴

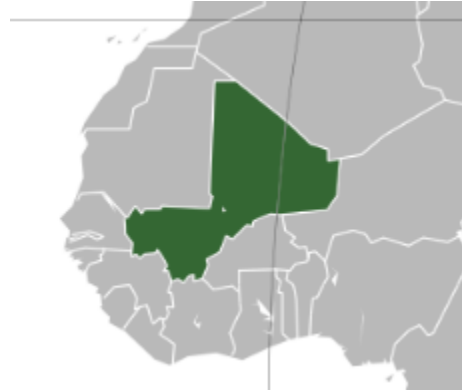
¹⁰¹ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/16/CUB_orthographic.svg

¹⁰² https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=b65ca3abc799b97f20fba16b54521196&mc=true&node=pt31.3.515&rgn=div5#se31.3.515_1501

¹⁰³ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=7644afbc-ddf6-4836-b1f0-55e5d27772ef>

¹⁰⁴ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=7644afbc-ddf6-4836-b1f0-55e5d27772ef>

Mali



Map of Mali.¹⁰⁵

Executive Order 13882 regarding sanctions of Mali does not specifically block any trademark-related transactions, unless the transaction is with a person who is deemed a threat under section 1.¹⁰⁶

Furthermore, Mali is a member of the OAPI.¹⁰⁷

Non-use Cancellation: Registration of the trademark in OAPI can be cancelled on the grounds of non-use upon a third party's request if it has not been used for a continuous period of five (5) years from registration of a trademark. The use in one of the OAPI member states is sufficient to satisfy the use requirement for all member countries.¹⁰⁸

Renewal: The trademark in OAPI is valid for ten (10) years from the date of filing. This term is renewable an unlimited number of times for ten (10)-year periods. Renewal fees may be paid within one (1) year prior to the expiry of protection term. Late renewal of a trademark in OAPI is possible within six (6) months after the expiry date by paying the fine.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰⁵ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mali#/media/File:Mali_\(orthographic_projection\).svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mali#/media/File:Mali_(orthographic_projection).svg)

¹⁰⁶ <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/13882.pdf>

¹⁰⁷ https://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/patent_register_portal/en/docs/oapi.pdf

¹⁰⁸ <https://www.ip-coster.com/IPGuides/trademark-oapi>

¹⁰⁹ <https://www.ip-coster.com/IPGuides/trademark-oapi>

Nicaragua



Map of Nicaragua.¹¹⁰

Executive Order 13851 regarding sanctions of Nicaragua does not specifically block any trademark-related transactions, unless the transaction is with a person who is deemed a threat under section 1.¹¹¹

Renewal: The registration of trademark expires ten (10) years after the date it was granted. The registration may be renewed indefinitely for consecutive periods of ten (10) years starting from the previous expiration date. The corresponding application for renewal must be filed within a period of one (1) year before the expiration date of the registration.¹¹²

Non-use Cancellation: Registered marks may be cancelled for lack of use during three (3) uninterrupted years preceding the cancellation action.¹¹³

¹¹⁰ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/34/NIC_orthographic.svg

¹¹¹ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/nicaragua_eo.pdf

¹¹² Art. 22 <http://www.bufetemejia.com/downloads/laws/Trademark%20Law%20NICARAGUA.pdf>

¹¹³ Art. 36 <http://www.bufetemejia.com/downloads/laws/Trademark%20Law%20NICARAGUA.pdf>

Ukraine



Map of Ukraine.¹¹⁴

Previously, U.S. sanctions regarding Ukraine did not specifically block trademark-related transactions, unless the transaction is with a person who is deemed a threat.¹¹⁵

Nonetheless, since the beginning of the Russia-Ukraine conflict in February 2022, and although the Ukrainian IP Office (Ukrpatent) continues to work, it is not currently possible to send or receive original hard copy (paper) documents to / from Ukrpatent.¹¹⁶

The Ukrainian Parliament passed a law "On Protection of Interests of Intellectual Property in Martial Law" (Law No 7228) on April 1, 2022. According to the new law, the duration of terms related to the protection of IP rights, as well as deadlines for procedures for acquiring these rights, are suspended. The law allows authorized persons to submit documents within ninety (90) days of the abolition of martial law, without paying a fee for extension, or restoration of the relevant deadlines. [Martial law was declared in Ukraine](#) on February 4, 2022, following the issue of [Decree 64/2022](#), for a period of thirty (30) days. On March 26, 2022, the Ukrainian Parliament voted to extend martial law for a further thirty (30) days and, on April 21, 2022, it was extended for a further thirty (30) days to May 25, 2022. [It has reported](#) that martial law has been extended for a further ninety (90) days, to August 23, 2022.¹¹⁷

This law applies to all IP rights holders before Ukrpatent, including both Ukrainian and foreign rights holders.¹¹⁸

Non-use Cancellation: If, within five (5) years from the date of completion of the registration procedure, the owner has not put a trademark to genuine use in connection with the goods or

¹¹⁴ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ukraine#/media/File:Europe-Ukraine_\(%D0%B8_%D0%BD%D0%B5_%D0%BA%D0%BE%D0%BD%D1%82%D1%80%D0%BE%D0%BB%D0%B8%D1%80%D1%83%D0%B5%D0%BC%D1%8B%D0%B5\).png](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ukraine#/media/File:Europe-Ukraine_(%D0%B8_%D0%BD%D0%B5_%D0%BA%D0%BE%D0%BD%D1%82%D1%80%D0%BE%D0%BB%D0%B8%D1%80%D1%83%D0%B5%D0%BC%D1%8B%D0%B5).png)

¹¹⁵ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/ukraine_overview_of_sanctions.pdf

¹¹⁶ <https://www.inta.org/resources/the-status-of-intellectual-property-in-russia-and-ukraine/>

¹¹⁷ <https://www.inta.org/resources/the-status-of-intellectual-property-in-russia-and-ukraine/>

¹¹⁸ <https://www.inta.org/resources/the-status-of-intellectual-property-in-russia-and-ukraine/>

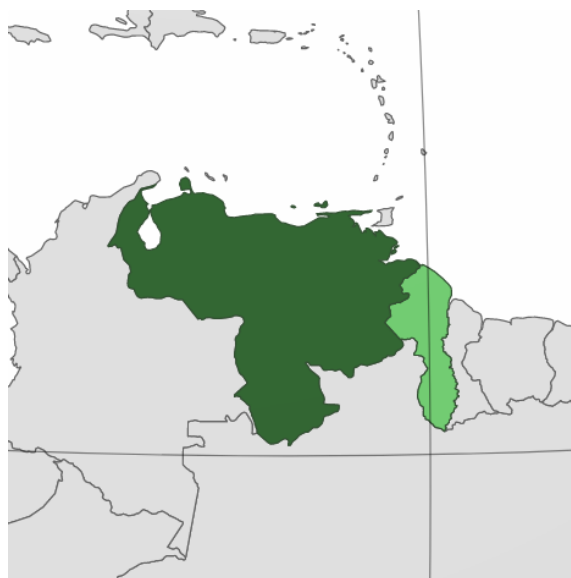
services in respect of which it is registered in the relevant territory, or if such use has been suspended during an uninterrupted period of five (5) years, the trade-mark shall be subject to the sanctions provided for in Article 197 of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, unless there are proper reasons for non-use.¹¹⁹

Renewal: A trademark in Ukraine is valid for ten (10) years from the filing date and can be further renewed every ten (10) years. In Ukraine it is possible to apply for a renewal of a trademark within six (6) months before the deadline. There is also a six (6)-month grace period which allows applying for a renewal after the deadline upon payment of a stipulated fine.¹²⁰

¹¹⁹ <https://iprgroup.info/the-procedure-and-specific-features-of-cancellation-of-the-registered-trademarks-on-the-ground-of-non-use-in-ukraine/>

¹²⁰ <https://mspcorporate.com/ukraine/trademark-registration-in-Ukraine.htm>

Venezuela



Map of Venezuela.¹²¹

General License No. 27 authorizes transactions related to trademarks involving filing and prosecution of an application, receipt, renewal or maintenance, and filing and prosecution of opposition.¹²²

Non-use Cancellation: Cancellation of a trademark can be requested after an uninterrupted period of non-use of two (2) years. The grounds for cancellation, would be the non-use by its owner for three (3) consecutive years.¹²³

Renewal: The term of protection for trademarks is fifteen (15) years from granting or renewal date. Renewal shall be submitted within six (6) months.¹²⁴

¹²¹ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/05/Venezuela_Orthographic_Map.svg

¹²² https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/venezuela_gl27.pdf

¹²³ <https://practiceguides.chambers.com/practice-guides/trade-marks-2022/venezuela>

¹²⁴ <https://practiceguides.chambers.com/practice-guides/trade-marks-2022/venezuela>

Yemen



Map of Yemen.¹²⁵

Executive order 13611 regarding sanctions of Yemen do not specifically block trademark-related transactions, unless the transaction is with a person that is deemed a threat under section 1.¹²⁶

Renewal: During the tenth (10th) year of the protection period the Administration shall, via the means of communication defined in article 13 of this Act, inform the holder of the mark of the deadline for its renewal¹²⁷. It is up to the holder of the registered trademark, having paid the prescribed fees, to apply to the Registrar to renew the mark within one (1) year from the end of the protection period. If that deadline passes the competent administration shall cancel the mark from the register.¹²⁸

Non-use Cancellation: All interested parties may request the Tribunal to cancel a registered trademark if the holder of that mark ceases to use it for a period of at least five (5) consecutive years. The Tribunal may accede to that request unless the holder of the trademark presents a justification for not using it.¹²⁹

¹²⁵ https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f1/Yemen_%28orthographic_projection%29.svg

¹²⁶ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/yemen_eo.pdf

¹²⁷ Due to unrest in Yemen, there are currently two (2) jurisdictions, Aden and Sana'a, where trademark protection can be obtained. As of the date of preparation for this document, in order to have registered trademark protection for the whole country of Yemen, it is best to file separate trade mark applications in both Aden and Sana'a, and at the same time, renew old trademarks already registered in Sana'a separately in both jurisdictions when they are due for renewal.

¹²⁸ Article 24 <https://www.sabaip.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Yemen-Trademark-Law.pdf>

¹²⁹ Article 30 <https://www.sabaip.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Yemen-Trademark-Law.pdf>