

**Questions for PubPol/Econ 541
Dec. 2**

Economic Sanctions

Haass, Richard N., “Economic Sanctions: Too Much of a Bad Thing,” Brookings Policy Brief #34, June 1, 1998.

- What have been some of the purposes of sanctions? .
- Why are they so popular?
- Overall, does Haass favor the use of sanctions?
- He argues comparing costs and benefits with those of alternatives. What alternatives does he mention?

Masters, Jonathan, “What Are Economic Sanctions?” Backgrounder, Council on Foreign Relations, August 12, 2019.

- Are trade restrictions among the most used forms of sanctions by the UN?
- What foreign policy goals are mentioned as reasons for sanctions?
- Who decides on sanctions in the UN, the EU, and the US?
- What are Extraterritorial sanctions? Who uses them and who objects to them?
- Does this say that sanctions work?
- What best practices are suggested for use of sanctions?
- Why is the US best positioned to use sanctions, and why might their use undermine that position?

Mulder, Nicholas, “The Sanctions Weapon,” *Finance and Development*, June 2022, pp. 20-23.

- How many governments imposed sanctions on Russia, and from which continents?
- What previous episodes of sanctions are mentioned here?
- Why does the author view sanctions as more problematic today than previously?
- What “policy adjustments” does he suggest?

Alderman, Liz, “Leave Russia? A Year Later Many Companies Can’t, or Won’t,” *New York Times*, March 2, 2023.

- Many companies announced last year that they were leaving Russia. Have they?
- What fraction are still there?
- What has Russia done to keep them from leaving?

Rodriguez, Dani, “The harm that sanctions do to the vulnerable,” *Financial Times*, May 4, 2023.

- What percentages of countries and the world economy are subject to sanctions now? What were those percentages in the 1990s?
- What measures of living conditions are mentioned as being made worse by sanctions?

- What is the “main channel” through which sanctions have their effects, and how does this matter?
- How big is the hit to GDP estimated to be in one study?

Kantchev, Georgi, Paul Hannon, and Laurence Norman, "How Sanctioned Western Goods Are Still Flowing into Russia," *Wall Street Journal*, May 14, 2023.

- What is being called the “Eurasian roundabout”?
- What countries are said to be involved?
- What is the evidence that this is happening?
- What can be done about it?

Bounds, Andy, “EU prepares tariffs on Russian goods exempt from sanctions,” *Financial Times*, May 30, 2024.

- What are some of the products that the EU may levy new tariffs on from Russia?
- Why were some products not previously covered by the EU sanctions?
- Have other countries imposed tariffs on imports from Russia?
- Can the European Commission by itself decide to levy these tariffs?

Belton, Catherine and Jeff Stein, “Russia financial system shaken after U.S. imposes new sanctions,” *Washington Post*, June 13, 2024.

- What “new sanctions” are mentioned?
- What signs are mentioned here that Russia’s “financial system is shaken”?
- What are “secondary sanctions”?
- How do sanctions on Russia compare to economic sanctions that have been used on others previously?
- Have sanctions stopped Russia from building up its war capabilities?

Optional to Read:

Elliott, Kimberly Ann, “Evidence on the Costs and Benefits of Economic Sanctions,” Speech given before the Subcommittee on Trade of the Committee on Ways and Means, United States House of Representatives, Washington, DC, October 23, 1997.

- In the research reported, what fraction of sanctions fully achieved their foreign policy goals, and what fraction achieved them partially?
- Have US sanctions (over the time reported) increased or decreased in effectiveness, and why?
- Under what circumstances are sanctions most likely to succeed?
- What are some of the costs of sanctions to the sanctioning country?

Stein, Jeff and Federica Cocco, “How four U.S. presidents unleashed economic warfare across the globe,” *Washington Post*, July 25, 2024.

- What is OFAC and what is its role?
- Do sanctions have effects?
- Do they succeed in their purposes?
- When were economic sanctions first used?
- What is the process for judging whether a target deserves sanctions and for them to argue against it?
- Are there any efforts today to reduce the use of sanctions?