

COUNTRIES OF CONCERN

Generally speaking, a license may be required to ship or transfer “controlled” technology, data, hardware, or items outside of the United States – even to take them into International Waters without docking in another country. (The technology, data, or items are considered to be “controlled” if found on the Commerce Control List or the U.S. Munitions List). This includes the transfer of “controlled” technology, data, or items to foreign nationals within the U.S. or outside the U.S.

There are certain countries that are sometimes referred to as “Countries of Concern” due to their presence on one or more U.S. or international sanctions or embargo lists.

The **U.S. Treasury’s Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC)** enforces sanctions against the following countries: **Balkans, Belarus, Burma, Cote d’Ivoire (Ivory Coast), Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Former Liberian Regime of Charles Taylor, Libya, North Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Zimbabwe.** Some of the sanctions are monetary in nature, and other sanctions may either prohibit shipping or require a license to ship. For example, the export of most items to Iran requires a license from OFAC. ***Please note: the item does not have to be military or sophisticated in nature to require a license.***

The U. S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry and Security (“BIS”) administers the Export Administration Regulations (“EAR”) section 746 of the EAR describes embargoes and special export controls which includes comprehensive export controls including limitations on the use of export license exceptions (and the licensing policy) **applicable to Cuba, Iraq, North Korea, Russian energy industry sector, Iran, and Syria.**

The International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) also prohibits exports and sales of U.S. Munitions List items without a license to virtually every country (there are a few exceptions applicable to Canada). Under the ITAR, licenses will not be granted for exports, or providing “defense services” (i.e., any form of assistance) to a foreign person in the U.S. or elsewhere, to:

Belarus, Burma, China, Cuba, Eritrea, Iran, Liberia, North Korea, Sudan, Syria, and Venezuela.

Except for a few limited circumstances and on a case-by-case basis, it is the policy of the United States to deny licenses, other approvals, exports and imports of **defense articles and defense services** destined for or originating in **Iraq, Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Libya, Vietnam, Somalia, and Sri Lanka.** It is BIS policy to deny export reexport or foreign transfer of items subject to the EAR that may be used in **Russia for exploration or production from Deepwater, Arctic offshore, or shale projects that have the potential to produce oil.**

Please contact the Export Controls Officer at 512-471-6424 or via email at osp@austin.utexas.edu if you have any questions or if you are planning to travel or ship anything to the above referenced countries.