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# How the sanctions against Russian energies are circumvented and how and the countries which help circumventing will they be able to resist Western pressures

Alexandre Del Valle<sup>\*1</sup> and Leslie Shaw<sup>†</sup>

<sup>1</sup>IPAG Business School – Belgium

## Abstract

How the sanctions against Russian energies are circumvented and how and the countries which help circumventing will they be able to resist Western pressures in the middle and in the long term?

Many "holes" prevent the sanctions from being fully watertight and effective, as the trade in crude oil on world markets is very difficult to trace.

In fact, oil can be mixed in transit countries with shipments from other departure points, making it almost impossible to determine its origin. Moreover, the refining process produces the same effect of erasing traces of the ultimate origin of energy. Added to these factors is the existence of a network of "ghost" tankers flying the flags of the most improbable countries that help Russia transport crude oil shipments to their destination, again masking their real origin. According to Saad Rahim, chief economist at Trafigura, the volumes of crude oil that Russia exports have remained almost stable. It is even possible that this oil will still be sold in the EU and in Western countries through intermediaries." Other experts note that volumes of crude oil delivered by Russia to third countries in the week preceding the March 17, 2023 stood at 3.23 million barrels per day, just 90,000 barrels lower than the previous week.

The main questions that it is useful to ask at this stage is the following paper is: "what are the sectors suspected of continuing to supply Europe with Russian crude oil? and how long will those entities be able to circumvent the sanctions without suffering from pressures or new sanctions against them launched by western democracies and economies.

Our present article proposes to study 8 proven ways of circumventing the western and world-wide sanctions:

- those of the Azerbaijan exporting country,
- Turkey, the open waters of the Mediterranean,

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<sup>\*</sup>Speaker

<sup>†</sup>Corresponding author: lshaw.fr@gmail.com

- that of the United Arab Emirates as a state of refuge for the oligarchs and Russian companies and then front companies,
- the mass oil and gas consuming country that is China,
- the major refiner country that is India
- and the countries of the Eurasian Union and the Community of Independent States of the Caucasus and Central Asia as neighboring Russian-speaking countries for the relocation of companies and invoicing and collections.

The last part of the paper will introduce the main possible and different scenarios concerning the countries which participate in the circumvention of the sanctions, classifying them in two categories:

-first, those which can and have the means to refuse Western pressure (China, Iran, members of ISC/OCS, India), and second, those which will be obliged to no longer help Russia to circumvent sanctions because of their excessive dependence and links with the United States and the European Union (Turkey, Japan, Emirates, etc).