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HOW ARMENIA IS HELPING RUSSIA EVADE WESTERN SANCTIONS

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EU Reporter (27 January 2023)

By Guest Contributor - Opinion

Following the Kremlins 24 February 2022 military campaign in Ukraine, Russia overtook Iran as the most sanctioned country in the world. Russia is seeking to bypass these sanctions with the help of its shrinking number of allies mainly Iran and Armenia, while selling crude oil no longer imported into Europe at discounted rates to India and China. It is not surprising that Iran and pro-Russian Armenia are assisting Moscow. Iranian-made kamikaze drones are terrifying and killing civilians in Ukraine, writes Shahmar Hajiyev, senior advisor, Center of Analysis of International Relations (AIR Center).

The war has triggered tough sanctions against Russia imposed by the European Union (EU), the United States (US) and other pro-Western states. The sanctions included restrictions on Russias financial industry, its central bank and its energy sector. Recently the European Council has decided to cap the price for Russian oil at 60 USD per barrel. In addition, foreign companies have withdrawn voluntarily from the Russian market as a result of a self-sanctioning trend. All sanctions aimed at weakening the Russia's wartime economy, and its ability to continue military operations in Ukraine.

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