



2026/2259

12.10.2026

COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2026/2259

of 9 October 2026

amending Regulation (EU) 2016/44 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 215 thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision (CFSP) 2026/2242 of 9 October 2026 amending Decision (CFSP) 2015/1333 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya ⁽¹⁾,

Having regard to the joint proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) Council Regulation (EU) 2016/44 ⁽²⁾ gives effect to measures provided for in Council Decision (CFSP) 2015/1333 ⁽³⁾.
- (2) The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in its Resolution 2292 (2016) authorised United Nations (UN) Member States, acting nationally or through regional organisations, to inspect on the high seas off the coast of Libya any vessels which they have reasonable grounds to believe are carrying arms or related materiel to or from Libya, directly or indirectly, in violation of the UN arms embargo on Libya. That Resolution further provided that, upon discovery during such inspections of items prohibited by the UN arms embargo on Libya, UN Member States are to seize and dispose of such items.
- (3) On 25 November 2025, UNSC Resolution 2804 (2025) further extended by six months the authorisation originally set out in UNSC Resolution 2292 (2016). That authorisation applied until 25 May 2026, since the UNSC did not further extend it. Consequently, the references in Decision (CFSP) 2015/1333 and Regulation (EU) 2016/44 to the European Union military operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI) need to be removed.
- (4) On 9 October 2026, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2026/2242, which amends Decision (CFSP) 2015/1333 accordingly.
- (5) With a view to ensuring uniform application of the amendment in all Member States, regulatory action at the level of the Union is necessary.
- (6) Regulation (EU) 2016/44 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

In Regulation (EU) 2016/44, Article 22a is deleted.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L, 2026/2242, 12.10.2026, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2026/2242/oj>.

⁽²⁾ Council Regulation (EU) 2016/44 of 18 January 2016 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya and repealing Regulation (EU) No 204/2011 (OJ L 12, 19.1.2016, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/44/oj>).

⁽³⁾ Council Decision (CFSP) 2015/1333 of 31 July 2015 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya, and repealing Decision 2011/137/CFSP (OJ L 206, 1.8.2015, p. 34, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2015/1333/oj>).

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Luxembourg, 9 October 2026.

For the Council

The President

S. HARRIS
