



The Embassy of the Russian Federation to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Embassy comment on London's decision to expand the anti-Russia sanctions list

We view the decision by the UK government on 17 July 2023 to impose illegal unilateral restrictions against yet another group of Russian citizens and organisations as categorically unacceptable and legally void. The fact that this move was cynically covered up by the pretext of protection of children is particularly disturbing.

The illegitimate UK list now includes those who are helping to save and provide further care for children from the zone of the Special Military Operation. Among these are the Commissioner for Human Rights for the Donetsk People's Republic, the Adviser on Children's Rights to the Head of the DPR, the Commissioner for Children's Rights in the Moscow Region, as well as heads of Russian regions that provide shelter for the underage visitors. Even the legendary "Artek" camp. The Children's Rights Commissioner for the President of Russia would have been added to the list as well, had she not already been on it since last summer.

What is particularly cynical about the latest British measure is that it was taken literally a few hours following the terrorist attack by the Kiev regime against the Crimean Bridge, as a result of which a 14-year old girl was wounded and lost both her parents. And after countless strikes by the armed forces of Ukraine against peaceful residents of the Donbass, Zaporozhye and Kherson regions with the use of UK-supplied shells and missiles. Strikes that claimed the lives of children and their parents.

The UK makes no secret of expanding its sanctions list ahead of the debate on the situation around Ukraine at the UN Security Council. London has grown accustomed to synchronising such symbolic stunts with events where it wants to show off its "leadership" within the anti-Russian coalition. A clumsy attempt to impose pressure on the Russian side was also clearly intended. The new "package" will fall short of this goal. However, it is a vivid demonstration of the lack of scruples of the UK authorities and their detachment from reality, the abyss between their proclaimed objectives and underlying motives.



© The Embassy of the Russian Federation to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 2023