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Ukraine Blacklists 243 Russian Companies for Working in the Donbass

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The Ukrainian government has moved to suspend imports from 243 Russian companies operating in Ukraine, the Ukrainian Security Services (SBU) said in a statement Friday.

The ban applies to Russian companies working with companies in eastern Ukraine's Donbass region, which is currently not controlled by the Ukrainian government.

The names of the companies blacklisted by Ukraine were not disclosed in the statement.

Ties between Moscow and Kiev deteriorated following Russia's annexation of the Crimean Peninsula from Ukraine in March 2014 and the Kremlin's support for pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine. Earlier this month, the Ukrainian government prolonged an embargo on a range of Russian imports until the end of 2017.

The decision was made after Russia extended a ban on food imports from countries that

imposed sanctions on it over its role in ⊠Ukraine crisis. ⊠In September last year, Ukraine also imposed sanctions on 388 ⊠individuals and 105 legal entities — mostly Russian — in connection with ⊠the Ukraine conflict.

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