

European Companies Record Billions in Losses From Russia Operations – FT

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Sergei Kiselev / Moskva News Agency

European companies have suffered at least 100 billion euros (\$110 billion) in direct losses from operations in Russia since Moscow launched its invasion of Ukraine, the Financial Times [reported](#) late Sunday.

A survey of major European companies showed that a total of 176 companies that have posted annual reports for 2022 and financial statements this year recorded various losses from their Russian operations, FT said.

These losses include “asset impairments, foreign exchange-related charges and other one-off expenses as a result of the sale, closure or reduction of Russian businesses.”

Energy and utility groups suffered more than half of the losses, with banks, chemicals, industrial and automobile companies making up the rest.

British, German and French companies recorded the biggest losses — upwards of 20 billion

euros, according to FT.

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Analysts interviewed by the publication say Russia’s recent decisions to seize control of European corporations suggest “more pain ahead” for companies that chose to remain in Russia.

“Even if a company lost a lot of money leaving Russia, those who stay risk much bigger losses,” said Nabi Abdullaev, partner at the London-based global strategic consultancy Control Risks.

“It turns out that cut and run was the best strategy for companies deciding what to do at the start of the war. The faster you left, the lower your loss,” he added.

Since December, Russia has forced foreign companies leaving the country to sell their assets to Russian buyers at a 50% discount and charged them an exit fee of at least 10% of the transaction value.

According to FT, the three biggest oil and gas groups BP, Shell and TotalEnergies recorded 40.6 billion euros (\$44.5 billion) in losses. But higher energy prices helped them report 95 billion euros (\$104 billion) in profits in 2022, the publication said.

More than half of the 1,871 European-owned companies operating in pre-war Russia have remained in the country after Moscow’s invasion of Ukraine, according to FT’s analysis of data from the Kyiv School of Economics.

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