

China Hikes Prices on Dual-Use Goods Exports to Russia – Study

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Chinese exporters have hiked prices on critical goods, particularly items with military uses, for Russian military-industrial buyers, according to a new [study](#) by the Bank of Finland Institute for Emerging Economies (BOFIT).

Prices for export-controlled Chinese goods shipped to Russia, many of them dual-use components needed by the defense industry, rose by an average of 87% between 2021 and 2024, compared with 9% for similar goods shipped to other countries.

The mark-ups limit Moscow's ability to acquire sensitive technology despite its ability to get around Western sanctions by working with Chinese suppliers, a senior Western sanctions official [told](#) the Financial Times.

Related article: [China Imports Record Volume of Russian LNG in September](#)

A source close to the Russian government told Reuters that China was acting in its own interests rather than as an ally.

“China does not behave like an ally,” a source close to the Russian government [told](#) Reuters. “Sometimes it lets us down and stops payments, sometimes it takes advantage, sometimes it's outright robbery, there is nothing allied about it.”

While bilateral trade rose from from \$146.9 billion in 2021 to a record \$254 billion in 2024, BOFIT said much of the increase reflected higher prices rather than rising volumes.

Imports of Chinese ball bearings rose 76% in dollar terms but fell 13% in physical units.

Turkey has also sharply increased prices for sanctioned goods shipped to Russia, raising prices by 25–55% for Russian importers compared with other markets, according to the study.

A second source close to the Russian government told Reuters that Russia’s defense industry is heavily reliant on Chinese technology.

“Without them, we would not have been able to make a single missile, let alone a drone, and the whole economy would have collapsed long ago,” the person said. “If they wanted it, the war would have been over long ago.”

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