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COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2026/2278

of 12 October 2026

implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1509 concerning restrictive measures against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1509 concerning restrictive measures against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and repealing Regulation (EC) No 329/2007 ([1]), and in particular Article 47(2) thereof,

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

Whereas:

(1) On 30 August 2017, the Council adopted Regulation (EU) 2017/1509.

(2) On 11 September 2017, in United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2375 (2017), the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) decided to prohibit the opening, maintenance and operation of all joint ventures or cooperative entities with Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) entities or individuals.

(3) On 22 December 2017, in UNSCR 2397 (2017), the UNSC acknowledged that the proceeds of the DPRK's trade in sectoral goods, as well as the revenue generated from DPRK workers overseas, among others, contribute to the DPRK's nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programmes. The UNSC decided to require the repatriation of all DPRK workers abroad, subject to applicable national and international law. Furthermore, the UNSC decided to increase the existing restrictive measures in a number of sectors, including with regard to the supply, sale or transfer to the DPRK of crude oil and all refined petroleum products.

(4) On 19 December 2023, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (the 'High Representative') issued a declaration on behalf of the Union underlining that the DPRK must comply with its obligations under UNSCRs by abandoning all its nuclear weapons, other weapons of mass destruction, ballistic missile programmes and existing nuclear programmes, in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner and cease all related activities. It reiterated that the DPRK cannot and will never have the status of a nuclear weapon state in accordance with the Non-Proliferation Treaty. In that declaration, the Union urged the DPRK and Russia to refrain from any exchanges of military equipment, missile technology or ammunition and abide by the successive UNSCRs that clearly prohibit any arms exports or imports involving the DPRK. The Union also condemned any military support for Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine provided by the DPRK, and reiterated its deep concern about reports of DPRK arms transfers to Russia.

(5) On 31 May 2024, the High Representative, along with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom and the Secretary of State of the United States of America, issued a joint statement expressing grave concern regarding the deepening DPRK-Russia cooperation in flagrant violation of multiple UNSCRs and condemning Russia's veto of a UNSCR that would have extended the mandate of the United Nations (UN) Panel of Experts supporting the UNSC Committee established pursuant to UNSCR 1718 (2006), thereby seeking to deprive all UN Member States of the objective and independent information and guidance they need to implement binding UNSCRs concerning the DPRK.

([1]) Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1509 of 30 August 2017 concerning restrictive measures against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and repealing Regulation (EC) No 329/2007 (OJ L 224, 31.8.2017, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/1509/oj).

(6) On 30 October 2024, the High Representative issued a statement affirming that the presence on Russian soil of several thousand DPRK troops cooperating with the Russian military represents a flagrant violation of the UN Charter and of multiple UNSCRs.

(7) On 31 October 2024, the High Representative issued a statement condemning the DPRK's launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile on that day, and called on all UN Member States, especially Members of the UNSC, to ensure the full implementation of UN sanctions and to urge the DPRK to cease its illegal actions, to refrain from further escalating military tensions and to return to diplomacy.

(8) In its conclusions of 18 June 2026, the European Council strongly condemned the deployment of the DPRK's military forces in the war against Ukraine as well as the continued military support provided to Russia by the DPRK, Iran and Belarus.

(9) The Council is gravely concerned by the continued nuclear-related and ballistic-missile-related activities carried out by the DPRK in violation of and with flagrant disregard for the relevant UNSCRs and by the further deepening of the DPRK-Russia cooperation, including the employment of DPRK workers in Russia, the establishment of commercial joint ventures and the DPRK-Russia 'arms-for-oil' trade. Such DPRK-Russia cooperation poses a serious threat to international peace and security and violates sanctions imposed by the UNSC.

(10) In light of the gravity of the situation, the Council considers that three persons and four entities assisting in the evasion of UN sanctions and violating sanctions imposed by the UNSC, responsible for the DPRK's nuclear-related, ballistic-missile-related or other weapons of mass destruction-related programmes, or supporting, promoting or being involved in supplies that could contribute to those programmes should be included in the lists of persons, entities and bodies subject to restrictive measures set out in Annexes XV and XVI to Regulation (EU) 2017/1509.

(11) Regulation (EU) 2017/1509 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annexes XV and XVI to Regulation (EU) 2017/1509 are amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the date 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, 12 October 2026.

For the Council

The President

K. KALLAS

ANNEX

Regulation (EU) 2017/1509 is amended as follows:

(1) Annex XV, entitled 'List of persons, entities and bodies referred to in Article 34(1) and 34(3)', is amended as follows:

(a) under the heading '(a) Natural persons designated in accordance with point (a) of Article 34(4)', the following entry is added:

	Name (and possible aliases)	Alias	Identifying information	Date of designation	Reasons
'40.	RI Song Jin 리성진	RI Song-jin; RI Seong Jin	POB: DPRK Nationality: DPRK Gender: male Function or profession: Researcher at the DPRK National Aerospace Technology Administration (NATA); official at the DPRK Missile General Bureau Associated entities: DPRK National Aerospace Technology Administration (NATA) DPRK Missile General Bureau	12.10.2026	In his capacity as a researcher at the DPRK National Aerospace Technology Administration (NATA), an entity listed by the UN for involvement in the DPRK's development of space science and technology, including satellite launches and carrier rockets, and as an official at the DPRK Missile General Bureau, Ri Song Jin accompanied Kim Jong Un in December 2023 during an inspection of a factory known to produce short-range ballistic missiles. Ri Song Jin has also been observed to be stationed in Russia close to the frontline with Ukraine, wearing a Russian military uniform alongside a Russian soldier. Ri Song Jin has been deployed to the area as a technician supporting Russia's use of DPRK missiles in the context of the growing military cooperation between the DPRK and Russia. As such, Ri Song Jin is responsible for, including through supporting or promoting, the DPRK's nuclear-related, ballistic-missile-related or other weapons of mass destruction-related programmes and is working at the direction of an entity designated by the UN Security Council Committee established pursuant to UNSCR 1718 (2006) as responsible for, including through supporting or promoting, the DPRK's nuclear-related, ballistic-missile-related or other weapons of mass destruction-related programmes.'

(b) under the heading '(f) Legal persons, entities and bodies designated in accordance with point (c) of Article 34(4)', the following entry is added:

	Name	Alias	Identifying information	Date of designation	Reasons
'3.	Paekyangsan Shipping Co Ltd		IMO: 6029462 Associated entity (vessel): PAEK YANG SAN 1 (IMO: 9129653)	12.10.2026	Paekyangsan Shipping Co Ltd operates the DPRK-flagged vessel Paek Yang San 1, which is involved in shipments of refined petroleum products from Russia to the DPRK in violation of UNSCR 2397 (2017), in the context of the DPRK-Russia "arms-for-oil" trade. Paekyangsan Shipping Co Ltd is therefore involved in supplies that could contribute to the DPRK's nuclear-related, ballistic-missile-related or other weapons of mass destruction-related programmes.'

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(2) Annex XVI, entitled ‘List of persons, entities or bodies referred to in Article 34(1) and 34(3)’, is amended as follows:

(a) under the heading ‘(a) Natural persons’, the following entries are added:

	Name (and possible aliases)	Identifying information	Date of designation	Reasons
‘34.	Anna Nikolaevna AKINSHINA Áнна Николáевна АКИ́НЬШИНА	CEO, Samolet Group of Companies PJSC DOB: 4.2.1985 Nationality: Russian Gender: female Associated entity: Samolet Group of Companies PJSC	12.10.2026	In her capacity as Chief Executive Officer of Samolet Group, a major Russian real estate development company, Anna Akinshina is responsible for the management and activities of the company, which has employed workers from the DPRK in its construction projects in Vladivostok, Russian Federation in violation of sanctions imposed by the UNSC that prohibit the deployment of DPRK nationals abroad as the revenue generated by DPRK workers overseas could contribute to the DPRK’s nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programmes. As such, Anna Akinshina is assisting in the evasion of UN sanctions and violating the provisions of UNSCR 2397 (2017).
35.	Vladimir Aleksandrovich SOKOLOV Владимир Александрович СОКОЛОВ	Founder and President of Black Horse DOB: 29.1.1985 POB: Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Sakhalin region, Russian Federation Nationality: Russian Gender: male Associated entities: Limited Liability Company PCC “Black Horse” Limited Liability Company “Golden Autumn” Agroholding	12.10.2026	In his capacity as President of the Russian holding company Black Horse, including its subsidiary Golden Autumn Agroholding, Vladimir Sokolov has promoted and facilitated commercial and industrial cooperation projects involving the DPRK. In April 2026, Sokolov publicly announced the establishment of a joint DPRK-Russia industrial investment project in Primorsky Krai, Russian Federation through Black Horse and its subsidiary. As such, Vladimir Sokolov is assisting in the evasion of UN sanctions and violating sanctions imposed by the UNSC, in particular the provisions of UNSCR 2375 (2017).’

(b) under the heading '(b) Legal persons, entities and bodies', the following entries are added:

	Name (and possible aliases)	Location	Date of designation	Reasons
'12.	"Samolet Group of Companies" PJSC ПАО "Группа Самолет"	Address: 121552, Moscow, Yartsevskaya st, 19, 6 floor, block B, Russian Federation Place of registration: Russian Federation BIN/OGRN: 1187746590283 INN/TIN: 9731004688 Associated individual: Anna Nikolaevna Akinshina	12.10.2026	Samolet Group is a major Russian real estate development company using workers from the DPRK in its construction projects in Vladivostok, Russian Federation in violation of sanctions imposed by the UNSC that prohibit the deployment of DPRK nationals abroad as the revenue generated by DPRK workers overseas could contribute to the DPRK's nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programmes. As such, Samolet Group is assisting in the evasion of UN sanctions and violating the provisions of UNSCR 2397 (2017).

	Name (and possible aliases)	Location	Date of designation	Reasons
13.	Limited Liability Company PCC “Black Horse” Общество С Ограниченной Ответственностью ПКФ “Бызкхоз”	Address: 141804, Moscow Region, Dmitrov District, Dmitrov, Likova St., Building 10, Office 16. Russian Federation Place of registration: Russian Federation BIN/OGRN:1165007050064 INN/TIN: 5007096798 KPP: 500701001 Associated individual: Vladimir Aleksandrovich Sokolov Associated entity: LLC “Golden Autumn” Agroholding	12.10.2026	Black Horse is a Russian holding company headed by Vladimir Aleksandrovich Sokolov. Through its commercial activities and its subsidiary Golden Autumn Agroholding, Black Horse has promoted and facilitated economic and industrial cooperation projects involving the DPRK. Black Horse exports products to the DPRK and identifies the DPRK as a priority commercial market. Through its subsidiary, Black Horse is engaged in a joint industrial and investment project with the DPRK. As such, Black Horse is assisting in the evasion of UN sanctions and violating sanctions imposed by the UNSC, in particular the provisions of UNSCR 2375 (2017).

	Name (and possible aliases)	Location	Date of designation	Reasons
14.	Limited Liability Company “Golden Autumn” Agroholding Общество С Ограниченной Ответственностью Агрохолдинг “Золотая Осень”	Address: 109316, 47 Volgogradsky Avenue, Tekstilshchiki district, Moscow, Russian Federation Place of registration: Russian Federation BIN/OGRN: 1237700389893 INN/TIN: 9722047759 KPP: 772201001 Associated individual: Vladimir Aleksandrovich Sokolov Associated entity: LLC PCC “Black Horse”	12.10.2026	Golden Autumn Agroholding is a Russian company and subsidiary of the holding company Black Horse, which is headed by Vladimir Aleksandrovich Sokolov. Golden Autumn Agroholding exports products to the DPRK and is engaged in a joint industrial and investment project with the DPRK. As such, Golden Autumn Agroholding is assisting in the evasion of UN sanctions and violating sanctions imposed by the UNSC, in particular the provisions of UNSCR 2375 (2017).’

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