



Trade and research collaboration in a secure manner

SUPO
FINNISH SECURITY AND
INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

Russia is after Western products and technologies

The war of aggression in Ukraine and the ensuing tighter export restrictions have caused a lack of different materials and components in Russia. Russia tries to fill these gaps and maintain its military capabilities by circumventing the imposed restrictions.

Russia's means to evade export restrictions have become more diverse. This development concerns also Finland.



BUSINESSES AND UNIVERSITIES HAVE EXPERTISE RUSSIA IS INTERESTED IN

Finnish companies and universities have a wealth of internationally acknowledged expertise and advanced technologies. Russia is interested in, for example, different electronic components, measuring devices, machine tools, materials engineering, optics, maritime technology, and quantum expertise. These are therefore targets of Russia's covert acquisitions.

Russia also seeks to acquire dual-use items that are subject to export control laid down in the EU dual-use regulations. Dual-use items are technologies or products that have both civilian and military uses or serve in developing weapons of mass destruction.

RUSSIA WANTS TO DISGUISE THE REAL BUYER

Russia tries to circumvent export restrictions by disguising the real buyer by using long supply chains and third countries, among others. Acquisition attempts may also involve forged end-user certificates.

In its acquisitions, Russia uses both private companies and acquisition networks through which it directs the needed technology into the country. The acquisitions are not necessarily always clearly linked to Russia.

Finnish companies and universities should pay attention to unusual acquisition attempts or contacts. A contact may come from a newly created company or a company located in a country that is not already familiar, and may not always come directly from a Russian source.

CONTACT US

Finnish technology or products ending up via a Finnish entity in projects supporting the Russian armed forces may pose a significant reputational and operational risk to the concerned organization. One of SUPO's roles is to ensure that technology or products subject to export restrictions are not exported from or via Finland.

If your organisation receives a suspicious contact or would otherwise like to contact SUPO about suspicious acquisitions or business, you may contact us by e-mail at proliferaatiovalvonta@supo.fi.

If you need advice or guidance on export restrictions or export licensing of dual-use items, you can contact the Export Control Unit of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland by e-mail at kpo-40@formin.fi or vientivalvonta.um@formin.fi or by telephone on **0295 350 943**.

In urgent cases concerning customs offences, you can call Finnish Customs' 24-hour tip line **0800 1 4600** free of charge. You can use Customs' online tip-off form for non-urgent reports of suspicious or illegal activity.

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