



**Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office**

The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP
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Tom Tugendhat, MBE, VR, MP
Chair, Foreign Affairs Select Committee
House of Commons
London
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30 January 2022

Dear Tom,

As the Prime Minister said in the House of Commons this week, any further military incursion by Russia into Ukraine will result in massive consequences, including further co-ordinated sanctions to impose a severe cost on Russia's interests and economy. He also reported our intention to lay legislation before Parliament to strengthen our sanctions regime.

I will shortly introduce legislation to Parliament that will significantly broaden the range of people, businesses and other entities the UK can sanction in response to a further Russian incursion. This will be in the form of an amendment to the Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. These changes will provide the additional powers we need to quickly impose more extensive sanctions.

Under the current sanctions regime, the UK is required to demonstrate that an individual has been involved in destabilising Ukraine or is linked to such a person. Our changes to the legislation will expand these criteria and enable the UK to act rapidly, in close concert with the US and other partners, when the time comes; maximising the impact of our sanctions regimes.

I intend to use these new powers in a way that is targeted and designed to damage those elites who bear greatest responsibility for Russia's actions. We remain clear that the UK has no quarrel whatsoever with the Russian people. This legislation, and the way we use it, will be designed to bring maximum pressure on the Kremlin to change course.

Given the severity of this situation and the implications for national security, I would appreciate your support in progressing this legislation through parliament.

THE RT HON ELIZABETH TRUSS MP
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Secretary