

# Office of Research Security Newsletter

June 2021



# **U.S. OFAC Cuba Sanctions: Top 4 Things You Need to Know**

Dr. Jennifer Saak / 05/12/2021

This article is about an unusual combination: sanctions and optimism. I am focusing on economic sanctions with optimism that international travel and international research endeavors will rebound when the world can look at the COVID pandemic in the rearview mirror. In the "normal" pre-COVID environment, we had seen consistent interest from U.S. universities in legally engaging in activities related to Cuba or Cuban nationals. The reality that the U.S. government has put Cuba under sanctions longer than any other country in the world has served as an important regulatory backdrop to that interest. Today's embargo goes back to President Kennedy's initial proclamation in February 1962, during the peak of the Cold War, to counter Fidel Castro's government.

The Cuba sanctions regulations have been amended by most U.S. administrations since they were first introduced to either relax or restrict travel to the island, financial transactions, and other specific activities. In this dynamic and ever-changing landscape, we are extracting 4 key points from the current regulations to keep universities and academic institutions informed.

**To read the full article:** <u>https://traliance.com/u-s-ofac-cuba-sanctions-top-4-things-you-need-to-know/?vgo\_ee=2t%2FQZ%2FEq6BijI7qQxV0WA4MaaSPujvXhuGVTmvkwyug%3D</u>

### **Kenya Travel Advisory**

#### Kenya - Level 4: Do Not Travel

Do not travel to Kenya due to **COVID-19.** Exercise increased caution in Kenya due to **crime**, **terrorism**, **health issues**, **and kidnapping**. Some areas have increased risk. Read the entire Travel Advisory.

Read the Department of State's <u>COVID-19 page</u> before you plan any international travel.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a Level 4 Travel Health Notice for Kenya due to COVID-19, indicating a very high level of COVID-19 in the country. Visit the Embassy's <u>COVID-19 page</u> for more information on COVID-19 in Kenya.

Do Not Travel to:

- Kenya-Somalia border and some coastal areas due to terrorism.
- Areas of Turkana County due to crime.

**Reconsider Travel to:** 

• Nairobi neighborhoods of Eastleigh and Kibera at all times due to **crime and kidnapping**. Be especially careful when traveling after dark anywhere in Kenya due to crime.

Violent crime, such as armed carjacking, mugging, home invasion, and kidnapping, can occur at any time. Local police are willing but often lack the capability to respond effectively to serious criminal incidents and terrorist attacks. Emergency medical and fire service is also limited.

Terrorist attacks have occurred with little or no warning, targeting Kenyan and foreign government facilities, tourist locations, transportation hubs, hotels, resorts, markets/shopping malls, and places of worship. Terrorist acts have included armed assaults, suicide operations, bomb/grenade attacks, and kidnappings.

Due to risks to civil aviation operating in the vicinity of the Kenyan-Somali border, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has issued a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM).

#### To read the full article:

https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories/kenya-traveladvisory.html

## Insiders Arrested and Charged for Selling USAF Controlled Technical Drawings

#### Christopher Burgess / May 18, 2021

Mid-May 2021, we saw the second batch of arrests associated with the theft and sale of government controlled information by insiders with access, to others, both foreign and domestic, who were not authorized to receive these documents.

Sarfraz Yousef and Marc Chavez comprised the second group of individuals associated with the marketing of these sensitive documents. In September 2020, the first group of criminals, Mark Fitting, Melony Erice, George Posey IV, and Dean MIrabal were arrested for the unauthorized sale and sharing of Naval and ITAR controlled documents.

To read the full article: <u>https://news.clearancejobs.com/2021/05/18/insiders-arrested-and-charged-for-selling-usaf-controlled-technical-drawings/</u>



ORS will be hosting a "Welcome Back" pizza party Wednesday, August 11, 2021 from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Please stop by the ORS modular (VBH, Annex D) building to say "Hello" and get a slice or two of pizza.

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