

Coming on Sept 13: Report on “The Impact and Consequences of US Sanctions”

How US Sanctions are killing civilians, hindering the global fight against Covid, and hurting the US economy



Venezuelans line up for water.

DW/Michael Fox

60+ Years of US Sanctions

The U.S. policy of economically undermining independent countries has persisted for 60+ years.

In 1960, a [State Department memorandum](#) declared, “Every possible means should be undertaken promptly to weaken the economic life of Cuba.... denying money and supplies to Cuba, to decrease monetary and real wages, to bring about hunger, desperation and overthrow of government.”

In 1970, when Dr Salvador Allende was elected in Chile and before he was even inaugurated, President Richard Nixon instructed the Central Intelligence Agency to “Make the [Chilean] economy scream”.

In 2018, US Ambassador to Venezuela, William Brownfield, said “the best solution would be to accelerate the collapse, even if it produces suffering for months or years.”

Today, [39 nations](#) or territories are under direct or indirect US sanctions. As indicated in the quotes above, this is economic warfare for political ends.

Will Biden change Sanctions policy?

On January 21, the Biden administration [mandated](#) a review of US sanctions “to evaluate whether they are unduly hindering responses to the COVID-19 pandemic”.

Biden administration leaders [expressed a second concern](#): “The goal of sanctions should not be to punish ordinary citizens for the actions of their leaders.”

Finally, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen expressed concern that sanctions are undermining “the U.S.’s leadership role in the global financial system.”

For the past several months, Treasury Deputy Secretary Wally Adeyemo has been leading a review of US sanctions.

Currently it seems they are NOT changing policy. In the past three months, MORE sanctions have been imposed on Nicaragua, Syria, Cuba and Iran.

An independent review

A coalition of social justice and human rights organizations called "[Sanctions Kill](#)" has conducted an independent review of the impact and consequences of U.S. sanctions.

The report is based on a poll of people from Cuba, Iran, Nicaragua, Venezuela and Zimbabwe plus fact finding on the ground in Syria and official reports and independent research.

Key Questions:

The report raises important questions:

- * Why don't more Americans know about the impact of US sanctions?
- * Could US officials face criminal & civil liability?
- * Are US Unilateral Sanctions in fact illegal and in violation of the United Nations Charter?
- * Why is this policy continuing? What should be done?

Key findings in the report

- * 71% of world nations believe that US sanctions violate international law and the UN Charter.
- * Sanctions harm US farmers and companies who seek mutually beneficial trade with target countries.
- * There has been a virtual media blackout of the impact of sanctions and world-wide criticism.
- * Many thousands of civilians have died as a direct or indirect consequence of US sanctions.
- * Humanitarian exemptions, intended to allow food and medicines, have not worked.
- * Sanctions are spurring countries to sell US securities and seek alternatives to the US dominated financial system.

The report will be released on Sept 13, 2021.

To receive a free pdf copy of the report, send your email to info@SanctionsKill.org

UN General Assembly calls for US to end Cuba embargo for 29th consecutive year



With a vote of 184-2, the world tells the US to STOP sanctions on Cuba.