



Export Control & Restricted Party Screening

What Does Restricted Party Mean?

Under federal export control regulations, U.S. persons and entities may not engage with certain international entities, including persons, academic institutions, governments, companies, or other entities. These entities are referred to as restricted parties. The U.S. Departments of State, Commerce, and the Treasury, as well as other federal agencies, each maintain lists of restricted parties.



Denied Party Screening vs Restricted Party Screening

For all intents, when it comes to export, trade, and financial compliance—with which businesses in both the U.S. and abroad have the obligation to comply—those commonly-used terms can be considered relatively interchangeable. Other terms common in the export compliance industry include debarred party screening, OFAC screening, watch list screening, sanctions screening, embargoed country screening, Sanctioned Party List Screening (SPL), and Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) and Blocked Persons screening.

However, while similar in nature, there are some differences, primarily in that some terms are associated with specific regulations:

- **Denied parties:** having a denied party designation typically means that an entity has been denied export privileges.
- **Restricted parties:** these are individuals or entities upon which restrictions—either whole or partial—have been placed. A restricted party is sometimes referred to as a blocked party or entity.
- **Debarred parties:** these are individuals or organizations that have been blocked on account of a violation of the Arms Export Control Act administered by the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls.
- **OFAC-related parties:** these parties have been blocked as a result of the enforcement of U.S. economic sanctions. Individuals and entities, as well as sanctioned and embargoed countries, fall under the purview of the Office of Foreign Assets Controls (OFAC).

Should We Really Worry About Screening?

Yes. There are a number of denied party lists of individuals, entities and countries that, for a variety of reasons, the U.S. Departments of State, Commerce and Treasury, and international governmental agencies, have placed restrictions upon conducting business. U.S. regulations generally apply to U.S. exporters, while international regulations may apply to U.S. and foreign exporters doing business in those respective jurisdictions.

Get in Touch!

Export Control Officer: exportcontrol@utep.edu | 915-747-7812