

Marseille, France
 March 2, 2022

Current Air Freight Situation – Ukraine & Russia

The current geopolitical conflict between Ukraine and Russia is having a far-reaching impact on the air freight market that will continue in the coming days.

As of today, all Russian carriers are banned from the air space of almost all European countries. These restrictions include Air Bridge Cargo and Aeroflot, which offered significant capacity connecting Asia, Europe and the U.S.. Russia has in turn closed its air space to a large number of countries.

Due to this development along the trans-Siberian route typically used by carriers, carriers are taking longer routing to and from Asia connecting Europe (e.g. the graphic below is for illustration purpose only). In addition to these longer transit times and corresponding costs, some carriers (e.g. Air France, KLM and Lufthansa) are also cancelling certain flights altogether until further notice due to the transit times and their effect on passenger service.



In addition, Middle Eastern carriers are planning to refuel U.S.-bound flights in Europe due to the current situation, also leading to additional cost and transit time.

The impact of these changes on global air freight capacity (both belly and freighter) is significant and comes at a time when the industry is already challenged by the continuing Covid-19 pandemic and rising fuel prices.

The situation with airlines is changing frequently, and as more information becomes available, we will provide updates as quickly as possible.

The severity of the impact will vary by trade lane, and at this point, exact data is not available as we are still assessing the ever-evolving situation.

Beginning A war risk surcharge has been introduced by Cargolux eff. March 07th, and we are awaiting update from other carriers whether they would introduce the same in the coming days.

Finally, CEVA is continuing to handle shipments in our network between Europe and Asia through available capacity. All shipments to Ukraine and Russia are subject to all applicable trade and economic regulations , and will be checked on a case-to-case basis at respective origin countries.

We will keep you updated on the evolving capacity situation and its potential impact on the air freight market.

We are also committed to finding alternate solutions to minimize these challenges.

If you have specific questions on this matter, please reach out to your account manager.

Our most recent updates can be also found [here](#).