

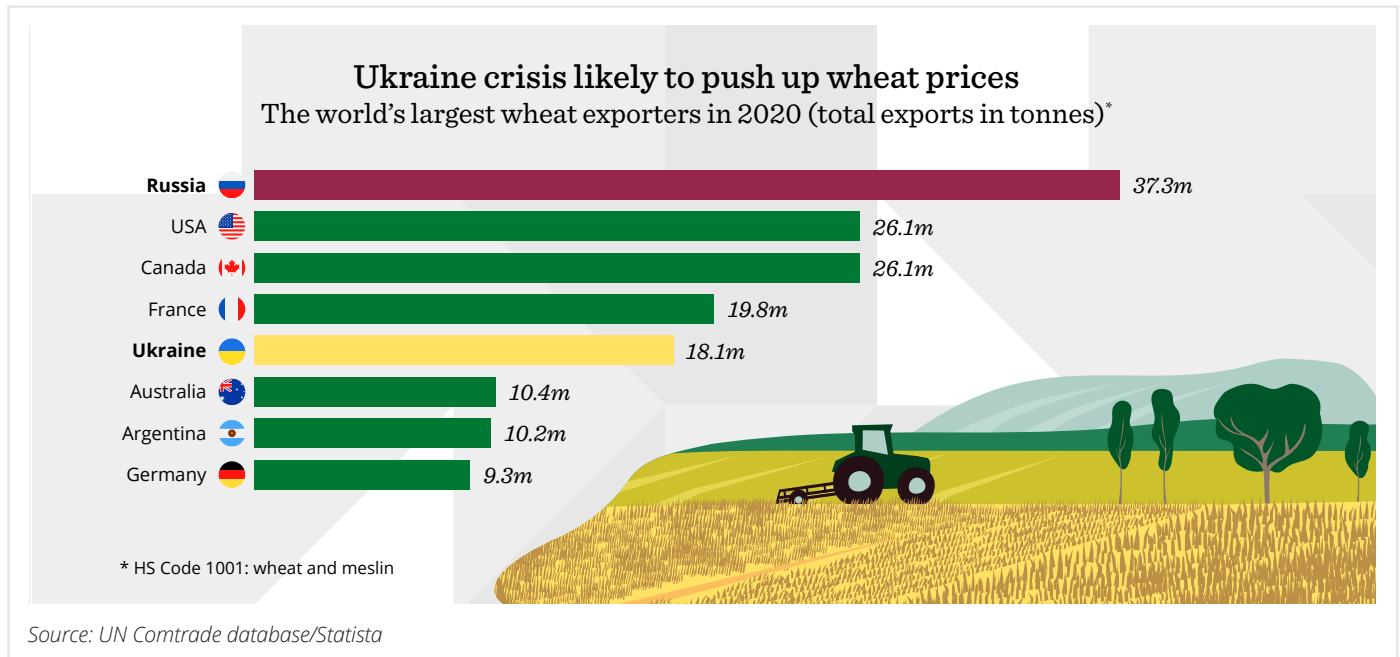


Between the lines

Week
09

Cereal crunch if Ukraine conflict hits wheat exports

While oil and gas prices have already been impacted by the crisis in Ukraine, wheat could also see prices rise, fuelling further food price inflation. Russia is the third-largest producer of wheat, after China and India, but the largest exporter of the commodity, while Ukraine is the fifth largest.



BP to offload 20% stake in Rosneft

British energy giant BP is to exit its 19.75% stake in the state-owned Russian energy firm Rosneft over the conflict in Ukraine.

BP has held a stake in Rosneft since 2013, but on Monday (28 Feb) BP said Russia's attack on Ukraine was "an act of aggression which is having tragic consequences across the region" and that, despite having operated in Russia for more than 30 years, its "involvement with Rosneft, a state-owned enterprise, simply cannot continue".

Its stake in Rosneft was valued at \$14bn at the end of 2021 with BP's share price falling around 7% in early trading on the news. Although BP said while the move would result in new charges in its first quarter 2022 results, it "remains confident in the flexibility and resilience of its financial frame" and re-affirmed the guidance for dividends and buybacks out to 2025 that it released last month.

This includes the capacity for an annual increase in dividends of around 4% through to 2025.



Google sanctions Russian media

Google and YouTube have barred Russia's state-owned media channel Russia Today, and other channels, from earning money from adverts on their websites and apps, in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The move on Saturday (26 Feb) followed similar steps by Meta, the parent company of Facebook, with YouTube stating the extraordinary circumstances mean it is "pausing a number of channels' ability to monetise on YouTube, including several Russian channels affiliated with recent sanctions". Google and YouTube have also blocked access to various state-owned media channels via their platforms.

In response, Russia's media regulator, Roskomnadzor, said it had written to Alphabet – the parent company of Google and YouTube – to request the removal of the restrictions. Meanwhile, the regulator accused Facebook of 'censoring' Russian media by not removing its restrictions. Meta's head of global affairs, Nick Clegg, said on Twitter: "Russian authorities ordered us to stop the independent fact-checking and labelling of content...We refused."

Important information

This communication is issued by Quilter Investors Limited ("Quilter Investors"), Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, England, EC4V 4AB. Quilter Investors is registered in England and Wales (number: 04227837) and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FRN: 208543)

This communication is for information purposes only. Nothing in this communication constitutes financial, professional or investment advice or a personal recommendation. This communication should not be construed as a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell any securities or related financial instruments in any jurisdiction. No representation or warranty, either expressed or implied, is

provided in relation to the accuracy, completeness or reliability of the information contained herein, nor is it intended to be a complete statement or summary of the securities, markets or developments referred to in the document.

Any opinions expressed in this document are subject to change without notice and may differ or be contrary to opinions expressed by other business areas or companies within the same group as Quilter Investors as a result of using different assumptions and criteria.

Quilter Investors is not licensed or regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore ("MAS") in Singapore. This document has not been reviewed by MAS.

222-0032/SK18218