

Rhodesia) and France (some imports). These measures were unsuccessful and in December 1966 the UN Security Council decided to adopt mandatory — albeit narrower — sanctions (on the export of oil, arms, military equipment and ammunition, vehicles and aircraft; on the import of sugar, tobacco, meat, asbestos, copper, chromium, iron, pelts). In 1968, a total embargo on imports and exports (excluding medical and educational products), a total ban on capital transfers, non-recognition of Rhodesian passports for purposes of travel, the severance of air links and the withdrawal of diplomatic and consular representatives were adopted and enforced by a very large number of countries. South Africa and Portugal did not fully apply the sanctions, however, reducing their effectiveness.

In 1972, a guerrilla movement sprang up in Rhodesia, which caused growing damage and finally convinced the Rhodesian authorities to agree in 1978 to a gradual transfer of power to the black majority in the short term. 1979 was a transitional year which also saw the end of sanctions.

The effect of sanctions on Rhodesia: although the result sought (Rhodesian independence and majority rule) was achieved in the end, it must be acknowledged that it was primarily due to other pressures, including the insurrection movement for majority rule. The country was able to gradually diversify its export markets for agricultural produce (tobacco, sugar and beef, as well as non-traditional crops such as corn and wheat) and gradually found takers for its mineral products (chromium, gold, etc.). An industrial strategy based on import substitutions limited the injury caused by the embargo. Rhodesia found alternative sources of oil, which was vital for transportation and energy. The country's abundant available hydroelectric resources also allowed it to avoid being entirely at the mercy of the sanctioning countries. Goods of Rhodesian origin or bound for Rhodesia could be camouflaged as goods of South African origin or bound for South Africa, making it relatively easy to evade or compensate for the sanctions. The US and Great Britain were sufficiently concerned about enforcing the embargo to prosecute violators. Insofar as the sanctions led Rhodesia to diversify its economy and made it less vulnerable to international pressure, they may have been counterproductive. But though the sanctions did not yield immediate results, they did contribute to the process which undermined the ruling white regime. The guerrilla struggle, the independence of Mozambique and Angola, and South African pressure for a settlement were probably decisive.