

Countries with Encryption Restrictions

The governments of the countries listed below have enacted significant restrictions on encryption, require an import license, and/or do not recognize any “personal use exemption.”

Country	Restriction
Belarus	Under Resolution No. 218 of 18 March 1997 of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus, the import and export of cryptography is prohibited without a license from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the State Center for Information Security of the Security Council.
Burma (Myanmar)	Section 69 of the Telecommunications Law provides that the disclosure of information which has been encrypted is only allowed in relation to a telecommunications-related prosecution and only when authorized by a court order. Breach of section 69 is a criminal offence punishable by up to one year’s imprisonment, a fine or both.
China	State Council Order No. 273 “Regulation of Commercial Encryption Codes” requires a license for the import and export of encryption products from the National Commission on Encryption Code Regulations/ State Cryptography Administration.
Hungary	"International Import Certificate" may be required for commercial imports. Otherwise, personal use is permissible as long as the encryption technology is not distributed or commercially utilized while in the country.
Iran	Article 10 of the Law on Computer Crime Law provides for a criminal offence of “concealing data, changing passwords, or encrypting data that prevents access of authorized individuals to data, computer and telecommunication systems”. The offence is punishable by imprisonment of 91 days to one year or a fine.
Israel	Section 2 of the Order Regarding the Engagement in Encryption Items – 1974 (5734) prohibits organizations and individuals from engaging in encryption-related items unless they have a license to do so from the Director-General at the Ministry of Defense. Section 3(d) of the Order does, however, grant the Director-General the power to declare

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	certain encryption items as “free means” meaning that no license is required.
Kazakhstan	Regulations made under the Law on Communications require every internet user in the country to install a backdoor, allowing the government to conduct surveillance and potentially intercept secure connections, see web browsing history, usernames and passwords, and even secure, HTTPS-encrypted traffic.
Moldova	Government Decision No. 859 of 13 August 1998 requires a license for encryption from the Ministry of National Security depending on the encryption strength.
Morocco	<p>Article 13 of Law No. 53-05 on the Electronic Exchange of Legal Data provides that, the import, export, supply or use of cryptography means or services are subject to either prior declaration (required where the sole purpose of the cryptography is to authenticate transmission, or ensure the completeness of data transmitted electronically) or prior authorization from the Directorate General for Information Systems Security (all other circumstances).</p> <p>The import, export, supply or use of cryptographic means or services without prior declaration or authorization is a criminal offence, punishable by up to one year’s imprisonment and a fine.</p>
Russia	<p>Article 12 of Federal Law No. 128-FZ “On Licensing Specific Types of Activity” provides that a license is required for distributing or maintaining encryption facilities, maintaining encryption facilities, providing encryption services, and developing and manufacturing encryption facilities. In Russia, an “encryption facility” refers to any entity or infrastructure involved in the development, production, distribution, or use of encryption technologies.</p> <p>Article 10-1, paragraph 4-1 of Federal Law No. 149-FZ “On Information, Information Technologies and Protection of Information” requires “organizers of information distribution” that add “additional coding” to transmitted electronic messages to provide the Federal Security Service with any information necessary to decrypt those messages.</p>

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Saudi Arabia	Travelers may bring encrypted devices for personal use without needing a special license, as long as the encryption is not used for commercial purposes or distributed within the country. In cases where the personal use exemption does not apply, travelers may need to obtain an import license from the relevant authorities before bringing encrypted devices into the country. Travelers should ensure that their use of encryption complies with local laws and regulations. This may involve disabling certain encryption features or using approved encryption methods.
Tunisia	<p>Article 4 of Decree Number 2008-2639 dated 21 July 2008 regulates the importation and commercialization of encryption systems for telecommunications networks and requires the government's approval (National Agency of Digital Certification) of the commercialization and importation of such systems.</p> <p>Article 9 of the Telecommunications Code (Law No. 2001-1 dated January 15, 2001) provides that the government may, by decree, set out the conditions and procedures for the use of encryption facilities or services through public telecommunications networks and the exercise of related activities.</p> <p>The use, manufacture, import, export, selling or distribution of cryptographic means or services in violation of the requirements of the decree is a criminal offence, punishable by up to six months' imprisonment and/or a fine.</p>
Ukraine	The Law of Ukraine on Basic Principles of Cybersecurity provides that a license from the Department of Special Telecommunication Systems and Protection of Information of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) is required before importing encryption technology.