

## **Oil prices little changed as markets weigh EU sanctions on Russia**

Oil prices showed mixed performance on Monday, as traders assessed new European sanctions on Russian oil supply and monitored progress in trade talks ahead of President Donald Trump's tariff deadline.

As of 08:52 AM (Brasília time), Brent futures remained unchanged at \$69.25 per barrel, while West Texas Intermediate (WTI) futures rose 0.1% to \$66.11 per barrel.

Oil prices fell nearly 1.5% last week, marking their first weekly decline this month.

The European Union on Friday approved its 18th package of sanctions against Russia, introducing some of the toughest measures so far in response to the ongoing war in Ukraine.

The centerpiece of the new measures is a floating price cap on Russian crude oil exports, set at 15% below prevailing market prices.

This mechanism, which will take effect on September 3 after a 90-day transition period, is designed to cut Russia's energy revenues while avoiding disruptions to global supply.

"It's worth noting that while the EU has lowered the price cap, the G7's cap remains unchanged. The EU would need U.S. support to lower the cap," ING analysts said in a note.

"The problem is that the G7 price cap hasn't been effective, as Russia has built a shadow fleet of tankers to circumvent it."

The EU also expanded its blacklist of tankers linked to the so-called Russian "shadow fleet," sanctioning 105 new vessels.

While oil prices saw little movement in early Monday trading, the measures are being closely watched by markets due to their potential supply implications.

"The lack of reaction shows the market isn't convinced of the effectiveness of these sanctions," the analysts added.

If enforcement intensifies, the restrictions could gradually reduce the global supply of Russian oil and put upward pressure on prices.

Investors are awaiting news from the U.S. regarding potential additional sanctions, after President Donald Trump earlier this week threatened to impose penalties on buyers of Russian exports unless Moscow agrees to a peace deal within 50 days.