

... but shipping backlog remains for Black Sea corridor

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Russia's decision to resume participation in the Black Sea Corridor agreement was welcomed on all sides, but there remained a considerable backlog of vessels waiting to travel north to Ukraine or out of the three ports in Ukraine that are part of the agreement.

On the day after Russia announced that it had quit the agreement, Ukraine said that 218 vessels were "effectively blocked".

As Ukraine did not have permits from the scheme's Joint Coordination Centre to pass through the safe corridor, "218 vessels are ...blocked in their current positions," the ministry said on Telegram

The ministry said 95 loaded vessels that had left Ukrainian ports were awaiting inspection for shipment to the final consumer, and 101 empty ones awaited inspection at the entrance to Ukrainian ports. It said 22 ships with agricultural goods were waiting to leave Ukrainian ports.