



HANGOUT with the PRESIDENT

LIVE TODAY 5:30 PM EST

WATCH THE LIVE BROADCAST

[Home](#) • [Briefing Room](#) • [Statements & Releases](#)

Search

The White House

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

November 21, 2011

Statement by the President on the Announcement of Additional Sanctions on Iran

Today, my Administration has taken yet another step to further isolate and penalize Iran for its refusal to live up to its international obligations regarding its nuclear program. For years, the Iranian government has failed to abide by its obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. It has violated repeated UN Security Council resolutions, as well as its commitments to the International Atomic Energy Agency. In the face of this intransigence, the world has spoken with one voice—at the IAEA, at the UN, and in capitals - making it clear that Iranian actions jeopardize international peace and stability, and will only further isolate the Iranian regime.

Today, my Administration has taken action to impose an additional cost on Iran for its actions. New sanctions target for the first time Iran's petrochemical sector, prohibiting the provision of goods, services, and technology to this sector and authorizing penalties against any person or entity that engages in such activity. They expand energy sanctions, making it more difficult for Iran to operate, maintain, and modernize its oil and gas sector. They also designate 11 individuals and entities for their role in assisting Iran's prohibited nuclear programs, including its enrichment and heavy water programs. And today we have taken the next significant step to escalate the pressure by acting under Section 311 of the USA PATRIOT Act, identifying for the first time, the entire Iranian banking sector – including the Central Bank of Iran – as a threat to governments or financial institutions that do business with Iranian banks. We are joined in this action by the United Kingdom and Canada, who have also acted to cut off Iran from their financial systems today. I welcome these steps and encourage all of our partners to do the same.

As President one of my highest national security priorities is to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, including to the Iranian government. Since taking office, I have made it clear that the United States is prepared to begin a new chapter with the Islamic Republic of Iran, offering the Iranian government a clear choice. It can fulfill its international obligations and reap the benefits of greater economic and political integration with countries around the world, or it can continue to defy its responsibilities and face even more pressure and isolation. Iran has chosen the path of international isolation. As long as Iran continues down this dangerous path, the United States will continue to find ways, both in concert with our partners and through our own actions to isolate and increase the pressure upon the Iranian regime.

2012 STATE of the UNION

[More Information](#)

BLOG POSTS ON THIS ISSUE

January 30, 2012 5:07 PM EST

[Regulatory Reform Progress](#)

OIRA Administrator Cass Sunstein provides an update on the Administration's regulatory reform efforts.

January 30, 2012 1:41 PM EST

[From the Archives: President Obama Signs the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act](#)

A look back at the signing of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which makes it easier for workers to challenge unequal pay.

January 30, 2012 1:40 PM EST

[Joining Forces for Caregivers](#)



First Lady Michelle Obama was joined by leaders from the government, military, business and non-profit

communities to announce new initiatives that support those who care for our country's wounded, ill and injured service members and veterans

[VIEW ALL RELATED BLOG POSTS](#) ▾

STAY CONNECTED

- Facebook
- YouTube
- Twitter
- Vimeo
- Flickr
- iTunes



MySpace



LinkedIn



Home

The White House Blog

Photos & Videos

- Photo Galleries
- Video
- Live Streams
- Podcasts

Briefing Room

- Your Weekly Address
- Speeches & Remarks
- Press Briefings
- Statements & Releases
- White House Schedule
- Presidential Actions
- Legislation
- Nominations & Appointments
- Disclosures

Issues

- Civil Rights
- Defense
- Disabilities
- Economy
- Education
- Energy & Environment
- Ethics
- Family
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Foreign Policy
- Health Care
- Homeland Security
- Immigration
- Poverty
- Rural
- Seniors & Social Security
- Service
- Taxes
- Technology
- Urban Policy
- Veterans
- Women
- Additional Issues

The Administration

- President Barack Obama
- Vice President Joe Biden
- First Lady Michelle Obama
- Dr. Jill Biden
- The Cabinet
- White House Staff
- Executive Office of the President
- Other Advisory Boards

About the White House

- Interactive Tour
- History
- Presidents
- First Ladies
- The Oval Office
- The Vice President's Residence & Office
- Eisenhower Executive Office Building
- Camp David
- Air Force One
- White House Fellows
- White House Internships
- Tours & Events
- Inside the White House

Our Government

- The Executive Branch
- The Legislative Branch
- The Judicial Branch
- The Constitution
- Federal Agencies & Commissions
- Elections & Voting
- State & Local Government
- Resources

WWW.WHITEHOUSE.GOV

En español | Accessibility | Copyright Information | Privacy Policy | Contact
USA.gov | Subscribe to RSS Feeds | Apply for a Job