



RELEASES

Operation Economic Outcast: Total Isolation of the Iranian Regime

The White House | August 24, 2026

Today, the Trump Administration unleashed [Operation Economic Outcast](#), an unprecedented campaign to sever every remaining economic lifeline sustaining the Islamic Republic of Iran. After President Trump and the overwhelming might of the U.S. military dismantled Iran's military capabilities and crippled its nuclear program, America is entering the endgame with the single greatest financial offensive ever mounted against an adversary.

Secretary of the Treasury Scott Bessent announced the operation:

- “Today, at President Trump’s direction, the United States Treasury has begun Operation Economic Outcast — an unprecedented campaign against the Islamic Republic of Iran and its enablers... We are launching an economic onslaught against Iran’s financial connections around the globe. Our objective is to sever every economic lifeline that sustains this tyrannical regime until Tehran stands alone.” ([Watch](#))
- “President Trump has taken action that his predecessors have long deferred. Under his leadership, America is no longer managing the Iranian threat — we are ending it.” ([Watch](#))
- “Iran now faces a very clear choice, with only two paths before them: complete global isolation and a subsistence economy or a path back to normalcy with an opportunity to rejoin the global economy. Today, we are launching Operation Economic Outcast to foreclose every other option available to the Iranian regime.” ([Watch](#))
- “Beginning today, the actions of Treasury and other agencies will tighten the noose and block every potential source of revenue that funds the IRGC and the evil Iranian regime. We are enforcing a ‘zero-leakage approach’; there will be no minimal breathing space for the regime to rebuild its capacity to inflict terror against America and the world.” ([Watch](#))
- “The final refuge of this regime is the mistaken conclusion of nations that still finance the Iranian threat in the hopes of evading it. It is no longer acceptable to operate in the gray spaces of this conflict.” ([Watch](#))
- “The new sectoral sanctions determinations issued today target five of Iran’s most vital lifelines that it exploits in other countries: digital assets, technology, gold, aviation, and shipping. These measures broaden secondary sanctions risk for anyone foolish enough to continue conducting business with this regime.” ([Watch](#))

- “Let there be no ambiguity as to the position of the United States: an economic engagement of any kind with this murderous regime will expose those responsible to the full reach of American power.” ([Watch](#))
 - “Any entity that facilitates money laundering on behalf of Iran will be removed from the U.S. Dollar system. The clock just started ticking.” ([Watch](#))
 - “Nations that facilitate any interactions with the regime should quickly heed our message. Those who stand with the United States will reap the rewards of our partnership; those who tether themselves to the Iranian regime should expect to share in the isolation of a withering regime.” ([Watch](#))
-

In a forceful [Financial Times op-ed](#), Secretary Bessent made the strategic intent unmistakable:

“President Donald Trump and the overwhelming might of our military have significantly dismantled Iran’s military capabilities and weakened its nuclear programme. Now we are entering the endgame. At dawn begins an economic D-Day — the single greatest financial offensive ever marshalled against an adversary... The world should understand that our objective is to sever every economic lifeline that sustains the tyrannical regime until Tehran stands alone.”

[Read the full op-ed here.](#)

For decades, President Trump has been [clear](#): the Islamic Republic of Iran — the world’s largest state sponsor of terrorism for [nearly half a century](#) — can never be allowed to obtain a nuclear weapon. Operation Economic Outcast delivers on that promise, cutting off the regime’s last remaining means to threaten the United States and ensuring Tehran stands alone, bankrupt, and broken.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/releases/2026/08/operation-economic-outcast-total-isolation-of-the-iranian-regime/>