

# OFAC

Office of Foreign Assets Control

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## YEMEN:

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SANCTIONS AGAINST PERSONS THREATENING THE PEACE, SECURITY, OR STABILITY OF YEMEN

*This document is explanatory only and does not have the force of law. Executive Order 13611 contains the legally binding provisions governing the sanctions. This document does not supplement or modify Executive Order 13611.*



# AN OVERVIEW OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO YEMEN

## I. INTRODUCTION

On May 16, 2012, the President issued Executive Order (“[E.O.](#)”) 13611, declaring a national emergency to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States posed by the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Yemen and other individuals and entities that threaten Yemen’s peace, security, or stability. Such actions and policies include obstructing the implementation of the November 23, 2011 agreement between the Government of Yemen and those in opposition to it, which provides for a peaceful transition of power that meets the legitimate demands and aspirations of the Yemeni people, and obstructing the political process in Yemen. In issuing this E.O., the President invoked, among other authorities, the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, the National Emergencies Act, and section 301 of title 3, United States Code.

## II. PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS

E.O. 13611 authorizes the blocking of property and interests in property of individuals and entities determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to:

1. Have engaged in acts that directly or indirectly threaten the peace, security, or stability of Yemen;
2. Be a political or military leader of an entity that has engaged in such acts;
3. Have provided support for such acts or to a person whose property and interests in property are blocked by the E.O.; or
4. Be owned or controlled by, or have directly or indirectly acted for or on behalf of, such blocked persons.

The E.O. does not impose broad-based sanctions against the country of Yemen or its government or people.

The names of any persons designated pursuant to E.O. 13611, whose property and interests in property are therefore blocked, are published in the *Federal Register*. They also are incorporated into the Office of Foreign Assets Control’s (“OFAC”) Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (“SDN List”) with the identifier “[YEMEN].” The SDN List is accessible through the following page on the OFAC Web site: [www.treasury.gov/sdn](http://www.treasury.gov/sdn). With certain exceptions and notwithstanding any contract entered into or any license or permit granted prior to its effective date, the E.O. prohibits all transactions or dealings in property and interests in property of an entity or individual designated pursuant to E.O. 13611, if the property or interests in property are within the United States or within the possession or control of any U.S. person. The property and interests in property of an entity that is 50% or more owned, directly or indirectly, by a designated person are blocked, regardless of whether the entity itself is designated pursuant to the E.O.

## III. PENALTIES

Criminal fines for willful violations of E.O. 13611 range, upon conviction, up to \$1,000,000; individuals may also face imprisonment up to 20 years. In addition, civil penalties of up to the greater of \$250,000 or twice the amount of the underlying transaction may be imposed administratively for violations of the E.O.

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The Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control also administers sanctions programs involving the Balkans, Belarus, Burma (Myanmar), Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rough Diamond Trading (Kimberley Process), Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, North Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Zimbabwe, as well as highly enriched uranium, persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism, international narcotics traffickers, Transnational Criminal Organizations, Foreign Terrorist Organizations, Terrorism List Governments, and weapons of mass destruction and missile proliferators and their supporters. For additional information about these programs or about sanctions involving Yemen, please contact:

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