

January 2, 2015

## Obama Announces New Sanctions on North Korea

- The White House announced an Executive Order (E.O.) this afternoon (Friday, January 2, EST), imposing new sanctions on three North Korea companies and ten individuals.
- Though nominally in response to the cyber-attack against Sony Pictures, the sanctions do not specifically target the North's cyber capabilities.
- The ten individuals targeted represent some of the regime's financial interests in Russia, China, Iran, Syria, and Namibia, therefore suggesting an effort to tighten the financial stranglehold on the regime.
- But perhaps more important, the language in which this E.O. frames the new sanctions suggests a broader platform for targeting regime elites, based not just on proliferation, but on human rights and cyber-attacks.

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