
Current Intelligence Report Circular

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Report Topic: Popular Unrest in Iran

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CMC Director: Liam Boyle

Report Author(s): Sierra Mason and Liam Boyle

Iran sues European Union officials and organizations

The Iranian government has blacklisted a number of European Union (EU) officials and organizations because of their stance on the anti-government protests going on in Iran. The Iranian foreign ministry said on 26 OCT that these sanctions are for “intentional actions in supporting terrorism and terrorist groups, inciting terrorism, and propagating violence” in the nation of Iran. This is the first time that Iran has sanctioned EU institutions and officials. The sanctions involve the confiscation of any assets that individuals may have in the country as well as an entry and visa ban. Individuals targeted include members of the European Parliament, the mayor of a French commune, and the president of the International Committee in Search of Justice (ISJ). Some of the organizations targeted include the Friends of Free Iran, the ISJ, two informal groups in the European Parliament, Stop the Bomb, Germany’s Deutsche Welle, and France’s Radio France International. END

CMCD Note

We assess with high confidence that the Iranian government is very likely attempting to enforce its claims of Western interference by retaliating to Western sanctions with its own sanctions. It is unlikely to be effective against Western powers, and it is likely that Iran is instigating these sanctions to back up its stance on the protests both internationally and domestically. This is notable because Iran has been hesitant to sanction EU officials and organizations, preferring to treat the United States as its primary international opponent.

Sources

Al Jazeera, Iran blacklists EU officials, entities for ‘inciting terrorism’

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/10/26/iran-blacklists-eu-officials-entities-for-inciting-terrorism>

Press TV, Iran sanctions several EU institutions, individuals for supporting terrorism

<https://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2022/10/26/691613/Iran-sanctions-EU-institutions-individuals-supporting-terrorism>