

# **John Boehner**

## **Next President Must Right Wrongs of Iran Nuclear Deal, Boehner Says**

*A Non-Nuclear Iran Can Only Be Attained Through Strength, Former Speaker Says*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – In his first major foreign policy and national security remarks since leaving office, former U.S. House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) today said the U.S. government must stand with the people of Iran and not with the radical regime in Tehran that has oppressed them for decades while sponsoring terrorist aggression throughout the world.

“The dream of a democratic, secular, non-nuclear Iran cannot be attained through the appeasement of a regime that oppresses its own people,” Boehner said in remarks to the U.S. Foundation for Liberty. “The transformation of the regime in Iran is only achievable through strength: a strong and resolute stance by the United States and the free world.”

Boehner blasted the Iran nuclear deal that was rammed through last year by President Obama over the objections of a bipartisan majority in Congress, saying the administration’s actions in the months since he left office have only confirmed his worst fears about the agreement.

The former speaker upped the ante on questions raised earlier this month by House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce (R-CA), challenging the White House to explain why a surprise \$1.7 billion payment was given earlier this month to the Iranian regime, rather than to American victims of terrorism linked to the government in Tehran.

“There are Americans who have longstanding claims at the Hague as well. . .Americans who are victims of the terrorism sponsored by the Iranian regime, who’ve been awarded judgements against Iran,” Boehner noted. “Why the hell would we transfer this money to the terrorist-sponsoring regime in Iran instead of compensating these American victims?”

“This is the United States of America. We don’t stand with tyrants. We stand up to tyrants. It’s the way this great nation was born,” Boehner said. “I hope and pray that the next president of the United States will right these wrongs and send this message loudly and unequivocally to people throughout the world.”

“It’s a message that must be heard everywhere – from the corridors of power here in Washington, to the streets of Tehran – and backed by the concrete will of a strong president with the confidence of the American people,” Boehner said in closing.