

## **Francois Hollande to meet Barack Obama on counter-terror cooperation**

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**Washington:** US President Barack Obama will host his French counterpart Francois Hollande here next week to coordinate on counter-terrorism efforts, the White House said on Tuesday.

The two leaders will meet in the Oval Office of the White House on November 24, "in the wake of the horrific terrorist attacks in Paris of November 13", Xinhua quoted the White House as saying in a statement.

Simultaneous shootings and explosions at restaurants, a concert hall and a stadium in Paris on the night of November 13 killed at least 129 people. The Islamic State militant group claimed responsibility for the carnage.

The White House said the two presidents will consult and coordinate efforts "to assist France's investigation into these attacks".

They will also discuss further cooperation as part of the 65-member counter-IS coalition, and "reiterate our shared determination to confront the scourge of terrorism", the statement said.

The US-led coalition has been bombing IS targets for more than a year.

On Tuesday, the Elysee Palace also said Hollande will meet Obama in Washington on November 24, and he will meet Russian President Vladimir Putin on November 26 in Moscow.

Moscow began airstrikes targeting the IS in Syria on September 30.

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