



15 Days Until Election 2024


Election Security Update as of Late October 2024


Foreign actors—particularly Russia, Iran, and China—remain intent on fanning divisive narratives to divide Americans and undermine Americans' confidence in the U.S. democratic system consistent with what they perceive to be in their interests, even as their tactics continue to evolve. The IC expects foreign influence efforts will intensify in the lead-up to Election Day, especially through social media posts—some of which are likely to be AI-generated or -enhanced.

- Based on newly available intelligence, for example, the IC assesses that Russian influence actors manufactured and amplified inauthentic content claiming illegal activity committed by the Democratic vice-presidential candidate during his earlier career. The IC reviewed electronic media associated with this effort and in doing so revealed several indicators of manipulation that are consistent with the influence efforts and tactics Russian actors have used this cycle, including those highlighted in the [Mid-September Election Security Update](#).
- To date, though, the IC has no information that any foreign actor intends to compromise the integrity of the election administration process. The IC will provide updates if it acquires such information. Even if they decided to try, foreign actors almost certainly would not be able to manipulate election processes at a scale that would materially impact the outcome of the Presidential election without detection.


Election Day Through Inauguration

The IC furthermore expects foreign actors to continue to conduct influence operations through inauguration denigrating U.S. democracy, including by calling into question the results of the election, as discussed in the declassified [IC assessment](#) on this topic. These actors probably perceive that undermining confidence in the elections weakens the legitimacy of our democracy and consequently makes the United States less capable of effectively pursuing policies that are counter to their interests.

 Since the publication of that assessment, the IC is increasingly confident that **Russian** actors are considering—and in some cases implementing—a broad range of influence efforts timed with the election. Some of these are aimed at inciting violence and calling into question the validity of democracy as a political system, regardless of who wins. Others are aimed at amplifying false information and conspiracies—that may exacerbate post-election tensions in the United States.

 The IC expects other foreign actors to also conduct influence operations in this period. **Iran** and **China**, for example, probably will be opportunistic and quickly tailor their narratives in response to events during the post-election period.

The IC is also looking for indications that foreign actors are seeking to foment violent protests or otherwise encourage violence in the period between Election Day and Inauguration.

 For example, **Iran** may try to incite violence like they did after the last presidential election. In December 2020, Iran almost certainly was responsible for the creation of a website containing death threats against U.S. election officials.