Instances of Foreign Election Interference

- US Election 2016
- French Election 2017
  - Hacking + disseminating stolen files via Wikileaks
- Macedonia Name Change Referendum 2018
  - 10% of Twitter conversations about the Referendum were from fake accounts
- Italian Election 2018
  - 15-20% Twitter messages from Bots
- Mexico Election 2018
  - 10% election conversations from new accounts; also Bot activity from Iran + Venezuela

SOURCE: Transatlantic Commission on Election Integrity
Russia

- Gerasimov Doctrine
- Cyberwar includes information warfare
- Recent EU study
  - 80% foreign influencing efforts in EU are Russian
  - Source: Martens Centre of European Studies
- Russian political meddling in 27 nations since 2004
  - Source: Alliance for Securing Democracy GMF
- Trolls flooding Reddit with pro-Chinese messages to bury negative messages about Huawei or the Communist Party

- Newly created accounts down vote negative messages + push posts articulating Party views on the subreddit /r/geopolitics

- Over last four months 40,000 English-language posts from state run China media agencies on Instagram. Reached 5 million users

*Buzzfeed news 3/14/2019 Silverman + Lytvynenko

*Recorded Future*
Terrorists Recruiting

- ISIS
- White supremacy groups
  - New Zealand Christchurch Mosque shooting
Social Stability as a Target

- Germany
  - 2016 “Lisa” story
  - False accusation of migrant rape in Germany spread on media outlets

- United States
  - Russian Facebook pages on both sides of police behavior issue
  - E.g., “Back the Badge” + “Blacktavist” + “Blackstagram”
  - False political ad on Facebook from a counterfeit Texas-based organization, used predictive analytics to focus on patriotically minded Texas -US Senate
Tactics + Techniques

- Impersonation/ false identities
- Astroturfing: using active + passive means for dissemination of false or controversial stories
  
  **Establish credibility and trust by manipulations of dissemination process**

- Exploiting algorithms
- Outright falsehoods
- Deep Fakes
- Exaggeration of true stories
Responses

- Identity unmasking
- Stopping artificially enabled dissemination/ Controlling algorithms
- Labeling falsity
- Exposing deep fakes
- Communicating true counter-narratives
Deterrence

- Legal action
  - criminal charges

- Sanctions
  - Treasury Department sanctions
  - E.g., Russia GRU, FSB, and Internet Research Agency Officials

- Information operations against the adversary

- Disabling information operation access to the internet