# 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*

**Michael Chertoff** | March 21, 2019

# 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*

# China

- 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

*Buzzfeed news 3/14/2019 Silverman +Lytvynenko*

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

*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