Foreign Efforts to Undermine American Democracy - Implications beyond Washington
Information Operations – Covert Tactics

Internet Research Agency

The IRA bought U.S. political ads on social media without disclosure or detection in 2016, including $100,000 spent on about 3,000 ads on Facebook that may have helped IRA content reach roughly as many U.S. viewers as actually voted in the election.

Sputnik employees posing as news sites

Facebook removed 364 pages linked to Sputnik employees who were pretending to be independent news agencies. They paid $135,000 for advertisements and had about 790,000 followers in Eastern Europe and elsewhere, posting in issues such as anti-NATO sentiment, protest movements, and anti-corruption.
Information Operations – Targeting Local Communities and Amplifying Divisions
Information operations often seek to **coopt legitimate social movements** by impersonating activists, engaging with organizations and businesses on the ground, and even organizing and funding protests.

**Pulling Conversation to extremes:** Retweet network graph of accounts discussing #blacklivesmatter and #bluelives matter, including IRA accounts (orange) mapped over normal accounts (blue)

*Graph via [Kate Starbird](http://www.securingdemocracy.gmfus.org)*
What Happens Online Doesn’t Stay Online
Information Operations – Algorithmic Exploitation
It’s Not Just Russia

On the right, the legitimate accounts for Republican midterm political candidates Maria Livengood and Jineea Butler. On the left, Iranian inauthentic accounts. Via FireEye
It’s Not Just Russia

Sarah Warren @SarahWarren10
Trump is trying to kill off Obamacare but fact remains that most Americans need and want Obamacare. Do you??

Alex Ryan @AlexRyanNY
She just canceled her concert in Israel. Bravo @LanaDelRay

Maria Livengood @livengood_marla - 24 Sep 2018
Labor Day weekend 13 Years ago. I surprised Ray and our wedding guests with a late night In-N-Out delivery! Here is this years Anniversary burgers: @RILivengood: #InNOutBurger

Via FireEye
Information Operations – Not Just About Elections

Data: Oxford University/Senate Select Intelligence Committee

Based off Data Provided by the Department of Justice