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## RRM CANADA DAILY BRIEF

### Key findings:

- RRM Canada did not observe any significant indicators of foreign state-sponsored information manipulation in its monitoring of the broader Canadian digital information ecosystem during the period of August 27 to 29.
- RRM Canada assesses the majority of English and French-language content originated from recognizable Canadian news sites.
- A *Hill Times* interview with Chinese Amb. to Canada Cong Peiwu received some attention from Twitter and Facebook users (990 engagements). Users mostly reacted to Cong's statement that some politicians are putting their own "political interests" ahead of the Canada-China relationship. However, the Chinese embassy did not translate Cong's comments on Canadian politicians putting "political interests" over Sino-Canadian relations in its [official statement](#) about the *Hill Times* interview. An [article](#) by the *Global Times* about the interview also did not report on Cong's comments on Canadian politicians.
- *Sputnik* and *Russia Today's* coverage of Maryam Monsef's comments on the Taliban received some attention from users (22 engagements) but no comments or shares.
- Russian state-linked RT as well as Chinese Communist Party linked *Global Times* published articles about angry protests and the cancelled LPC campaigns event in Bolton, Ont.

**Scan performed at:** 9:00PM, August 29, 2021

**Scan covers:** 9:00AM August 27, 2021 – 9:00PM August 29, 2021.

**Platform used:** Buzzsumo, Crowdtangle, Social Bearing, Tweetdeck, Newrank, WeChat, Weibo, Douyin

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Highest engagement numbers for English-language media on Facebook, Twitter and Reddit<sup>1</sup>

Article title	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
<a href="#">Trudeau campaign rally cancelled over security concerns amid protests</a>	Aug. 27, 2021	<i>CBC News</i>	26.2K	1.5K	2.5K	30.3K
<a href="#">Singh seen as most likeable leader in election as Trudeau's popularity craters: poll</a>	Aug. 27, 2021	<i>Global News</i>	8.1K	269	12.2K	20.6K
<a href="#">Trudeau campaign event breaks Ontario's COVID gathering restrictions</a>	Aug. 27, 2021	<i>Toronto Sun</i>	9.6K	1.4K	4.7K	15.6K
<a href="#">Liberals cancel Trudeau election campaign event in Ontario due to safety concerns</a>	Aug. 27, 2021	<i>Global News</i>	14.6K	74	0	14.7K
<a href="#">Rex Murphy: Trudeau's handling of Afghanistan is our great national shame</a>	Aug. 27, 2021	<i>National Post</i>	12K	1.4K	0	13.4K
<a href="#">Trudeau Doesn't Get To Divide The Country And Then Pretend He's The Victim</a>	Aug. 28, 2021	<i>Spencer Fernando</i>	9.2K	1.2K	0	10.4K
<a href="#">Trudeau campaign rally cancelled over safety concerns from angry anti-vaccine protesters</a>	Aug. 27, 2021	<i>National Post</i>	10K	174	70	10.2K
<a href="#">John Ivison: At cancelled Trudeau rally, a level of anger not seen before</a>	Aug. 28, 2021	<i>National Post</i>	6.2K	535	1.2K	7.9K
<a href="#">Justin Trudeau rally cancelled after angry protests</a>	Aug. 28, 2021	<i>BBC News</i>	5.7K	182	690	6.5K
<a href="#">O'Toole Conservatives now lead Trudeau Liberals 37 points to 31: Poll</a>	Aug. 28, 2021	<i>Post Millennial</i>	5.8K	110	0	5.9K

<sup>1</sup> Engagement numbers reflect the stated reporting period. RRM Canada uses the following keywords to determine which news stories among Canadian English-language media outlets receive the most engagement: "Canada", "Canadian Election" OR "Canadian Federal Election" OR "44th General Election" OR "GE44", "Bloc Quebecois" OR "Yves Blanchet" OR "Yves-François Blanchet", "Erin O'Toole" OR "Conservative Party of Canada" OR "The Conservatives", "Annamie Paul" OR "Green Party of Canada" OR "The Greens", "Trudeau" OR "Justin Trudeau" OR "Liberal Party of Canada" OR "The Liberals", "Maverick Party", "Maxime Bernier" OR "PPC" OR "People's Party", "New Democratic Party of Canada" OR "NDP" OR "Jagmeet Singh"

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Highest engagement numbers for French-language media on Facebook, Twitter and Reddit<sup>2</sup>

Article title	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
<a href="#">Discours annulé pour des raisons de sécurité   Justin Trudeau : « Je n'ai jamais vu ce niveau de colère »</a>	Aug. 27, 2021	<i>La Presse</i>	5.9K	129	0	6.0K
<a href="#">Sondages: les libéraux de Trudeau dépassés par les conservateurs</a>	Aug. 28, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	4.1K	49	0	4.2K
<a href="#">Un événement de Justin Trudeau en Ontario annulé pour des raisons de sécurité</a>	Aug. 27, 2021	<i>Radio-Canada</i>	2.1K	121	0	2.2K
<a href="#">[Pétition] L'annulation de la suspension des vols en provenance du Maroc vers le Canada</a>	Aug. 29, 2021	<i>Les Lignes Bougent</i>	2.1K	3	0	2.1K
<a href="#">Le Canada suspend les vols directs en provenance du Maroc</a>	Aug. 28, 2021	<i>TVA Nouvelles</i>	1.8K	13	0	1.8K
<a href="#">Sondages nationaux   Les conservateurs devancent les libéraux</a>	Aug. 29, 2021	<i>La Presse</i>	1.4K	8	0	1.4K
<a href="#">Une élection surréaliste</a>	Aug. 29, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	1.3K	55	0	1.3K
<a href="#">Transports Canada suspend les vols en provenance du Maroc jusqu'au 29 septembre`</a>	Aug. 28, 2021	<i>Radio-Canada</i>	1K	35	0	1.0K
<a href="#">Les libéraux promettent 1G\$ pour aider les provinces à implanter le passeport vaccinal</a>	Aug. 27, 2021	<i>Radio-Canada</i>	905	77	0	982
<a href="#">Élections fédérales 2021   On gagne à rester sur Tinder</a>	Aug. 28, 2021	<i>La Presse</i>	698	102	36	836

<sup>2</sup> Engagement numbers reflect the stated reporting period. RRM Canada uses the following keywords to determine which news stories among Canadian French-language media outlets receive the most engagement: "Canada", "Élections fédérales" OR "Élections Canada", "Bloc Québécois" OR "Le Bloc" OR "Yves Blanchet" OR "Yves-François Blanchet", "Erin O'Toole" OR "Les conservateurs" OR "Parti conservateur du Canada", "Trudeau" OR "Justin Trudeau" OR "les libéraux" OR "Parti libéral du Canada", "Nouveau Parti démocratique" OR "Le NDP" OR "Le NDP du Canada" OR "Jagmeet Singh", "Annemie Paul" OR "Parti vert du Canada", "Maxime Bernier" OR "Parti populaire", "Le Parti maverick"

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Highest engagement numbers for on WeChat

Article Title <sup>3</sup>	Date	Account	Total views <sup>4</sup>
<u>鲍大使，让加拿大赶紧回信！</u> (Ambassador Barton, tell Canada to hurry up and return our letter!)	Aug. 27, 2021	Global Times	100K
<u>没想到！特鲁多被恨成这样了</u> (Who would have thought? Trudeau is hated like this)	Aug. 28, 2021	Global Times	63.9K
<u>特鲁多：完全禁止外国人在加拿大买房，已购者征税！温哥华，多伦多楼市要崩？</u> (Trudeau: Ban foreigners from buying homes in Canada, tax those who have already bought! Will the Vancouver and Toronto housing market go bust?)	Aug. 29, 2021	Canada Talks	36.7K
<u>加拿大版“特朗普”？保守党党魁奥图尔扬言：如果当选，将致力与中国对抗</u> (Canada's version of Trump? CPC leader O'Toole vows to stand up to China if elected)	Aug. 28, 2021	York BBS	27.3K
<u>特鲁多再次开启疯狂撒钱模式！单身每年发\$500，夫妻\$750！</u> (Trudeau is giving away money like crazy again! \$500 year for bachelors, \$750 for couples!)	Aug. 28, 2021	Canada Talks	7.0K
<u>重磅突发！加拿大批准青少年打莫德纳 2 剂有效率达 100%！特鲁多撒 10 亿支持疫苗护照！</u> (Big breaking news! Canada approves youth to take 2 doses of Moderna, with 100% efficacy! Trudeau rolls out 1 billion in spending to support the vaccine passport!)	Aug. 28, 2021	CAC News.ca	6.1K
<u>惨烈   13 名美军阵亡 200 多人死伤！喀布尔机场遭自杀式爆炸袭击！多图全景...</u> (Tragic   13 U.S. troops killed in action, more than 200 dead and wounded! Kabul airport attacked by suicide bomber! Multi-picture panorama)	Aug. 28, 2021	Lahoo Canada-News	6.0K
<u>特鲁多惨遭下流咒骂 被狂竖中指 背后原因太扯了！</u> (Trudeau was subjected to obscene curses and gestures, the reason behind it all is ridiculous!)	Aug. 28, 2021	CAC News.ca	4.6K
<u>加拿大国企与中国国企合同被曝，各党对此态度不一，保守党：这是不可接受的！</u> (A contract between Canadian and Chinese state-owned enterprises has been exposed, and the parties have different attitudes towards this. The CPC: This is unacceptable!)	Aug. 29, 2021	York BBS	2.9K
<u>惨烈！喀布尔机场恐袭爆炸已 200 多死伤！特鲁多：这是非常艰难的一天</u> (Tragic! Kabul terror attack has left more than 200 dead & injured! Trudeau: this is a difficult day)	Aug. 28, 2021	York BBS	2.7K

<sup>3</sup> Article titles translated by RRM Canada

<sup>4</sup> Total engagement numbers reflect the article's page views; WeChat does not calculate the number of comments an article receives

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Highest engagement numbers for Russian-language media on Facebook, Twitter and Reddit<sup>5</sup>

Article title <sup>6</sup>	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
<a href="#">Предвыборный митинг Трюдо был сорван из-за протестующих</a> (Trudeau's campaign rally disrupted by protesters)	Aug. 28, 2021	Vancouverok	98	1	0	99
<a href="#">Выборы 2021: что партии Канады говорят об иммиграции</a> (Election 2021: What Canada's parties say about immigration)	Aug. 26, 2021	Vancouverok	55	1	0	56
<a href="#">В Госдуме оценили планы по созданию антироссийского фонда на Украине</a> (State Duma assesses plans to create an anti-Russian fund in Ukraine)	Aug. 25, 2021	RIA Novosti	21	0	0	21
<a href="#">Зеленский уволил Шевченко с должности посла Украины в Канаде</a> (Zelensky dismisses Shevchenko from the post of Ukrainian ambassador to Canada)	Aug. 26, 2021	Vesti-ua.net	10	0	0	10
<a href="#">Канада завершила операцию по эвакуации людей из Афганистана</a> (Canada completes operation to evacuate people from Afghanistan)	Aug. 26, 2021	Sotnik-tv	2	8	0	10

<sup>5</sup> Engagement numbers reflect the stated reporting period.

<sup>6</sup> Article titles translated by RRM Canada.

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On our radar

#### User engagement with English-language online media

- The majority of English-language stories shared on Facebook, Twitter and Reddit for the August 27 to 29 originated from recognizable Canadian media outlets.

#### User engagement with French-language online media

- The majority of French-language stories shared on Facebook, Twitter and Reddit for the August 27 to 29 originated from recognizable Canadian media outlets.
- A [petition](#) authored by “Marocains du Canada MDC” that expresses concern about Transport Canada’s decision to suspend flights from Morocco to Canada received considerable attention among French-language Facebook users (2.3K engagements). Hosted on the website Les Lignes Bougent, the petition notes that suspension of flights generates “enormous problems” leading some to lose their jobs or being unable to begin school on time. “Cette suspension surprise et sans préavis, empêchera plusieurs de se réunir avec leurs proches et porte une atteinte de droit humain” writes the author. The petition has received 5,851 signatures and 2228 comments.

#### User engagement with Sinophone online media

- A *Hill Times* interview with Chinese Amb. to Canada Cong Peiwu received some attention from Anglophone Canadian Twitter and Facebook users (990 engagements). Users mostly reacted to Cong’s statement that some politicians are putting their own “political interests” ahead of the Canada-China relationship.
- However, the Chinese embassy did not translate Cong’s comments on Canadian politicians putting “political interests” over Sino-Canadian relations in its [official statement](#) about the *Hill Times* interview. An [article](#) by the *Global Times* about the interview also did not report on Cong’s comments on Canadian politicians.
- However, the *Global Times* published a [report](#) about the LPC campaigns’ cancelled event in Bolton, Ont. The article author quotes Twitter users who say the LPC leader is “dividing the country” and that “Canadians everywhere are protesting Trudeau.” The article received over 63K page views.
- A Canadian-based WeChat news account (*York BBS*) that [harassed Toronto supporters](#) of Hong Kong’s 2019 pro-democracy protests published an article claiming CPC leader Erin O’Toole would “ban WeChat.” The author notes that “WeChat is an essential app for Chinese people to keep in touch with family and friends” and that “many ethnic Chinese would oppose such a ban.” The article received over 27K page views. It is unclear what comments made by the CPC leader the author is referring to.

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#### User engagement with Russophone online media

- The most engaged Russian-language stories about Canadian political and election news for August 27 to 29 originated from a recognizable Canadian website – [Vancouverok](#).
- A *RIA Novosti* story that claims the newly announced Partnership for a Resilient Ukraine would be a “feeding trough for Kiev” received some attention from Facebook users (21 engagements) but no comments or shares.
- *Soapbox Stand*, an RT account, [posted a photo](#) on Instagram that purported to show every mining operation in Africa that belonged to a Canadian company. The caption reads: “75% of mining companies globally are now Canadian. Canada is a great source of corporate neocolonialism expansion.” This is the second time in a week that an RT account discussed the topic of “Canadian imperialism.” The photo received 3.6K likes.
- *Sputnik* and *Russia Today*’s coverage of Maryam Monsef’s comments on the Taliban received some attention from users (22 engagements) but no comments or shares.
- *Russia Today*’s [coverage](#) of a cancelled LPC campaign event received some interest from Canadian Facebook users (331 engagement); the article was [shared](#) in a partisan Canadian politics discussion group (less than 700 followers).

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