

For Public Release

UNCLASS

CSIS initiatives related to protecting Canadian democratic institutions

<b>Line of effort</b>	<b>Description</b>
Participation in the SITE Task Force	CSIS plays a leading role within SITE collecting intelligence, providing assessments, and advising the Government based on its expertise and ongoing investigations of foreign interference (FI). As part of its mandate to investigate FI threats and advise the Government on them, including in the context of Canadian democratic institutions, CSIS also has the authority to take threat reduction measures against those threats.
Defensive briefings	CSIS briefs elected officials in order to promote awareness of foreign interference and the actions of other hostile actors and to strengthen individual security practices and protect Canadians and their interests.
Threat reduction measures	In addition to its mandate to investigate threats to Canada's national security and advise the Government on them, CSIS may take threat reduction measures against these threats as defined in s.(2) of the <i>CSIS Act</i> – which include s.(2)(b): foreign influenced activities within or relating to Canada that are detrimental to the interests of Canada and are clandestine or deceptive or involve a threat to any person.
Parliamentary Committee appearances	Members of CSIS' executive regularly appear before parliamentary committees to answer questions in a public and unclassified setting about a range of topics, often including foreign interference.
Academic Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement	CSIS routinely engages with a variety of stakeholders including government and public officials, the private sector and other organizations to discuss potential threats to the security and interests of Canada and to provide briefings regarding specific threats.
Combatting foreign interference	CSIS is supporting efforts outlined in Ministerial mandate letters with regard to contributing to broader efforts to promote economic security, supporting an integrated government response to protect Canada's democratic institutions, and developing and expand collective responses with G7, NATO and likeminded partners to arbitrary detention, economic coercion, cyber threats, foreign interference in democratic processes and egregious violations of human rights, including through the use of sanctions, support for international institutions and coordinated action to reinforce the rules of international trade.

On efforts to protect Canadian democratic institutions outside the writ period: CSIS' initiatives related to protecting Canadian democratic institutions are part of the Service's sustained efforts to fulfill its legislated mandate to investigate threats to Canada's national security, advise the Government on them, and take threat reduction measures where appropriate.

Regarding evolving threats to Canada's national security including threats to democratic institutions arising from Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism, CSIS continually uses its full mandate under the *CSIS Act* to investigate threats defined in s.2 of the Act and adjusts its resourcing accordingly. As new threats emerge and expand, CSIS works with OGDs to ensure we leverage opportunities in other initiatives to improve our ability to adequately investigate, advise and reduce threats to the security of Canada.