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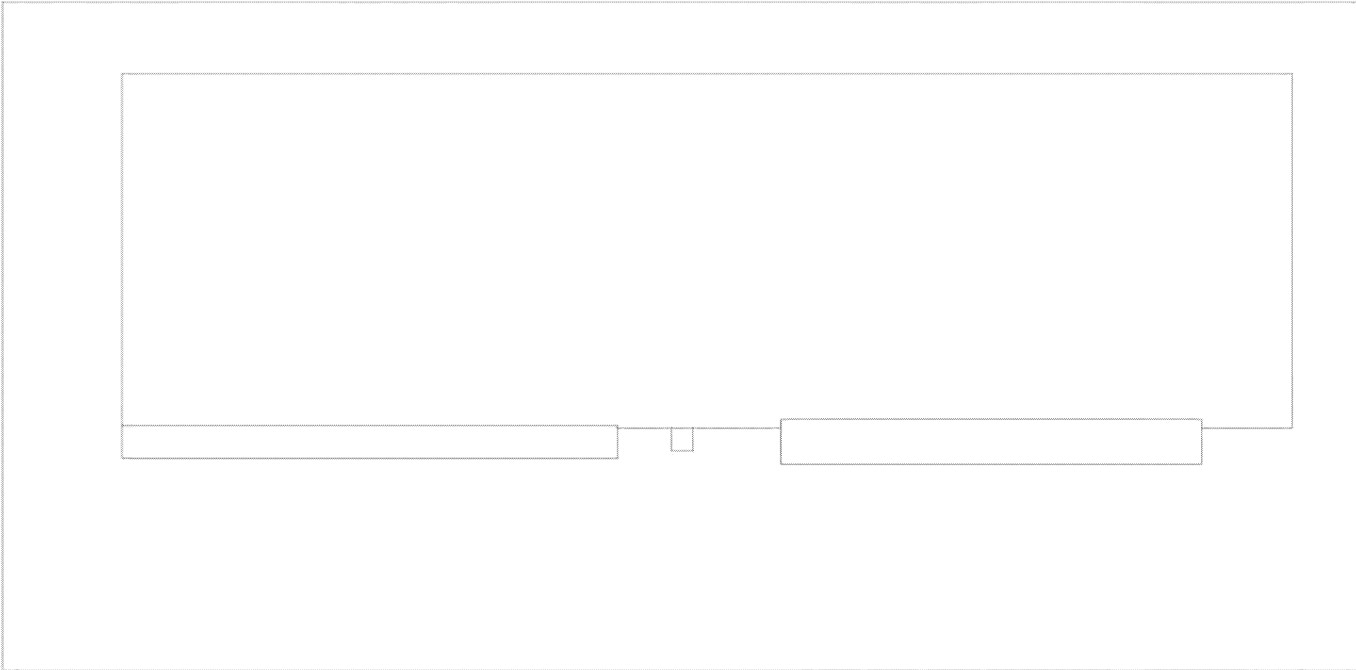
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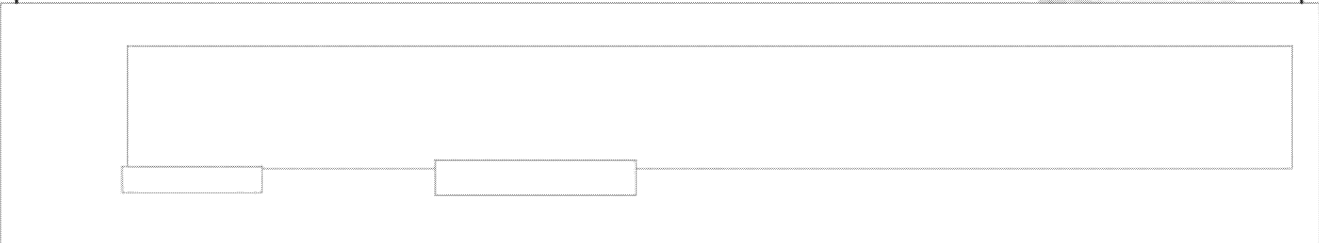
DFIB 35/2020

Daily Foreign Intelligence Brief, 21 February 2020



2. China/Canada: Subtle but Effective Interference Networks [redacted]

- **CA Assessment:** Investigations into activities linked to the Canadian federal election in 2019, reveal an active foreign interference (FI) network [redacted]. This network involves the Chinese [redacted] local community leaders, Canadian politicians, and their staff. Under broad guidance from the [redacted] co-opted staff of targeted politicians provide advice on China-related issues and community leaders facilitate the clandestine transfer of funds and recruit potential targets. The FI networks [redacted] implicate at least 11 candidates in the 2019 election; some are likely unaware of these influence efforts while others have willingly cooperated with threat activity. (S/CEO [redacted])
- **IAS Comment:** One of the objectives of the United Front Work Department (UFWD) is to influence foreign politicians and government officials into taking specific stances on China's issues of interest. Besides funding, the UFWD is also likely to offer candidates logistical support, favourable media coverage, and endorsements. The UFWD's extensive network of quasi-official and local community and interest groups allows it to obfuscate communication and the flow of funds between Canadian targets and Chinese officials. These FI efforts are likely to be more persistent and pervasive in future elections; under President Xi Jinping, the UFWD has seen an expansion in resources and improved coordination. (S/CEO)



Privy Council Office
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