

| <b>2021-0825</b>   |   |
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| <b>DATE FILE INITIATED AND ALLEGATIONS</b>                                   | During the 2021 federal general election (GE), the complainant submitted 3 complaints to the Office of the Commissioner of Canada Elections (OCCE) via the web-based complaint form. The first complaint concerned a report by Chinese language media in Canada about the statement made by Cong Peiwu (Peiwu), then Ambassador for China to Canada, to the Hill Times, to not vote for the Conservative Party of Canada (CPC). The complaint alleged that Peiwu added threats of intimidation for those who supported the CPC. The second complaint alleged threats made by Peiwu as reported in a Global Times article. The third complaint concerned media reports in British-Columbia relating that the campaign of MP Kenny Chiu was subject to foreign interference.  |
| <b>POTENTIAL CONTRAVENTIONS</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>S. 282.4</b> of the <i>Canada Elections Act</i> (the Act) - Undue influence by foreigners</li> <li>• <b>S. 282.8</b> of the Act- Pretence and contrivance</li> </ul>  |
| <b>STEPS TAKEN</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A review was conducted of the Chinese language media identified in the first complaint. This is a web-based media based in the US and appears intended for Chinese diasporas audiences located in the US, Canada and other countries. This media reported on comments made by Peiwu that were published in The Hill Times on August 30, 2021. This media also reported on an article published by the Global Times (China) which relayed that China would counter-strike a CPC elected government.</li> <li>• A copy of the Global Times article was obtained.</li> <li>• A copy of the articles published in media reports in British-Columbia was also obtained.</li> <li>• The complainant was interviewed.</li> <li>• The statements and media articles were analyzed in conjunction with the applicable provisions of the Act.</li> </ul> |
| <b>EVIDENTIARY THRESHOLD FOR THE INITIATION OF AN INVESTIGATION REACHED?</b> | <p>No.</p> <p>The review did not identify tangible or direct evidence to substantiate the elements constituting the offence of undue foreign influence or other potential contraventions as defined by the Act. The comments in the articles that were the objects of the complaints meet the exception at sections 282.4 (3) (a) and (b) of the Act.</p>   |
| <b>CURRENT STATUS</b>  | Closed  |
| <b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT</b>  | None  |