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**HASA File Timeline***May 2018*

- PCO Democratic Institutions begins work to protect 2019 Federal Election

*July 2018*

- Community-wide recognition that work on foreign interference extends beyond securing elections
- PS tasked with leading interdepartmental policy development on hostile activity by state actors (HASA)
- Small dedicated team created within NSOD

*August 2018*

- Foreign interference an [redacted] agenda item at Five Country Ministerial (FCM)
- Commitment to establish a formal mechanism for the Five Eyes to share developments in our respective approaches to countering foreign interference (see **TAB A** for FCM outcomes)

- [redacted]

*September 2018*

- DMNS retreat to discuss HASA
- PS produced the following:
  - HASA workplan (see **TAB B** for latest workplan);
  - HASA matrix (**TAB C**);
  - HASA TTX;
  - Department / Agency Tools and Mechanisms; and,
  - Country scans for China and Russia (**TAB D**)
- DMs endorsed workplan; governance emerged as an important consideration; and, DMs requested that country-specific strategies be developed

s. 39 - Cabinet Confidence

*Post DMNS Retreat*

- PS developed a HASA Strategy;
- PS developed an engagement and strategic communications policy paper;
- Governance options; and,
- GAC produced country strategies for China and Russia

*February 2019*

- [redacted]
  - [redacted]
  - [redacted]
- Next [redacted]

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*March 2019*

- DMNS retreat to discuss HASA
- PS produced the following:
  - HASA strategy;
  - HASA engagement strategy outline; and,
  - HASA governance discussion paper
- The GAC China and Russia country strategies were also presented
- DMs emphasized a need to be more proactive in response to HASA, and more innovative as it relates to governance and strategic communications. They also asked that the strategy be more concrete (see **TAB E** for DMNS ROD)
  - PS amended the strategy to address DM comments

*August 2019*

- ADM NS Pol retreat to discuss HASA and related MTP items (see **TAB F** for retreat agenda)
  - It was agreed that HASA should be positioned as the overarching theme that brings the other MTP items together (e.g. economic security, foreign intelligence collection, social cohesion, etc.)
  - Given that HASA goes beyond national security, it was agreed to position this issue in the context of national interests
- NSIA requested that country-specific playbooks be developed to serve as evergreen documents outlining both the campaigns from the foreign state and Canada's response mechanisms, as well as highlight considerations and risks in engaging in various actions
  - PS has produced placemats for China and Russia, with accompanying narratives to follow
- Counter foreign interference was an item at FCM
  - Agreement to continue pursuing commitments from 2018 FCM (via the  and associated working groups)

*September 2019*

- HASA Strategy and China/Russia placemats shared with DGs on September 30

*October 2019*

- October 9: DMC to discuss HASA, economic security and CSIS Act renewal (see **TAB G** for DMC package)
  - Clerk requested that PS develop a definition of Canada's national interests (see **TAB H**)
  - DMs requested that guiding principles/considerations for action in the event of HASA against Canada
  - PCO to develop governance options
  - Strong emphasis on P/T engagement
- DG HSA held on October 10
  - Strategy and China/Russia placemats were discussed. Comments were requested by October 17
    - GAC provided comments, which were taken into consideration
- National interests definition developed with input from partners, shared with PCO on October 17

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Next Steps

1. New version of HASA strategy incorporating national interests definition and DG comments complete, ready circulation to ADMs (**TAB I**)
2. New versions of China/Russia placemats incorporating DG comments complete, ready for circulation to ADMs (**TAB J**)
3. Accompanying narratives ready for circulation to DGs
4. PCO/PS comms leading on strategic communications framework
5. Guiding principles/considerations for action under development
6. Analysis of legal gaps underway

[APG]