



UNCLASSIFIED

# FOREIGN ACTOR THREATS & INTIMIDATION

**WHAT IS FOREIGN ACTOR INTERFERENCE (FAI)?**

FAI is any **illegal** hostile activity undertaken by foreign states that is overt, covert, clandestine and/or deceptive. It can include threats, harassment, intimidation and other **criminal acts** that can negatively impact the well being of Canada's culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

## WHY YOU MAY BE AT RISK OF BEING TARGETED?

- You have fled your country of origin
- You have been openly critical about your or other states/leaders/governments
- You have access to sensitive or protected information, especially if you work or have worked in law enforcement, security or government
- You have access to intellectual information that is sought by a hostile state

## TYPES OF THREATS

 <p><b>In-Person Threats</b></p> <p>An <b>IN-PERSON THREAT</b> occurs when an individual in close proximity places you in immediate danger.</p>	 <p><b>Cyber Threats</b></p> <p>A <b>CYBER ATTACK</b> can compromise your electronic device and expose personal information.</p>
 <p><b>Phone Threats</b></p> <p>A <b>PHONE THREAT</b> is a threat received by telephone. Try to get as much information on the caller and the threat as possible, unless the threat is nearby or may imminently harm you or others.</p>	 <p><b>Electronic Message Threats</b></p> <p>An <b>ELECTRONIC MESSAGE THREAT</b> is a threat received through direct messaging, email, or social media. It may include threats of blackmail or adverse consequences if the recipient does not comply.</p>

**REPORTING**

- If you believe you are in immediate danger call **911** or your local police emergency line
- If you believe you are the victim of a threat or intimidation conducted by a foreign state actor, also report the incident to the **RCMP's National Security Information Network** at 1-800-420-5805 or by email at [RCMP\\_NSIN-RISN\\_GRC@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:RCMP_NSIN-RISN_GRC@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)
- Clearly articulate **WHY** you believe you are being targeted and **WHY** you believe this is FAI - every detail matters

**YOU HAVE MADE A REPORT, WHAT SHOULD YOU EXPECT?**

- A file will be opened and assessed
- You may be contacted to provide a statement in a manner that considers privacy and safety
- Investigations may take time to complete. You will be updated when it is possible to do so
- Efforts will be made to inform you about major investigative events, including arrests or charges

**REAL LIFE EXAMPLE OF FAI**

*A foreign university student has been organizing protests and posting online about human rights abuses in their home country.*

*Online comments and frequent messages warn the student that they are being watched, and that their family could be harmed should they continue their activities. Some communications are in their native language.*

*The student believes they are being followed. A stranger approached them, warning that their family would be denied a visitor visa to Canada if they continued their activities.*

**WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU ARE BEING TARGETED?**

When it is safe, write down or record the threat or events exactly as they occurred including any communication. Do this as soon as possible after the occurrence	Record as many descriptive details as possible about the person who made the threat, and make note of any cameras or witnesses	Do not open electronic messages or attachments from unknown senders	Do not communicate on social media with unknown or unsolicited individuals	Make sure your security settings on your electronic devices are set to the highest level of protection (e.g. virus protection, strong passwords, etc.)

**Important details to record:** When and why you are being targeted. Provide a description of the suspect, including their name, appearance, gender, height, weight, skin colour, hair and eye color, voice, clothing, or any other distinguishing



For Public Release

