

For Public Release

Work undertaken by PCO-Protecting Democracy Unit Nov. 2022 – Nov. 2023

Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	Jun 2023	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sept 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023
s. 39 - Cabinet Confidence												
Support PCO and OGDs on ministerial materials (binders, speeches, background notes, etc.) pertaining to interference in Canada's federal elections; disinformation; artificial intelligence; the Plan to Protect Canada's Democracy												
Drafted materials, supported, and prepared Minister LeBlanc and members of the CEIPP Panel to appear at the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs												
Produced Deck on State of Mis-Dis in Canada												
Activated SITE Task Force for the first time for by-elections in June 2023												
Activated SITE Task Force for by-election in July 2023												
Engagement with SITE Task Force on mandate and membership												
Provided input for PCO-IIU surveys												
Created GC Exchange site for sharing of research priorities												
Held second interdep't PD Directors' meeting												
Attended OECD dis-mis Resource Hub experts group meeting												
Supported logistics for Independent assessment of CEIPP by Rosenberg												
Finalized and released independent assessment of the CEIPP (Rosenberg report)												
Funding announcement for the Canadian Digital Media Research Network (CDMRN)												
Finalized and published LeBlanc-Charette report												
Presented to the Canadian Urban Libraries Council												
Began monthly meetings with the CDMRN												
Obtained Clerk approval for earlier and more frequent Panel briefings												
Produced Deck on Expert Recs on MIDI												
Supported PS on GR to NDDN on Canada's Cyber Defense												
Attended [redacted] and exchanged best practices, presented PD Plan and RRM												
Submitted final versions of toolkits for public to MinO												
Staffing of the Protecting Democracy Unit												
Supported/Led drafting of LeBlanc-Charette Report												
Supported document production for the Independent Special Rapporteur and the launch of his first report; Prepared Minister LeBlanc and CEIPP Panel members to meet witty ISR												
Received ISD report on MIDI (DI \$)												
Led on two recommendations in PS-led GR to CACN on Canada-PRC Relationship												
Coordinated GC Response to OECD Mis-Dis Hub Questionnaire												
Exchanged best practices at Counter-Disinformation event at Hybrid CoE in Finland												
Met with Sweden and France on social media monitoring												
Supported Public Inquiry into FI, including through document production												
Received six final research reports (DI \$)												
Interdepartmental engagement in support of OECD dis-mis hub												
Began working on updating the Cabinet Directive on the CEIPP												
Proposed Roundtable opportunities to Minister												
Created and held first meeting of interdep't research working group												
Provided input into PDEC 6-month update												
Global Forum Steering Committee Meeting												
Began individual CEIPP Panel members' briefings												
Met with UK on open-source social media monitoring												
Partnered with Toronto Metropolitan University on DemocracyXChange workshop												
Confirmed partnership with the CSPS a Fall 2023 event & online self-paced training module in 2024-25												
Participated in PCO-IAS led interdep't expert group on OSINT												
Started work on DI web update to include disinformation resources												
Held interdep't consultation on research strategy												
Received final contracted research report from USherbrooke (DI \$)												
OECD DIS/MIS Resource Hub Steering Committee; Trust Survey launched												
Finalized research strategy												
Hosted CDMRN at PCO												
Presented to the Community of Democracies												
Continued work with OGDs on development of counter mis-dis guidebook												
Attended GAC event on sub-threshold threats												
Presented to Carleton University												
Developed strategy for PT engagement												
Finished CEIPP Panel member briefings												
Prepared Minister LeBlanc for NSICOP; Supported PM for NSICOP												

Key results s. 39 - Cabinet Confidence

s. 39 - Cabinet

Strengthened whole-of-society approach to protecting democratic institutions and processes through new partnerships with: Civil society, academia, and social media platforms, with a particular focus on combating MIDI; Provinces, territories and municipalities – sharing of best practices, recommendations (e.g. civics training) and threat assessments where appropriate; Likeminded international partners (best practices, threat assessments where appropriate), building on Canada's leadership of Principle 3 of the Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace (Defend Electoral Processes); Initial implementation of elements within the RESIST 2 counter MIDI toolkit

Improved GC capacity to counter MIDI both upstream (i.e. citizen resilience) and downstream (countering specific narratives) through: Development and implementation of a GC counter-MIDI strategy; Increased government-wide coordination of strategic messaging under the leadership of PCO's Democratic Institutions Secretariat; Increased public awareness of MIDI; Use of new analytics tools by an interdisciplinary team of policy and communications experts

Development and implementation of an enhanced, centrally-led Protecting Democracy agenda, focused on: Supporting citizens' trust in public institutions; Analyzing the role of the technology/democracy nexus in influencing trust in democratic institutions; Implementing measures both during and outside election periods

Enhanced use of data to inform policy development and counter-MIDI approaches: Creation and delivery of MIDI-related training for public servants and Parliamentarians

Legend for other colors

Ongoing support to other government departments – mainly Public Safety, Global Affairs Canada, and other PCO Secretariats on materials for Ministers, Deputy Ministers, and subject matter expertise.

Preparation of Minister LeBlanc and CEIPP DMs for appearances and meetings

Document production and support for ongoing reviews

Administrative matters associated with the creation and staffing of PDU