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## The Need for Urgent Action on Election Security

Primaries for the 2018 midterm elections are already underway. With the general election scheduled for November 6, it is vital that investigations like the House Intelligence Committee's Russia probe share their findings and recommendations quickly to help improve security for the midterm elections. As demonstrated below, there is a widespread consensus in Congress and in the executive branch that urgent action is needed to counter the threat of continued Russian meddling in U.S. elections.

- While discussing election security, and specifically, protecting our elections from Russian interference, **Ranking Member Schiff** said it would be a “dereliction of duty” not to act now. ([The Hill](#))
- When asked if he was concerned about potential Russian interference in the 2018 election, **Central Intelligence Agency Director Pompeo** said, “Of course. I have every expectation that they will continue to try to do that but I am confident that America will be able to have a free and fair election, that we’ll push back in a way that is sufficiently robust that the impact they have on our election won’t be great.” ([BBC Interview](#))
- Testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee in February, **National Security Agency Director Mike Rogers** said, “...this is going to continue, and 2016 won’t be viewed as isolated. This is something that will be sustained over time.” ([Washington Post](#))
- **Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats** told Congress, “There should be no doubt that Russia perceives that its past efforts have been successful and views the 2018 midterm US elections as a potential target for Russian influence operations. Frankly, the United States is under attack.” ([Vox](#))
- **House Homeland Security Committee Ranking Member Bennie Thompson** and **House Administration Committee Ranking Member Bob Brady** released a report in February addressing potential Russian interference in U.S. elections. In the report, they say, “The unprecedented attack by Russia exposed serious national security vulnerabilities in our election infrastructure. We urge Congress to act in a bipartisan fashion and take action.” ([Politico](#))
- In a December, 2017 interview, **H.R. McMaster**, the President’s National Security Advisor, said, “I believe that Russia was engaged in a very sophisticated campaign of subversion to affect our confidence in democratic institutions, in democratic processes,



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including elections. What they want to do is create the kind of tension, the kind of vitriol that undermines our confidence in who we are.” ([Newsweek](#))

- "There is very little doubt that they have either interfered or attempted to interfere in a number of elections in democracies," **Secretary of Defense Mattis** said while answering questions at NATO headquarters in Brussels in February 2017. ([The Hill](#))