

Political Trafficking Spectrum

Union of Saints

Methods by which people, influence, money, information, or political power may be mobilized or exploited for political objectives (whether legally, unethically, or criminally).

Political Trafficking Spectrum

I. Human Exploitation

- Human trafficking
- Forced labor
- Sex trafficking
- Labor exploitation
- Child exploitation
- Coercion
- Intimidation
- Extortion
- Blackmail

II. Targeting & Harassment

- Stalking
- Cyberstalking
- Doxxing
- Swatting
- Harassment campaigns
- Coordinated intimidation
- Threats
- Witness intimidation
- Public servant targeting
- Family targeting

III. Surveillance & Privacy Violations

- Voyeurism
- Unlawful surveillance
- Unauthorized recording
- GPS tracking
- Electronic monitoring
- Social media monitoring
- Data aggregation
- Privacy invasion
- Identity profiling

IV. Financial Influence

- Fraud
- Money laundering
- Embezzlement
- Bribery
- Kickbacks
- Wire fraud
- Grant fraud
- Procurement fraud
- Tax fraud
- Charity fraud

V. Political Financing

- Political Action Committees (PACs)
- Super PACs
- Dark money organizations
- Electioneering communications
- Independent expenditures
- Campaign fundraising
- Political consulting

- Lobbying
- Foreign influence operations (where prohibited by law)
- Shell organizations

VI. Nonprofit & Grant Activities

- Government grants
- Federal contracts
- State grants
- Local grants
- Foundation funding
- Taxpayer-funded programs
- Public-private partnerships
- Nonprofit advocacy
- Charitable expenditures
- Grant compliance

Whether taxpayer-funded nonprofit activities are appropriate or lawful depends on the governing statutes, grant conditions, and applicable tax and election laws. Advocacy itself is often protected; misuse of funds or violations of grant restrictions may not be.

VII. Information Operations

- Propaganda
- Disinformation
- Misinformation
- Coordinated messaging
- Astroturf campaigns
- Bot amplification
- Narrative manipulation
- Psychological operations
- Influence campaigns
- Reputation attacks

VIII. Digital Operations

- Cyber intrusion
- Phishing
- Hacking
- Credential theft
- Account takeovers
- Website defacement
- Deepfakes
- Artificial amplification
- Data scraping
- AI-generated influence campaigns

IX. Election-Related Activities

- Campaign advertising
- Ballot initiatives
- Voter registration drives
- Get-out-the-vote campaigns
- Election observation
- Election administration
- Campaign coordination
- Political consulting
- Polling
- Data analytics

X. Identity & Demographic Politics

- Identity-based advocacy
- Race-based advocacy
- Religious advocacy
- Ethnic advocacy
- Gender advocacy
- Coalition organizing

- Community organizing
- Cultural mobilization

XI. Organizational Networks

- Political parties
- Advocacy organizations
- Nonprofits
- Labor unions
- Trade associations
- Think tanks
- Religious organizations
- Community organizations
- Student organizations
- Grassroots coalitions

XII. Government Influence

- Lobbying
- Regulatory advocacy
- Administrative petitions
- Public comments
- Legislative testimony
- Judicial advocacy
- Policy development
- Executive action advocacy

XIII. Foreign Influence

- Foreign lobbying
- Foreign funding (where regulated)
- Foreign state media
- Influence networks
- Transnational advocacy
- International NGOs

- Diplomatic engagement
- Economic leverage

XIV. Economic Pressure

- Boycotts
- Divestment campaigns
- Corporate activism
- Shareholder activism
- Consumer pressure
- Labor actions
- Market influence
- Investment campaigns

XV. Civil & Criminal Misconduct

- Assault
- Vandalism
- Rioting
- Trespassing
- Obstruction
- Property destruction
- Terroristic threats
- Conspiracy
- Racketeering
- Organized criminal activity

XVI. Public Integrity

- Ethics violations
- Conflicts of interest
- Nepotism
- Patronage
- Abuse of office
- Misuse of public funds

- Procurement abuse
- Official misconduct

XVII. Institutional Influence

- Universities
- Research institutions
- Foundations
- Media organizations
- Technology companies
- Professional associations
- Religious institutions
- Corporate partnerships

XVIII. Community Mobilization

- Peaceful protest
 - Demonstrations
 - Petitions
 - Public meetings
 - Volunteer organizing
 - Community education
 - Civic engagement
 - Public awareness campaigns
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