

**Questions for the Record  
Senator Dianne Feinstein**

**Crime and Terrorism Subcommittee Hearing On:  
“The Modus Operandi and Toolbox of Russia and other Autocracies  
for Undermining Democracies Throughout the World”  
March 15, 2017**

**Question for Ken Wainstein**

1. In its January 6, 2017 unclassified report, the Intelligence Community assessed with a “high confidence that Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered an influence campaign aimed at the US presidential election,” which included cover intelligence operations (cyber-attacks on the computer systems of both political parties and state and local electoral systems) and overt propaganda campaigns. The extent of that interference is yet unknown and, in the coming months, we need to understand what actually happened as that is the first step in addressing it going forward.

**a. How do we best ensure thorough, independent investigations?**

Congress best ensures a thorough, independent investigation by setting aside partisan concerns and supporting the investigation with dedicated, professional staff that will follow any and all relevant leads and let the facts drive their conclusions.

**b. What should be covered in those investigations?**

The list of issues cited by the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence as the focus of its investigation seems to cover the relevant issues pretty well. That list is:

- A review of the intelligence that informed the Intelligence Community Assessment “Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent US Elections;”
- Counterintelligence concerns related to Russia and the 2016 U.S. election, including any intelligence regarding links between Russia and individuals associated with political campaigns; and
- Russian cyber activity and other “active measures” directed against the U.S., both as it regards the 2016 election and more broadly.

In addition, there should be a focus in Congress on whether the U.S. government needs any additional tools to investigate or deter future influence campaigns.

- c. **Questions have been raised about potential ties between Russian officials or associates and American citizens. Should investigations into Russian interference also examine whether US persons were connected in any way to these efforts? If not, why not? If so, how would you go about conducting such an investigation?**

Yes, investigations into Russian interference should examine whether and, if so, to what extent the Russians coordinated with any U.S. persons as part of their influence campaign. Such an investigation will require the traditional investigative tools, including an examination of all relevant information from the intelligence agencies and the questioning of those who were in position to know whether such coordination took place during the 2016 campaign.