



NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

8 December 2023

NICM 2023-27652

Other Countries' Activities During the 2022 Election Cycle

Scope Note: *This memorandum accompanies the declassified version of ICA 2022-27259-A, "Foreign Threats to the 2022 US Elections."*

The IC observed other countries engaging in some efforts to support or undermine specific candidates during the US elections in 2022 that aligned with these countries' perceptions of a candidate's willingness to advance policies in support of the countries' interests. These countries pursued a variety of means to achieve their influence goals, but the IC assesses that these observed activities, such as Cuba's, were smaller in scale and more narrowly targeted than those of China, Iran, and Russia. These other countries:

- Directed campaign contributions to candidates they believed, if elected, would promote their interests and oppose policies contrary to those interests.
- Sought to obscure their involvement by using US persons, organizations, and businesses—with either direct links to or who were otherwise aligned with leaders of these countries—to fund candidates' election campaigns.

In addition to this second set of countries, the IC also observed a third category of countries that engaged in or directed some activities that fell short of the IC's threshold for being classified as election influence because, in this third category, we lacked indications that the activities were explicitly intended to influence US elections. These activities included:

- Wielding economic leverage in the United States or in global commodities markets, even with the understanding that such actions could indirectly hurt the US President's political standing.
- Speaking out publicly—either directly or on social media—in favor of US candidates or parties, or urging voters to oppose other specific candidates and parties.