



COPYRIGHT 2025 TREADSTONE 71



INTRODUCTION – DEFINING STRATEGIC INFLUENCE THREATS

- Cognitive warfare shapes decisions, not just opinions
- Russia uses slow pressure to fracture national morale and perception
- Disinformation operations build over time, across generations
- Today's session introduces a fusion model combining timing, encirclement, indicators, and culture
- The goal is to decode adversary behavior and shift from reaction to anticipation
- Tools include STEMPLS Plus, Predator Timing, Go-style strategy, cultural diagnostics, and Indicators of Change
- Comparative lessons from China, Iran, and North Korea support broader pattern detection
- Key Takeaway – Understanding influence requires decoding structure, rhythm, and strategic patience

STRATEGIC FRAMING – RUSSIA'S INFLUENCE OPERATING SYSTEM

Treadstone 71



Russia builds
psychological control
over time through
narrative saturation

State media,
intelligence proxies,
and diplomats act in
coordinated formation

Physical tactics like
military drills and cyber
attacks amplify
narrative pressure

Disinformation
campaigns cross
generations and
resurface during
opportunity windows

Russia controls
perception with timing,
fatigue, trauma, and
emotional pressure

Narratives form a net
around decision-
makers, not just
information consumers

Ukraine faces a full-
spectrum influence
strategy disguised as
scattered noise

Key Takeaway – Russian
influence success
depends on exhaustion,
not persuasion

STEMPLES PLUS – MULTI-DOMAIN MAPPING OF ADVERSARY PRESSURE

Social – Russia stirs division through identity, trauma, and group loyalty

Technical – Attacks on infrastructure, platforms, and encrypted communication

Economic – Corruption, dependency cycles, and pressure via elites

Military – Psychological ops targeting morale, veterans, and readiness

Political – Proxy funding, lawfare, and fragmentation strategies

Legal – Foreign-agent laws and narrative control via legal framing

Educational – Curriculum control, historical distortion, soft indoctrination

Key Takeaway – Domain mapping exposes coordinated entry points and overlapping pressure

Treadstone 71



Treadstone 71

CULTURAL ARCHITECTURE – RUSSIA'S STRATEGIC USE OF NARRATIVE



- Narratives grounded in Orthodox identity, WWII victory, and Eurasianism
- State propaganda weaponizes national trauma to trigger loyalty and fear
- Surveillance is normalized; citizens censor themselves preemptively
- Elites publicly unify while quietly splintering under war and sanctions
- Youth quietly reject propaganda via Telegram and VPNs, but remain cautious
- Media saturation creates fatigue, not clarity – space for truth emerges through exhaustion
- Myths cannot hold when performance contradicts narrative
- Key Takeaway – Russian culture enables control, but also seeds its future disruption



COMPARATIVE ADVERSARY MODELS – STRATEGIC VARIATION ACROSS AUTHORITARIAN STATES

China surrounds targets through economic, diplomatic, and technological encirclement

Iran blends trauma and revolution with proxy messaging and ideological export

North Korea maintains control via fear and narrative monopoly, without nuance

All adapt Russian disinformation scaffolds to fit cultural terrain

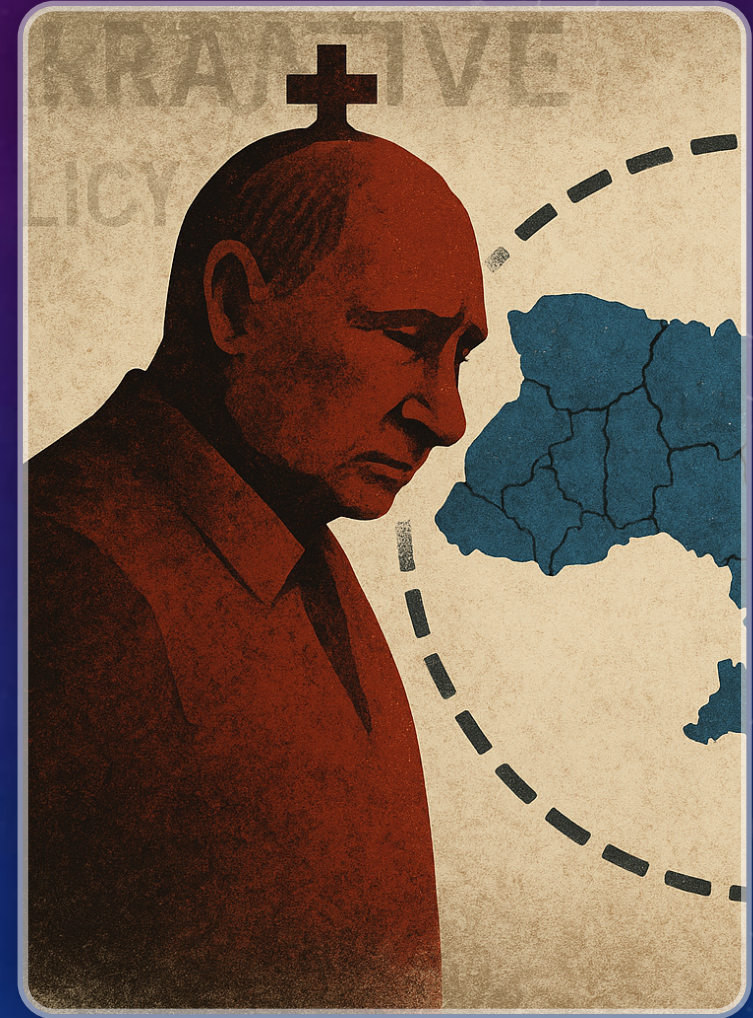
Each state builds long-horizon pressure tools rather than short propaganda blasts

Shared commitment to narrative permanence binds their strategic logic

Comparing models reveals vulnerabilities unique to each state's rhythm and reliance

Key Takeaway – Russia's tactics are exported and adapted; no influence campaign is isolated

Treadstone 71



INDICATORS OF CHANGE – MOVEMENT ACROSS DOMAINS

Treadstone 71



Analysts track change, not snapshots, across all STEMPLES categories



Signals emerge when protests, policy shifts, economic spikes align with disinformation



Tools flag anomalies – but judgment turns signals into warnings



Adversaries test slowly – narrative pressure always precedes operational action



AI platforms catch tempo shifts faster than human-only workflows



Tripwires tied to movement thresholds escalate alerts into action points



Multiple-domain convergence indicates staging for a coordinated influence strike



Key Takeaway – Movement across domains signals preparation, not coincidence

PREDATOR TIMING – INFLUENCE THROUGH PACING AND DELAY

Fast attacks signal urgency or desperation; long delays reflect control

Russia draws out narrative pressure to erode resistance over time

Crimea disinformation sat idle for years before activation

China mirrors this with slow encirclement of Taiwan through influence layers

Timing reveals adversary confidence – long pauses are not indecision

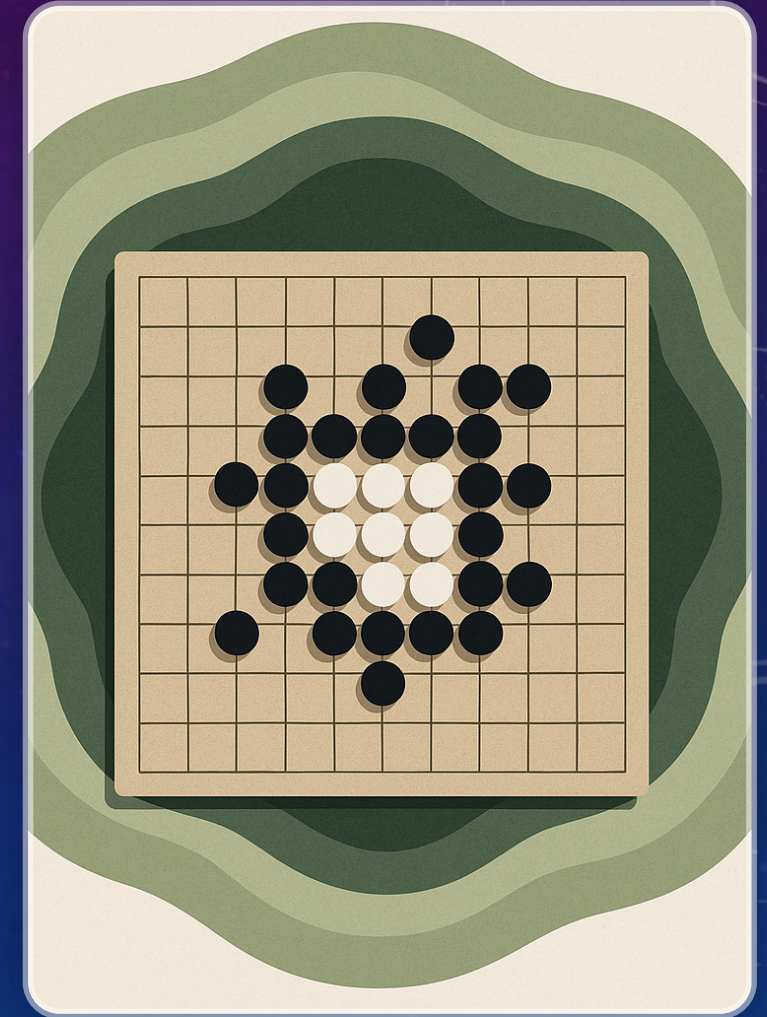
Slow, calculated campaigns suggest mastery, not inactivity

Influence pacing shapes emotional fatigue and reshapes perception of risk

Key Takeaway – Threat confidence reveals itself in tempo, not just message

GO-STYLE ENCIRCLEMENT – STRATEGIC SURROUND, NOT SHOCK

Treadstone 71





OPERATIONAL ACTION – RESILIENCE THROUGH STRUCTURED RESPONSE

Use	Use STEMPLES Plus to identify where Russia is shaping outcomes
Connect	Connect indicators across domains to catch campaigns before full launch
Exploit	Exploit Russian contradictions: elite fractures, narrative collapse, fatigue
Respond	Respond with pacing – outlast short disinfo bursts with long narrative campaigns
Occupy	Occupy information ground early through engagement, not reaction
Apply	Apply D3A to intelligence findings and F3EAD to counter-influence actions
Keep	Keep pressure consistent – disruption must be ongoing, not episodic
Key	Key Takeaway – Endurance, preemption, and coherence outmatch noise and shock

FUSION FRAMEWORK – SYNCHRONIZING INTELLIGENCE INTO STRATEGY

Treadstone 71



- Synchronize timing, structure, cultural patterns, and domain indicators
- Use Predator Timing to read confidence, Go logic to map intent
- Cultural decoding reveals what messages will land or fail
- Indicators of Change convert noise into pattern detection
- No tool works alone – effectiveness depends on integration and rhythm
- Narratives should be tracked like troop movements: who moves, when, and why
- Framework output gives leaders clarity, context, and direction
- Key Takeaway – Synchronization turns signals into operational foresight



Treadstone 71

COUNTERMEASURES – TIMING AND PATIENCE IN STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION



- Avoid reactive rebuttals that mirror enemy tempo
- Sustain narrative pressure through consistent repetition
- Avoid fatigue by rotating authentic voices, not messaging themes
- Narratives should meet adversary lies with facts seeded early and repeated often
- Strategic patience wins trust where urgency fails
- Audiences do not shift in real time; influence builds through rhythm
- Pacing truth to match emotional cycles outlasts short-term manipulation
- Key Takeaway – Influence resilience builds through tempo, not just message content



COGNITIVE TERRAIN – HOLDING GROUND BEFORE LOSING NARRATIVE SPACE

- Cognitive defense begins before disinformation reaches its audience
- Narrative territory should be mapped and occupied before adversary entry
- Diaspora, faith networks, and academic channels must remain active and engaged
- Media saturation by truth preempts alternative narratives from taking hold
- Publics lose trust when silence creates informational vacuums
- Defenders must be visible, not reactive – even during peacetime
- Every gap left unattended becomes a foothold for encirclement
- Key Takeaway – Cognitive battles are won in the quiet space between conflicts

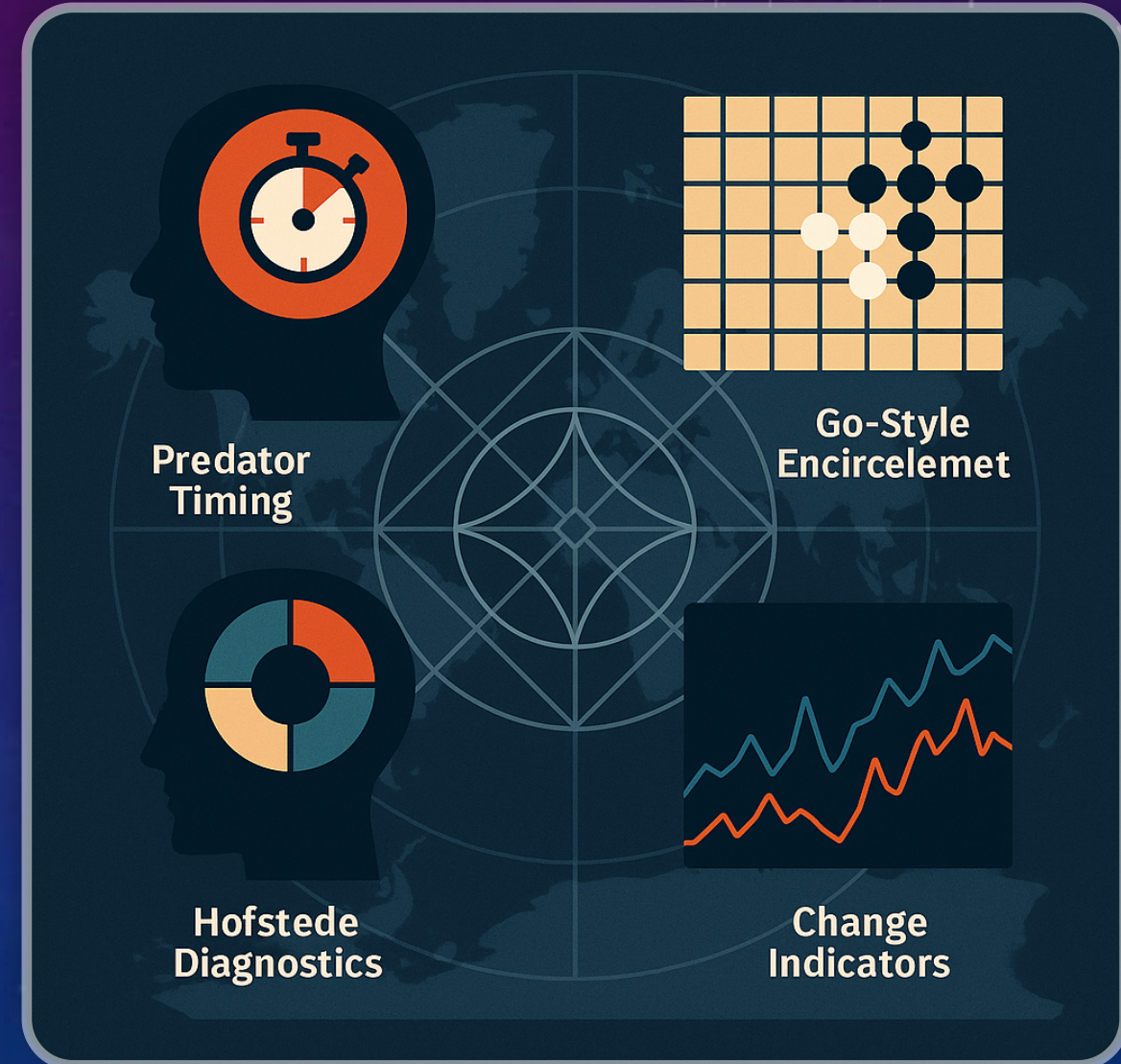


LEADERSHIP IMPERATIVES – TURNING INSIGHT INTO ACTION

Treadstone 71



- Integrate cultural diagnostics into every influence assessment
- Ensure every STEMPLS Plus review includes Indicators of Change and pacing evaluation
- Move teams beyond content review into behavioral tracking and predictive modeling
- Adopt Go-style strategy for long-term planning and shaping, not just reaction
- Institutionalize D3A and F3EAD into influence and cyber operations
- Train leadership to detect timing behavior as a strategic signal, not coincidence
- Structure doctrine around endurance, foresight, and cross-domain detection
- Key Takeaway – Decision superiority begins with structured cognitive anticipation



SUMMARY – OWNING THE INFLUENCE BATTLE BEFORE IT BEGINS

Treadstone 71



- Russia fights to reshape perception through coordinated, slow pressure
- Disinformation is not random; it's strategic choreography tied to structural weakness
- Time and placement matter more than content shock value
- Fusion model reveals signals traditional methods fail to connect
- STEMPLES Plus, Hofstede diagnostics, Go and Predator Timing clarify adversary intent
- Synchronization gives leaders predictive control over disinformation patterns
- Ukraine must preempt, map, and inoculate before the next campaign activates
- Key Takeaway – Dominance in influence warfare comes from outpacing, outlasting, and out-framing the adversary

Treadstone 71



COPYRIGHT 2025 TREADSTONE 71