

Meaning of “directed towards a political end in Singapore”

8. For the purposes of this Act, an activity or a conduct is directed towards a political end in Singapore if a purpose of the activity or conduct (whether or not there are other purposes) is any of the following purposes or a combination of these purposes:

- (a) to promote the interests of a political party, or a Part 4 politically significant entity, in Singapore;
- (b) to influence, or seek to influence, the outcome of any election or national referendum under any written law;
- (c) to influence, or seek to influence, Singapore governmental decisions;
- (d) to influence, or seek to influence, any aspect (including the outcome) of any one or more of the following:
 - (i) proceedings in Parliament;
 - (ii) proceedings of the Presidential Council for Minority Rights;
 - (iii) proceedings of the Council of Presidential Advisers;
 - (iv) proceedings of the Malay Community Committee or Indian and Other Minority Communities Committee established under section 27C of the Parliamentary Elections Act 1954;
 - (v) proceedings of the Community Committee established under section 8E of the Presidential Elections Act 1991 or any Sub-Committee mentioned in that section;
 - (vi) proceedings of the Presidential Elections Committee established under Article 18 of the Constitution;
- (e) to bring about, or seek to bring about, changes of the law in the whole or a part of Singapore, or to otherwise influence, or seek to influence, the legislative process in Singapore;
- (f) to influence, or seek to influence, public opinion on a matter which, in Singapore, is a matter of public controversy;
- (g) to influence, or seek to influence, any aspect or to promote or oppose political views, or public conduct relating to activities that have become the subject of a political debate, in Singapore.

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Clandestine foreign interference by electronic communications activity

17.—(1) A person (Y) commits an offence if —

...

(c) Y knows or has reason to believe that the electronic communications activity, or the information or material published in Singapore —

- (i) is ~~or is likely to be~~ prejudicial to the security of Singapore or any part of Singapore;
- (ii) is ~~or is likely to be~~ prejudicial to public health, public safety, public tranquillity or public finances;
- (iii) is ~~or is likely to be~~ prejudicial to the friendly relations of Singapore with other countries;
- (iv) incites ~~or is likely to incite~~ feelings of enmity, hatred or ill-will between different groups of people in Singapore which may endanger the public peace and public order of Singapore;
- (v) diminishes ~~or is likely to diminish~~ public confidence in the performance of any duty or function of, or in the exercise of any power by, the Government or a public authority, or a part of the Government or public authority; or
- (vi) is ~~or is likely to be~~ directed towards a political end in Singapore; and

(d) any part of — (i) Y's undertaking on behalf of a person mentioned in paragraph (b); or (ii) Y's electronic communications activity,
is covert or involves deception.

~~(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) —~~

~~—(a) Y does not need to have in mind a particular foreign country or foreign principal; and~~

~~—(b) Y may have in mind more than one foreign country or foreign principal.~~

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), Y may have in mind more than one foreign country or a foreign principal.

Examples of laws which vest powers in the executive

- **Broadcasting Act** - Power to issue directions to broadcasting licensees, including regarding content; powers to veto shareholding/break up control of licensees
- **Telecommunications Act** - Power to issue directions to be issued to telecommunications licensees with regard to the provision of telecommunication services if, inter alia, this is deemed necessary in the public interest.
- **Internal Security Act** - Power to order preventive detention, prohibit uniforms/emblems, prohibit production and distribution of subversive documents, close schools, bar persons from higher education
- **Maintenance of Religious Harmony Act** - Power to stop persons from communications that harm religious harmony
- **Immigration Act** - Power to control entry to Singapore by foreigners, and grant/revoke permits (including PR)
- **Land Acquisition Act** - Power of declaring the land to be required for specific purposes
- **Employment of Foreign Manpower Act** - Power to control right to work in Singapore by foreigners, and grant/revoke passes
- **Banking Act** - Power to veto shareholding/break up control of financial institutions
- **Companies Act** - Power to refuse registration of companies
- **Housing and Development Act** - Power of compulsory acquisition of HDB flat