THE ECHO: A FRIDAY TIPSHEET OF
POLITICAL ACTIVITY ON TWITTER

Thanks to the support of GSPM alumnus William H. Madway Class of 2013.

APRIL 12-18: Conflict and scandal dominated the week on Twitter in the United States this week. Former FBI Director James Comey’s controversial book release rollout prompted more than 3.3 million related tweets and spun President Trump into aggressive tweetstorms drawing close to 6.7 million tweets, about 200,000 more than his moving average. Trump attorney Michael Cohen continued to face scrutiny and twitter-lash, this time for the outing of a hidden client: Sean Hannity. Cohen drew more than 1.1 million tweets while Hannity drew close to two million. Additional findings, including updates yet another close special election, Starbucks, Syria, and Russia can be found on Medium.

INSTITUTIONS

POTUS
Republicans
Democrats
U.S. Senate
U.S. House

6.7m ▲7%
1.9m ▲11%
1.1m ▼11%
55.9k ▼42%
17.1k ▼19%
Average 6.5m
Average 2.5m
Average 1.6m
Average 59.5k
Average 13.7k

KEY RACES

Brown (OH)
Nelson (FL)
Smith (MN)
Heller (NV)
King (ND)
Rohrabacher
Tenney
Lewis
Paulsen
Denham

8.3k ▲85%
7.7k ▼81%
6.0k ▲41%
5.3k ▼45%
4.5k ▲645%
6.1k ▼8%
4.1k ▲398%
2.6k ▼4%
2.5k ▼13%
1.9k ▲217%
NEWSMAKERS

Fmr. FBI Director
James Comey
3.3m ▲1,061%

Fox News Host
Sean Hannity
2.0k ▲95%

Trump Attorney
Michael Cohen
1.1m ▲12%

UN Ambassador
Nikki Haley
260.0k ▲520%

Sec. State Nom.
Mike Pompeo
237.0k ▲810%

HOT TOPICS

Syria
3.0m ▲140%

Russia
1.9m ▲22%

Starbucks
1.2m ▲1,558%

#MeToo/TimesUp
136.9k ▼43%

AZ-08 Special
67.9k ▲115%

TOP TWEETS

Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump

James Comey is a proven LEAKER & LIAR. Virtually everyone in Washington thought he should be fired for the terrible job he did—until he was, in fact, fired. He leaked CLASSIFIED information, for which he should be prosecuted. He lied to Congress under OATH. He is a weak and.....

33k Retweets | 126k Likes | Link

Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump

....untruthful slime ball who was, as time has proven, a terrible Director of the FBI. His handling of the Crooked Hillary Clinton case, and the events surrounding it, will go down as one of the worst “botch jobs” of history. It was my great honor to fire James Comey!

35k Retweets | 143k Likes | Link

Adam Sweeney
@AdamSweeney

So, let me get this straight...

We're bombing Syria, because Syria bombed Syria, to show Syria that Syria shouldn't bomb Syria.

Then, after we've bombed Syria for bombing Syria, we still won't accept Syrian refugees that are seeking refuge from the bombing.

Got it.

150k Retweets | 417k Likes | Link

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**ABOUT:** Released weekly on Friday mornings online, THE ECHO is a social media research publication of George Washington University Graduate School of Political Management’s (GSPM) Public Echoes of Political Rhetoric in America (PEORIA) Project. THE ECHO is funded in part by GSPM alumnus William H. Madway and through a reduced-cost license to Crimson Hexagon.

**METHODOLOGY:** The ECHO features U.S. data collated by sets of keywords on the Crimson Hexagon platform. The first value represents the number of related tweets including the name or topic and the second demonstrates its increase or decrease over the week. Our analysis is informed by further research using Crimson Hexagon’s additional features, which allows us to quickly view trending topics and search terms.

*Key Races* are determined on a rolling basis based on our editorial team’s evaluations of campaigns rated as “Toss Up” by the Cook Political Report, Sabato’s Crystal Ball, and Inside Elections with Nathan L. Gonzales. *We feature the top five races in the Senate (top) and the House (bottom) as a function of seven-day related-tweet volume on Twitter. They are listed in order of the total number of times each was mentioned on Twitter over the past seven days (Thursday to Wednesday).*

*Top Institutions* include several components. We track both parties, chambers of Congress, and the presidency with several related terms beyond their official accounts on Twitter. For example, the presidency includes @POTUS and @realDonaldTrump as well as “Donald Trump”, “President Trump” and “DonaldTrump” as search terms. Rolling averages are published since late summer 2017 after the launch of The ECHO.

*Newsmakers and Hot Topics* are detected in several ways using Memeorandum.com, The Week’s Daily Briefing “10 Things”, and additional monitoring throughout the week. Final decisions on what to include are made by our editorial team and listed from left to right in order of total mentions on Twitter.

*Top Tweets* are listed as examples of posts that drove the week’s discussion on Twitter. In most cases, these will include a large number of @replies, retweets, and favorites (hearts) but because of varying numbers of followers, other tweets might have greater total engagement than the ones listed.

**CONTACT:** Sign up to receive The ECHO in your Inbox every Friday [here](http://example.com). For questions about The ECHO, please contact its author Dr. Michael D. Cohen at GSPM by email at michaeldcohen@gwu.edu. For more information about the GSPM Global Center for Political Management and The PEORIA Project, please contact Dr. Michael Cornfield by email at corn@gwu.edu. For questions about GSPM, please contact Dr. Lara Brown by email at larambrown@gwu.edu. All can be reached by phone at 202-994-6000.