The AI Governance Gap

A new report reveals how AI is reshaping influence operations

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THE DATA

70%

Campaigns Using AI

According to a new report from The Regulatory Review, most modern political campaigns now rely on AI tools for targeting and messaging.

This rapid adoption of AI in political influence operations is creating an urgent governance gap. As AI systems become more sophisticated, they are increasingly capable of shaping public opinion at scale without transparency or accountability. Without updated legal frameworks, these tools could undermine democratic processes and public trust.



Source: The Regulatory Review · Published August 27, 2026

01

AI’s Stealth Influence on Public Discourse

AI-driven campaigns are not just changing how messages are delivered—they’re altering the very nature of discourse. By leveraging microtargeting, behavioral modeling, and automated content generation, these systems can subtly manipulate public sentiment in ways traditional oversight cannot detect or counter.



02

Legal Vacuum Undermines Democratic Accountability

The absence of clear legal boundaries around AI use in influence operations leaves governments and institutions vulnerable. Without enforceable standards, the power to shape public perception through AI may become concentrated among a few technologically advanced actors, threatening democratic pluralism.

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