PC2A for a SELECT COMMITTEE and INDEPENDENT COMMISSION!
https://pc2a.info/SelectCommitteeIndependentInvestigation

CONGRESS

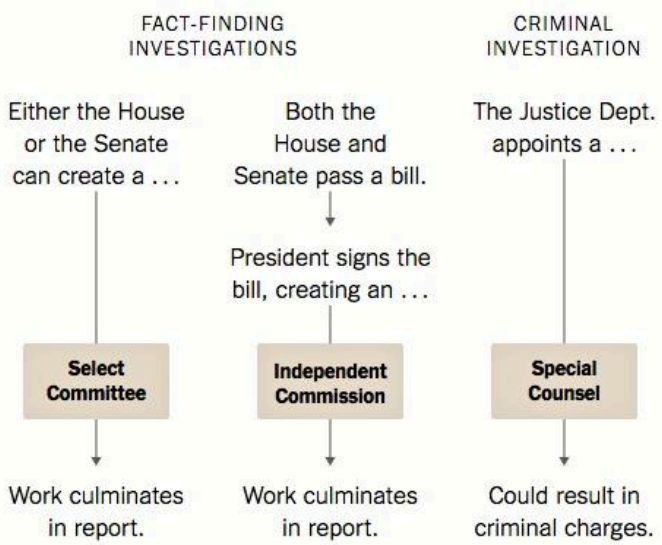
## GOP eyes end of Russia probes with Trump collusion unanswered

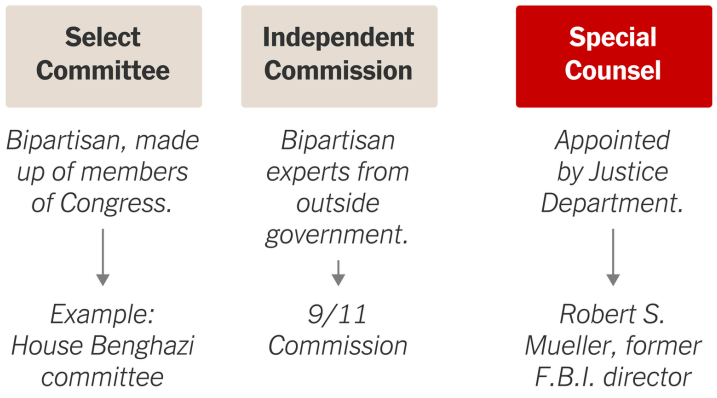
Democrats are likely to be divided over whether to endorse conclusions that don't address the most explosive issue.

**EXPLANATION**:
To investigate, Congress CAN, without Presidential signature, appoint a Independent Commission
OR
Select Committee
Both are Bipartisan.
This is done by Senate Resolution. (Or House Resolution for a House Special Committee.)
[*Note: The Appropriations Bill for the funding of the Independent Commission does need Presidential signature.]
The DOJ Special Counsel (Mueller) was a good first step.
(Note: The FBI is the Investigative arm of the DOJ.)

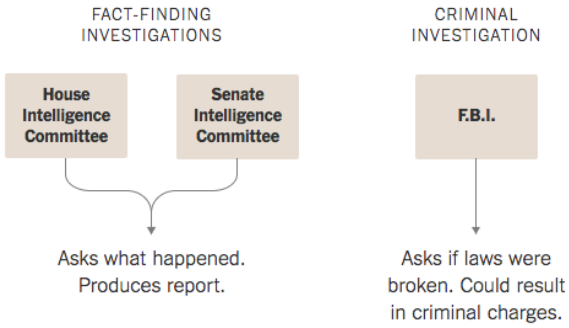
**SUGGESTED MESSAGE:**
*Dear Senator/Rep_____,*
*I am your Constituent and I need you to demand an Independent Commission and/or Select Committee to investigate the Russian interference into the American election.*
*Now!!*
*NAME & ADDRESS*
*#postcardsforAmerica*

**ADDRESSES**:
House of Reps https://pc2a.info/AddressesMembersHouseOfReps
Senators: https://pc2a.info/AllContactsforSenators






State of things in Congressional Investigations:
The DEM members wrote a 25-page memo outlining the status of the Investigation when the GOP ended theirs in the 115th Congress. Here is the link to that report:
https://democrats-intelligence.house.gov/uploadedfiles/final_-_minority_status_of_the_russia_investigation_with_appendices.pdf




**ARTICLES**:
https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/05/17/us/politics/why-its-so-hard-to-have-an-independent-russia-investigation.html
GOP eyes end of Russia probes with Trump collusion unanswered
https://www.politico.com/story/2017/10/27/gop-russia-probes-trump-244217?cid=apn

***What are our other options?***

**Special Counsel**

Special Prosecutors are appointed by the Attorney General. Or, if the AG has recused himself, as Sessions has, then by Deputy Attorney General. A Special Prosecutor's job is to investigate if crimes were committed. They do not inform the public.
The DOJ also has the authority to interpret the Emoluments Clause and certain ethics rules that apply to

Cabinet members. (The President and Vice President are exempt from many of the ethics rules.)
*An article on Independent Commissions & Special Prosecutors*
*http://time.com/4711461/trump-russia-special-commission-history/*
*Special Counsels, Independent Counsels, and Special Prosecutors: Legal Authority and Limitations on Independent Executive Investigations https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R44857.pdf*
*https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/how-can-congress-set-independent-commission-investigate-russia-n739536*

**Office of Government Ethics**
The OGE was formed after Watergate. It vets federal employees across agencies to review their financial disclosures and ensure they comply with conflicts-of-interest rules. Presidents and vice presidents are exempt from many of these rules. The OGE's capacity is to advise. (The Head of the OGE, Walter Shaub, resigned in protest of the lack of ethics adherence shown by this Administration.)

**Government Accountability Office**
The GOA keeps account of how the government spends taxpayer dollars. (For example, shortly after the election, Sen Warren and Rep Cummings sent a letter to the GAO asking them to look into how taxpayer dollars were spent during the Trump transition.) And, it was announced that they are looking into the Security Expenses of Mar-A-Lago trips. They called the report's findings "alarming" and said they'd keep investigating the spending.
Article
https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/05/politics/mar-a-lago-cost-government-accountability-office-report/index.html
http://www.cnn.com/2017/03/28/politics/gao-donald-trump-mar-a-lago-security-expenses/

**The FBI**
The FBI has already stated they are investigating Russian ties. This allegedly continues even with the firing of the current FBI Director Comey.

**Inspectors General**
IGs are in-house watchdogs in almost all major federal agencies. There is not one in The White House (see PC2A on HR1016 to establish an IG in The White House https://pc2a.info/HR1016InspectorGeneralInOvalOffice)
IGs issue public reports; they cannot prosecute but can refer cases to the Justice Department. Here are the reports https://oversight.gov/

**State Attorney Generals**
State AGs (see @watchyourAGs on Twitter) are limited regarding federal officials but, because Trump owns hundreds of businesses – state AGs have purview over those financial connections. (Which, in theory could lead back to Russian oligarchs.) The Trump Organization is registered in New York, Florida and Delaware.
State AG coalitions have filed a number of lawsuits to fight this Administration's agenda; outlined here by the AG of Washington. https://wfse.org/docs/AG%20LTR%20TO%20SCHOESLER.pdf

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