

Free Media In Unfree Societies

Listeners and readers in 21 countries, including Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Russia, rely on RFE's programs for a reliable account of events in their region and the world.

Fast Facts

RFE broadcasts to 21 countries in 28 languages:

Albanian, Arabic, Armenian, Avar, Azerbaijani, Bashkir, Belarusian, Bosnian, Chechen, Circassian, Crimean Tatar, Croatian, Dari, Georgian, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Macedonian, Montenegrin, Pashto, Persian, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Tajik, Tatar, Turkmen, Ukrainian, Uzbek

- Broadcast Hours: Approximately 1,000 hours/week
- Platforms: Radio (AM, FM, UKW, SW, Cable, Satellite), Internet (22 websites), Television
- Audience: 21.1 million/week (FY 2011)
- Budget: \$96.2 million (FY 2010)
- **Employees:** In addition to 500+ employees in Prague and Washington, we maintain 20 local bureaus with a total of 240 journalists and over 700 freelancers and stringers.

Highlights

- RFE's newest service, Radio Mashaal, was launched in 2010 and broadcasts to Pakistan's Pashtun
 heartland along the border with Afghanistan. Radio Mashaal has quickly become a trusted source
 of news in the region.
- RFE's Afghan service Radio Azadi is one of the most popular media outlets in Afghanistan, with a market share of close to 50%. In 2010, the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. launched an exhibit of some of the thousands of handwritten scrolls and letters sent to Radio Azadi by listeners.
- The website of RFE's Persian-language service, Radio Farda, receives over 19 million page views every month – many of them via anti-filtering software - and also maintains one of the most popular Iranian Facebook pages.
- RFE/RL's Radio Svoboda is the leading international broadcaster in Russia and a key alternative
 to state-controlled media. Radio Svoboda is attracting a growing audience on the radio and the
 web, with an average of 3.5 million visitors and nearly 8 million page views per month in
 FY2011.
- Awards: "Highly Commended" in the "Best Investigative Documentary" category (AIB Awards 2010, Radio Azadi, RFE's Afghan Service) "Silver Microphone" award recognizing achievements of women (February 2010, RFE's Armenian Service) Rafto Prize for human rights reporting (2009, RFE's Azerbaijani Service) Online News Association's award for excellence in online journalism (2009, RFE's Kazakh Service)

Recent Trends

According to Freedom House's Freedom of the Press 2010 survey, over the last decade, media
freedom has declined in 8 out of the 21 RFE broadcast countries included in the study. Reporters
Without Borders also documents this declining trend in their Press Freedom Index.

Organization/Oversight

 RFE/RL Inc. is a private, nonprofit corporation which receives federal funding as a grantee of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG). The BBG has oversight responsibility for all civilian U.S. government-funded international broadcasting activities.

www.rferl.org Updated October 2011