

Providing uncensored news, responsible discussion, and open debate in 20 countries where a free press is banned by the government or not fully established.

Fast Facts

- **RFE/RL produces broadcast and digital news content for 20 countries in 25 languages:** Albanian, Armenian, Azerbaijani, Bashkir, Belarusian, Bosnian, Chechen, Crimean Tatar, Dari, English, Georgian, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Macedonian, Montenegrin, Pashto, Persian, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Tajik, Tatar, Turkmen, Ukrainian, Uzbek
- **Distribution:** radio (AM, FM, UKW, SW, cable, satellite), Internet (websites, mobile and mobile apps, social media), television (affiliates, satellite, IPTV, OTT)
- **Unduplicated audience (est.):** 25.8 million/week (FY 2017)
In FY2017, RFE/RL content was viewed 515 million times on YouTube; 918 million pages of content were viewed on RFE/RL websites; 278 million users engaged with RFE/RL content on Facebook.
- **Budget:** \$117.4 million (FY 2017)
- **Employees:** More than 600 employees in Prague and Washington, DC; 17 local bureaus with approximately 400 full-time journalists; over 750 freelancers and stringers globally.

RFE/RL Impact

- RFE/RL's breaking news and multi-media reporting across its target region continues to earn daily citations in global media, including The Washington Post, The New York Times, USA Today, CNN, and ABC. In 2017 it published leading coverage of Russia's annexation of Crimea and separatist campaign in eastern Ukraine; corruption in Ukraine; political succession, radicalization, and energy in Central Asia; societal divisions and extremism in the Balkans; security and militancy in Afghanistan and Pakistan; and human rights in Iran.
- The 24/7 Current Time digital television network was formally launched in February 2017, claiming a space in the global Russian-language media market for balanced news, original features, under-reported stories, and fresh debate via satellite, cable, and online. Led by RFE/RL and in cooperation with Voice of America, Current Time serves audiences in 26 countries, 14 of which are outside of RFE/RL's service area. A growing network of affiliates—now over 75—carries Current Time; its innovative social videos were viewed over 400 million times in 2017.
- The Russian Service, Radio Svoboda, is one of the most-cited multi-media networks in Russia. In 2017, its web audiences averaged 6.7 million visitors and 14.4 million page views monthly; its videos logged 81 million views on YouTube; and, in addition to its active presence on Russian social networks, it has more than 536,000 fans on Facebook.
- The newly launched Polygraph.info is a globally aware, nonpartisan, fact-checking website powered by RFE/RL and Voice of America that separates fact from fiction and debunks lies.
- The Afghan Service, Radio Azadi, retained its leadership role in Afghanistan, with a market share of 25 percent in 2017, and 62.8 million engaged users on Facebook.
- RFE/RL's Pashto-language Radio Mashaal broke high-impact stories and dominated social networks in 2017 in support of its mission to promote pluralism and counter extremism in Pakistan's Taliban-dominated border regions with Afghanistan.
- RFE/RL and the Czech Republic's Ministry of Foreign Affairs sponsored the Vaclav Havel and Jiri Dienstbier Journalism Fellowship programs supporting aspiring independent journalists in Eastern Europe, the Balkans, and Russia.
- In 2017, RFE/RL journalists in no fewer than 38 incidents in at least 12 of the countries they cover suffered physical assault, online insults, interrogations, detentions, prison, and threats in connection with their reporting.

International Awards

- 2017 European Short Film Festival "Best Short Documentary" for "Generation Emigration" by Natalia Sergeev, Moldovan Service and Alexander Blumberg, Multimedia Team
- 2017 IWMF "Courage in Journalism Award to Saniya Toiken, Kazakh Service
- 2017 Czech Press Photo Award (Lifestyle) to Amos Chapple, RFE/RL Newsroom
- 2017 Silver Lovie Award for RFE/RL's responsive website, supporting content in 25 languages.
- 2017 New York Festivals International Television and Film Awards: Silver Awards for "She Was Called Tatiana" (RFE/RL Russian Service) and "A Snowy Trek On Horseback To Teach School" (RFE/RL Kyrgyz Service).

Organization/Oversight

- RFE/RL Inc. is an independent, private, nonprofit corporation that is funded by the U.S. Congress as a grantee of the U.S. Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), which provides oversight of its activities.