

## FAST FACTS

HEADQUARTERS  
Washington, DC

ANNUAL BUDGET  
\$47.6 million  
(FY21)

LANGUAGES  
9

AUDIENCE  
59.8 million (FY21)

Radio Free Asia (RFA) delivers uncensored, accurate domestic news and information to audiences in China, Vietnam, North Korea, Laos, Cambodia, and Burma (Myanmar). For people living in those countries, where free speech and free press is heavily restricted, RFA's in-depth, unflinching journalism provides a lifeline to the truth and counters authoritarian disinformation and false narratives. RFA also offers a platform for ordinary people to voice opinions and share perspectives that would otherwise be censored or ignored by state-controlled media.



“In the age of disinformation and manipulated news, I always have to confirm with RFA whether news is true or not.”

— Comment on RFA  
Burmese Facebook

Issues addressed in features and programming among RFA's nine language services include human rights abuses; religious, ethnic, and racial persecution; corruption; forced land confiscations; and health risks. RFA uses multiple platforms, including short- and medium-wave radio, satellite transmissions, TV broadcasting, the Internet, and social media to deliver content to its audiences.

Its investigative reporting has earned awards from the Society of Professional Journalists, Radio & TV Digital News Association, Alliance for Women in Media, Amnesty International, and the Society of Environmental Journalists, among others. The network's reporting is picked up by both global media and news sources in its target regions, including The Wall Street Journal, New York Times, BBC, CNN, Reuters, AFP, Kyodo News, Yonhap, and South China Morning Post, Bangkok Post, among many others.

## LANGUAGES

Burmese  
Cantonese  
Khmer  
Korean  
Lao  
Mandarin  
Tibetan  
Uyghur  
Vietnamese

43.5 MILLION

followers across Facebook,  
YouTube, and Twitter

“My feeling when  
listening to RFA was  
as if I saw a lighthouse  
of hope.”

—North Korean defector

## MISSION

As outlined under the 1994 International Broadcasting Act (P.L. 103-236), RFA’s mission is to provide accurate and timely news and information to Asian countries whose governments prohibit access to a free press.

## PROGRAMMING

RFA’s all-digital facility is equipped with 29 studios, allowing our nine services to produce news, analysis, commentary, and cultural programming. Today, RFA has expanded from its radio programs to include documentaries, in-depth web reports, graphics and e-books online as well as on social media. Since 2015, RFA has garnered over 43.5 million fans across Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter providing social media videos and call in shows, and redistributing citizen journalist content.

## IMPACT

**First Informing the World about the Creation of Xinjiang’s Prison State.** RFA was the first to inform the world about the brutal detention of millions of Uyghurs in vast internment camps, and the build up of a high-tech security state in Xinjiang, making the human rights crisis — which the U.S. designated as a genocide — increasingly difficult for China’s leaders to deny. RFA continues to break key stories related to this ongoing crisis.

**Reporting the Burma Coup.** RFA has long played a critical role reporting political, security and social issues that domestic media in Burma (Myanmar) avoid — a role that has only become more crucial since the Feb. 1, 2021 coup, when the military regime outlawed domestic independent and shuttered news media that had emerged during a decade of democratic reforms. RFA was the first outlet to confirm that Myanmar’s leader Aung San Suu Kyi had been placed under house arrest. Within the first 30 days of the coup, RFA’s video reports were viewed more than a quarter of a billion times on Facebook — a 2500 percent increase over the previous months. Despite restrictions, RFA Burmese has maintained operations in-country, and is still able to tackle sensitive news, including abusive conduct by the military in all corners of Burma.

**Exposing the Under-Reporting of Wuhan Fatalities.** RFA, through investigative journalism, exposed the absurdity of the CCP’s low official death toll by doing the math on cremated remains distributed to families in Wuhan. RFA’s explosive story put the toll upward of 40,000 instead of China’s official 2,500 figure. A month after RFA’s report, Chinese officials revised the estimate slightly — still falling short of RFA’s projected analysis by a factor of 10. Leaked internal Chinese documents later obtained by CNN verified much higher rates of infections and deaths.