



Voice of America

The Largest U.S. International Broadcaster

FAST FACTS

Headquarters: Washington, D.C.

Budget: \$194.3 million
(FY 2009 Estimate)

Employees: 1322

Languages: 45

Audience: 135 million

Media: radio, television, and the Internet

Purpose: to broadcast accurate, balanced, and comprehensive news and information to an international audience

Facilities: 27 radio broadcast studios, 33 production and recording studios, 30 professional audio mixing and dubbing stations, 4 television studios, 20 video editing suites, and facilities for master control, recording, scheduling, and feed intake

History: broadcasts began in 1942, as a response to the need of peoples in closed and war-torn societies for reliable news

VOA BROADCASTS

- There are approximately 1,500 hours of programs each week.
- 25 of VOA's 45 languages broadcast on television.
- Program content includes news, features, education, and culture, in discussion, call-in, live, and pre-recorded formats.
- VOA has a growing worldwide network of more than 1,200 local affiliate stations, which include FM and medium wave (MW or AM) radio stations, television networks, and cable systems.

THE VOA CHARTER

President Gerald Ford signed the VOA Charter into law in 1976. It protects the independence and integrity of VOA programming.

1. VOA will serve as a consistently reliable and authoritative source of news. VOA news will be accurate, objective, and comprehensive.
2. VOA will represent America, not any single segment of American society, and will therefore present a balanced and comprehensive projection of significant American thought and institutions.
3. VOA will present the policies of the United States clearly and effectively, and will also present responsible discussions and opinion on these policies.

"The news may be good. The news may be bad. We shall tell you the truth" – William Harlan Hale, 1st VOA Broadcast (1942)

VOA broadcasts around the world in 45 languages:

AFRICA

Afan Oromo
Amharic
English
French
Hausa
Kinyarwanda
Kirundi
Ndebele
Portuguese
Shona
Somali
Swahili
Tigrigna

EURASIA

Albanian
Bosnian
Croatian
Greek
Macedonian
Russian
Serbian
Ukrainian

LATIN AMERICA

Creole
Spanish

**NEAR EAST
& CENTRAL ASIA**

Armenian
Azerbaijani
Georgian
Kurdish
Turkish
Uzbek

**PERSIAN NEWS
NETWORK**

**WEST &
SOUTH ASIA**

Bangla
Dari
Hindi
Pashto
Urdu

ENGLISH

WORLDWIDE



VOA is one of the largest multimedia news organizations in the world.

VOA NEWSCENTER

■ VOA's 30,000 square foot Newscenter is staffed 24-hours-a-day, 365 days-a-year, providing between 150 and 200 news reports per day for all language services and programs.

■ There are also 33 domestic and 13 overseas correspondents, in addition to more than 90 "stringers," or part-time reporters.

VOA AND TECHNOLOGY

■ VOA has the largest integrated digital audio system in the world.

■ A network of transmitting stations operated by the International Broadcasting Bureau, along with some leased stations, send VOA's programs instantaneously around the world.

■ The website, www.VOANews.com, provides a wide range of English-language news reports and serves as a portal to homepages of all 45 languages broadcast by VOA, as well as other information about VOA.

■ Pages feature text, audio/video files on demand, and live-streamed VOA programs.

SEE VOA LIVE

■ Take a behind-the-scenes look at VOA through our new guided audio-visual Studio Tour.

■ Learn more about our history and the regions to which we broadcast, and watch news as it happens through live TV and radio broadcasts.

■ For reservations or more information, call (202) 203-4990 or visit www.VOAtour.com



**THE BROADCASTING
BOARD OF
GOVERNORS (BBG)**

■ The BBG is an independent federal agency that oversees all non-military U.S. international broadcasting including the Voice of America.

■ The bi-partisan Board is comprised of nine members, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, including the Secretary of State.

■ Its mission is "To promote and sustain freedom and democracy by broadcasting accurate and objective news and information about the United States and the world to audiences overseas."



Voice of America®

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