



## FAST FACTS

**HEADQUARTERS:** Washington, D.C.

**BUDGET:** \$206.2 million (FY12)

**EMPLOYEES:** 1151

**LANGUAGES:** 43

**AUDIENCE:** 141 million weekly

**MEDIA:** radio, television, mobile and the Internet

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

**FACILITIES:** 23 radio broadcast studios, 31 radio production and recording studios, 29 professional audio mixing and dubbing stations, 5 full television studios, 2 limited broadcasting TV studios, 1 television production studio, 32 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 PRODUCTS AND PROGRAMS

- VOA's 43 language services broadcast about 1,700 hours of radio and television programming each week to an estimated global audience of 141 million people.
- Language services have unique websites and use a variety of social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube to share content and interact with the audience.
- VOA's world-renowned music and English-language learning programs are enjoyed by millions of people around the world.
- VOA's seven state-of-the-art TV studios produce a range of programs from traditional news, call-in and interview formats to the satirical show *Parazit*, which is broadcast to Iran.
- Journalists in VOA's 30,000 square foot Newscenter work around the clock with a global network of correspondents to provide a continuous stream of accurate, balanced and comprehensive news and analysis on key issues, U.S. government policies, and cultural developments.
- VOA programs are delivered on satellite, cable, short wave, FM, medium wave, streaming audio and a worldwide network of 1,200 affiliate stations.

**“The news may be good. The news may be bad.  
We shall tell you the truth”**

– William Harlan Hale, 1st VOA Broadcast (1942)

## 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.



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



## 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, sends VOA's programs instantaneously around the world.
- The website, [www.VOANews.com](http://www.VOANews.com), provides a wide range of English-language news reports and serves as a portal to homepages of all 43 languages broadcast by VOA, as well as other information about VOA.
- A state-of-the-art digital asset management system enables VOA journalists to record, view and edit video, deliver content to studio control rooms, write scripts and search commercial newswires in a single program.

For more information about the VOA Studio Tour, VOA Experts available to the media, and the latest press releases, go to [www.INSIDEVOA.com](http://www.INSIDEVOA.com)



## SEE VOA LIVE

- Take a behind-the-scenes look at VOA through our guided audio-visual Studio Tour.
- Learn more about our history and the regions to which we broadcast, and watch broadcasters during live TV and radio programs.
- For reservations or more information, call (202) 203-4990 or visit [www.VOAtour.com](http://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.
- Nine Governors serve on the Board. Eight are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The ninth is always the Secretary of State.
- Its mission is "To inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy."

## VOA broadcasts around the world in 43 languages:

### AFRICA

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

### EAST ASIA

Burmese  
Cantonese  
Indonesian  
Khmer  
Korean  
Lao  
Mandarin  
Thai  
Tibetan  
Vietnamese

### ENGLISH WORLDWIDE

### EURASIA

Albanian  
Bosnian  
Greek  
Macedonian  
Russian  
Serbian  
Ukrainian

### LATIN AMERICA

Creole  
Spanish

### NEAR EAST & CENTRAL ASIA

Armenian  
Azerbaijani  
Georgian  
Kurdish  
Turkish  
Uzbek

### PERSIAN NEWS NETWORK

### SOUTH ASIA

Bangla  
Dari  
Pashto  
Urdu



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