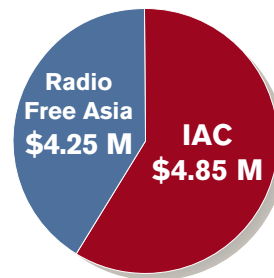**BBG** Broadcasting Board of Governors

Internet Anti-Censorship

The Internet Anti-Censorship (IAC) Division provides a variety of tools to circumvent filtering and promote Internet freedom for citizens of countries whose governments censor their access. The Division works closely with BBG broadcasters who target censoring countries to ensure access to their content and educate their audience about Internet censorship and safely circumventing filters.
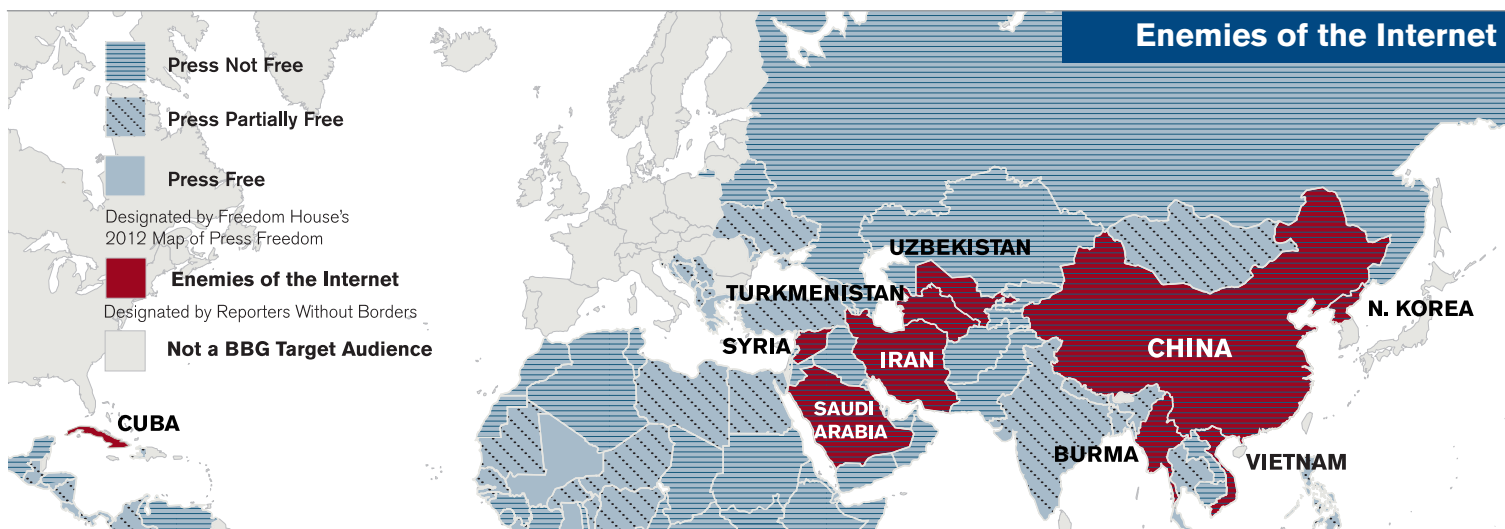
Radio Free Asia $4.25 M

IAC $4.85 M

$9.1 M
2013 Budget

2002
IAC Established

Enemies of the Internet

Press Not Free

Press Partially Free

Press Free

Designated by Freedom House's 2012 Map of Press Freedom

Enemies of the Internet

Designated by Reporters Without Borders

Not a BBG Target Audience

CUBA · SYRIA · TURKMENISTAN · UZBEKISTAN · SAUDI ARABIA · IRAN · CHINA · N. KOREA · BURMA · VIETNAM

IAC Projects

Mobile
Android Apps
Mobile Security Study
SMS in Cuba

Internet
Tool Testing
Ultrareach
Tor
Email Newsletters
Internet Monitoring Systems

Satellite
Radio with Slate
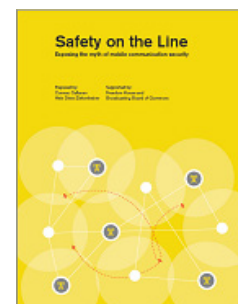Internet Access in Iran

Mobile

IRAN

Android Apps
Two Android based projects are currently being developed. One includes a whole suite of apps for Voice of America's (VOA) Persian Service. This project includes censorship circumvention tools as well as secure device-to-device sharing of multimedia news and information. It also provides secure uploading of user-generated content.

BBG currently uses Psiphon desktop censorship circumvention products for some of its more sensitive services. A second project will develop a mobile version of this software and will provide API access and integration of Psiphon's circumvention layer into apps currently being developed. The team is also working to provide access to Psiphon's desktop client software and clientless web proxy to BBG's end users.

Mobile Security Study
In conjunction with Freedom House, IAC commissioned and published a study on mobile information security. The study examined the entire mobile ecosystem in 12 countries and established the challenges associated with creating a secure environment for mobile users. The challenges are especially difficult in countries where significant portions of the telecommunications infrastructure fall under the direct control of the government.

Safety on the Line

SMS in Cuba
Government censorship in Cuba is a strong as ever, and the IAC Team is exploring multiple ways to bring news and information to the island. In one project, IAC is working with the Office of Cuba Broadcasting to develop an SMS-based social media network targeting cell phone users in Cuba.

CUBA

VOA Voice of America · RadioFreeEurope RadioLiberty · Martí · RFA Radio Free Asia · MBN MIDDLE EAST BROADCASTING NETWORKS, INC. · International Broadcasting Bureau

bbg.gov

Internet

Tool Testing

In an effort to promote potential future program growth, BBG studies and tests Internet circumvention tools beyond those currently funded. Evaluation of IAC tools is ongoing and an essential component of maintaining effectiveness and agility in the ongoing cat-and-mouse game of Internet censorship.

Ultrareach

The IAC has worked with Ultrareach to improve the security of their Ultrasurf censorship circumvention client software. It has also provided the anti-censorship, pro-privacy software to users worldwide who are subject to foreign government-sponsored Internet censorship.

Tor

The BBG is working with the Tor Solutions Group to significantly increase the number of high-speed Tor exit relays and bridges to improve the speed of the Tor network. IAC is also developing several enhancements to the Tor software to improve its usability and performance for users subject to Internet censorship.

Email Newsletters

In situations where censorship of the Internet is strong, email newsletters provide another avenue for getting news and information out. The IAC team continues to provide this platform to millions of end users in China, Cuba and Vietnam, in addition to web-based proxies.

Internet Monitoring Systems

The team is working to deploy a series of hardware devices and software instances to provide a global Internet censorship monitoring system, complete with automated testing, Internet weather reporting, and a web-based portal that will allow BBG IAC team members and broadcasters to conduct real-time testing and monitoring.

CHINA

> **"Not even the most repressive regimes can stop human beings from finding ways of communicating and obtaining access to information."**
>
> – Nelson Mandela

Satellites

Radio With Slate

The IAC team continues to provide satellite transmissions with slate and audio services for VOA Chinese Service and Radio Free Asia (RFA) and recently launched similar services for Radio Farda on multiple satellites.

Internet Access in Iran

IRAN

In the event that Iran attempts to cut off all access to the Internet, IAC is developing a one-way IP satellite distribution system for VOA Persian Service and Radio Farda to use to broadcast their programs.

Expansion & Collaboration

Circumventing censorship requires a high level of agility. With funding from Congress, the IAC has undergone a major expansion to focus on mobile and satellite platforms and expand research and development.

The BBG collaborates with other Internet freedom projects and organizations, including RFA's Open Technology Fund, the State Department, USAID, and DARPA's SAFER Warfighter Communications Program. IAC is also reaching out to other groups interested in Internet freedom such as Google, Freedom House and the National Endowment for Democracy's Center for International Media Assistance.

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