

Meek (FL)	Rangel	Smith (WA)
Melancon	Rehberg	Snyder
Mica	Reichert	Space
Michaud	Reyes	Speier
Miller (FL)	Richardson	Spratt
Miller (MI)	Rodriguez	Stark
Miller (NC)	Roe (TN)	Stearns
Miller, Gary	Rogers (AL)	Sullivan
Miller, George	Rogers (KY)	Sutton
Minnick	Rogers (MI)	Tanner
Mitchell	Rohrabacher	Taylor
Mollohan	Rooney	Teague
Moore (KS)	Ros-Lehtinen	Terry
Moore (WI)	Roskam	Thompson (CA)
Moran (KS)	Ross	Thompson (MS)
Moran (VA)	Roybal-Allard	Thompson (PA)
Murphy (CT)	Royce	Thornberry
Murphy (NY)	Ruppersberger	Tiahrt
Murphy, Tim	Rush	Tiberi
Myrick	Ryan (OH)	Tierney
Nadler (NY)	Ryan (WI)	Titus
Napolitano	Sanchez, Loretta	Tonko
Neal (MA)	Sarbanes	Tsongas
Neugebauer	Scalise	Turner
Nye	Schakowsky	Upton
Oberstar	Schauer	Van Hollen
Obey	Schiff	Visclosky
Olson	Schmidt	Walden
Olver	Schock	Walz
Ortiz	Schrader	Wasserman
Pastor (AZ)	Schwartz	Schultz
Paulsen	Scott (GA)	Waters
Pence	Scott (VA)	Watson
Perlmutter	Sensenbrenner	Watt
Perriello	Serrano	Waxman
Peters	Sessions	Weiner
Peterson	Sestak	Welch
Petri	Shadegg	Westmoreland
Pitts	Shea-Porter	Wexler
Platts	Sherman	Whitfield
Poe (TX)	Shimkus	Wilson (OH)
Polis (CO)	Shuler	Wilson (SC)
Pomeroy	Shuster	Wolf
Posey	Simpson	Woolsey
Price (NC)	Skelton	Wu
Putnam	Slaughter	Yarmuth
Quigley	Smith (NE)	Young (AK)
Radanovich	Smith (NJ)	Young (FL)
Rahall	Smith (TX)	

passage of H.R. 3157. Also, I would have cast a “yea” vote for H. Res. 736.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent yesterday and today from this Chamber. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall votes 832 through 840.

□ 1800

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

RECOGNIZING 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 641) recognizing the 60th anniversary of the founding of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 641

Whereas Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) was founded in 1949 by the National Committee for a Free Europe with the mission to promote democratic values and institutions by broadcasting unbiased and factual information and ideas to audiences behind the communist “Iron Curtain”, and transmitted its first program to the former Czechoslovakia on July 4, 1950;

Whereas many Central European and Russian leaders, including Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic, and the late Boris Yeltsin of the Russian Federation, have testified to the important role RFE/RL broadcasts played in ending the Cold War;

Whereas the former President of Estonia, Lennart Meri, nominated RFE/RL for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991;

Whereas Nobel laureate and former President of Poland, Lech Walesa, testified to the role played by RFE/RL in Poland’s struggle for freedom when he stated that its influence “cannot even be described. Would there be earth without the sun?”;

Whereas RFE/RL programs were so comprehensive that communist authorities relied on secret transcripts of the broadcasts for information they could not obtain from the local media they themselves controlled;

Whereas RFE/RL was subjected to efforts to undermine its operations through offensive actions launched by communist regimes and intended to discredit the broadcasts;

Whereas the Soviet KGB and Warsaw Pact intelligence services penetrated the radio stations with their spies, jailed sources, and even resorted to violence in attempts to intimidate RFE/RL staff;

Whereas RFE/RL Bulgarian Service correspondent Georgi Markov was murdered in

London in 1978, evidently by the Bulgarian communist intelligence service;

Whereas the Romanian communist security service detonated a bomb at RFE/RL’s headquarters in Munich, West Germany, in 1981, critically injuring six employees;

Whereas today, after having played a significant role in the collapse of communism in the former Soviet Union, RFE/RL continues to provide news, information, and open discussion of domestic and international issues to countries where free and independent media are not permitted, or are not yet fully established;

Whereas RFE/RL is available via FM, AM, shortwave and satellite radio, and employs a range of newer technologies including SMS text messaging, Facebook, Twitter, and other interactive social media;

Whereas RFE/RL broadcasts in 28 languages to 30 million listeners in Eastern and Southeastern Europe, Russia, the Caucasus, the Middle East, and Central and Southwest Asia;

Whereas during the June 2009 presidential election in Iran, RFE/RL’s “Radio Farda” provided 24 hour news coverage of the post-election protests;

Whereas beginning in 2002, RFE/RL began “Radio Azadi”, reaching nearly 50 percent of the Afghan people in the Pashto and Dari languages and making RFE/RL the largest international broadcaster in Afghanistan;

Whereas in August 2009, RFE/RL’s Radio Azadi hosted a historic presidential debate featuring President Hamid Karzai and his two top opponents, the first ever in Afghanistan’s to feature an incumbent Afghan President;

Whereas in early 2010, RFE/RL will begin Pashto language broadcasting to the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region, including the Swat Valley, promoting democratic values and institutions by providing the people of the region a source of independent and factual media to compete in the battle of ideas with those radical elements that have disrupted the peace in the Afghan-Pakistan border region;

Whereas RFE/RL employees and freelance journalists are subject to intimidation and oppression by the authorities of regimes in many countries to which RFE/RL broadcasts; and

Whereas RFE/RL has a proven history of promoting freedom and liberty in oppressive and autocratic regimes through news broadcasts based upon the principle that the first requirement of democracy is a well-informed citizenry: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the 60th anniversary of the founding of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) and honors its contribution to promoting freedom and liberty around the world; and

(2) commends the employees and reporters of RFE/RL for their commitment to provide fair and unbiased news to people living under oppressive regimes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

NOT VOTING—39

Abercrombie	Grijalva	Price (GA)
Ackerman	Gutierrez	Rothman (NJ)
Barrett (SC)	Hall (NY)	Salazar
Berry	Holt	Sánchez, Linda
Blumenauer	Kratovil	T.
Brady (PA)	Meeks (NY)	Sires
Cantor	Murphy, Patrick	Souder
Capuano	Murtha	Stupak
Conyers	Nunes	Towns
Davis (AL)	Pallone	Velázquez
Davis (TN)	Pascrell	Wamp
Deal (GA)	Paul	Wittman
Frank (MA)	Payne	
Gordon (TN)	Pingree (ME)	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining in the vote.

□ 1758

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, on November 3, 2009, I was unable to cast votes due to personal reasons. I was not present for rollcall votes 835 through 840. Had I been present, I would have cast a “yea” vote for final passage of H.R. 3949. I would have cast a “yea” vote for final passage of H. Res. 398. I would have cast a “yea” vote for final passage of H. Res. 866. I would have cast a “nay” vote for the final passage of H. Res. 867. I would have cast a “yea” vote for final

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 641, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution celebrates 60 years of broadcasting history and the continuing mission of an effective instrument of public diplomacy.

Radio Free Europe was established in 1949 by the National Committee for a Free Europe, an anticommunist organization, and made its first broadcast to what was then Czechoslovakia on July 4 of the next year.

From its start, the organization approached the Cold War as a war of ideas, pushing back on propaganda that was being spread by autocratic governments behind the Iron Curtain. As it grew and merged with Radio Liberty to reach more people, its purpose became all the more urgent as its broadcasts were banned and Communist authorities used jamming techniques to keep their citizens from tuning in.

In fact, those very authorities were said to have relied upon secret transcripts of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty programs so they could have better information about what was happening in their own countries than their own national media could provide.

After the Cold War ended, many paid tribute to the role that the American radio programs had played. Nobel Laureate and former Polish President Lech Walesa, who recalled listening to RFE/RL's broadcasts in secret, said their influence "cannot even be described," asking, "Would there be an Earth without the Sun?"

Today, RFE/RL is located in the very country to which it once beamed its first broadcast, now known as the Czech Republic. From its Prague headquarters, the organization serves as a surrogate broadcaster to places where uncensored or reliable information is hard to come by, where independent media are banned or not yet fully established.

Using AM, FM, shortwave, and satellite radio, as well as the Internet and newer social media tools, RFE/RL reaches an estimated 30 million people in Eastern Europe, Russia, the Caucasus, the Middle East, and Central and Southwest Asia.

Its programs in Farsi, under the banner of Radio Farda, are widely followed in Iran. Radio Azadi provides unbiased reporting of current events in Afghanistan. And next year, RFE/RL will begin Pashto-language broadcasts to the troubled Afghanistan-Pakistan border region, including the Swat Valley.

Mr. Speaker, as this resolution notes, "RFE/RL has a proven history of promoting freedom and liberty in oppressive and autocratic regimes through news broadcasts based upon the principle that the first requirement of a democracy is a well-informed citizenry."

H. Res. 641 congratulates the organization on six decades of helping to keep the spark of freedom alive in some of history's darkest hours and salutes the men and women of RFE/RL for their continuing commitment to the free flow of information.

I commend the author of this resolution, the ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Ms. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, and encourage its support.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank my esteemed chairman for his words, and I join him in the declaration of support for the work of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty.

As we know, Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, also known as RFE/RL, was established 60 years ago and was a powerful voice for freedom in the battle of ideas against communist tyranny.

Former Polish President Lech Walesa and Vaclav Havel, the former President of the Czech Republic, have all testified that by means of its broadcast of unbiased and independent news programs behind the Iron Curtain, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty played a vital role in the collapse of the Soviet Union and its communist allies. In fact, the Soviet KGB and the Warsaw Pact intelligence services, appreciating the threat posed by Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty to their communist regimes, conducted massive operations to foil its operations. They even resorted to violence.

Just two instances: For example, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's Bulgarian service correspondent was believed to have been murdered by Bulgarian intelligence services; and six Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty employees were critically injured when a bomb paid for by Romanian security services exploded at the headquarters of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Munich, West Germany.

Today, as our generation engages in yet another battle of ideas, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty continues to prove its worth. Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's broadcasts in 28 different languages reach people in 20 countries throughout southeastern Europe, Russia, the Middle East, and Central and South Asia.

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's Afghanistan service is now the most popular media program in that country, and it intends to expand next year to reach the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region, providing a much-needed source of independent and accurate news to compete with the shrill rhetoric of the extremists in that area.

Today, Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty and its personnel continue to suffer attacks, some mounted in new ways. Just last year, for example, a new style of attack, a cyberattack, was mounted against the Belarusian service of RFE/RL to prevent the broadcast of

a rally against the regime in that country.

But in the more traditional style of attack, an Iranian American journalist was convicted and sentenced in Iran to a year in prison, Mr. Speaker, and her 98-year-old mother was threatened with eviction from her housing unit because of the journalist's antirevolutionary work with RFE/RL's Iranian news service.

Also recently, a Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty journalist in Turkmenistan was tortured by authorities who tried to coerce him into signing a pledge that he would stop working for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's Turkmen service, and then they detained him against his will and put him in a government-run psychiatric center.

Journalists such as these, Mr. Speaker, who work for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty are heroes, fighting with determination for freedom. I am proud to have authored this resolution in recognition of their brave efforts and proud of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's six decades of service in the promotion of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE), the ranking member on the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady for yielding, and I rise in support of this resolution, of which I am a cosponsor, and to note that for 60 years, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty has been basically a free press for societies suffering authoritarian rule, and that is the intent.

The RFE/RL has said that this model of surrogate broadcasting irritates authoritarian regimes, inspires democrats and creates greater space for civil society, and that is the goal. Vaclav Havel and others have testified to the role that the radios played in bringing down the Iron Curtain.

As noted in the resolution, Warsaw Pact intelligence went to great lengths to silence these broadcasts. We have heard some of the examples of the correspondents who were murdered and the headquarters that were bombed.

RFE/RL has expanded its work to countries that are critical to today's national security challenges. Shortly after September 11, the House passed legislation establishing Radio Free Afghanistan, RFE's brand in that country. Actually, I authored that legislation. And today, with 50 percent market share, it is the most popular radio station in the country, offering an alternative to the Taliban's dark leaflets and the type of radio that people hear in that part of Central Asia and South Asia from the Taliban.

The Iranian regime has targeted RFE/RL broadcasts. They have spent a

lot of money to jam those broadcasts. RFE/RL has still managed to provide valuable coverage of the recent uprising there, allowing Iranian democrats to know that they are not alone in this world.

These broadcasts are all the more important now that the administration has muffled itself when it comes to the Iranian democratic movement. As it trims back on programs supporting democracy-seeking Iranians, one expert notes that the administration views the green revolution as a wrench in the works of nuclear negotiations with the Iranian regime.

These broadcasts could be greatly complimented by the White House bully pulpit. They aren't.

A divide between the broadcasters and the diplomats is not new, frankly. In the 1960s, Washington moved to improve relations with Ceausescu's Romania, despite its abysmal human rights record, but RFE kept a spotlight on Bucharest, irritating some of the diplomats. Today, it keeps a spotlight on Tehran's transgressions—the jailing, the abuse, the murder of those who abuse the regime.

Importantly, this resolution commends the employees and reporters of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty for their services and acknowledges their sacrifices. Just as the communist police took steps to prevent the truth from penetrating their house of lies, so has the Iranian regime.

The Iranian Government harasses the journalists for RFE/RL's Persian service, its headquarters in Prague, and their families back in Iran. Those inside Iran who might provide the station with information have been threatened. This fall, two young journalists with the service were killed and a third went into a coma when their car was struck by a truck outside of Prague.

This is the information war happening today. Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and its sister surrogates are keeping us in the game. As technology evolves, they can and need to do better, while staying true to their support for freedom and respect for human rights and for the rule of law.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for those statements.

I have no further requests for time, Mr. Speaker, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today in support of H. Res. 641, which recognizes the 60th anniversary of the founding of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. I support this resolution because of the incredible role that Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty played in helping to end the cold war.

In 1949, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, RFE/RL, was established by the United States to promote democracy in communist-controlled parts of Europe. RFE/RL broadcasted unbiased and factual information and ideas, providing valuable reporting and demonstrating the value of the freedom of the press. The information provided in the broadcasts was

more comprehensive than the information provided on state-controlled media sources, leading some Communist authorities to use secret transcripts to stay informed.

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty played an important role in bringing about the demise of communism in Europe. Leaders from Russia and other former Soviet Union countries have extolled the virtues of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. Former Polish President Lech Walesa famously said that RFE/RL's influence "could not be described." Former President Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic and former President of the Russian Federation, Boris Yeltsin, have also described the significant role that RFE/RL played in bringing the end of communism in Europe. Its virtue was encapsulated by the former President of Estonia, Lennart Meri, who nominated RFE/RL for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991.

During the cold war, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty was subject to attacks by Communist governments of the Soviet Union. The Soviet intelligence agency and secret police, the KGB, as well as other Communist intelligence agencies infiltrated radio stations with spies and attempted to disrupt reporting by jailing and intimidating sources. Georgi Markov, an RFE/RL correspondent in Bulgaria, was murdered in London in 1978 by Bulgarian Communist intelligence service agents. In 1981, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty was attacked when Romanian security agents exploded a bomb outside of the RFE/RL headquarters in Munich, West Germany. Such acts of violence by the Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc countries demonstrate the fear that the Communist leaders had for the democratizing influence of the free press.

Today, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty continues to operate in Eastern Europe, Eurasia, and Asia. RFE/RL broadcasts in 28 languages to over 30 million listeners in 20 countries, including Ukraine, Russia, Moldova, Georgia, the Balkans, Belarus, Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, and Afghanistan. To this day, RFE/RL correspondents and employees are subject to violence and intimidation by regimes that consider the free press threatening.

In 1823, Thomas Jefferson said, "The only security of all is in a free press. The force of public opinion cannot be resisted when permitted freely to be expressed. The agitation it produces must be submitted to. It is necessary, to keep the waters pure." From the cold war to today, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty has demonstrated Jefferson's words throughout the world. By bringing the free press to countries with repressive governments, RFE/RL has proven for over 60 years that governments that use censorship to protect their authority cannot stand forever.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 641, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the

Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1815

CONDEMNING THE ILLEGAL EXTRACTION OF MADAGASCAR'S NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 839) condemning the illegal extraction of Madagascar's natural resources, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 839

Whereas Madagascar is the world's fourth largest island, and home to up to 150,000 species of unique flora and fauna;

Whereas during the last 20 years, with the support of the U.S. Government and others, Madagascar has made substantial progress in stopping environmental degradation, effectively managing natural resources and preserving its unique biodiversity;

Whereas three-quarters of Madagascar's people live in rural areas and two-thirds live on less than \$2 per day, safeguarding these natural resources is essential to Madagascar's continued economic growth and development;

Whereas these natural resources contribute to economic development through the tourism sector, drawing an estimated \$390,000,000 per year;

Whereas, on March 17, 2009, Marc Ravalomanana was forced to resign as the democratically-elected President of Madagascar and Andry Rajoelina was installed as de facto head of state;

Whereas, on March 20, 2009, the United States condemned the removal of Marc Ravalomanana and the installation of Andry Rajoelina as tantamount to a coup d'etat, undemocratic, and contrary to the rule of law, announced a suspension of non-humanitarian assistance, and later terminated compact assistance through the Millennium Challenge Corporation to the de facto Rajoelina government;

Whereas two-thirds of Madagascar's people depend on natural resources for their sustenance and livelihoods, and decreased assistance for conservation efforts may have dire humanitarian consequences;

Whereas the African Union and the Southern African Development Community have suspended Madagascar's participation until constitutional order is restored;

Whereas in October 2009, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Conservation International, and the Wildlife Conservation Society condemned an interministerial order issued by the de facto administration granting sweeping authorization to export raw and semi-processed hard wood as "legaliz[ing] the sale of illegally cut and collected wood onto the market; allow[ing] for the potential embezzlement of funds in the name of environmental protection; and constitut[ing] a legal incentive for further corruption in the forestry sector";

Whereas natural resource degradation occurring under the de facto government includes—

(1) open and organized plundering of precious wood from natural forests, including World Heritage Sites such as Marojejy and Masoala National Parks;

(2) intimidation and menace of legitimate local community management structures,