



CHRISTIAN RADIO FOR RUSSIA

*Sponsor of the New Life Radio Satellite Network-
Moscow, Russia*

September 2014

www.CRFR.org

Broadcasting the Gospel across the Slavic world as nations go to war

An update on
New Life Radio

Moscow: 9/1/14



NLR station director Dima Vatoulya and our radio missionaries are working under extremely difficult circumstances to keep our network broadcasting, even as the Russian government embarks on a total nationwide information control strategy that might result in our station being shut down for a variety of reasons. Writing to CRFR, Dima noted:

"It's getting harder and will be getting harder to do our job, but we will go on as long as the Lord wills. This nation needs a voice of the Holy Spirit, a voice of peace, solid Biblical teaching, ethics and reason."

Sadly, the Church in Russia and Ukraine is becoming split apart as nationalism and heated passions, even among evangelical leaders and pastors, are creating tremendous division that bodes ill for the witness of believers who are called to be ambassadors of Christ to this world. NEW LIFE RADIO has become a target in many ways, not only from threats by the government, in the form of restrictive press and religious-extremism laws that could be interpreted and applied in ways to prevent NLR from carrying out their sole function as a Christian witness, but by those across the Church listening community in Russia and Ukraine that are demanding the station takes sides in the political crisis. The majority do not understand that NLR is a *Christian* radio station that is operating on the territory of the Russian Federation, and not a "Russian" radio station, despite its location in Moscow.

Dima comments further on the challenges the station faces in this regard:



"There is an information war here and we can't afford taking sides in it. I feel very sorry for what the government is doing. It's a real shame, although there's so much propaganda out there from all sides East to West so that I just refrain from making any conclusions (on the air). It all looks very different on our side (note: State TV broadcasts only officially-approved versions of the events in Ukraine). I read multiple sources from all over the world, but still I feel shamed for what is going on. I also feel shame for positions of so many pastors and ministers, Christian unions and headquarters-- I see so much harmful language and blaming. It is all terrible.

As NLR station director I have to face listener complaints from Ukraine and Russia that we don't cover the issues and don't take sides in this conflict,



that we don't condemn ones and justify others. I keep replying that our purpose is to proclaim the Gospel of salvation through Christ, learning his Word and try to do the same: not to hate, not even not hate, but love your enemy and do good for your enemies. This is a hard thing even to explain, and getting harder and harder to keep it this way on air. We need to remember that Jesus didn't act against Rome, but he acted to bring salvation and not to

overthrow any governments.”

CRFR concerns for the radio ministry:



As the war between Russia and Ukraine commences in a heightened phase, Christians in the West need to be aware that there are only two evangelical radio stations in Russia still operating, and if these two can be taken out by government action, it would be left to international stations to beam the Gospel back into Russia. It would be a tragedy, if New Life Radio were forced to shut down, simply because of a lack of funding for its tiny staff and operational costs that can reach multiple millions of people via diverse media formats throughout the world.

As of September 1, the radio station is struggling to survive financially as Kremlin policies are causing a great rise in the cost of living in Moscow, especially food as western imports have now been banned. Our radio staff are in real need of increasing their personal support in order to continue on in their calling to serve at New Life Radio. With only two full time staff-- assisted by two part time (each earning \$700 a month, which is not sufficient to rent an apartment, much less purchase food and raise a family)--it is only a matter of time before we may lose these talented people who need to provide for their families.



Our goal is to hire Andre Mironov, from part time, to full time at a support level of \$1700 a month

Inna Nazhelskaya (\$500 additional)



Andre Ryabenko (\$500 additional)



plus NLR director Dima Vatoulya (\$600 to help take care of his wife and 4 daughters)

NLR webmaster: \$200

WE NEED to hire two more full time staff at \$1700/month in order to properly operate our global network 24/7. Our staff is heroic, but they need relief as well as help to stay on the air and keep our programming outstanding!



STRATEGIC PLANNING in case of worst case scenarios:

While we know the Lord has protected our staff and Moscow studios from closure so far, we need to be innocent as doves yet wise as serpents in order to effectively carry out our mission on a daily basis.

Given the new war footing Russia is in, anything can happen to NLR's ability to broadcast. It is critical that we be able to institute a contingency plan to broadcast should the NLR studios be closed. CRFR has made plans with a Finland-based ministry to house our radio automation and transmission link equipment that can be activated within a day of notification. CRFR has a remote studio inside of Russia, but given the possibility of not being able to move radio equipment across the Russian border, we must now purchase and set up a portable remote automation system that can be housed inside a specially-designed laptop computer connected to a high capacity hard drive system.

IT IS IMPERATIVE we purchase this system now, so the total programming resources of New Life Radio can be stored on it, and available to begin immediate transmissions, thus giving us time to reconfigure the staff and broadcast mode after a catastrophic event in Moscow.

COST OF THE SYSTEM: \$6,500





Additional concerns for NLR

Since 1999, New Life Radio has based their office and recording studios at the *Christian Center*, on Namyotkina Street in Moscow. This evangelical ministry center--founded by four US-based ministries, with part owner *Russian Christian Radio* our primary facilities partner--is now going into reorganization and has been put up for sale to commercial interests. In August, RCR informed NLR that they may decide to sell their

ownership in the building, that will force us to lose our favored status in the center with its extremely low cost of office space.

RCR is still uncertain about whether to stay or go, and NLR would be hard pressed to stay in Moscow in a new facility at a cost we can afford. We ask our prayer partners to petition the Lord to give clarity to RCR's leadership, and provide us the way out should they decide to sell, so we can keep the operation in Moscow. The move may take place in 12-24 months time.

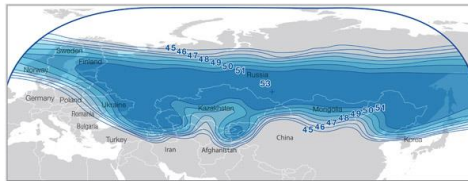
BROADCAST CONCERNS



The Russian government now has a total INTERNET firewall system in place that will allow them to disrupt or terminate any website or Internet radio broadcast that contains information not approved by the Kremlin. New laws in August allow the Russian security services to take greater liberties against the free Internet. Also in August, NLR broadcasts were temporarily disrupted for unexplained reasons, as international server signals were absent while Russian ones continued. Pray for NLR's ability to work on the Internet unhindered, as they use the Internet to relay its programming to our HOTBIRD satellite facility in Tel Aviv, Israel, as well as our Internet radio broadcasts to a server in the USA.

SATELLITE: NLR continues to look for funding that would allow us to regain a complete satellite radio footprint of Russia using the YAMAL satellite. The cost is \$2200 a month to be able to insert Gospel programming to nearly every point on the Russian Federation and beyond.

Help us saturate Russia, Europe, and Asia for less cost than a single US missionary to Russia.



PRAY FOR NLR as a Christian peacemaker in time of war

It may be for a time such as now, that NEW LIFE RADIO has been created by the Lord to fulfill his purpose in these troubled lands so in need of hope and salvation. Please join us to keep Christian radio working inside of Russia and for the entire Slavic world.

Cost of this global radio network: **\$20,000 per month**



NLR uplink facility at RRsat in Tel Aviv, Israel

THANKS TO OUR MINISTRY PARTNERS FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE TO KEEP NEW LIFE RADIO on the air! Listen to us each day at www.NLRadio.net

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a 501©3 non-profit org.
All contributions are tax-deductible



special advertisement to post on your church bulletin board

NEWLIFE RADIO

WANTED: Men and women with a passion to pray for the salvation of a nation

NEEDED: A method to honor Christ's command to go out to the whole world and proclaim the Gospel

TARGET: the largest country in the WORLD and those many nations surrounding it

TIMING: NOW MORE THAN EVER as the Slavic nations are in turmoil



NEW LIFE RADIO-MOSCOW

needs your prayer and financial support to continue their calling to proclaim the Gospel

YOU CAN: Sponsor an hour of air time for \$30

- : Support a radio missionary
- : Send us Christian music
- : Purchase radio equipment

SO YOU CAN HELP US REACH
Millions of listeners for CHRIST
throughout the Slavic world



Listen to us at **www.NLRadio.net**

Find out more at **www.CRFR.org**