Activity of international media in Tajikistan

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Abstract.
This article informs about the activities of international media in the information space of Tajikistan, including the history, beginning of radio “Ozodi” (Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty), their goals and tasks, the nature of the propaganda of foreign media in Tajikistan, the conditions of their activity in modern times, the lack of observance of the balance of positions and opinions, and so on. The authors, with specific examples (the case related to the license of the BBC radio by the employees of the Radio “Ozodi”), clearly prove the importance of the presence of international foreign media in the information space of the region, especially Tajikistan, from the point of view of those who, by any means, maintain it. The activity of international media in the information space of another country as an internal media is one of the conditions imposed by superpower countries and human rights organizations. From the study and review of the history of establishment, formation and activity of international media, their goals and duties, it is clear that in the information space of Tajikistan, serious attention is shown to the existence and operation of international media by interested countries and organizations. The reviewed examples testify to this. In the opinion of the authors, if at first glance, making the same issue the subject of the report several times on the radio “Ozodi” appears as a sign of professional solidarity and creative competition, but a little deeper thinking reveals the truth of the interest of this international media. Because, as it is clear from the content of the reports, this media, with such a way of coverage, thinks that such actions of the authorities should be prevented by all possible means, so that there is no interference in the activities of the international media. The authors have strengthened their opinions based on the researchers' thoughts and opinions.

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Globalization has created new problems for mankind. There is no area that globalization has not touched. Especially in terms of politics, trade, economy, culture, globalization has crossed borders. And in this process the role of media is important. "Globalization, with all its achievements, also has negative aspects, the most important of which is the impact on our morals, traditions and national values through the media." (2. 263)

The media of the superpowers operate in most countries, including the Republic of Tajikistan. The activity of international media related to Tajikistan includes two directions. If the first direction includes the broadcasting of programs in Tajik language during the Soviet era, then the second direction is the direct activity in Tajikistan by opening the offices of these media and appointing representatives. The opinions and positions of researchers are not the same for the activity of the media of one country in another country. Some researchers are of the opinion that the free operation of foreign media in other countries is a tribute to freedom of speech and has positive aspects. For example, researcher S. Mirzoali writes that "using the opportunities of foreign media, a lot of material is spread about Tajikistan, its politics, economy, culture, science, nature, and history, which are of great service to introduce the country to the people." (3.9). But another group does not agree with this idea. Including Professor I. Usmonov with following opinion: "Developed countries have the opportunity to impose their opinion on other countries through mass media, and even this opinion may be completely contrary to the opinion of this country." (6.5)

At the same time, the media plays a role in the realization of geopolitical interests of countries. In this regard, the researcher I. Hamidian wrote: "In the realization of geopolitical goals, the role of the mass media is extremely significant, because the influence of information on the formation of a person and his thinking is more effective through the media." (7.67)

About the history of the establishment, formation, purpose and truth of the activity of foreign media operating in the information space of the Republic of Tajikistan,
scientists, journalists and media experts, researchers I. Usmonov, J. Mukim, J. Sadulloev, S. Mirzoali, D. Hamidov, H. Safarov and others who wrote theses and articles on this topic. Especially in this area, Professor Jovid has completed several scientific and educational works. His books: "Radio Liberty: Truth and Lies", "BBC Radio: Yesterday and Today", "The Status of Genres in Radio Liberty", "Politics and Information War", "World Media of US Propaganda" are the most important issues investigate the activities of international media and have a high scientific value. According to the researchers, "along with the domestic media, the activity of several foreign media representatives (including "Ozodi", BBC, "DW", etc.) in Tajikistan is a sign of our State's appreciation of the universal values of freedom of expression and access to information. "Also, this action shows the active member of the international community and the stability of our country in the way of building a democratic society." (1.253)

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of its founding, "Ozodi" radio has prepared a detailed report on the Tajik sector and its past and present activities, which includes useful historical information.

The first editor of the Tajik radio program was Muhammad Sarvari Mir, who was born in 1932 in the village of Ishtirkhoni near Margelon. After graduating from university in Istanbul, he worked as an engineer in a company and when he read the advertisement of Radio "Ozodi", he applied and was hired and worked from 1964 to 1995.

Muhammedsarvari Mir described the first days of his work at Radio Ozodi as follows: "In the beginning, we received the news from the Russian department. At that time, the Russian department was the largest and the Russian language was dominant. I had to learn Russian. The Tajik language was also written in Cyrillic. We did not see it in Afghanistan and Turkey. We learned it too. Sometimes I read Tajik newspapers. Within six months or a year, I would translate news from Russian." (8).

However, the separate Tajik branch was established only in 1975 with the efforts of Markiel Daniel (Muzaffar Orifi), the former deputy executive secretary of the "Soviet
Tajikistan" newspaper, who emigrated to Israel: "I started working with enthusiasm, but there was a drawback that there was no Tajik sector. They worked together with other departments, including the Turkestan department. First, it was necessary to eliminate this injustice. The leadership did not have complete information about Tajikistan. I appealed and said that Tajikistan is an independent republic and Tajik language is understood in Afghanistan and Iran. I would like to open a special Tajik department. On the one hand, I was very worried that the employees of other departments would not say again that this is nationalism, it singled out Tajiks. Fortunately, the Americans understood. I wanted Tajik speakers to come from Turkey." (8).

He was the first head of the Tajik branch of Radio "Ozodi", where he worked for twenty years. At the beginning, in the development of Tajik programs of Radio Ozodi, listeners' letters and newspapers and magazines published in Tajikistan were used.

Ebrahim Usmanov, famous journalist and researcher, says, "Daniel was the first Tajik who organized Tajik programs at Radio Ozodi. Since they left Tajikistan, they called their editorial office Tajik and spoke Tajik." (8)

At that time, the broadcasting of Radio Liberty programs was prohibited in the territory of the former Soviet Union, and radio waves were blocked by any means. This continued until the beginning of reconstruction. The "Iron Wall" was weakening, the way of Tajik culture and scholars to abroad, especially to the West, was becoming more open. Markiel Daniel (Muzaffar Orifi) says, "we met with many people. For example, some articles were published in "Soviet Tajikistan" or "Komsomol Tajik" newspaper. America was discredited. We said that this is not true. This is propaganda forced from Moscow. To be honest, our task was to deliver information." (8).

In the press of Tajikistan during the Soviet era, many articles were published against Radio "Ozodi". Radio "Ozodi" programs were represented by propaganda against the former Soviet government. Professor Ibrahim Usmanov, a Tajik researcher, says: "Radio Ozodi appeared as a repeater of the ideas of the capitalist world. It was a kind of support or a kind of shaker of the European political unity through the
Americans. It is the same today. I was in the editorial office of "Ozodi" in Prague. I also collected material about "Ozodi" during my experience at "Voice of America" radio station in Washington. In my doctoral dissertation, I also specifically researched the issue of Ozodi. Ozodi is a closed propaganda office, although it does not accept the word propaganda, although it says that we are informers. (8).

This is also a clear example of the activity of international media in Tajikistan, which we observed in the example of Radio "Ozodi". That is, attention to the Tajik language, to the Tajik audience, has been in the center of attention since the first years of the establishment of this international media. The fact that, despite being part of the Soviet Union, this media has paid attention to the peoples and nationalities of the Central Ossia region since the first days, is once again proven by the researcher M. Mukim. That is, the establishment of the media for political purposes appears as a truth that no other cover can hide.

In order to make the goals and tasks of international media more specific and to open their offices and representative offices in certain regions and countries, these opinions of Professor I. Usmonov, who wrote in the introduction to the book "Truth and lies" by Jovid Mukim, we pay attention: "mass media, before all electronic means, have the opportunity to influence the social ideology more, because in the current conditions, modern technology has the opportunity to spread makes the waves almost unlimited. Radio is one of the electronic means of news. For 70-75 years, this party has become a tool that has the ability to propagate political ideas beyond the borders of one country, has the opportunity to influence the internal affairs of other countries. In this sense, radio is an ideological medium, a means of propaganda. Otherwise, it would not be possible for those countries to spend millions of dollars and spread the so-called neutral news, the news that is necessary for everyone." (4.3)

In continuation of these opinions, which explains the essence of propaganda of mass media, including electronic media, Professor I. Usmonov refers to the history of the establishment of today's international media, including the
history of the BBC, Ozodi, Voice of America, DW, Voice of Khurasan. The author rightly emphasizes that the cold war has not ended, but continues in a new format and conditions. Now it's the time to combine hot and cold war. These conditions provide more opportunities for the radio, which is engaged in international advertising.

These points, which are a kind of conclusion of the author of the foreword from a research book, are really interesting, because they consider the essence of the activity of international electronic media from a professional point of view and provide the necessary information.

At the same time, professor I. Usmonov also explains well the essence of the information policy, which the international media had and have. In this way, the goal of internationalization of media activities by individual countries is also known: The information policy of superpower countries now has two specific tasks: first, to inform and second, to influence.

It is necessary to gather the news of the world to attract attention on the one hand, and on the other hand, to adapt the news to one's vision. It is necessary to reach the audience more because the world should see and understand the event as he knew it. (5.3)

Indeed, in this explanation of Professor I. Usmonov clearly shows the need for the international character of the media established by individual countries.

As an example, let's pay attention to a serious issue of the information space of Tajikistan, which is related to the activities of the international media of BBC Radio (BBC).

This case is related to the suspension of broadcasting of BBC Radio programs on the FM wave, which was carried out by the relevant authorities of Tajikistan on January 11, 2006.

Radio "Ozodi" has prepared, and broadcast more than 10 reports related to this case, some of which we will consider. The first report, which aired on January 18, was as follows:

Officials of the Ministry of Justice of Tajikistan say that the suspension of BBC radio programs on the FM wave in the cities of Tajikistan was carried out in accordance with the legislation of the country and does not violate international standards.
Officials of the ministry said during a press conference on Wednesday that to resume the broadcast of its programs on the Ministry of Justice, the BBC representative office must be registered with the Ministry of Justice and then receive a license to publish programs from the licensing committee. This is while officials of the BBC office in Dushanbe say that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan has promised to give an official response to the BBC's request to resume broadcasts of this radio within four days.

However, Juma Davlat - the head of the legal department of the executive office of the presidency, who was present at the press conference, said that in order to resume the broadcasting of programs, it is necessary for the BBC to comply with all the provisions of the Tajik law: "Two types of permission are required for broadcasting programs one from the Committee of Television and Radio to launch programs and the other from the Ministry of Communications of Tajikistan to lease airwaves. "Broadcasting of BBC programs on the FM channel in Tajikistan was stopped last week."

Juma Davlat also said that all legal entities, including news agencies, should be registered with the Ministry of Justice. However, this order is a kind of state accounting and has nothing to do with the permission to operate, because the permission to operate was given to the news agency by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Regarding the non-registration of the organizations "Freedom House" and the American National Democratic Institute, the Minister of Justice Khalifabobo Hamidov said that if the documents of these organizations are presented in accordance with the legislation of Tajikistan, the ministry will register them. (9)

After 5 days, Radio "Ozodi" turned to this case again and to complete the first report, in which it was said that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues a license for the activities of international media, therefore, the official answer should be given by this Ministry. the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan published: "The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan says that the suspension of broadcasting of BBC programs has no political motive. Igor Sattorov, the head of the press and information department of
this ministry, told the Russian news agency ITAR-TASS that "the scandal surrounding the BBC network has no political character and it is a business issue that will be resolved soon." He said that the investigation of the issue by the experts of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan is ongoing, and after its conclusion, the foreign policy office of Tajikistan will send its recommendations to the global network of this radio and the relevant authorities of the country, and the broadcasting of programs will resume.

Broadcasting of BBC programs on FM was stopped on January 11. The authorities of Tajikistan said that the network could not register its documents in accordance with the new laws of Tajikistan within the specified period. The British Embassy in Tajikistan, the United States Ambassador to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the Committee for the Protection of Journalists have expressed their concern over the suspension of broadcasting of BBC programs on FM waves and asked the Tajik government to solve the problem as soon as possible. (9)

Realizing the "importance of the topic", radio "Ozodi" continues its investigation and quotes another relevant official - the Committee of Television and Radio in connection with this topic: Asadullo Rahmonov, the head of the Committee of Television and Radio of Tajikistan at a press conference in Dushanbe. said that BBC radio programs were being broadcast illegally on the FM wave, and therefore it was decided to temporarily suspend its broadcasts. He emphasized that this decision of the Committee of Television and Radio has no political motive. Asadullo Rahmonov added that the officials of the BBC radio station knew six months ago that they had to get a broadcast permit from the Committee of Television and Radio of Tajikistan: This is not related to the new legislation, as they are saying in the mass media today, that this decision It was carried out following the adoption of a new law on the licensing of certain types of activity in August 2005. This is incorrect. Broadcasting of foreign radio and television programs should be done on the basis of the agreement between the two countries. At the same time, Mahmudkhan Saraev, an employee of the information and analytical department of the Executive Office of the President
of the Republic of Tajikistan, called the protests of the BBC and the British Embassy, which were raised following the decision of the Television and Radio Committee, groundless and said: Because today the international agreement between Tajikistan and Britain or at least at least it was not signed between the BBC and the Committee of Television and Radio, we acted on the basis of this law. (9)

This radio constantly follows this topic and in its reports with international journalistic persons and organizations, including Sohrob Ziya (director of the BBC office in Dushanbe), the envoy of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the American Committee for the Protection of Journalists, the National Media Conference. independent of Tajikistan also conducted an interview on the BBC case.

But from our point of view, this balance has not been observed, and more attention has been paid to the negative aspect of the issue. In other words, the political tone seems to be more devoted to the issue, and in this regard, more views have been presented.

Not satisfied with this, in another report five days later, the Reporters Without Borders organization published a statement on this topic, which is considered a continuation of the political motivation of this issue. Thus, a common work issue of one of the international media, which had a lot of influence in the information space of the Central Asian countries, was discussed to such an extent, even in the annual report of the international organization that determines the state of human rights in the countries of the world - Human Rights Watch has attributed the suspension of BBC radio programs to the human rights situation in Tajikistan.

Earlier, during his visit to Tajikistan, during a meeting with the country's foreign minister, the chairman of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe intervened in the topic of stopping BBC radio programs on FM waves in Tajikistan. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan has emphasized that the upcoming issue is only a technical problem, and it will be resolved in the near future.

We paid more attention to this issue because this is an
outstanding example, and earlier than the case related to the license of Radio "Ozodi" employees, which was discussed, a clear proof of the importance of the presence of international foreign media in the information space of the region, in particular, Tajikistan is from the point of view of those who want to preserve it by any means. That is, the activity of international media in the information space of another country as an internal media is one of the demands made by superpower countries and human rights organizations, and the obstruction of the country's authorities is seen as a worsening of the situation of freedom of expression and human rights. are considerable.

From the study and review of the history of establishment, formation and activity of international media, their goals and duties, it is clear that in the information space of Tajikistan, serious attention is shown to the existence and operation of international media by interested countries and organizations. The reviewed examples testify to this.

In our opinion, if at first glance, making the same issue the subject of a report several times by Radio "Ozodi" appears as a sign of professional solidarity and healthy creative competition, but a little deeper consideration reveals the truth of the interest of this international media. Because, as it is clear from the content of the reports, this media, with such a way of coverage, thinks that such actions of the authorities should be prevented by all possible means, so that there is no interference in the activities of the international media.

The evidence for this opinion is that today all the international media that are in the information space of the region had and have their offices and representatives in Tajikistan. Radio "Ozodi", which has a separate office and several reporters, is a clear proof. Also, the BBC, "Alman Wave", international news agencies, several international Russian media, etc., have an active presence in the information space of Tajikistan, acting in accordance with the regulations and in compliance with the requirements of the country's legislation. There are opportunities and conditions for this, although the authorities are well aware of the various activities of the media.
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