

# Study Finds Russian Media Increased Foreign Language Broadcasts by 58 Percent

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Andrei Makhonin / Vedomosti

Russian media's foreign language broadcasts have skyrocketed in the past year as the sector has started targeting smaller language groups, a new study finds.

A report published on Thursday by the MediaDigger media intelligence firm, shows that in 2017 Russian media's coverage extended to 161 languages — which is a 58 percent increase compared to last year.

Since 2016,  
Russian media have expanded their coverage to include  
smaller languages such  
as Danish, Icelandic, Romanian and even Catalan

They also expanded their coverage in Spanish, Chinese and Arabic, while cutting back on  
German, French and Italian.

Meanwhile, the number of media  
outlets has shrunk by 4 percent  
this year, with  
closures outweighing launches by almost 200 percent.

Another trend highlighted  
in the report was the digitalization of the media sector. Thirty-  
three percent of new media outlets  
registered in Russia over the past year were  
online  
media — a new record, the report said.

Meanwhile, the number of print outlets is shrinking, with 68 percent of all closures  
concerning print newspapers or magazines.

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