

# The Free Radio Scene today in Different Countries



# Countries where free radio exists in 2010's



- Traditionally practised in Western Europe
- Recently grown activity in Central Europe and in some East European countries

# Where to find pirates

- LW: few examples
- MW: mainly 1,6 MHz, in some countries all band
- SW: 76/48 mb (usage of 43 mb in NA, SA, EU?)
- FM: 87.5-108 MHz, especially in metropol
- All possible fqs (even 860 MHz, TV or satellite!)
- Variation in different countries

# Generally two types of stations

## 1) Broadcasting style stations

do want to have listeners, long transmissions, ask for feedback, usually do confirm (QSL)

## 2) QSO stations

do QSO with other operators, don't have long shows, music only for tuning in, don't have address for reports, but if you manage to find a way to contact they do confirm in many cases!

# Challenges in pirate hunting

- Listening is always fun, but if you like to count your results...

Counting countries: the origin (even country) can be secret or totally unknown.. or just guess or opinion?

Counting number of stations: usage of multiple names to hide origin or just confuse listeners...



# Country by country

Activities in 30-40 countries (today maybe 20-30)

**Pirate Radiostation Eldorado**

**Broadcasting on Medium and Shortwave**

**From the East part of the Netherlands**



**Thank You for your Reception Report!!**

**To : Jan-Mikael Nurmel from Uurainen Finland**  
**Date : 21-10-2012, Frequentie : 1670 Khz (180 Mtr) Medium Wave**  
**Transmitter : 3 Tube, DDS controlled, output that day +/-350 Watt**  
**Antenna : Coilantenna on 18 Mtr, hopely till next time ,greetings : Ron**

# The Netherlands

- Historically thousands of stations
- Today FM, MW mainly 1,6 MHz, SW, and other frequency ranges incl. LW
- International free radios on SW & 1,6 MHz with long shows and listener feedback
- Pure QSO stations on MW (1,6 MHz)
- Still today hundreds of stations, occasional raids

# The Netherlands

## **Radio Blackstone**

**International on shortwave**



**QSL Confirmation  
From Radio Blackstone  
To: Jan-Mikael Nurmela Finland  
Date: 6-1-2016  
Time: 1550 - 1600 UTC  
Freq.: 6210 kHz  
Signal: s 2-3 geen storing.**

**Location: City of Emmen The Netherlands.**

**Thanks for the report!**



# British and Irish isles

- FM (especially London / Essex): [Vibes FM](#)
- Otherwise mainly 48mb and nearby (and 76 mb) – around 20-30 active stations on SW



# Germany

- Mainly 48 mb and nearby
- (Trying to) hide QTH or act being Dutch
- Traditionally an active free radio country, still today many stations



# Belgium and Baarle

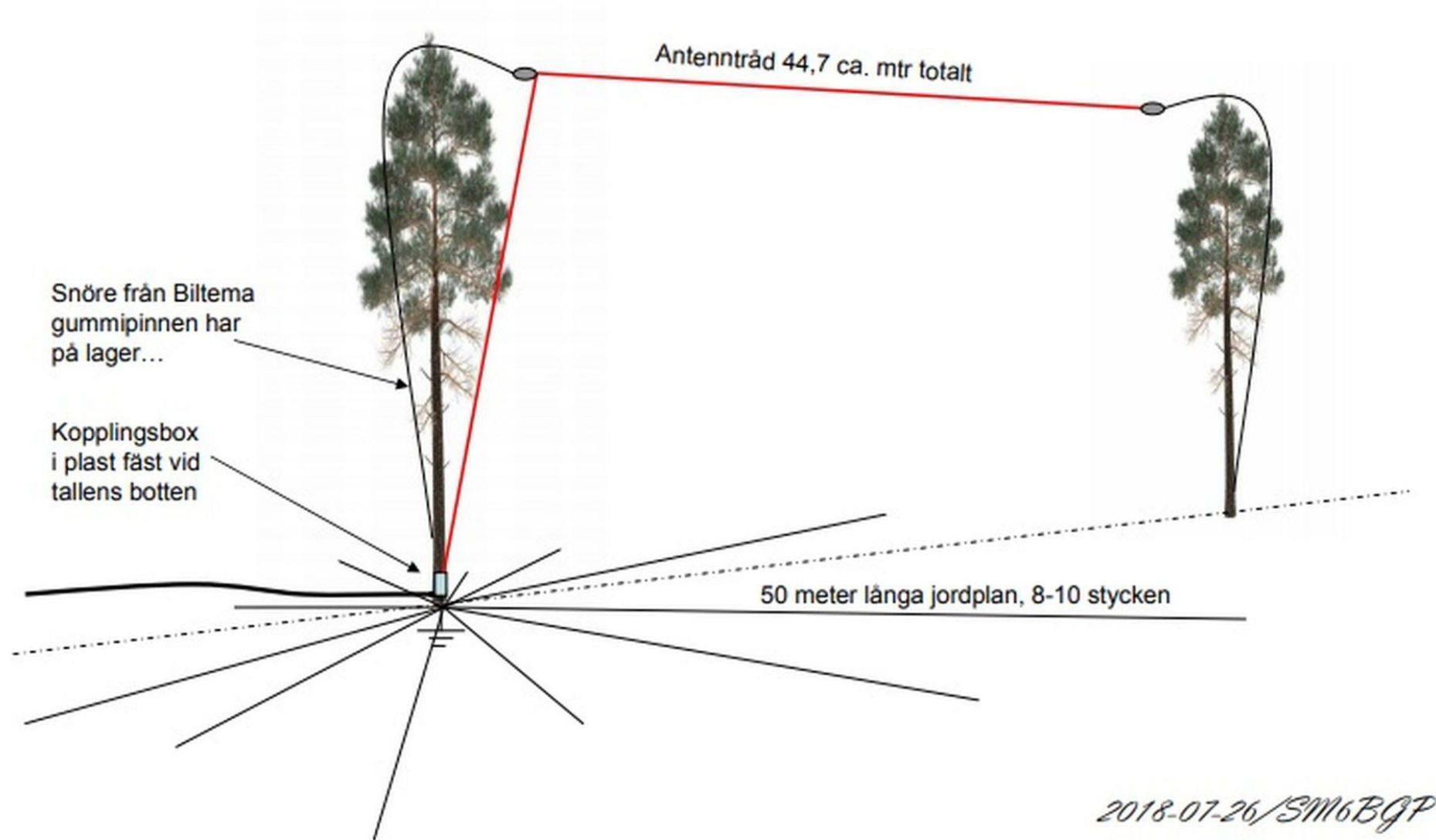
- Few stations in Belgium (SW and MW)
- Some stations are said to be transmitting from Baarle, but is it worth of a country point?



# Nordic countries

- Activity in all Scandinavian countries and in Finland: [\*Old Time Radio\*](#)
- No known activity in Iceland or other islands
- SW mainly 48mb, some stations do test also other SW bands. Very few stations on MW/FM.
- Around 20 active stations
- [\*OZNRH studio recording\*](#)

## Asfaltstelegrafens L-antenn 1593 kHz – 188 meter



# Southern Europe

- Sporadic examples from Iberian peninsula
- Few "broadcasting style" stations in France on SW, no known activity on MW. FM?
- Relatively much activity in Italy, mainly on 48 and 43 mb.
- Most active South European country is Greece
- There are (has been) stations which are said to be transmitting from Cyprus or Malta?

# Southern Europe: France




# Southern Europe: Italy

APRIL 2015 QSL

*Radio Latino*

ON AIR SINCE 2005  
ON SHORTWAVE



THIS IS TO CONFIRM THAT MR JAN-MIKAEL N. RECEIVED OUR BROADCASTING  
DATE: 02/04/15 FREQUENCY: 7.590 khz POWER: 500 WATTS P.E.P.  
ANTENNA: INVERTED VEE DIPOLE QTH: CENTRAL ITALY



# Southern Europe: Greece

- Most activity in North/North-Eastern Greece, Central Greece, and suburbs of Athens
- Not much activity on the islands
- Greece: [\*Radio Devil, Thessaloniki\*](#) 1621 kHz
- Mainly QSO stations on 1,6 MHz, very few stations "do imitate" broadcasting stations on MW band and short wave

# Southern Europe: Greece



QSL card

ZEPPELIN RADIO GREECE

7726 KHZ

SHORTWAVE ATHENS

TO: Jan-Mikael Nurmela

LOCATION: Uurainen Finland

DATE: 20-04-2018 TIME: 19.06 U.T.C.

*thank you for listening!!*

# Southern Europe: Greece



**Jan-Mikael Nurmela** Sky Radiofono AM ID

Tykkää · Vastaa · 4 min



**Arvid Husdal** Now disco music ....and Puerto Rico ...

Tykkää · Vastaa · 2 min



**Ntinots Botsis** yes jan i am radio sky from thessaloniki.1660 am i confirm your resapsion

En tykkääkään · Vastaa ·  1 · 2 min



**Jan-Mikael Nurmela** Thanks Ntinots! Tomorrow I prepare you a mp3 recording



Tykkää · Vastaa · Hetki sitten



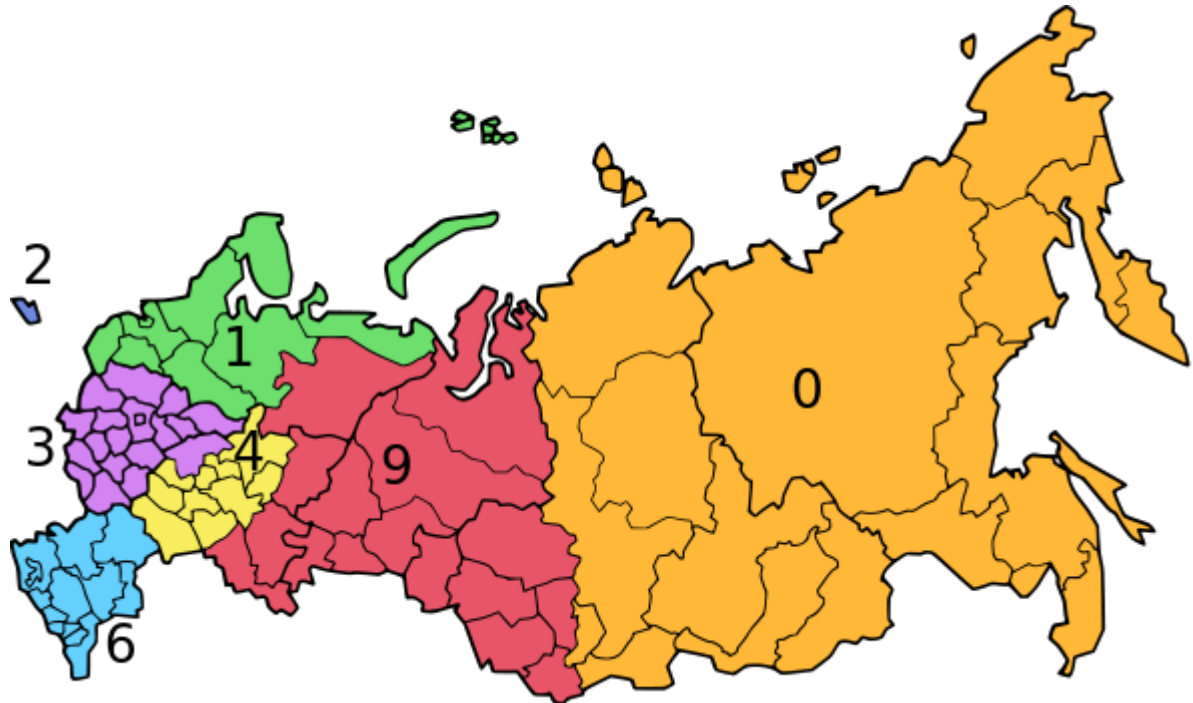
**Ntinots Botsis**



Tykkää · Vastaa · Hetki sitten

# Russia (incl. UKR, BLR, KAZ)

- Russia rayons  
0-4, 6, 9
- Ukraine rayon  
5
- All together  
hundreds of  
QSO stations,  
but very few  
broadcasting  
stations on  
SW

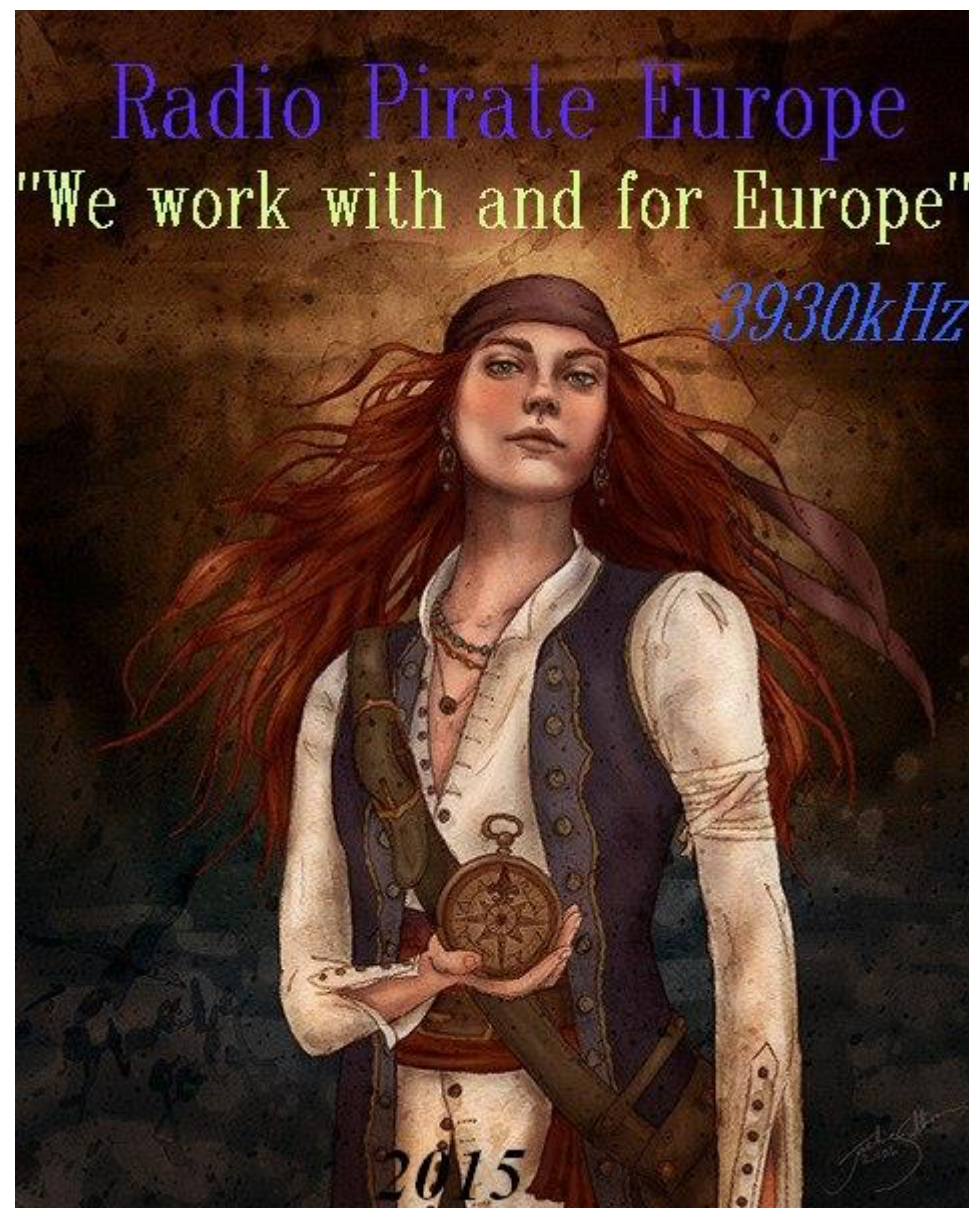


# Russia (incl. UKR, BLR, KAZ)

- Russia: mainly QSO stations on 1,6 MHz, 3 MHz, around 6 and 10 MHz. Rare examples of longer music programmes which usually don't contain any kind of ID (Usually UNIDS)
- Audio: [Radio Planeta, Tambov](#)
- Ukraine: QSO stations + Evropa
- Kazakshtan: QSO stations?
- Belarus: [Integral, Minsk](#)



# Next goal a QSL from a QSO station?



# Balkan

- Mainly in Serbia, and mainly around Belgrad
- 40-50 active stations
- Greetings from [Real Radio Mali Pozarevac](#)



# Central Europe (Austria)

Austria: only one station known so far:

Straightline Radio Austria (SW)

STRAIGHTLINE RADIO AUSTRIA 6510 khz AM

 **QSL**   
FROM  
**STRAIGHTLINE RADIO AUSTRIA**

Thank for your report, Jan-Mikael !

55+73 de SRA

2nd report

to SWL: Jan-Mikael Nurmela  
QTH: Uurainen / Finland  
Date: 10th January 2016  
Time: 14.57 - 15.01 UTC  
SINPO: 25333  
Frequ.: 6510 khzAM  
RX: ICOM R71E  
Ant: Windom 18m/9m



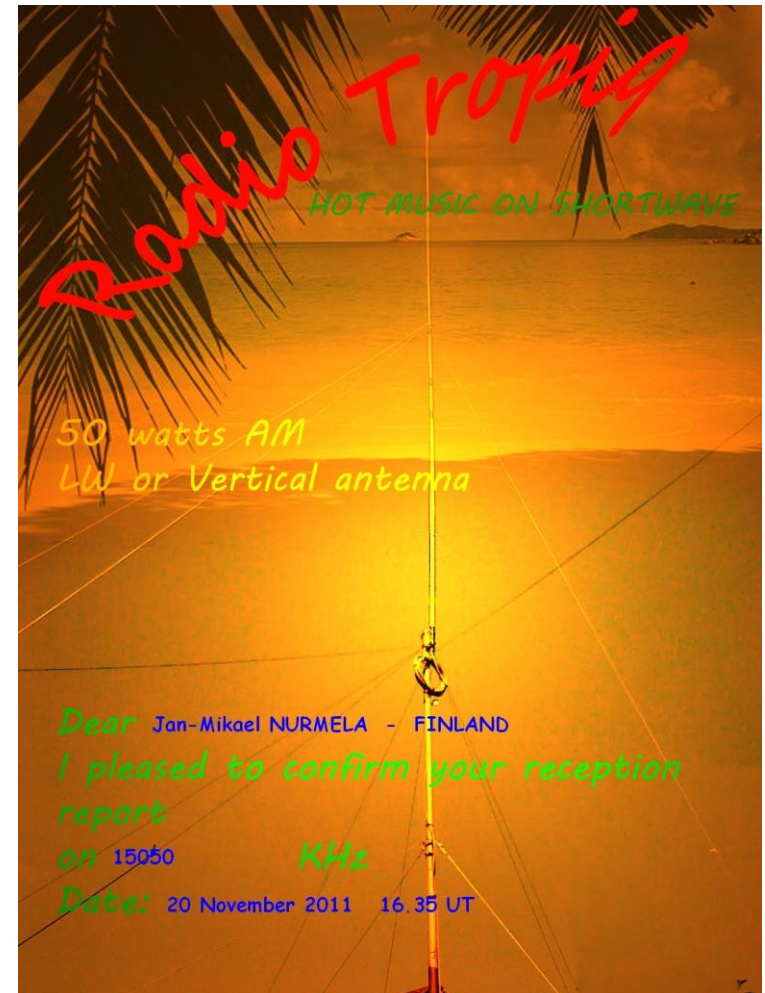
# Central Europe (Czech Republic)

- Czech Republic:  
czechs and  
wannabe czechs
- Traditional new  
years eve station:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HYbNHh\\_hC8Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HYbNHh_hC8Y)



# Central Europe (Hungary)

- Hungary: free radios are raided (vs. legal radios!)
- Few stations on SW
- [Radio Tropiq](#)
- FM activity in Budapest



# Central Europe: Hungary

**QSL for Jan-Mikael Nurmela from Chaos Radio International**

**Date/time: 2018.10.19. 1557 UTC**

**RX QTH: Uurainen, Finland**

**TX QTH: Kistarcsa, Hungary**

**Frequency: 6380 kHz**

**TX power: 100 Watts carrier**

**TX antenna: half wave inverted v**

**RX radio and antenna: JRC NRD-525, dipole**

**SINPO:35444**



# Central Europe (Poland)

- Poland: relatively high FM activity in Southern Poland / Warsaw suburban areas.
- SW (48 mb) stations might be located in same area
- Young operators

Audio: [Anthony Radio Poland](#)



# Outside Europe

- Relatively much activity in USA
- Some stations also in Canada
- Latin American short wave stations in ARG, B, CHL, PRG. Different kind of pirates in PRU?
- Also some examples from past in AUS and NZL
- No known activity in Africa, neither the most of Asia

# Links

- Iann's Pirate Chat

<http://www.easysshopdiscountzone.com/radio/pirate/chat.html>

- Greek AM pirate group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1327221527292654/>

- Serbian AM pirate group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/408040142879990/>