The English Language Office (ELO) opened in the U.S. Embassy in Moscow in 1993 and the position moved to Tallinn, Estonia, in 2018. The Regional English Language Officer now covers Russia, Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. As part of the Public Affairs Section, it cooperates with Ministries of Education, teachers’ associations, universities, schools, and English language teaching (ELT) professionals on a variety of educational and cultural exchange programs and projects in order to enhance mutual understanding between the peoples of other countries and the United States. The RELO initiates numerous Russia specific programs each year and through a vast contact base, and the office has a presence and implements programming in all nine Russian time zones. Examples of programs implemented and facilitated by the RELO in Russia include the following:

**English Language Fellow Exchange Program:** A program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State, provides highly qualified teacher trainers and teachers of English as a foreign language to Russian institutions. During the 2019-2020 academic year, three English Language Fellows will be working in Russia until July:
- Leticia Medina, Moscow, MISiS
- Laura Huffman, Novosibirsk, NSTU
- Johanna Campbell, St. Petersburg, ITMO

[http://exchanges.state.gov/englishteaching/el-fellow.html](http://exchanges.state.gov/englishteaching/el-fellow.html)

**English Language Specialist Program:** A program within the U.S. Department of State Office of English Language Programs that provides training for schools, universities and other academic institutions conducted by American academics in the fields of English as a Foreign Language and Applied Linguistics to schools and universities on a short term basis. Workshops, seminars and conference keynotes on topics such as curriculum development, teacher training and education, textbook development, English for Specific Purposes, and program evaluation can all be facilitated by these American experts. Generally, the ELO hosts 3-5 Specialists per year based on the specific needs of the Russian ELT community.

[http://exchanges.state.gov/englishteaching/el-specialist.html](http://exchanges.state.gov/englishteaching/el-specialist.html)

**English Access Program:** The Access program provides a foundation of English language skills to motivated economically disadvantaged teenagers through two years of after school instruction and intensive summer sessions. Currently, there are 30 Access sites spread across Russia.

[https://www.facebook.com/AccessRU](https://www.facebook.com/AccessRU)

**Advance through Vocational English Program:** Advance is a nine-month post-initiated program for underemployed 22-35 year olds motivated to learn vocational English and interested in developing their computer, entrepreneurship, and leadership skills. Piloted at two locations in the Northern Caucasus, the
program has grown to include 15 sites nationwide. https://www.facebook.com/AdvanceInRussia/

**NATE (National Association of Teachers of English):** Professional teachers’ organizations are vital to the health and development of the English language teaching profession. NATE, with over sixty affiliates throughout Russia plays a vital role in improving the quality of English language teaching and learning through annual regional and national conferences and numerous pre-service and in-service training programs. Our partnerships with these associations help us to identify need, develop special projects, and greatly extend our reach with the ultimate multipliers of our messaging. You can find more information about NATE at [http://nate-russia.ru](http://nate-russia.ru)

**E-Teacher Scholarship Program:** The E-teacher programs offers innovative, online, graduate level classes to English teaching professionals outside of the United States. The courses explore major areas of the academic specialty of Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL). Each year our office gives several scholarships to this program and over the past 12 years we have developed an extensive network of E-teacher alums who have gathered to form their own Russian E-teacher alumni association. [http://exchanges.state.gov/englishteaching/eteacher.html](http://exchanges.state.gov/englishteaching/eteacher.html)

**The American English Facebook Live Series:** These webinars are hosted by the U.S. Department of State’s Office of English Language Programs in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. This professional development program for English teachers around the globe addresses methodological topics that foster interactive, student-centered language instruction. Facilitated sessions are popular across Russia and are a regular feature of programming at the Moscow American Center. Visit the YouTube site at [American English YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/user/AmericanEnglishChannel) to find recordings from previous webinars that are 60-90 minutes and include corresponding downloadable presentations and additional resources. You can find information about Facebook Live on our website or by visiting [americanenglish.state.gov](https://americanenglish.state.gov)

**MOOCS (Massive Open Online Courses):** Russia is among the top consumers of U.S. State Department sponsored MOOCs. Throughout the year, several MOOCs developed by University of Pennsylvania are offered, covering topics such as English for Business and Entrepreneurship, English for Journalism, English for Career Development, English for Media Literacy, and English for STEM Fields. Register here: tinyurl.com/entmooc. Professional development MOOCs are also available for English teachers. Find information about them here: [https://www.aeeteacher.org/Facilitated_MOOCs](https://www.aeeteacher.org/Facilitated_MOOCs)

**ELO Special Projects:** The ELO develops Russia-specific projects. Examples include English language teaching materials for people with disabilities, content for webinars, texts on inclusion through English language teaching, and Russian specific MOOCs related to trends in ELT. We developed online courses related to research and academic writing in English. We’ve established academic writing centers at universities nationwide and launched an academic writing center consortium. We worked with teachers’ associations on an English Here project that identifies and brands English friendly businesses. We work with developers of the Russian Unified University Entrance Exam to train item writers and offer American voices from the Embassy community for the listening section of the exam. We also develop texts, materials, and other online content to meet the specific needs of Russian ELT community. In addition, we design special US exchange programs to enhance our programs and develop regional conferences and summit that bring our contacts together to share and network.