

MEXICO
STRENGTHS, OPPORTUNITIES, WEAKNESSES,
AND THREATS ANALYSIS

<p>STRENGTHS</p>	<p>Despite the challenges, Mexico continues to have independent media and brave journalists who continue to report and denounce cases of corruption, violence, and abuses. The collaborative spirit has grown substantially thanks to various organizations that have promoted it (such as the Border Center for Journalists, Sembramedia, etc.), which allows joining forces in risk situations.</p>
<p>WEAKNESSES</p>	<p>Violence and threats against journalists are a significant weakness. Journalists in Mexico face a constant risk to their safety, which creates an environment of intimidation, fear, and self-censorship. These acts of violence include murders, kidnappings, physical attacks, verbal attacks, and threats that restrict journalists' ability to report freely and objectively. Impunity in cases of violence against journalists is a critical weakness. Despite the number of assaults and murders, very few cases go to trial and even fewer result in convictions. The lack of accountability allows attackers to go unpunished, which not only perpetuates the cycle of violence, but also undermines trust in the justice system and discourages journalists from reporting the threats and attacks they face.</p>
<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p>	<p>The difficult and risky situation experienced by journalists in Mexico has helped raise public awareness about the deterioration of press freedom in the country, generating initiatives that drive demand for reforms and changes in policy, especially on the ground of reporting human rights abuses. Mexico is subject to observation and criticism from international human rights organizations, which helps put pressure on the government to take concrete measures to protect journalists and guarantee freedom of expression.</p>
<p>THREATS</p>	<p>The Executive Branch has demonstrated a condemnatory tone towards the independent press. The use of the State's media power to pressure the press represents a constant and worrying threat because it emanates from an entity that should fight for the defense of the journalist. The expansion of organized crime and so-called "macrocriminalization" throughout the country represents a threat to journalists and press freedom, as journalists often become targets of organized crime violence. Finally, the government's lack of will to promote reforms and effective actions to stop violence and harassment against journalists also represents a first-line risk variable. Summarizing, Mexico faces significant challenges to freedom of the press and expression, with increasing violence against journalists and a hostile climate fostered, in part, by the Executive Branch.</p>

