

### Costa Rica

#### Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, treats

<b>STRENGTHS</b>	Division of powers and respect for the rule of law is one of Costa Rica's great strengths. Decisions made by the Executive can be challenged at relevant courts, and judges decide impartially under international standards to protect freedom of expression.
<b>WEAKNESSES</b>	Official communications from the Executive have been widely criticized by different sections of the population. Both journalists and the media have been affected by limitations on access to public information and the failure to adequately distribute that information. This situation has worsened in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	The digital transformation of TV and radio offers a unique opportunity to guarantee plurality of media and content in rural populations. Similarly, the improvement of the communications system by the Executive may encourage the exercise of free speech.
<b>THREATS</b>	The country's economic situation and the impossibility for local and community media to adapt to the economic outlook forecast for 2021, constitute the greatest threat to freedom of the press and the exercise of journalism in Costa Rica. Not only do they risk ceasing operations, but they also face various difficulties in adapting to the digital transformation scheduled for next year.

