

Jamaica

Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, treats

<p>STRENGTHS</p>	<p>Freedom of expression is protected by an active and vigilant media industry and the journalists' association that address any indications of unwarranted intervention by the judicial, legislative and executive branches. These organisations protect the freedom of expression that is a right that is written into the country's constitution. These organisations also react quickly to any appearance of interventions by the executive branch.</p>
<p>WEAKNESSES</p>	<p>There are few weaknesses that allow the realisation of threats to freedom of expression. This is a right written into the country's constitution that has become a part of the country's media culture. As was indicated with its attitude to aspects of the government's data protection legislations, the country's media vigilantly react to any apparent weaknesses.</p>
<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p>	<p>There are few opportunities for threats to freedom of expression. The country's media culture leads to the immediate disclosure of such threats by the executive, judicial and legislative branches. Media groups react to the appearance of any likely threats to freedom of expression, as happened in the period under review with the introduction of data protection legislation.</p>
<p>THREATS</p>	<p>Threats to freedom of expression are rare, and are countered by a vibrant media lobby. In the period under review, the executive branch was forced to withdraw a proposal to extend denial of access to cabinet documents from 20 years to 70 years. Media houses and the journalists' association also reacted negatively to the legislature's inclusion of journalism content in new data protection laws, as this was an impediment to the work of journalists.</p>

