

Colombia
Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, treats

<p>STRENGTHS</p>	<p>Colombia has a highly structured system of protection for journalists that has been an example for other Latin American countries. It has a statutory framework for copyright protection and a robust law of access to public information. In addition, access to the Internet is free and without government restrictions, which facilitates the exercise of the right to express oneself freely. The nation also has strong independent organizations that work in the defense of unfettered exercise of freedom of expression and the press.</p>
<p>WEAKNESSES</p>	<p>The weaknesses are mainly evident in the generalized economic crisis affecting the communications sector, which threatens the existence of different media companies. Additionally, a regulatory asymmetry favors ISPs and neglects mainstream media. Other problems are the Criminal Code provisions regarding crimes of slander and libel for reporters, impunity for crimes against journalists, as well as legal actions against media outlets and newspersons, compelling them to engage in costly legal battles. Finally, there is the influence of permanent attacks by rogue groups.</p>
<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p>	<p>Opportunities are reflected in the possibility of accessing IT tools and knowledge more easily in a globalized world. Similarly, opportunities are represented by international cooperation in plans and programs supporting freedom of expression and the press in Colombia and by the existence of international organizations and entities supporting the country in its fight for such rights and for the protection of human rights.</p>
<p>THREATS</p>	<p>Threats are centered on the strong influence of political and social conflicts in neighboring countries, which have been coupled with strong migration and the actions of rogue armed groups. On the other hand, the presence of social media giants (Google, Facebook, Instagram) has affected the quality of information and the communications industry.</p>

