

GUATEMALA
SWOT Analysis

<p>STRENGTHS</p>	<p>The resolve of the country's journalists to organize and set up networks of support both domestically and abroad remains and becomes stronger. A network created in 2020, “No nos callarán” (We won’t be silenced), aiming at defending the guild’s interests and providing support to threatened and prosecuted journalists, has consolidated.</p> <p>Despite the strong authoritarian offensive bringing about the imprisonment of journalists and forcing others into exile, they continue to do their job to scrutinize, as well as to avoid silence, which is the goal of the aggressions inflicted on them.</p> <p>Regional networks for the defense of free speech and the exercise of journalism still stand and have been reinforced.</p>
<p>WEAKNESSES</p>	<p>Violent actions against journalists increase and their intensity escalates. The situation has reached its peak with the imprisonment of media workers, the financial stranglehold on one of the country’s longest-standing print media outlets, and the threats of criminalization or harassment against journalists, which have pushed them into exile.</p> <p>The wave of violence against women journalists and those who practice local and community journalism persists. In fact, the tide has turned to an increasing prosecution of women journalists.</p> <p>The Executive persists in harassing and silencing journalists who keep an eye on government budget and performance. Lists of journalists allowed into the scarce press briefings that are convened by said government body are previously drawn up; some are denied access.</p> <p>The collusion between the Executive, Legislative, and Judiciary to undermine the exercise of journalism by means of intimidation and criminalization has become tighter. The special prosecutor’s office on violence against journalists is no longer reliable since it is linked to the so-called Pact of the Corrupt, and this has caused a decrease in complaints filed with the above entity.</p>
<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p>	<p>The diverse and persistent strategy of silencing journalists deployed by the branches of government has invigorated citizen support for their work and for freedom of expression.</p> <p>Cohesion among unions has increased.</p> <p>International support for the journalistic guild is evident in the higher number of reports from various international organizations to make visible violations of human rights and free speech through persecution and prosecution of journalists and human rights advocates.</p>

THREATS	<p>Institutions devoted to defend human rights and political institutions themselves continue to be undermined, taken hostage, and closed.</p> <p>In 2023 a new electoral contest entailing an increase in political violence is coming up.</p> <p>The militarization of civilian life is increasing.</p>

