

COSTA RICA
SWOT Analysis

STRENGTHS	Costa Rica's main strengths are democratic stability and separation of powers. Institutions follow the established legal framework and encourage respect for freedom of the press. In fact, the nation avoids taking measures intended to control traditional or digital media, which in turn, benefits citizens by keeping them informed and free to express themselves openly.
WEAKNESSES	Difficulties to access public information and official sources entail various challenges for the practice of journalism. Also, legal loopholes regarding access to public information create institutional weaknesses and encourage a lack of transparency affecting the dissemination of relevant information for democratic debate on issues other than those proposed by the government.
OPPORTUNITIES	The use of digital platforms continues to offer different choices for the media, especially regarding the broadcasting transition to digital. Additionally, the review of broadcast licenses offers opportunities for the diversification of content and stakeholders in the Costa Rican media landscape.
THREATS	The escalation of verbal attacks and hate speech against journalists and media outlets poses a significant threat to the exercise of freedom of the press. It is important that the authorities reduce the use of slurs against journalists, that the cases filed with authorities are investigated, and that those responsible for offenses are punished accordingly.

