

URUGUAY
SWOT Analysis

<p>STRENGTHS</p>	<p>From an institutional perspective, Uruguay is a high-performing democracy, with 80% support for such political system, the lowest perception of corruption, confidence in its electoral system and the guarantees it offers to freedom of expression as a right. Regarding economy, despite the regional –post-pandemic– decline in the exercise of socioeconomic rights, the outlook for the country is positive since it has reversed the negative trend of 6.1% in 2020 to a growth of 4.4% in 2021, which is expected to remain positive for next year. Freedom of expression and the press are guaranteed by law and their practice is exercised in a climate of freedom.</p>
<p>WEAKNESSES</p>	<p>Despite its institutional strengths, it is the only democracy in Latin America and the Caribbean that, achieving high performance standards, has experienced a decline in the media safety indicator, a situation that translates into an increase on record in minor threats to journalists, restrictions on access to official sources, lawsuits against journalists especially brought by senior public officials, censorship of news content on social media such as YouTube.</p>
<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p>	<p>The strengthening of freedom of expression in the Uruguayan media ecosystem continues to be linked to a culture of transparency, the assertion of the right of access to public information as one of the sources of investigative journalism and citizen participation in public policies, and the creation of greater citizen opportunities to oversee the performance of government and make more informed decisions.</p> <p>On the other hand, the search for new sustainable business models for the media ecosystem and a decrease in government advertising can provide the opportunity to reduce the vulnerability of journalists to the threats they receive from public officials in the exercise of their professional practice.</p>
<p>THREATS</p>	<p>The main threat to freedom of expression in the media system, as noted in the report, is primarily the significant increase in minor threats to journalistic practice on record that –if the trend remains upward– can become a restriction on the right to freedom of expression and the free flow of information, basic elements for the quality of democracy.</p> <p>Secondly, the sustained restriction of access to official sources in the form of a significant non-compliance with the right of access to public information.</p>

