

El Salvador Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats Analysis

STRENGTHS	The increasing citizen mobilization and the impact of the local media in foreign media are the most visible strengths. Likewise, the fiscal reality of the country and contradictions between a national government that centralizes resources and local governments that lack funds to address immediate needs will facilitate greater citizen articulation in the short and medium term. There are emerging efforts of multi-sectoral alliances within organized civil society. Likewise, the strength of local investigative journalism is still a landmark when it comes to information and identification of acts of corruption.
WEAKNESSES	The dismantling of the rule of law and the lack of political opposition, which should channel pressures towards the advocacy for human rights and democracy, are the main weaknesses to be highlighted. Also, the great popularity of the regime, its disinformational environment, the instrumentalization of law enforcement forces to the detriment of human rights and due process, the growing impunity and the low democratic culture of the population are determining weaknesses.
OPPORTUNITIES	The outcome of the November 2020 elections in the United States and the Biden administration's focus on the fight against corruption and on the human rights and democracy agenda is the main opportunity, at least until January 2025. In that direction, bipartisan consensus on the Salvadoran situation and increased cooperation for capacity building within civil society and the media, as well as strengthening mechanisms to protect journalists and human rights defenders are other important opportunities.
THREATS	The passivity of the international community, mainly the majority of countries represented in the Organization of American States, and the weakening of political systems in Central America, are threats that enable institutional breakdown in El Salvador. Additionally, the potential alliances of organized crime, both domestic and transnational, with the Bukele regime may strengthen the arena for repression and the predominance of para-state armed groups.

