

Period surveyed July 31, 2020 – August 1st, 2021

## **CANADA**SWOT Analysis

STRENGTHS	There is a robust institutional framework of division of powers with an independent judiciary. Citizens, most of whom do not lean towards authoritarian populist options, engage in a democratic culture. Associations for the defense of freedom of expression and freedom to practice journalism are mobilized in defense of these causes.
WEAKNESSES	Media conglomerates are concentrated and independent media are weakened. Digital platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google, and others hold a dominant position among young people, who mostly get news from social media. Due to social consensus by effect of a "spiral of silence", which tends to validate initiatives of political correctness and cancel culture, censorship of books, words, and even ideas has been promoted. There is a lack of transparency in government communications with the public and the media.
OPPORTUNITIES	Taxation of large digital platforms (Facebook, Netflix, Google) is being considered in order to promote Canadian content and support independent media. There are debates on the importance of freedom of expression in a democratic society, amidst restrictions fueled by political correctness and cancel culture. Laws regarding access to information are being updated to achieve greater transparency in the communications of government and federal entities.
THREATS	There has been an increase in instances of direct and indirect censorship associated with political correctness and cancel culture in universities, schools, and the media, which may have consequences for freedom of expression in general. There are increased tensions with Canada's indigenous nations, which may lead to limited media coverage of demonstrations and protests by these communities.

