

Chile

Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, treats

<p>STRENGTHS</p>	<p>With an overall index of 80 points, Chile leads the Chapultepec Index from the Southern Cone, in a positive and respectful climate, with a low degree of influence from the legislative, judicial and executive environments in situations unfavorable to free speech. There are no reports of media closures, persecution of journalists or control over content. The State does not limit citizens' access to public information or the rights relating to freedom of expression and the press.</p>
<p>WEAKNESSES</p>	<p>The financial crisis of the media, stemming from a change in the business model, along with the COVID-19 pandemic in recent months, has been significant, resulting in media closures and massive layoffs of journalists. Magazines are practically non-existent and local media have had to reinvent themselves or close down. Information production capacity has been greatly reduced.</p>
<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p>	<p>The current process to decide whether or not to draft a new Constitution, at the referendum next October 25, poses many challenges, regardless of the outcome, as an opportunity to strengthen the freedoms of opinion, information, and expression. It also represents an opportunity for news companies to provide outstanding coverage that positively influences citizens, seizing the credibility that, in the midst of the pandemic, mainstream media have regained over social media among the audience.</p>
<p>THREATS</p>	<p>The fact that the pandemic is protracted, thus delaying the economic and productive recovery of the country and its media, poses a threat. Furthermore, depending on the result of the October 25 referendum, there is a latent fear of a new social outburst like the one in October 2019, and that the climate of tension will return in the form of social protests and attacks on newsmen.</p>

