INDEX CHAPULTEPEC Freedom of Expression and Press

Peru

Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, treats

STRENGTHS	Peru still has fresh memories of the Fujimori dictatorship and editorial policies for sale among leading media of the country. The population that still has confidence in the – weak – democracy and does not wish to return to those years persists in the defense of adequate levels of free speech.
WEAKNESSES	In Peru, the weaknesses regarding freedom of expression lie in the country's own institutional fragility. Many journalists have to face trials, which are cumbersome and protracted, in a Judiciary that is slow and corrupt, all of which constitutes a form of pressure. On the other hand, mainstream media are criticized for not always being aligned with free speech.
OPPORTUNITIES	New technologies, networks, and platforms have generated a great opportunity for the emergence of media alternative to mainstream outlets, thereby allowing for the dissemination of information and for addressing relevant issues with greater freedom. If these ventures manage to remain independent, and consolidate their funding, they can be a continuous source of adequate and reliable information.
THREATS	A great threat to freedom of expression is that experienced by the country in recent years, stemming from its unstable political situation. The three branches of government are struggling to hold as much power as possible. A disruption in the very delicate balance of current forces may completely alter the status of freedom of expression.

