GUATEMALA ANALYSIS OF WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES STRENGTHS AND THREATS

CHAPULTEPEC INDEX on Freedom of Expression and the Press

WEAKNESSES	Despite the change of authorities in two of the three branches of government, violence against journalists has not ceased, although the number of cases has decreased compared to 2023. From January to June 2024, an oversight association has registered at least 71 aggressions. Four journalists were murdered during the period surveyed and there was little progress on the investigations by the Public Prosecutor's Office (MP). The Prosecutor's Office for Crimes against Journalists, instead of defending their rights, reason for its creation, directs its actions to assault the profession, overrule complaints, fail to investigate ongoing cases, and provide data to other prosecutors for legal actions. The prosecution of associations of journalists remains and the work of journalists is misrepresented by the Public Prosecutor's Office. The instrumentalization of the justice system remains.
OPPORTUNITIES	The existence of a government that expresses itself in favor of human rights and constitutional guarantees, assuring that aggressions and attacks on journalists will not be tolerated. The reactivation of the Analysis Instance for the Protection of Human Rights Advocates with a dedicated board table to discuss the context of journalism at the Ministry of the Interior. Continued international support for the journalism.
STRENGHTHS	Association networks such as " <i>No nos callarán</i> " and the <i>Red Rompe el Miedo Guatemala</i> , whose aim is to defend the interests of the associations and provide support to journalists facing threats and judicial processes, continue to consolidate. Despite violence, judicial harassment, prosecution and exile, journalists continue to make efforts to present information to their audiences and have deployed regional and international networks to overcome the government's censorship siege. Citizens have made the demand for freedom of expression part of their list of demands.
THREATHS	The determined and tenacious fight by the Public Prosecutor's Office to continue using the justice system to cover for impunity. The powerful unlawful political- economic networks entrenched in the government in at least two of the three decision-making branches of the government (Legislative and Judicial Branches).

