CHAPULTEPEC INDEX on Freedom of Expression and the Press

Period Surveyed August 2, 2023 – August 1, 2024

UNITED STATES SWOT ANALYSIS

WEAKNESSES	Disinformation remains one of the main threats to freedom of expression and the press. Social media such as TikTok or Instagram, and platforms such as WhatsApp and Telegram, have become the main sources of information and are unfortunately plagued by disinformation. Currently, there are no effective devices to monitor or limit the spread of fake news, so the user has to tell what is true from what is not, and in most cases they do not know how.
OPPORTUNITIES	In the United States, it is necessary to develop strategies to study and analyze the impact of disinformation, since information consumption habits have changed over the last decade. Citizens no longer depend on traditional media outlets for information and many times it is up to social media and some apps that the fulfillment of this informative function. Part of this strategy must be to educate users to confirm whether the information they receive is true or whether it is fake and gerrymandered content.
STRENGTHS	Freedom of expression and the press in the United States is strong, and restrictions on the exercise of journalism, from news reporting to media management, are very few. The major media outlets continue to do excellent daily and investigative reporting, and citizens can access multiple sources of information from different political leaning. In addition, it is estimated that 97% of households have access to the Internet and 87% of the population are frequent Internet users.
THREATS	In the United States, few restrictions are applied on freedom of expression and the press; however, neither the right to be informed nor journalists are exempt from threats and even the risk of physical violence. That is why we must insist on strong legislation guaranteeing free access and delivery of information and the safety of journalists. The fight for freedom of expression and the press is persistent work that must be continued even in nations where restrictions on these rights are scarce.

