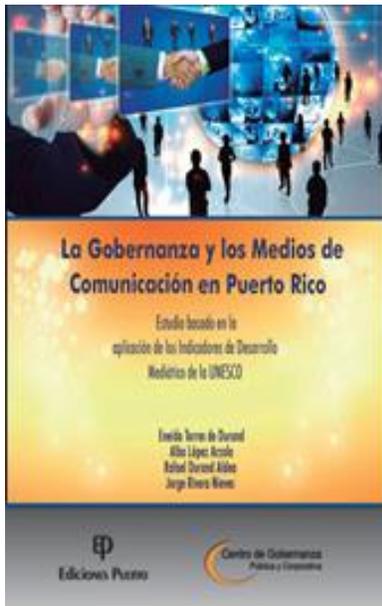


**The Center for Public and Corporate Governance
launched its publication on
Governance and media development in Puerto Rico**

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The Center for Public and Corporate Governance (governanzapr.org) presented last week its most recent publication on ***Governance and media development in Puerto Rico*** at the Universidad del Sagrado Corazón in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The first-ever comprehensive assessment on governance and media development in Puerto Rico was presented to an audience of more than 80 stakeholders, university faculty members and students.

Puerto Rico is an island in the Caribbean which is a territory of the United States of America. The assessment of media development based on UNESCO Media development indicators was carried out by the researcher's network of the Governance Center between 2017-2018. The preliminary report on the assessment was launched on October 2018 to an audience of more than 50 stakeholders at an event in Telemundo Broadcasting.



The research study performed by the Governance Center was anchored in the principles of good governance, transparency and accountability and its relationships to media development and democracy. In tune with the methodology used for MDI-based

assessment, the study in Puerto Rico relied strongly on multi-stakeholders' consultations and followed a participatory and inclusive process. The consultation process included: a questionnaire; over 35 individual interviews with journalists, media owners and regulators; a SWOT analysis and a comprehensive assessment of the regulatory framework. Input and support from a broad team of experts in governance issues and media development and extensive literature review was also applied.

The Media Development Indicators (MDIs), which is an internationally recognized analytical tool, that makes plausible a detailed overview of the media landscape and related media development priorities. The tool defined a framework, within which the media can best contribute to, and benefit from, good governance and democratic development. The indicators look at all aspects of the media environment and are structured around the following categories:

1. A system of regulation conducive to freedom of expression, pluralism and diversity of the media.
2. Plurality and diversity of media, a level economic playing field and ownership transparency.
3. Media as a platform for democratic discourse.
4. Professional capacity building and supporting institutions that underpin freedom of expression, pluralism and diversity.
5. Infrastructural capacity sufficient to support independent and pluralistic media

The assessment on media development places special emphasis on issues regarding the regulatory environment; freedom of expression and freedom of press; the need for access of information and transparency legislation and laws for the protection of sources of information; how current federal and state legislation impacts on the media; opportunities for more space for self-regulation within the media; professional training and issues regarding the democratic contributions on the media; transparency and accessibility of data regarding the media system, as well as still existing issues of independence of the media from commercial, economic and political power hubs. It reveals that the infrastructure available in Puerto Rico is technologically developed and increasingly digitalized

Eneida Torres de Durand, Executive Director of the Governance Center emphasized that the recommendations of the assessment “provide the platform for improving good governance and media development in Puerto Rico and will foster a greater commitment to action by the government, policy makers, regulators, media professionals and citizens interested in media development in the country.” To promote the development of the media ecosystem in Puerto Rico, the researchers propose a conceptual model to improve

governance capacity and media development to further improve democratic development. The proposed conceptual model was articulated on international standards best practices under the fundamental principles of freedom of expression, pluralism and diversity as pillars to promote media development and the guiding principles of good governance - transparency, access to information, and accountability. A framework for media and information literacy capacity development in Puerto Rico was also lay out.

It is the Governance Center hope that the findings will contribute to a vibrant discussion on how to expand media freedom, independence, pluralism and professionalism in Puerto Rico. A continuous conversation and debate between the academia, the media, the government, the civil society and the general public will contribute to strengthen governance capacity and democratic development in Puerto Rico.

To access reference material:

- The Executive Summary of the report [click here](#) (Spanish version)
- Governance Center' Report Presentation at Telemundo Broadcasting
 - ✓ Press Release [click here](#)
 - ✓ Photogallery [click here](#)
- Governance Center' Presentation of the publication on Governance and Media Development at Universidad del Sagrado Corazón
 - ✓ Press Release [click here](#)
 - ✓ Photogallery [click here](#)

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