

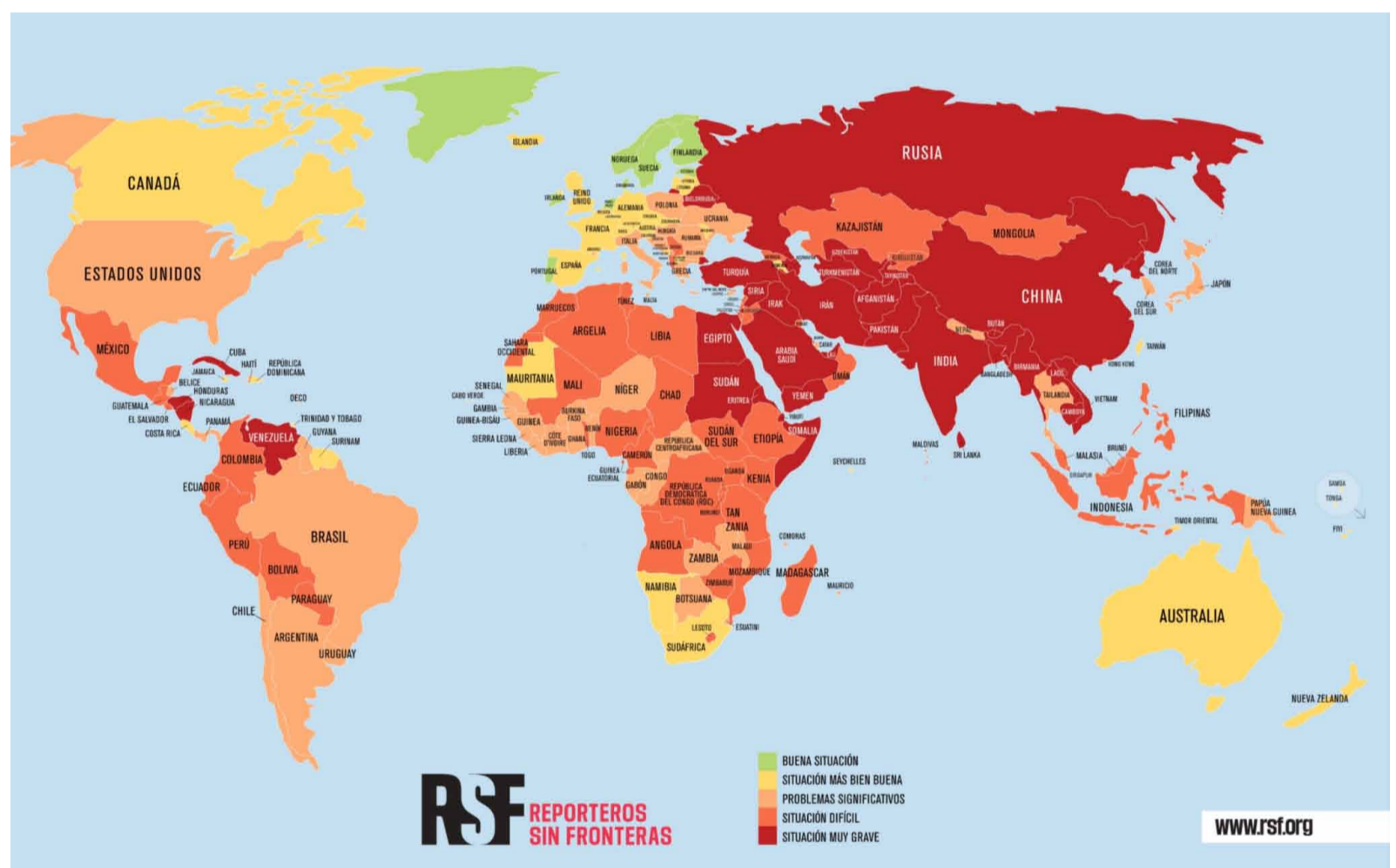
Andorra falls in the world ranking of press freedom

The Principality suffered a drop of 35 positions in one year

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

Andorra has suffered a sharp drop in the world ranking of press freedom according to the report produced every year by Reporters Without Barrier (RSF). Thus, if in the classification of 2023 the Principality was in position 37, this 2024 it has fallen to 72, that is to say, a loss of 35 positions in just one year. As stated by the NGO, Andorra suffers from the obstacles that small enclaves impose on the free exercise of journalism: lack of plurality and constant interference by political and economic power -especially intertwined in the country- «in a media mostly in the hands of entrepreneurs with interests».

In the same way, they warn that the smallness of the country's territory and the concentration «of important economic interests, reduce to the minimum expression not only the number of media, but their strength and independence». In addition, they highlight that «the recent democratic tradition of the Principality and the influence of the economic elites in all the institutions of the country shape an opaque model, in which the powers of the State are poorly differentiated and in which the few independent journalists cannot adequately exercise as an anti-establishment movement».



FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IN THE WORLD IN 2024

The graphic of the 2024 press freedom document produced by Reporters Without Barriers.

They emphasize that journalists do not have access to judges or magistrates for interviews or as sources

In this year's publication, the NGO reiterates that together with RTVA - «under the influence of the current Government» - there exists «a small ecosystem

of newspapers and some other publications in the hands of bankers and businessmen with very strong interests in the Principality». On the other hand, they point out that «official censorship does not exist», even though «with public media pro-Government and private media controlled by businessmen or bankers, there is no need to silence a docile media landscape in the story of everyday life Principality, little given to the investigation of

the country's financial scandals and prone to self-censorship».

Finally, the publication warns that «the conservative tradition of a country marked by the Catholic Church, reluctant to pluralistic social debates, can condition the independence of the media». In Andorra, for example, journalists do not have access - for interviews or as sources of information - to judges, magistrates or other members of «an archaic judicial system». ●

SOCIETY

Motion of the PS to urge the drafting of the strategic suicide prevention plan

It is also recommended to create an Observatory of mental health and addictions within a maximum of four months

EL PERIÒDIC
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Last Friday, the social democratic parliamentary group submitted a motion to the Syndication in which the Government is urged to draw up and approve a national strategic plan for the prevention and fight against suicide (2024-2028) within a maximum period of three months. The aim is to reduce the prevalence and impact of suicidal behavior with a comprehensive and efficient system of prevention, intervention and follow-up, taking into account the gender perspective and with priority for the groups at greatest risk in their actions and approaches. The social democrats also instructed the Executive to create and launch an Observatory of mental health and addictions within a maximum period of four months.

The motion comes as a result of the oral question formulated by the general councilor and deputy president of the social democratic parliamentary group, Susanna Vela, about the state of the national strategy of the Strategic Plan for the prevention and fight against suicide. The motion underlines the need and prioritization of the implementation of this plan due



CONSELL GENERAL

The general councilors of the social democratic parliamentary group during the session of the General Council this past Thursday.

to the increase in suicide risk factors — such as isolation and the economic and social impact — and the lack of health and socioeconomic data to promote a better diagnostic and treatment work that contains indicators of quality, functionality and results to compare whether the therapies applied to patients are the right ones for each case.

The text presented by the so-

cial democrats also emphasizes the lack of resources in the Mental Health Area of the SAAS and the long waits suffered by patients between making an appointment and the first visit — some more than one — the overload of the professional associations because from the Ministries of Health and Social Affairs they are not carrying out the tasks, and the slow pace of work of the portfolio led by Minister Helena Mas.

In this sense, it is highlighted

The motion underlines the need to carry out the plan following the increase in suicide risk factors

that since March 2022 the special Plan for the prevention and treatment of suicidal behavior is being designed, which had to be organized by a community mental health team to monitor patients, as well as non-compliance of one of the strategic lines of PISMA such as suicide and its national strategy, which had to be completed between March and June 2023. ●

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