**UPDATES: Re Julian Assange in Belmarsh (to 22 Mar 2020)**

A number of people have mentioned that they want to hear about Julian’s wellbeing, especially related to his health, and the problems his incarceration conditions are causing him in preparing his defence in the forthcoming US extradition case. Also reports from his lawyers.

This document provides background links re his health, and pulls together information that has been shared by his visitors since his incarceration in Belmarsh. Public statements by his lawyers and others who have relevant information are listed and linked to source.  
  
Contents are a survey of events and comments, and should not be taken as exhaustive. Best efforts have been made to transcribe comments accurately, but may contain errors. Check with source records before quoting from this document.

<< **Navigation: Use the ‘Outline’ facility to the left  
 AND/OR Use the Edit / Find option from the menu for a particular name  
 Languages referenced as DE (German) ES (Spanish) FR (French) SW (Swedish)**

**Health - Background**

Like everyone, Julian Assange is entitled to **adequate healthcare**, and to **privacy** in relation to his health. Not that he has received either. The UK, by stating that they would arrest him if he left the Ecuadorian embassy, made it impossible for him to get some forms of healthcare (eg an MRI or dentistry). As to privacy, the CIA not only spied on him generally in the embassy, but also received live video of his time spent with his doctors, including medical examinations. Now the prison system is in charge of his healthcare.

**Health - To 2016**

On [2 Mar 2015](https://youtu.be/rhbnI5kCZFA?t=93), In a Swiss TV (RTS) interview, Julian spoke briefly about the difficulty in getting medical and dental care inside the embassy.  
  
“They say their insurance doesn’t cover Ecuador, if they're British doctors.”  
  
On [14 Sep 2016](https://wikileaks.org/Medical-Reports.html) Wikileaks released confidential medical and psychological reports concerning Julian Assange's situation:

* a 27 page [psycho-social and medical assessment](https://file.wikileaks.org/file/cms/Psychosocial%20Medical%20Report%20December%202015.pdf) from 10 November 2015,
* a [report from Mr. Assange's physician](https://file.wikileaks.org/file/cms/Medical.pdf) from 8 December 2015, and
* a [dentist's report](https://file.wikileaks.org/file/cms/Dentist%20report%20310715.pdf) from 31 July 2015.

At that point, as well as mental and physical health deterioration due to the “extremely restrictive conditions of his confinement” (including lack of sunlight, adequate exercise and freedom of association), specific physical concerns were a need for dentistry (a root canal in a broken tooth) and an MRI (shoulder problems). In relation the shoulder problem his physician noted that, while An MRI scan would be necessary to provide a proper diagnosis:

“He experiences constant pain at rest [made worse] by all movement at the shoulder joint. [...] It is likely that this is a chronic prgressive condition [which is] likely to worsen without treatment.”

The healthcare needs addressed in these reports were not met. A request to the UK government from the government of Ecuador for safe passage for Assange to and from a hospital had already been [refused](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2015/oct/15/ecuador-asks-britain-to-allow-julian-assange-safe-passage-for-mri-scan) (15 Oct 2015).

**Health - 2018**

In a public statement [24 January 2018](https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jan/24/julian-assange-care-wikileaks-ecuadorian-embassy) Drs Sondra S Crosby, Brock Chisholm and Sean Love explained that they had “recently spent 20 hours, over three days, performing a comprehensive physical and psychological evaluation of Mr Assange.”

They called on the “British Medical Association and colleagues in the UK to demand safe access to medical care for Mr Assange and to oppose openly the ongoing violations of his human right to healthcare.”

Jennifer Robinson reported on Julian’s inability to access healthcare at the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) in Geneva on [18 June 2018](https://youtu.be/MKJIf2iDlTE).

On [22 June 2018](https://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/2018/06/22/sean-love-access-medical-care-must-guaranteed-julian-assange/) Dr Love made another statement about Julian’’s health and his right to adequate care, concluding that “Assange’s detention continues to cause a precipitous deterioration in his overall condition and amounts to cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment.”

On [8 April 2019](https://www.vice.com/en_asia/article/d3nzkj/doctor-who-evaluated-julian-assange-told-un-his-confinement-was-torture), Dr Sondra Crosby wrote a [letter](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/5912322-UNHCHR-Final.html) to former Chilean president Michelle Bachelet, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (and others) about the health implications for Assange of his continued confinement in the embassy, reporting on four evaluations she made of his health between October 2017 and February 2019. She “wrote that the conditions of Assange’s confinement had become observably worse since [her] initial visit.”

She also noted that her confidential medical notes had been removed (and presumably read) by embassy surveillance staff, and that “Mr Assange’s fundamental right to doctor-patient confidentiality had been violated.”

Further, she stated that “the severe daily pain endured by Mr Assange from this dental condition is inhumane, notwithstanding that the situation could be life threatening if left untreated.”

She concluded:

“It is my professional opinion that the synergistic and cumulative severity of the pain and suffering inflicted on Mr Assange - both physical and psychological - is in violation of the 1984 Convention against Torture Article 1 And Article 16. I believe the psychological, physical, and social sequelae will be long lasting and severe.””

**Health - 2019 - post arrest**

On [8 May 2019](https://videos.telesurtv.net/video/776807/entrevista-con-jorge-gestoso-776807/) Dr Love gave an interview on Telesur.

On [October 2019](https://medicine.at.brown.edu/courage-is-contagious/) Dr Love again spoke out (at Brown University):

“Much of this information is protected by doctor-patient confidentiality. What I can say is that Assange is resilient, but his suffering and the psychological toll of his circumstances were apparent. Compounding these injuries was that, for nearly seven years, Assange had been unable to receive proper medical care.

Within the embassy, he had difficulty obtaining treatment, as most physicians refused to visit him for fear of associating themselves or their medical practice with him, his political views, or his publishing activities.”

On [5 April 2019](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24454&LangID=E) the UN Special Rapporteur for Torture, Nils Melzer announced his intention to visit Julian Assange in the Ecuadorian Embassy.

On [9 May 2019](https://youtu.be/8gD4nos4JL8) Nils Melzer visited Julain Assange in Belmarsh prison, accompanied by two medical experts specialised in examining potential victims of torture and other ill-treatment.

On [31 May 2019](https://ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24665&LangID=E) Nils Melzer issued a statement. Among other things, he stated:

“It was obvious that Mr. Assange’s health has been seriously affected by the extremely hostile and arbitrary environment he has been exposed to for many years,” the expert said. “Most importantly, in addition to physical ailments, Mr. Assange showed all symptoms typical for prolonged exposure to psychological torture, including extreme stress, chronic anxiety and intense psychological trauma.

“The evidence is overwhelming and clear,” the expert said. “Mr. Assange has been deliberately exposed, for a period of several years, to progressively severe forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the cumulative effects of which can only be described as psychological torture.

“I condemn, in the strongest terms, the deliberate, concerted and sustained nature of the abuse inflicted on Mr. Assange and seriously deplore the consistent failure of all involved governments to take measures for the protection of his most fundamental human rights and dignity,” the expert said. “By displaying an attitude of complacency at best, and of complicity at worst, these governments have created an atmosphere of impunity encouraging Mr. Assange’s uninhibited vilification and abuse.”

Nils Melzer followed up this statement with multiple interviews (reported in written articles, audio and video files).  
  
[26 Jun 2019](http://thealtworld.com/thealtworld/demasking-the-torture-of-julian-assange) “*On the occasion of the International Day in Support of Torture Victims*” he published “Demasking the Torture of Julian Assange” [[Website](http://thealtworld.com/thealtworld/demasking-the-torture-of-julian-assange)]

[14 Oct 2019](https://peds-ansichten.de/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FinalSRTStatementGA14Oct-2019.pdf) Nils Melzer reported the situation to the UN General Assembly. [[Press Conf](https://www.unmultimedia.org/tv/unifeed/asset/2474/2474050/)]   
  
Recently he made another official statement ([1 Nov 2019](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25249&LangID=E)):

“The UN Special Rapporteur on torture, Nils Melzer, has expressed alarm at the continued deterioration of Julian Assange’s health since his arrest and detention earlier this year, saying **his life was now at risk”**

[23 Nov 2019](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/11/23/doctors-petition-uk-home-secretary-over-julian-assange/) **Doctors’ Petition** - Open letter to UK Home Secretary **Priti Patel** and UK Shadow Home Secretary **Diane Abbott** [[Consortium News](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/11/23/doctors-petition-uk-home-secretary-over-julian-assange/)]  
Signed by **67 doctors** [See Excerpts in main timeline below]

[21 Jan 2020](https://youtu.be/wd4cRHB-HIQ?t=2m55s) (EST) Doctors For Assange live event [[Video](https://youtu.be/wd4cRHB-HIQ?t=2m55s)]  
See more details in updates section..

[24 January 2020](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1220708757702877186) Julian shifted out of ‘solitary confinement’’ in the hospital wing to a wing with 40 occupants. [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1220708757702877186) video - Joseph Farrell]

[26 Jan 2020](https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/01/26/julian-assange-and-inhumanity-of-british-state-prison-healthcare-solitary-confinement-and-torture/) See discussion of health implications of solitary confinement. [[C21Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/01/26/julian-assange-and-inhumanity-of-british-state-prison-healthcare-solitary-confinement-and-torture/)]  
  
**Health - What has changed in Belmarsh?**

After the first week or two at Belmarsh, Julian was moved to the “healthcare wing” of the prison. It is unclear what this means in practical terms as none of his visitors can see him there. Evidently he has a single cell in which he must stay up to 22 or 23 hours a day, with all other prisoners moved away whenever he leaves it (eg to see visitors).

* **General health condition**On [1 May 2019](https://youtu.be/DYe1fbNB9Fo?t=48) **Jennifer Robinson** noted that Julian was “having a difficult time in prison. His health has suffered significantly as a result of the long period of time confined inside the embassy. He’s getting medical treatment but we are very concerned about him.”  
    
  On [28 May 2019](https://in.reuters.com/article/wikileaks-assange-idINKCN1SY1Y1) Swedish defence lawyer **Per E Samuelson** told Reuters he had visited Assange in British custody on Friday after which he had sought to have the hearing postponed.   
  “One of the reasons is that Assange’s health situation on Friday was such that it was not possible to conduct a normal conversation with him,” Samuelson said.  
     
  “I meant that it should be postponed until I had time to meet again and go through the issues in peace and quiet. I suggested no specific date and meant it should be postponed until everything was ready, but the district court has now decided that this won’t happen.”  
    
  [30 May 2019](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/world/uk/julian-assange-too-ill-to-appear-via-video-link-in-extradition-hearing-1.3909426) Julian Assange was too ill on Thursday to appear via video link from a British prison in a hearing on an extradition request from the United States  
     
  “He’s in fact far from well,” Assange’s lawyer, [Gareth Peirce](https://www.irishtimes.com/topics/topics-7.1213540?article=true&tag_person=Gareth+Peirce), told Westminster magistrates’ court. She earlier told Reuters he was too ill to attend the hearing by videolink.“  
  WikiLeaks said it had grave concerns about Assange’s health and that he had been moved to a health ward at London’s Belmarsh high-security prison.“During the seven weeks in Belmarsh his health has continued to deteriorate and he has dramatically lost weight,” it added in a statement. “The decision of prison authorities to move him to the health ward speaks for itself.”  
    
  Britain’s Ministry of Justice said it could not comment on individual prisoners. However, a government source said that although Assange was on the prison’s health wing, he was eating normally and was receiving the same diet as other inmates.”  
    
  [31 July 2019](https://www.9news.com.au/national/lawyer-wants-pm-to-raise-assange-with-us/02d0f3c1-5256-4bd9-a3ac-007eeea8a117) 9 News reported, from an interview with Jennifer Robinson:  
  “Ms Robinson, who last saw Assange in Belmarsh prison a few weeks ago, has "serious concerns" for his health.  
  "His health has obviously deteriorated significantly and (there's) likely permanent damage on his health as a result from his time in the embassy," she said.  
  "He does not deserve the treatment he has received and it's time for the Australian government to speak up."  
    
  In an interview for an [11 Aug 2019](https://thenewdaily.com.au/news/2019/08/11/julian-assange-lawyer/) article,   
  **Jennifer Robinson**:  
  - “... refused to answer questions about how sick he is or what treatment he is receiving, but she said there would be “permanent damage” from his time in the embassy.  
  - “He’s still in the health care ward, obviously after more than six and a half years without access to health care and no area to exercise, there was a significant decline of his health.”  
    
  On [20 Sept 2019](https://defend.wikileaks.org/prison-updates/#24-sept-2019) Julian lost a full hour of his scheduled doctor’s visit due to administrative errors in the prison.  
    
  On [30 Sept 2019](https://defend.wikileaks.org/prison-updates/#30-sept-2019) the Courage Foundation noted:  
  “He remains in effective solitary confinement within healthcare, spending 21-23 hours in his cell every day and with “controlled moves” every time guards move him from his cell to an appointment or outside to exercise, meaning the corridors are cleared and the prison goes on lockdown during his movement.”  
    
  On [2 Oct 2019](https://youtu.be/8PHxmwMGMw4) **John Shipton** (in Berlin, Bundestag press conference) said:  
  “[Julian] is 22-23 hour a day in solitary confinement. No access to the gym. No access to computers. No access to defending himself in the case that is coming up in February [2010]. He’s now on remand. He’s suffered loss of weight - 15kg - and had to be transferred to the prison ‘hospital’where he still resides today.”   
    
  When asked how Julian spends his time, J**ohn Shipton** replied (speculatively):  
  “Staring at the ceiling, meditating … ? Somebody gave him Nelson Mandela’s book to read … Another person gave him Gramsci’s book to read … Both men had a terribly long time in jail and Gramsci succumbed to this … I don’t really know.”  
  [Gramsci died, still incarcerated in a prison hospital ward. At his trial, Gramsci's prosecutor stated, "For twenty years we must stop this brain from functioning."]  
    
  “In the embassy he explained to me that he knew every detail of every wall, the ceiling, the floor, the curtain with a little thread out, because that was his entire environment for year after year after year.So you become intimately familiar with everything … There is no novelty …   
  When I was visiting [the embassy] he would say “John, bring me some food that I haven’t tasted before.” So I’d get Turkish or Iraqi food … That is the interior of Julian’s life in all those years of being arbitrarily detained.”  
    
  [While still imprisoned on the bail charge] “he was allowed 2 x 2hr visits from friends per month. So those 2 hour were so precious … like a diamond in a coal heap …”  
    
  On [21 Oct 2019](https://www.sbs.com.au/news/julian-assange-appears-confused-at-extradition-hearing-struggles-to-recall-his-name) SBS reported:  
  “Julian Assange appeared confused at a London court hearing on Monday, struggling to recall his name and age in his first public appearance in months. [...]  
  When the judge asked him at the end of the hearing if he knew what was happening, he replied “not exactly”, complained about the conditions in jail, and said he was unable to “think properly”.”  
    
  About the [21 Oct 2019](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2019/10/assange-in-court/) court appearance, **Craig Murray** wrote:  
  I was badly shocked by just how much weight my friend has lost, by the speed his hair has receded and by the appearance of premature and vastly accelerated ageing. He has a pronounced limp I have never seen before. Since his arrest he has lost over 15 kg in weight.  
    
  But his physical appearance was not as shocking as his mental deterioration. When asked to give his name and date of birth, he struggled visibly over several seconds to recall both. I will come to the important content of his statement at the end of proceedings in due course, but his difficulty in making it was very evident; it was a real struggle for him to articulate the words and focus his train of thought.  
    
  Until yesterday I had always been quietly sceptical of those who claimed that Julian’s treatment amounted to torture – [even of Nils Melzer](https://medium.com/@njmelzer/demasking-the-torture-of-julian-assange-b252ffdcb768), the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture – and sceptical of those who suggested he may be subject to debilitating drug treatments. But having attended the trials in Uzbekistan of several victims of extreme torture, and having worked with survivors from Sierra Leone and elsewhere, I can tell you that yesterday changed my mind entirely and Julian exhibited exactly the symptoms of a torture victim brought blinking into the light, particularly in terms of disorientation, confusion, and the real struggle to assert free will through the fog of learned helplessness.  
    
  I had been even more sceptical of those who claimed, as a senior member of his legal team did to me on Sunday night, that they were worried that Julian might not live to the end of the extradition process. I now find myself not only believing it, but haunted by the thought. Everybody in that court yesterday saw that one of the greatest journalists and most important dissidents of our times is being tortured to death by the state, before our eyes. To see my friend, the most articulate man, the fastest thinker, I have ever known, reduced to that shambling and incoherent wreck, was unbearable. Yet the agents of the state, particularly the callous magistrate Vanessa Baraitser, were not just prepared but eager to be a part of this bloodsport. She actually told him that if he were incapable of following proceedings, then his lawyers could explain what had happened to him later. The question of why a man who, by the very charges against him, was acknowledged to be highly intelligent and competent, had been reduced by the state to somebody incapable of following court proceedings, gave her not a millisecond of concern.  
    
  On [5 Nov 2019](https://youtu.be/ekfNGMeofbM) **John Pilger** (who was in court in Oct and saw Julian at Belmarsh recently, said:  
  “I think I can agree with Nils Meltzer. His physical condition has changed, He’s lost a lot of weight … To see him in court struggling to say his name and DOB was really very moving. And I’ve seen that where I’ve visited ulian in Belmarsh prison, where he struggles at first, and then collects himself. I’m always impressed by the sheer resilience of the man.  
    
  Of course, As Melzer said, nothing has been done to change the conditions imposed on him.by he prison regime. Nothing has been done by the British authorities..  
    
  On [9 Nov 2019](http://die) **John Shipton**:  
  “ … told reporters in Geneva that he had visited his son in a British prison two days ago and needed to "face the bitter truth" that he "may die in jail."   
  "This is not the bitter disappointment of a father, this is simply fact," he said.
* On [12 Nov 2019](https://diem25.org/i-visited-julian-assange-in-prison-what-can-you-do/) **Srecko Horvat** sent an email via the DIEM network.   
  “He said I should tell you that he uses his time in a cell to walk and think,around 10-15 km each day, imagining he is walking across Europe. He reads the letters, although they are still coming in with much delay. And he is grateful to everyone. And even in this difficult situation, he said it is not just about him, it is about the very essence of democracy.  
  But it is also about him. It is about his life.”
* On [14 Nov 2019](https://web-guengl.streamovations.be/index.php/event/stream/journalism-is-not-a-crime-the-assange-extradition-case#/panel1) [at 49:16] **Nils Meltze**r said:  
  “I received, from various reliable sources, that the health condition of Mr Assange is deteriorating - as is to be expected in these conditions, with this constant arbitrariness and isolation he is exposed to ...  
    
  You’ve probably all seen my Press Release from the end of October saying I am seriously concerned for his life. I don’t think this is being taken seriously enough …”  
    
  Meltzer discusses serious nature of psychologal torture (“it’s not ‘torture light’ ”) and how a very rapid decline in physical and mental health can result.
* On [15 Nov 2019](https://youtu.be/nerFdcQhiE4) **Jennifer Robinson** gave an extensive report on Julian’s health and prison conditions (See lengthy NOTES in Legal Timeline below)
* On [22 Feb 2020](https://www.facebook.com/people4assange/videos/1029623954090579/?__tn__=-R) Dr Lissa Johnson spoke at length about Julian’s health and healthcare - it seems that little has been done to help him, and his high stress levels continue.
* On **25 Feb 2020** Nina Cross summarised Julian’s health situation in an [article](https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/02/25/the-health-of-julian-assange-a-case-of-state-sponsored-neglect/)
* **The MRI and treatment of his shoulder**  
  No information has been forthcoming about this issue.  
    
  **UPDATE 22 Feb 2020** **Dr Lissa Johnson** said that Julian has STILL not had an MRI or treatment for this problem [[FaceBook](https://www.facebook.com/people4assange/videos/1029623954090579/?__tn__=-R) from 9:00]
* **Dentistry**  
  No information has been forthcoming about this issue.  
    
  **UPDATE 22 Feb 2020** **Dr Lissa Johnson** indicated that Julian has STILL not had treatment for this problem [[FaceBook](https://www.facebook.com/people4assange/videos/1029623954090579/?__tn__=-R) from 9:00]
* **Access to fresh air and sunlight**  
  He has access to an exercise yard during the 1 hour a day he is permitted out of his cell.  
  It is [reported](https://peoplesdispatch.org/2019/10/02/assange-behind-bars-by-felicity-ruby/) that painted on the wall of the yard is “*Enjoy the blades of grass under your feet*” But there is no grass in the yard. (Also [mentioned](https://youtu.be/OhjLKzmzmTg?t=2m26s) by John Pilger 3 Sept 2019.)  
  It is unclear what hour of the day he is permitted outside. It has been reported that in some prisons the out-of-cell time must be taken in the middle of the night.
* **New glasses, and access to distant views**  
  Eyes need to focus at different distances to retain good eyesight. This was not possible for Julian in the embassy, as he was confined to a very small space. His problems with actually seeing things at a distance were apparent on the few occasions he was permitted to use the balcony at the embassy.   
  This situation has not improved in a prison cell.  
  He also needed new glasses, which apparently the prison has provided. One lens fell out the first day (according to his father). John Pilger [reported](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/11/29/john-pilger-visiting-britains-political-prisoner/) that the new glasses took months to arrive.
* **Healthy food**  
  Julian has always been quite particular about eating healthy food, and now has to eat [prison food](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/world/uk/julian-assange-too-ill-to-appear-via-video-link-in-extradition-hearing-1.3909426). [See 2.1 (p31)in the prison [Report](https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmiprisons/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2018/06/Belmarsh-Web-2018.pdf).]  
  He has also been very careful about the source of his food to ensure that nothing toxic or otherwise unwanted (eg undisclosed medication) was introduced that way.   
  He now has no control over that.   
  He has lost a lot of weight ([reported](https://youtu.be/GL-aOn782K4?t=42) by John Pilger - and others - to be up to 15kg).  
    
  During visits, those visiting him may purchase food to share with him. What is available is [reported](https://peoplesdispatch.org/2019/10/02/assange-behind-bars-by-felicity-ruby/) to be all junk food.  
    
  On 29 Nov 2019 John Pilger [reported](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/11/29/john-pilger-visiting-britains-political-prisoner/):  
  You are allowed to bring in £10 to spend at a small café run by volunteers.   
  “I’d like something healthy,” said Julian, who devoured a sandwich.
* **Stressful conditions**  
  These appear to have worsened.  
  He now has very restricted access to his lawyers, friends, and family, very limited access to books and writing materials, and, until recently, no access to the records he needs to fight his case. He still has no computer to read and compose documents related to the case (or anything else). He has almost no opportunities to socialise outside of very limited visiting times, and cannot socialise with other prisoners.  
    
  On a MOATS interview (15 Sept 2019), **John Shipton** [said](https://youtu.be/sdvgP11xpSs?t=42m27s) that Julian goes to a Catholic Mass 3 times a week because that is his only opportunity to be with other prisoners. One library visit to this point.  
    
  In a 14 Nov 2019 [address](https://web-guengl.streamovations.be/index.php/event/stream/journalism-is-not-a-crime-the-assange-extradition-case) (at 31:50) in the EU Parliament, **Nils Melzer** discusses the components of this stress, and forms in which it is ongoing. [See also quotes unde Access to Lawyers (below)]
* **General prison conditions**When asked about Julian’s situation in Belmarsh on [3 May 2019](https://youtu.be/4NehUn_tM98?t=4m25s), **Jennifer Robinson** noted that:  
  “Significant concerns are being raised about the standards and the conditions in that prison for the WHOLE prison population. Julian himself has been inside his cell almost the whole day long, every day. At least now he’s getting medical treatment [but] we remain very concerned about his health. But conditions inside that prion are very tough and he’s finding it very difficult.”  
    
  On [25 Sept 2019](https://angelof-truth.com/2019/09/29/letter-i-received-from-belmarsh-prison-regarding-julian-assange/) **HM Prison and Probation Service** sent a letter to a correspondent containing a range of statements about the conditions under which Julian is held. (It appears that the recipient didn’t find these statements particularly credible.)  
    
  On Sunday, 29 September, a man in the cell next door to Julian in Belmarsh’s health ward was apparently driven to desperation. The prisoner set fire to or in his own cell, sending smoke into the corridors and into the nearby cells. A day later, the inmate is back in the same cell. [from Courage Foundation [30 Sept 2019](https://defend.wikileaks.org/prison-updates/#30-sept-2019)]  
    
  On 12 October 2019, **M.I.A** reported:  
    
  - "I've been trying to give [him] a yoga book for a month now ... every wk trying to hand it in - it's been impossible. To me that's very extreme - denying even reading books ... or sketch books so he could write or draw." (35:48) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1183060100103233538)]  
    
  - "I haven't been able to take in puzzles [to] stimulate the mind ... I first thought that maybe all prisoners are treated like that, where they're not able to have some ... dignity & own the space between their ears ... " (36:26) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1183062431356145664)]  
    
  On 1 Dec 2019 **EmmyB** raises the question of whether Julian has been allowed to enrol to vote in the UK: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1201262720563208193)]  
    
    
  SEE ALSO: [**Report**](https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmiprisons/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2018/06/Belmarsh-Web-2018.pdf) on an Unannounced Inspection of HMP Belmarsh by **HM Chief Inspector of Prisons** 29 Jan to 9 Feb 2018  
  Some points:  
  - [T]here was a significant shortage of frontline staff. It was being addressed, but had resulted in a severely depleted daily regime and regular redeployment of specialist staff to ensure that even a basic period of daily unlocking time could be given.  
  - The funding for education and training was insufficient and meant the prison could not meet all prisoners’ needs.   
  - The number of incidents of violence had increased since our last inspection, and some were serious.  
  - [W]e observed a minority of wing-based staff who were dismissive and disrespectful in their dealings with Introduction 6 HMP Belmarsh prisoners.  
  - In our survey, 31% of prisoners said they felt unsafe at the time of our inspection and 58% said they had felt unsafe at some time. Fewer prisoners than in comparator prisons said they had not been victimised by prisoners or staff..

**Access to mail**

* [7 May 2019](https://youtu.be/Kl3Sj6ZKI6g?t=3m46s) **Pamela Anderson** reported that he hadn’t received any letters yet, “but it’s a process for him to have any kind of communication.”
* [24 Sept 2019](https://defend.wikileaks.org/prison-updates/#24-sept-2019) **Courage Foundation** reported that after a public outcry because Julian had not received any mail for a month, he had now received a backlog of hundreds of letters from supporters.
* [2 Oct 2019](https://youtu.be/iKSM0sEJS6A?t=18m11s) **John Shipton** said “Now he can reply to letters. And if you rewrite to him he will reply to you. … [His mail] was held back for a number of weeks … but then 500 letters were delivered. In a bundle, because they were held back for a considerable amount of time … [inaudible question] I understand it is a requirement on the prison to deliver the mail as it comes. So NOT delivering the mail is further furthering the circumstances of extreme discomfort the jail places upon Julian. ”
* [12 Nov 2019](https://diem25.org/i-visited-julian-assange-in-prison-what-can-you-do/) **Srecko Horvat** said “He reads the letters, although they are still coming in with much delay. And he is grateful to everyone.” [DIEM email]
* [17 Jan 2020:](https://twitter.com/TRUMANHUMAN2020/status/1218310750583783424) **TrumanHuman** tweeted: “Assamge sent me a long letter in May last year. I wrote back many times during the summer+I was pretty sure his post was being kept from him which proved right eventually.@ end Oct beginning of Nov I got another short letter from Julian,I think his posts being kept back again now.”

**Access to lawyers and means to prepare defence**

* [14 June 2019](https://youtu.be/UcmA5UO__n0?t=42) **Jennifer Robinson** reported that his lawyers were not permitted to give Julian copies of legal documents in the prison- they had to mail them to Belmarsh.  
    
  “We don’t have sufficient access to him. His lawyers are not able to hand him papers in the prison. It takes weeks for papers to reach him. He doesn’t have a laptop to prepare his material on.It’s a very difficult situation in which to be defending such a serious extradition case.”
* [21 Oct 2019](https://youtu.be/Yhjm7ajSdiM?t=2m08s) **Emmy Butlin** (who was in the court) for the case management hearing:  
    
  "He explained how difficult it is because of his conditions in Belmarsh to stay in touch with the developments in his case. He explained how difficult it was to communicate with his lawyers. And the reply from the judge was: "The conditions of your stay in Belmarsh is not the object of this court." So, completely dismissed. She wasn't interested in what he had to say. It's a shocking situation."
* [14 Nov 2019](https://web-guengl.streamovations.be/index.php/event/stream/journalism-is-not-a-crime-the-assange-extradition-case#/panel1) **Nils Meltzer** (at 42:30), in the EU Parliament:  
    
  “Ït was only in October, after being arrested in April, that he has received access to his legal documents. How is that possible? That you are the defendant in legal proceedings, subject to an extradition request from the US - where I am convinced he will not get a fair trial, but will be the subject of a secret, show trial, and then very likely disappear in a high security facility for the rest of his life, in conditions that my mandate, and my predecessor in the US for High Security Detainees, have repeatedly criticised as being inhumane, cruel and degrading.  
    
  So how is it possible that a person like this does not get access to his legal documents? That he is asked to respond to an indictment that he has not been able to read? To me, this is outlandish. This is not worth of democracy. This increases **stress levels** ...“  
    
  Melzer goes on to discuss the “arbitrary” nature of the legal process:   
  “where the whole system is biased against you””, “where judges that have a documented conflict of interest against you are allowed to preside your case, where a judge calls you ‘a narcissist’ in an open hearing although you have not even said anything except ‘I plead not guilty’.

How can you trust that system? What kind of effect will that have on you, psychologically, when you know your whole environment is skewed against you, and is only after a certain result, and will not listen to you? [...] It is psychological torture’”

* On [15 Nov 2019](https://youtu.be/nerFdcQhiE4) **Jennifer Robinson** gave an extensive report on Julian’s health and prison conditions (See lengthy NOTES below)  
   She noted that papers can now be handed to Julian by his lawyers when they visit, but that conditions in the prison still make communications difficult, and are impacting on Julian;s ability to defend himself.
* On [18 Nov 2019](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1196373387377025024) Julian’s solicitor, **Gareth Peirce**, is reported to have “alerted the court to the fact that Julian Assange now has access to a computer at Belmarsh but not one that's suitable for his needs.”  
    
  [M.A.E.](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1196430326043742208) added:  
  “This morning **Judge [Vanessa Baraitser**]. in Julian Assange's extradition hearing, dismissed concerns over his inability to prepare for his case due to unsuitable computer equipment being provided to him as beyond her jurisdiction.”  
    
  See also Sputnik [article](https://sputniknews.com/world/201911181077339881-judge-in-assanges-case-says-she-has-no-jurisdiction-over-the-conditions-over-which-he-is-held/).  
    
  NOTE: See [European Prison Rules](https://rm.coe.int/european-prison-rules-978-92-871-5982-3/16806ab9ae) (2006) Rule 98.2:  
  “98.2 All necessary facilities shall be provided to assist untried prisoners to prepare their defence and to meet with their legal representatives. ”
* On [29 Nov 2019](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/11/29/john-pilger-visiting-britains-political-prisoner/) **John Pilger reports**, from a visit the previous day,:  
  “He is still denied a laptop and software with which to prepare his case against extradition. He still cannot call his American lawyer, or his family in Australia.”
* [**4 Dec 2019**](https://youtu.be/XdTUhIUaKBw?t=1h26m26s) **Kristinn Hrafnsson** was asked about his confidence in the legal team [in Melbourne video]  
    
  “I have full faith in the legal team. The legal team is comprised of the best people that Julian could get. **Gareth Peirce** [the solicitor in charge] is a historical giant in law, and others on the team are absolutely doing the best they can.   
    
  A lot of things are happening behind the scenes, just to add. So it’s not just what you see and hear. But for legal reasons; for strategic reasons, things also have to happen behind the scene - because lawyers don’t want to show their cards before they go to court. So even if people see or perceive inaction, it doesn’t mean things are not being worked on. So I have full faith and confidence [in the legal team].  
    
  My only concern is that, despite the fact that you have this tremendously good team and a huge capacity, as I said earlier, this is a case that I’m afraid will not be ruled on the merits of the law. It’s a political case.”  
    
  See [Legal Team](https://twitter.com/i/moments/1190361528127705089)]
* **13 Dec 2019** **Mandatory Administrative Hearing**  
    
  The [Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2019/dec/13/lawyers-complain-about-lack-of-access-to-julian-assange-in-jail) reported:  
    
  **Gareth Peirce**, defending Assange, said the legal team were struggling to prepare documents for the case as Assange had no access to the evidence.  
    
  “Without Mr Assange’s knowledge, some of it is recently acquired evidence, some of it is subject to months of investigation not always in this country, of which he is unaware because of the blockage in visits,” she said.  
    
  “Despite our best efforts, Mr Assange has not been given what he must be given, and we are doing our utmost to cut through this.”  
    
  **Peirce** said the governor of Belmarsh had prioritised family visits over legal visits, and she asked the judge to step in. But the district judge, **Vanessa Baraitser**, said she had no jurisdiction over the Prison Service.  
    
  “Can I make it clear that I have no desire to stand in the way of any lawyer having proper access to their client and it’s in the interest of justice that they do,” the judge said. “What I can do and say is to state in open court that it would be helpful to this extradition process that Mr Assange’s lawyers have the access to their client.”  
    
  See more in main timeline [[Daily Mail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7788673/WikiLeaks-founder-Julian-Assange-BLOCKED-seeing-key-evidence-authorities.html?ito=social-twitter_dailymailUK)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/europe/201912131077566960-judge-in-assanges-case-ignores-precedence-of-another-judge-intervening-with-belmarsh-prison/)]
* 20 Dec 2019 Julian Assange to give evidence to Spanish Court via videolink [[ElPais](https://elpais.com/elpais/2019/11/29/inenglish/1575044449_760169.html)]  
    
  **Judge José de la Mata** of Spain’s High Court, the **Audiencia Naciona**l, will interview [Assange] via video link on December 20, said judicial sources.   
    
  Assange will be transferred from Belmarsh prison in southeast London to Westminster Magistrates Court to answer questions from De la Mata, who is **investigating alleged** [**violations of client-attorney privilege**](https://elpais.com/elpais/2019/10/04/inenglish/1570197052_180631.html)between the [Assange] and his lawyers, and allegations that these conversations were passed on to the CIA.
* **13 Jan 2020 Gareth Peirce** notes that Julian’s lawyers have only had 2 hours access to Julian since last she spoke to the court. She only gets one more hour on this day.   
  [See many reports in [next section](#utlblopy0z8m).]
* **25 & 26 Jan 2020** The Canary articles re legality of proceedings [[Part1](https://www.thecanary.co/uk/analysis/2020/01/25/six-legal-arguments-show-why-the-us-extradition-of-julian-assange-should-be-denied/)] and [[Part2](https://www.thecanary.co/uk/analysis/2020/01/26/evidence-mounts-of-irregularities-in-uk-court-procedures-in-assange-extradition-case/)]
* [**28 Jan 2020**](https://medium.com/athenslivegr/juan-branco-we-are-lucky-that-julian-is-still-alive-7ceb79d36c52) **Juan Branco** from Greece:  
  “No, it’s not changing”, Branco replies. “English lawyers have almost no time with him and international lawyers have no time with him, basically. So it’s a strategy from the UK to undermine his defense and have him out of the country as soon as possible, in order to forget about this issue which has cost them a lot of media [attention] and pressure and discomfort. We are victims of this strategy. Julian is in a situation that is not acceptable from the defense perspective and we will raise this argument also, but we are also conscious it will not be received. Gareth Pierce is the leading advocate in the UK regarding this issue and she is a very well respected lawyer in the UK, so she is trying to use very carefully this symbolic capital she has in order to help Julian, but she seems pressured that she hasn’t seen him…”
* [**18 Feb 2020**](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1229726767256100864) **Jennifer Robinson** (41:40) at press conference:  
  Our access has been delayed or difficult. Whether it’s about  
  - our ability to get prison visits,   
  - the time we get with him when we get the prison visits - often I’ll sit there for half an hour or longer into a 2 hour visit because the guards haven’t brought him down yet, so what should be a 2 hour visit is significantly constricted,  
  - we were not allowed to hand him papers in prison for a very long time.  
  As the result of the work of Gareth Peirce some of those restrictions were lifted.  
  There has also been problems with access for him to a computer in what is an incredibly complex case with a huge amount of evidence.  
    
  So it has materially affected his ability to prepare his case and properly defend himself.

## **UPDATES from LEGAL TEAM and KEY SPEAKERS**

Including some links to related events and documents

* 25 Aug 2016 **Julian Assange** spoke about his legal team [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/BEmM4rHVlTQ?t=24m35s)]  
  “We have 154 lawyers that are on our legal team or staff, or have advised us... All of them are either pro bono or are working at highly reduced rates, or some just for costs. But none-the-less, that’s a big team. The loss of Michael Ratner was a big blow for us. In the US he was our chief counsel.” [The need for donations for legal fees was then discussed.]
* April ?? 2019 **Julian Assange** made an audio record days prior to his arrest: [[Audio](https://twitter.com/i/status/1118473351566123010)]  
    
  “**What is occuring … It’s not about this protocol.   
  What has occured since March 27 - March 28, it’s about something much more serious. It is the Ecuadorian government positioning itself in order to violate the asylum. Positioning itself in terms of its public discourse.   
  Gagging me in order to rebut the allegations that it is making public: that it is - apparently - deliberately leaking out to the press: selective scandalous material.   
  It’s all about setting the ground in order to violate the asylum, to hand me over to the United States.”**
* **2019 UPDATES**

#### **APRIL 2020.**

* 10 April 2019 **Jennifer Robinson & Kristinn Hrafnsson** “UK Wikileaks Press Conference: Discovery of 'extensive spying operation' against Assange within the Ecuadorian Embassy” [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/72yCVOSHIEM)]
* 11 April 2019 Julian Assange **arrested** inside the Ecuadorian Embassy [[Ruptly](https://twitter.com/barnabynerberka/status/1116275982518898688)]
* 11 April 2019 Julian Assange **convicted** of bail violation
* 11 April 2019 **Provisional extradition request from US** (1 count)   
  - [[DOJ Press Release](https://www.justice.gov/usao-edva/pr/wikileaks-founder-charged-computer-hacking-conspiracy)]  
  - [(US) [Affidavit](https://www.scribd.com/document/406384145/Assange-Affidavit#from_embed) in support of a Criminal Complaint and Arrest Warrant (dated 21 Dec 2017) unsealed 11 April 2019]   
  - [[Indictment and commentary](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1116341233289396225) from K Gosztola]
* 11 April 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** (outside court) [[BBC](https://youtu.be/cD8UVpvgI-Q)] [[Global news](https://youtu.be/im7OmmUqMoY)]
* 11 April 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** (after court) [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/nd1gPGXqZNw)]
* 11 April 2019 **Renata Avila** [[Democracy Now](https://youtu.be/BaCY_E1DhMs)]  
  “His arrest is a multi-layered violation of human rights [under international law].and his constitutional rights [under Ecuadorian law].”
* 11 Apr 2019 **UK Prime Minister Theresa May** says (in parliament):  
  “I’m sure that the whole House will welcome the news this morning that the Metropolitan Police this morning have arrested Julian Assange - arrested for breach of bail after nearly seven years in the Ecuadorian embassy. He has also been arrested in relation to an extradition request from the US authorities. This is now a legal matter before the courts.

The Home Secretary will make a statement on this later, but I would like to thank the Metropolitan Police for carrying out their duties with great professionalism and to welcome the cooperation of the Ecuadorian government in bringing this matter to a resolution. This goes to show that in the UK, no one is above the law.” [[CityNews](https://youtu.be/yXx-aIzC4uE)]

* 12 Apr 2019 **Greg Barns** (in AU) on the arrest [[TRT World](https://youtu.be/yzTrKnkVHnQ)]
* 12 Apr 2019 **Kristinn Hrafnsson & Jennifer Robinson** [[RT]](https://youtu.be/lw1mmfYhK7A)
* 12 Apr 2019 **Ravina Shamdasani** from the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights [UNOHC] [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/8KiUbp16_2I)]   
  “From the OHCHR’s side, what I can say is that we expect all relevant authorities to ensure that Mr. Assange’s right to a fair trial is upheld by the authorities, including any extradition procedures that may take place,”
* 12 Apr 2019 **AU Prime Minister Scott Morrison** says:  
  “Julian Assange will get the same Consular assistance that any Austraian would receive.” [[Global News](https://youtu.be/oTPFaY8_nKw)]
* 13 Apr 2019 **Geoffrey Robertson** QC [[Going Underground](https://youtu.be/hDgd6XSyBno)]
* 14 April 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** [[Sophie Ridge, Sky News](https://youtu.be/wpwyMu3PsUg)] and [[CNN](https://youtu.be/wqLmFRMJjgw)]
* 14 April 2019 **Ecuador's Human Rights Commission** declares Assange asylum expulsion illegal in violation of articles 6, 41, 66.14, and 77 (nationality, asylum, non-refoulement and due process) and predicts Ecuador will be found to have violated international conventions. [[tweet](https://twitter.com/DefendAssange/status/1117373178618109952)] [[article ES](https://nortesur.media/2019/04/13/defensoria-del-pueblo-de-ecuador-declara-la-ilegalidad-de-la-expulsion-de-assange/)]
* 14 April 2019 **Anne Ramburg** (at the time the General Secretary for the Swedish Bar Association) [blogs](https://annerambergs.wordpress.com/2019/04/14/assange-en-bisarr-historia-som-kraver-svenskt-agerande/) about the Swedish performance over the Assange allegations [AI translation]:  
    
  “I fear that the handling of Assange has damaged the reputation of the Swedish judicial system, even though Assange has not actively contributed to any significant extent. That being said, I have sympathy for Assange's concern that Sweden would join the United States in meeting a possible extradition request. If this can only be speculated. …  
    
  Let us not forget, that no matter what we think about Assange or the acts he is suspected of, this is something much more. It is about freedom of speech and the rule of law. It is ultimately about the right and moral obligation to reveal war crimes. So did Assange and Wikileaks. The revelations about the US abuse were necessary and extremely important. Would we hand over someone to Germany's Hitler who revealed the presence of concentration camps and genocide. No matter how this knowledge was accessed? I do not think so.”
* 14 Apr 2019 **Chris Williamson MP** (outside Belmarsh) [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/oNO6kiFvbb4)]  
  Quotes::  
  "The reason why these actions have been taken is because he has drawn attention to the abuses of state power, the war crimes that were perpetrated in Iraq and this is something we should be venerating him for, not actually penalising and punishing him the way the British government is seeking to do now."  
    
  Assange is “an ill man” and “”should have been taken to hospital in the back of an ambulance not bundled into the back of the police van into prison.'”
* 24 Apr 2019 **Icelandic court** has ordered formerly VISA Iceland (now VALITOR) to pay $10m (1.2 bn ISK) in damages for blocking credit card donations to WikiLeaks in 2011. [[WL tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1121121623870984194)]
* 24 Apr 2019 **Wikileaks** On the **Law of Specialty** (whether the US could add new charges after extradition) [[WL Tweet]](https://twitter.com/DefendAssange/status/1121122584937025536)
* 25 Apr 2019 **Joe Cannataci** UN Rapporteur on Privacy visits Julian Assange in Belmarsh [[Ruptly](https://twitter.com/ruptly/status/1121432521114312705?s=12)] [[DA tweet](https://twitter.com/DefendAssange/status/1121330253127983105)]
* 26 Apr 2019 [Application](https://cryptome.org/2019/04/rcfp-028.pdf) of [US] **Reporters’ Committee** to unsealing of the docket in Criminal Case 1:18cr111 - CMH, *United States v. Julian Paul Assange*, and specific filings therein.
* 29 Apr 2019 **Carlos Poveda** Files Complaint before Ecuador’s Attorney General on Ecuadorean Diplomats for Espionage [[Telesur](https://www.telesurenglish.net/news/Assanges-Defense-File-Complaint-on-Ecuadorean-Diplomats-for-Espionage-20190429-0015.html)] [[Video (ES)](https://twitter.com/andreagrijalva/status/1122861338466967552)] [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/UvnH2c2eL94)]

#### MAY 2019.

* 01 May 2019 Julian Assange [mitigation arguments](https://www.scribd.com/document/408285158/JA-Mitigation) in sentencing hearing
* 01 May 2019 Julian Assange sentenced to 50 weeks in prison for breach of bail
* 01 May 2019 [Sentencing remarks](https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/sentencing-remarks-assange-010519.pdf) of **HHJ Deborah Taylor**  
  Note that sentencing remarks reference the cost of police monitoring the embassy, but the Crown Prosecution Service said (in a 10 Dec 2013 [email](https://twitter.com/Hanissee/status/1124557115270545408) to the Swedish prosecutor Marianne Ny that “”I do not consider costs are a relevant factor in this matter.”
* 01 May 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** (outside court):

“Today is the first time that a British court has heard detailed evidence about the concerns and the fears that led Mr Assange to seek asylum inside the Ecuadorian embassy. I encourage all of you to take the time to [read those submissions](https://www.scribd.com/document/408285158/JA-Mitigation) that will be made public and to come to your own conclusions about that evidence, and the reasonableness of his decision to go inside the embassy when he chose to do so.   
  
This case is, and always has been, about the risk of extradition to the US. We’ve been saying since 2010 that that risk is real, and we now have a provisional extradition request from the US. The focus will now be on fighting that extradition request - and that fight starts tomorrow.” [[AP Archive](https://youtu.be/Rj256s_CniM?t=1m03s) (1)]  
  
“"I think we are all disappointed with the harshness of the sentence which he has been given in light of the evidence that has been put before the judge about his fear of the risk of his extradition to the United States - a risk that has materialised, and which is the concern that drove him into the embassy in the first place.” [[AP Archive](https://youtu.be/DYe1fbNB9Fo) (2)]

* 01 May 2019 **Kristinn Hrafnsson** on the length of the sentence [[AP Archive]](https://youtu.be/Rj256s_CniM)  
  “It’s an outrage. It’s almost double the sentencing guideline.”
* 01 May 2019 **Juan Branco,** Julian’s French lawyer (for May Day in France) said the way forward to help Assange is to apply social pressure to "show that people care about his destiny." [AP Archive]
* 02 May 2019 **First procedural hearing re US extradition case** (also, ironically, World Press Freedom Day)
* 02 May 2019 J**ennifer Robinson** and Kristinn Hrafnsson (outside court) [[AP Archive](https://youtu.be/EUCEvsCMoKQ)] [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/_Pj696AOswM?t=3h13m40s)]
* 02 May 2019 **Kristin Hrafnsson** and **Juan Branco** [FR] outside the Ecuadorian Embassy [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/CrHl_DlpHAo)]  
  Re Julian’s pssessions withheld “I consider this a theft so I called the police!”
* 03 May 2019 The UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention [**UNWGAD**]
* issued a [follow up statement](https://www.ohchr.org/FR/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24552&LangID=E) to its [Opinion 54/2015](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/HRC/WGAD/2015/54), and   
  subsequent [21 December 2018 statement](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24042&LangID=E)

“The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention is deeply concerned about this course of action including the disproportionate sentence imposed on Mr. Assange. The Working Group is of the view that violating bail is a minor violation that, in the United Kingdom, carries a maximum sentence of 12 months in prison, even though the bond related to the bail has been lost in favour of the British Government, and that Mr. Assange was still detained after violating the bail which, in any case should not stand after the Opinion was issued.  
   
The Working Group regrets that the Government has not complied with its Opinion and has now furthered the arbitrary deprivation of liberty of Mr. Assange.”

* 03 May 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** [[Real News](https://youtu.be/4NehUn_tM98)]
* 08 May 2019 Dr Love gave an interview on [[Telesur](https://videos.telesurtv.net/video/776807/entrevista-con-jorge-gestoso-776807/)] (see Health)
* 09 May 2019 **Nils Melzer** visit Julian at Belmarsh [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/8gD4nos4JL8)] (See Health)
* 13 May 2019 New (third) Swedish prosecutor **Ann Marie Persson** reopens Swedish preliminary enquiry saying [see [tweet](https://twitter.com/AssangeLegal/status/1135139709028655105)]: [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/mXq_0LdUEtI?t=28m07s)],

“I would like to make the following very clear: My decision to reopen the [Assange] preliminary investigation is not the equivalent [of] taking a position on whether or not to indict Assange. This is a matter which we will have to revisit.”

* 13 May 2019 Comment (from Iceland) by **Kristinn Hrafnsson** [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/Z9g9hFtkpJY)]
* 14 May 2019 **Baltasar Garzon** (in Berlin) [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/FHE66ZVBBDE) (ES)]  
    
  Baltasar Garzon, said Sweden has "not a single reason" to reopen a rape case against Assange, during a conference held at the Cervantes Institute in Berlin on Tuesday.  
  Also noted the very limited hours available to confer with Julian in Belmarsh..  
  Expressed amazement that Ecuador seems to have agreed to pass Juian Assange’s possession over to the US, as this is in total contradiction to all the laws of asylum.
* 20 May 2019 Swedish Deputy Director of Public Prosecution **Eva-Marie Persson** submits an application fora detention order to Uppsala District Court, in which she requests the court to detain Julian Assange in his absence. [[Document](https://via.tt.se/pressmeddelande/request-for-detention-of-julian-assange?publisherId=3235540&releaseId=3257259)]
* 20 May 2019 **Wikileaks** [Statement](https://wikileaks.org/Ecuador-to-hand-over.html): “Ecuador to hand over Assange's entire legal defense to the United States”   
  Many quotes included - from UN Special Rapporteur on Privacy (Joe Cannataci), Wikileaks lawyers: Aitor Martinez, Carlos Poveda and Baltasar Garzon, and Wikileaks editor Kristinn Hrafnsson
* 23 May 2019 **US Superseding indictment** [[Press release](https://twitter.com/TheJusticeDept/status/1131655736084316165)] [[Indictments](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/6024843-Assange-superseding-indictment.html)]
* 23 May 2019 UN Special Rapporteur on Privacy, **Joseph Cannataci**, issues [statement](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24646&LangID=E)   
  “[He is] is very seriously concerned by reports that the Government of Ecuador is planning to hand over personal belongings of Julian Assange to the United States.  
    
  Cannataci wrote to the Government of Ecuador recommending safeguards that should be in place before any search. He also offered to provide the assistance of impartial experts to monitor the search, and separate information that could be relevant for an eventual criminal process in the United States from information that should be kept private and handed back to Assange. The Special Rapporteur said he was disappointed by the lack of timely response from the Government of Ecuador.  
    
  “I have twice formally requested the Government of Ecuador to return Mr. Assange's personal effects to his lawyers, but instead it seems that it intends to hand them over to the US authorities. While I have no problem with search and seizure procedures which are properly carried out under the rule of law, these are very special circumstances on at least two counts: there is more than the right to privacy at stake. Other human rights and especially the freedom of expression are also at risk if some of Mr. Assange's material were to fall into the wrong hands. Mr. Assange dealt with a number of confidential sources and whistleblowers whose identity and privacy should likewise be protected,” said the Special Rapporteur.”
* 24 May 2019 **Jennifer Robinson**: decries espionage charges as “Grave Threat to Press Freedom” [[Democracy Now](https://youtu.be/VmLvnb-tGgw)]
* 27 May 2019 **Jonathan Cook** lists 17 anomalies in the legal cases related to Julian Assange “Abuses show Assange case was never about law” [[Blog](https://www.jonathan-cook.net/blog/2019-05-27/abuses-show-assange-case-was-never-about-law/)]
* 28 May 2019 **Per E Samuelson** - Swedish court rejects a request to postpone (re Assange ill health) a planned hearing to rule on the detention in absentia of Julian Assange [[Reuters](https://in.reuters.com/article/wikileaks-assange-idINKCN1SY1Y1)] Hearing scheduled for 3 June 2019.
* 31 May 2019 UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, **Nils Melzer**, issues [statement](https://ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24665&LangID=E):  
  “UN expert says "collective persecution" of Julian Assange must end now ” [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/Zo9G1yJnf4Q)]  
  Three main concerns:  
  - His current state of health “which was already alarming when I visited him.”  
  - “I’m appalled at consistent, sustained and concerted abuse that this man has been exposed to by democratic states over a prolo”nged period of time.”  
  - ”I’m gravely concerned at the possibility of extradition to the US.”

#### **JUNE 2019.**

* 3 June 2019 **District Court Uppsala** announces that the request to arrest Wikileaks founder Julian Assange on suspicion of rape is denied [[sverigesradio](https://sverigesradio.se/artikel/7234657).se]  
   Court does not consider this to be a proportionate measure. The district court shows that Sweden is a rule of law, says Assange's lawyer Per E Samuelson. [[svd](https://www.svd.se/i-dag-kan-assange-haktas).se]
* 3 June 2019 **Per E Samuelson** speaks about court denial of arrest warrant:   
  “I think it is a big victory for Julian Assange.It’s also a victory fro Sweden who upheld the rule of law. It’s a defeat for the prosecutors who one again were punished having not conducted the case in a correct way.” [[Rupt;y](https://youtu.be/FgI64ol1QJw?t=34)]
* 12 June 2019 **John Shipton** "Julian Is Being Persecuted Not Prosecuted": [[Telesur](https://youtu.be/Ha0-YKLwqyo)]
* 13 June 2019 **Greg Barns** (in Au) on case to extradite Assange [[TRT World]](https://youtu.be/mSHoQs8fih0)
* 13 June 2019 **UK Home Secretary Sajid Javid** “signed and certified” the extradition order to the US for Julian Assange [[Telegraph](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/06/13/sajid-javid-approves-extradition-julian-assange-us-spying-charges/)]
* 14 June 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** (outside court) [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/3M2XkhdZBiE)] [[AP Archive](https://youtu.be/UcmA5UO__n0)]
* 17 June 2019 **Lauri Love** (who won his case against extradition to the UK) on the court process [[RT](https://youtu.be/Cd4R4v3i2Yg)]
* 26 Jun 2019 “*On the occasion of the International Day in Support of Torture Victims*” **Nils Melzer** published “Demasking the Torture of Julian Assange” [[Website](http://thealtworld.com/thealtworld/demasking-the-torture-of-julian-assange)]
* 27 June 2019 **Jennifer Robinson, Kristinn Hrafnsson, Nils Melzer** (UN Rapporteur on Torture), **Mads Andenas** (UNWGAD),UNHRC in Geneva [[#HRC41](https://twitter.com/i/broadcasts/1PlKQLXqakYxE) from 3:31]

#### **JULY 2019.**

* 1 July 2019 **Stefania Maurizi** and lawyers FOIA appeal [[tweet]](https://twitter.com/cornerstonebarr/status/1145612592125304832) [[article](https://www.repubblica.it/esteri/2019/06/29/news/wikileaks_london_court_to_decide_on_assange_documentation_access-229911906/)] [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/CxUGxnieLR0?t=49)]
* 3 July 2019 **Eva-Marie Persson**: Sweden won’t issue a European investigation order for Wikileaks Founder Julian Assange right now, “as evidence is still being analyzed.”  
    
  I won’t make any final decisions about how to proceed until the analysis has been completed," Deputy Director of Public Prosecution **Eva-Marie Persson** said in a statement. She will provide more information in August at the earliest.” [[Bloomberg](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-07-03/sweden-won-t-issue-investigation-order-for-assange-right-now)]  
    
  “A European investigation order is a prerequisite for Persson to question Assange in Britain.  
  Persson said in June she would issue such an order, after a Swedish court rejected the prosecution authority’s request that Assange be detained, thereby blocking Sweden for the time being from requesting Assange be extradited.   
  Persson faces a looming deadline in the case with the statute of limitations set to expire in August 2020.” [[Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-wikileaks-assange-sweden-investigatio/sweden-analyzing-assange-evidence-holds-off-on-investigation-order-idUSKCN1TY1E3)]
* 4 July 2019 Valitor [VISA] settles with Sunshine Press [Wikileaks] in **Iceland** [[article](https://www.vb.is/frettir/valitor-semur-vid-sunshine-press/155471/)]
* 11 July 2019 JUdge (Lady] Emma Arbuthnot refuses to recuse herself [[Article](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/07/11/assa-j11.html)]
* 26 July 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** [RN Breakfast [Full AUDIO](https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/breakfast/wikileaks-founder-julian-assange-could-face-life-in-prison/11348592)and [VIDEO Clip](https://twitter.com/RadioNational/status/1154608380515741696)]
* 30 July 2019 **US District Court Southern District of New York**  [Opinion and Order](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/6225696-DNC-Trump-7-30-19.html) in *DNC v Russian Federation et al* [inc Wikileaks]
* 31 July 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** urges PM Scott Morrison and Foreign Minister Marise Payne to raise the issue [of Assange] when they host Mr Pompeo at AUSMIN in Sydney on Sunday. [[9News](https://www.9news.com.au/national/lawyer-wants-pm-to-raise-assange-with-us/02d0f3c1-5256-4bd9-a3ac-007eeea8a117)]

#### **AUGUST 2019.**

* 07 Aug 2019 **John Pilger** [tweets](https://twitter.com/johnpilger/status/1159101209971761152) “Do not forget Julian Assange”
* 09 Aug 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** (interview) [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/08/09/jenr-a09.html)]   
  re recent [US court ruling](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/6225696-DNC-Trump-7-30-19.html) dismissing the Democratic National Committee [DNC] allegations that WikiLeaks conspired with the Russian government to steal DNC emails and leak them to public.
* 11 Aug 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** pleads with Australians to bring Assange home [[NewDaily](https://thenewdaily.com.au/news/2019/08/11/julian-assange-lawyer/)]
* 16 Aug 2019 **John Shipton** interview Melbourne radio station 3CR [[CitizenWells](https://youtu.be/nqxAocdTl4I)]  
  Update re visit of Julian’s brother Gabriel to Belmarsh - after which Gabriel sent a letter to the AU PM Scott Morrison, [[Summary](http://intsse.com/wswspdf/en/articles/2019/08/20/ship-a20.pdf)]
* 13 Aug 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** [A[NU College of Law](https://youtu.be/W08JqYEPhG8?t=191)]
* 13 Aug 2019 **Craig Murray** [posts](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2019/08/assange-must-not-also-die-in-jail/) “Assange Must Not Also Die in Jail” (after the death of Jeffrey Epstein in a US jail).
* 22 Aug 2019 **Stefania Maurizi** (in Norway) [[We Are Millions](https://youtu.be/Lv8e2DAeZTU?t=13m23s)] [[Transcript](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2019/08/24/its-time-to-act-they-are-killing-julian-assange-slowly/)]

#### **SEPTEMBER 2019.**

* 3 Sept 2019 **John Pilger** speaks at the **Roger Waters** event (“Wish You Were Here”) outside the UK Home Office [[RT](https://youtu.be/OhjLKzmzmTg)] (after visiting Belmarsh a few days earlier)
* 9 Sept 2019 **Jennifer Robinson**: Assange case “sets terrifying precedent” [[MEAA](https://youtu.be/u5YS05jZA14)]
* 9 Sept 2019 Swedish Deputy Director of Public Prosecution **Eva-Marie Persson** provides an update on the Swedish allegations [[Website](https://via.tt.se/pressmeddelande/update-on-the-assange-case?publisherId=3235541&releaseId=3261189)]  
  “Over the course of the summer, a total of seven witness interviews have been conducted as part of the investigation concerning Julian Assange. An analysis of this material is now underway, after which the public prosecutor will decide how to proceed with the case.”
* 13 Sept 2019 **District Judge Vanessa Baraitser** rules on post-sentence remand status of Julian Assange. [[BBC article](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-49689167)]  
  The **BBC** reported:  
  District judge Vanessa Baraitser on Friday told Assange, who appeared by video-link: "You have been produced today because your sentence of imprisonment is about to come to an end.   
  "When that happens your remand status changes from a serving prisoner to a person facing extradition."  
  She said that his lawyer had declined to make an application for bail on his behalf, adding "perhaps not surprisingly in light of your history of absconding in these proceedings".  
  "In my view I have substantial ground for believing if I release you, you will abscond again."
* 15 Sept 2019 **Craig Murray** [posts](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2019/09/the-worlds-most-important-political-prisoner/) “The World’s Most Important Political Prisoner”  
  Excerpt:  
  “In applying for political asylum, Assange was entering a different and higher legal process which is an internationally recognised right. A very high percentage of dissident political prisoners worldwide are imprisoned on ostensibly unrelated criminal charges with which the authorities fit them up. Many a dissident has been given asylum in these circumstances. Assange did not go into hiding – his whereabouts were extremely well known. The [simple characterisation](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-49689167) of this as “absconding” by district judge Vanessa Baraitser is a farce of justice – and like the UK’s repudiation of the UNWGAD report, is an attitude that authoritarian regimes will be delighted to repeat towards dissidents worldwide.  
    
  Her decision to commit Assange to continuing jail pending his extradition hearing was excessively cruel given the serious health problems he has encountered in Belmarsh.  
    
  It is worth noting that Baraitser’s claim that Assange had a “history of absconding in these proceedings” – and I have already disposed of “absconding” as wildly inappropriate – is inaccurate in that “these proceedings” are entirely new and relate to the US extradition request and nothing but the US extradition request. Assange has been imprisoned throughout the period of “these proceedings” and has certainly not absconded. The government and media have an interest in conflating “these proceedings” with the previous risible allegations from Sweden and the subsequent conviction for bail violation, but we need to untangle this malicious conflation. We have to make plain that Assange is now held for publishing and only for publishing. That a judge should conflate them is disgusting. Vanessa Baraitser is a disgrace.”
* 15 Sept 2019 **John Shipton** (by phone on MOATS) [[George Galloway]](https://youtu.be/sdvgP11xpSs?t=32m47s)  
  GG: “So as of today, the UK now holds the world’s No 1 Political Prisoner. Am I right?” [Not quite, it appears. One more week to go.]  
  Shipton was still in Australia at this stage.
* 16 Sept 2019 **John Shipton** (in Sydney?) [[Stephen Sizer](https://youtu.be/N_RdyzPumCI)]  
  Talks about the farcical statements and events that have occurred so far in court related to Julian.
* 19 Sept 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** on AU PM’s visit to US [SBS video in [tweet](https://twitter.com/BrettMasonNews/status/1174548672459284481)]
* 22 Sept 2019 **Julian Assange’**s **detention ended** in relation to his sentence for breach of bail (half of sentence served, per guidelines).
* 24 Sept 2019 **John Shipton** (print interview) [[Strategic Culture](https://www.strategic-culture.org/news/2019/09/24/theyre-murdering-my-son-julian-assanges-father-tells-of-pain-and-anguish/)]
* 26 Sept 2019 **John Shipton** (in Stockholm, [Sweden)](https://youtu.be/4PcW8CRyUZw?t=6m11s) [[News Voice]](https://youtu.be/1TMbBXQC7to)
* 28 Sept 2019 **John Shipton** received the Gavin MacFadyen Award on behalf of his son at a rally outside the Belmarsh prison [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/YI4nw_xrRQk)] [[EF Press](https://youtu.be/JKcuS33h7F8)]
* 30 Sept 2019 **Courage Foundation** notes [at Defend Wikileaks] notes:  
  “There have been no noticeable changes to Julian Assange’s prison conditions or treatment since his bail sentence ended on 22 September and his imprisonment on [remand for the United States’ extradition request](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2019/09/23/bail-sentence-ends-uk-now-holding-assange-solely-on-us-behalf/) began the following day. [[Defend Wikileaks](https://defend.wikileaks.org/prison-updates/#30-sept-2019)}

#### **OCTOBER 2019.**

* 2 Oct 2019 **John Shipton** (in German Bundestag, Berlin). [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/8PHxmwMGMw4) short version]
* 2 Oct 2019 **John Shipton**, and deputy leader of Die Linke **Sevim Dagdelen** hold a joint press conference at the German Bundestag [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/iKSM0sEJS6A?t=6m20s)]   
  “Julian’s currently in Belmarsh prison,which is a Grade A maximum security prison. I’ve known - as you can imagine - Julian for quite a long time, and I’ve never seen him hit anybody actually, although he has great courage and he stands up to people. It is incomprehensible to put this strong-minded intellectual with a gentle nature, quite sweet man actually, into a maximum security prison, and then grade him Grade B, so that he is 22-23 hours a day in solitary confinement … He’s now on remand … As a remand prisoner he gets a few more benefits. He can get more visitors, and he will have access to a gym, and access to some means to defend himself in the case arriving in February.”   
    
  [Also discusses asylum and why German parliamentarians, journalists and people should be concerned at the way international conventions have been breached in Julian’s case, and at US attempts at extraterritorial reach.]  
    
  Asked about the extradition process John Shipton [replied](https://youtu.be/iKSM0sEJS6A?t=31m10s):  
  “I can just say what happens:  
  - First of all is the Magistrates Court [that deals with extraditions] … That will probably start in February [2020].  
  - The next court is the High Court. That preparation will take another year.  
  - The next court after that is the Supreme Court. And that preparation is longer - maybe 18mths to two years.  
  - After that is appeal to the European courts which is another 2 years, if you’re lucky.  
  So you can say that it’ll be 3-5 years on remand. Unless …[governments, journalists and people apply pressure and actually do the analysis of what is actually happening to Julian, as it will happen to them.
* 2 Oct 2019 **John Shipton** (at the Brandenburg Gate) [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/qkJKwQg-AxQ?t=33m16s)] All speeches [[RT](https://youtu.be/FjhD-q5E68s)]
* 2 Oct 2019 **Carlos Poveda** (in Ecuador) [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/1biRLhqKzt4)]  
  Carlos Poveda attended a private hearing at Quito's Criminalistics Department on Wednesday, where the WikiLeaks founder's seized electronic devices were to be extracted and reviewed.  
    
  Poveda said, "We asked for copies of the devices, and the judge declined it." According to Poveda, the judge's refusal was "against the Inter-American [Convention] on Criminal Assistance, the Ecuadorian constitution and law."  
    
  Poveda also noted that "there is a possibility to sue the Ecuadorian state," which he said they would proceed with "in the next few days."
* In [October 2019](https://medicine.at.brown.edu/courage-is-contagious/) Dr Love again spoke out (at [Brown University](https://medicine.at.brown.edu/courage-is-contagious/)) - (See Health)
* 09 Oct 2019 **John Shipton** interview [[Going Underground](https://youtu.be/MjBIpX-o4kU)] (having visited Julian in the morning for an hour)  
  “As you would expect he was a bit down in the dumps, and disturbed by the ceaseless and intensifying persecution of him that has gone on now for 9 years.He;s still in the hospital wing and there is activity and action to improve his circumstances. He still spends 22 hrs a day in solitary, and only recently has been given court papers to prepare his case.”  
    
  Asked about support for Julian: “In Stockholm,- I was there last week - support is strong, particularly among a section of that society…. Germany, support there is very strong …[Vigils in Berlin, Dusseldorf, Cologne, Frankfurt] …”  
    
  Discussion about where hope could come from, emphasising the UK judiciary “exercising their independence from the US,”  
    
  Shipton confirmed that Julian was aware of the Spanish case and the story in El Pais, but said he hadn’t discussed that with him. He notes that the alleged CIA live video feed from the embassy was also a scandal for Australia, because they are a member of FIVE EYES. So it is a scandal if they knew about it, and if they didn’t.  
    
  Recent actions of the Australian government are discussed.
* 11 Oct 2019 **Emmy Butlin** at short court appearance (by videolink) [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/3Y_-jLtH5yk)]  
  "We were shocked at the deterioration of his appearance, and we're here to support free speech, freedom of the press and Julian Assange"said Emmy Butlin, a member of Julian Assange Defence Committee.
* 12 Oct 2019 M.I.A. visit to Belmarsh (see below)
* 15 Oct 2019 **Nils Melzer** (at UN Press briefing): Assange exposed to "psychological torture" [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/s_GSitdMe1A)]   
  "I visited him [Julian Assange] with two medical experts, we came to the conclusion that he has been exposed to psychological torture for a prolonged period of time. That's a medical assessment. We asked for all the involved States to investigate this case and to alleviate the pressure that has been done on him," Melzer said.   
  He added that none of the nations involved in the case had begun an investigation, despite their responsibility to do so under the UN Convention on Torture.
* 15 Oct 2019 **Nils Melzer** speaks at Columbia University   
  - see videotape aired 22 Nov 2019 [[Democracy Now](https://www.democracynow.org/2019/11/22/nils_melzer_julian_assange)] (Included transcript)
* 21 Oct 2019 **Wikileaks**  
  - [Wikileaks Press Release](https://wikileaks.org/Julian-Assange-Case-Hearing.html) Regarding Julian Assange's Case Management Hearing  
  - [Information Note](https://wikileaks.org/static/pdf/assange_legal_note.pdf) from his solicitors Bimberg Peirce and Partners [Gareth Peirce]
* 23 Oct 2019 **John Pilger** interview [[Going Underground](https://youtu.be/PQEri7m1ZaM)] [[Twitter Moment](https://twitter.com/i/moments/1187050929960476679)]
* 23 Oct 2019 **Chris Willimaon MP**  [[Going Underground](https://youtu.be/PQEri7m1ZaM?t=14m50s)]
* 24 Oct 2019 The The National Coordinating Committee of the **Libertarian Party** condemns unequivocally the extradition of Julian Assange. [[Statement](https://libertarianparty.co.uk/2019/10/24/libertarian-party-condemns-assange-usa-extradition/)]  
  “The Courts and British Government should uphold the integrity of a Free Press.   
  The Libertarian Party demands that the extradition application is refused and terminated.   
    
  The one sided extradition treaty negotiated by the Blair Government has seen a number of British Citizens extracted from this country to face trial and imprisonment, while Americans who are involved in fatal car accidents in the UK are removed from the country and protected by the US President and the British Government colludes with them in leaving the country. [...]   
  The Libertarian Party calls for the protection of the Free Press in a written constitution.”
* 31 Oct 2019 **Stefania Maurizi** and lawyers win FOIA appeal. [[tweet]](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1189859097102999554)

#### **NOVEMBER 2019.**

* 1 Nov 2019 **Nils Melzer** gave another official [statement](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25249&LangID=E).(See Health)
* 5 Nov 2019 **John Shipton** speaks at **M.I.A. concert** for Julian outside the UK Home Office with Dylan Shipton (Julian’s cousin). John Shipton visited Julian in Belmarsh in the afternoon. [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/MpjFvokjAJ8?t=25m58s)]   
  “From Belmarsh, Julian sends his greetings and appreciation for your strength and determination to free him from Belmarsh and allow him to return to the bosom of his family. Family are gathered here in London to carry the fight forward. We are faced here with a great task, all of us together, to ensure that Julian is freed from the persecution that’s gone on now for 9 years.  
    
  Not only can we win, but let me tell you - we are winning. The NYT editorial that he ought not to be extradited, the Guardian at last coming around, seeing the light - that Julian ought not to be extradited, the Parliament coming around in Australia, and forming a group saying that Julian ought to return home to Australia as quickly as possible. The Italian government, who I met on Thursday are forming a committee to encourage the UK government to bring Julian home. The German government. Geneva, the UN. All of these people - with you and us …”
* 5 Nov 2019 **John Pilger** (who was at the last court hearing) [[Real News](https://youtu.be/ekfNGMeofbM)]
* 5 Nov 2019 **Renata Avila**, **Stefania Maurizi**, **Joseph Farrell**, ‘***The Future of Press Freedom: The Case of Wikileaks -*** *Decode* *Symposium’* Turin, Italy. [[Vimeo](https://vimeo.com/showcase/6700400/video/383785946)]
* 7 Nov 2019 **John Shipton** (in Italian senate, Rome) [[claudio commenardi](https://youtu.be/3UyP-QQ3IeU?t=34)]  
  Shipton responds to questions,and speaks about Nils Meltzer’s report, the FOIA’s showing the CPS kept the Swedish case going. He describes the value of the Wikileaks library, using the Chagos Islands case to show how transparency has brought about justice, and about increasing the knowledge of the world about our real history.
* 7 Nov 2019 **Noam Chomsky** interviewed by Patrick Farnsworth: “*The Greatest Challenge To State Power: Journalism In Our Time”* [[Audio](https://soundcloud.com/lastborninthewilderness/noam-chomsky)] [[Transcript](https://abeautifulresistance.org/site/2019/11/17/noam-chomsky-the-greatest-challenge-to-state-power)]
* 7 Nov 2019 **Jake Lynch** [[Video](https://youtu.be/S9Cwv9WJm-g?t=3m21s)] **Maxine Water** [[Video](https://youtu.be/S9Cwv9WJm-g?t=27m10s)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1199398857412632579)] [[Article](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/11/26/a-rebel-heart-and-the-courage-to-resist-it-is-not-just-about-julian-assange-it-is-about-us/)] at the Oxford Campaign to Defend Julian Assange
* 8 Nov 2019 [DE] **Juan Branco** calls for a political solution to Julian Assange’s situation [[Heise Online](https://www.heise.de/newsticker/meldung/Anwalt-fordert-politische-Loesung-fuer-Julian-Assange-4582210.html)]
* 13 Nov 2019 **Senator Peter Whish-Wilson** tables petition (with over 200k signatures to bring Assange home).in Australian Senate [[tweet](https://twitter.com/SenatorSurfer/status/1194524951044227072)]
* 13 Nov 2019 Pamela Anderson write Open Letters to AU PM Scott Morrison and POTUS Donald Trump [[Herald Sun](https://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/pamela-anderson-has-penned-open-letters-to-morrison-and-the-trumps/news-story/4053389165072b8e84dc9bc125fcf771)]
* 14 Nov 2019 Clare Daly, **Nils Meltzer** [31:50], **Bob Carr**,  **John Shipton**, David Greeme (EFF) and more in the European parliament: “Journalism is not a crime)” [[GUENGL](https://web-guengl.streamovations.be/index.php/event/stream/journalism-is-not-a-crime-the-assange-extradition-case)] [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1195052307219648519)]  
    
  **Nils Melzer** speech [[Unofficial transcription](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PZKwZX0W__a-T71i3K052e61j9y8HeE_HQmdBFtYnoU/edit?usp=sharing)] [0:29:40 to 0:51:27]  
    
  **Nils Melzer**: In response to Q&A from the floor [1:31:50]  
  “On what basis did I ask [UK] for **his release**?”  
  Lists:   
  - UNWGAD decision;  
  - “and his imprisonment in the Uk from the outset, and in relation to the ‘bail violation’ is arbitrary”... “because he was seeking and received asylum from another UN member state. That is not a crime ...”;   
  - “Now his deprivation of liberty is based only on a ‘possible risk of absconding’ during the extradition proceedings … it is very important we look at what is the purpose of detention. The deprivation of liberty is arbitrary if it is not necessary and proportionate for the purpose that it serves. I don’t think there is any necessity and proportionality in the current conditions that are being imposed …”  
  - “Also, because of his current state of health, which is becoming so critical …”  
  “... and so **I have asked the UK government to release him immediately** and, if the US extradition proceeding is to go on, although I don’t think there is any prospect of a lawful resolution of that in favour of an extradition, … then his presence has to be secured in a different way ...”  
    
  On Julian’s ‘**isolation**’:  
  - “The way he is being coerced & confined & isolated & surveilled - in accumulation - certainly amounts, in my view, to ‘cruel and inhuman and degrading treatment’ - it is not necessary and there is no legal basis for it, and it it is not proportionate to any lawful purpose …”   
    
   On what legal actions could be taken to help stop Assange's torture in a UK prison:  
  - "You don't have to wait for extradition … You can take that [his treatment] to Strasbourg. You can take it to the Committee Against Torture ...These are questions about procedural tactics and I am not his defence counsel and I don’t want to make any recommendations ..."  
  - “Obviously my mandate is one of those international mechanisms and I am certainly very engaged in the case for the reasons I explained.”  
    
  On what can we do, or MPs in each country, do:  
  "Insist in the RULE OF LAW. This man’s procedural rights have been violated by all involved states in every jurisdiction, and in every step of the procedures. … You can read my letters. They are all public.”  
  "When I ask, as a UN Official, that states explain to me how they think [their treatment of Assange] is lawful in the light of their HR obligations, they just respond 'We have no further comment.' Two are EU states - Sweden & UK. [more]  
  How far have we sunk?" [at 1:37:27]  
    
  "If the only way [a Foreign Secretary (Jeremy Hunt)] responds in 5 mths is to send a [tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1134400849097220102?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1134400849097220102&ref_url=http%3A%2F%2Ftheboldconservative.eu5.net%2F2019%2F10%2F16%2Fun-assange-subjected-to-psychological-torture%2F) ... he is not taking my mandate seriously. He is not taking my report seriously. They are not investigating my observations.   
  And that, to me, is of utmost concern for the international community - when states will no longer engage with the institutions they created to protect human rights."  
    
  Reporting: [SW [Efolket](https://efolket.eu/fallet-julian-assange-fn-rapportor-anklagar-sverige/)]
* 14 Nov 2019 **ANALYSIS** of “Front Page Coverage of Julian Assange's Court Hearing 21 Oct” [[Dropbox PDF](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3wfrdfnjg5qndk1/AAB5kDx_l2XAVZ5KMISjmoQOa?dl=0&preview=Front+Page+Coverage+of+Julian+Assange%27s+Court+Hearing+21+Oct.pdf)]
* 14 Nov 2019 Conflict of Interest Report re **Lady Emma Arbuthnot**, the Westminster chief magistrate overseeing the extradition proceedings of Julian Assange - **husband** - Lord, Arbithnot. [[Real Clear Investigations](https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2019-11-14-julian-assanges-judge-and-her-husbands-links-to-the-british-military-establishment-exposed-by-wikileaks/)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/world/201911231077316879-investigation-reveals-further-conflicts-of-interest-for-chief-magistrate-overseeing-assanges-case/) 23 Nov 2019]
* 15 Nov 2019 Conflict of Interest Report re **Lady Emma Arbuthnot**, the Westminster chief magistrate overseeing the extradition proceedings of Julian Assange - **son**, Alexander Arbithnot. [[Real Clear Investigations](https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2019-11-15-conflicts-of-interest-judge-in-julian-assange-case-fails-to-declare-sons-links-to-uk-and-us-intelligence/)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/world/201911231077316879-investigation-reveals-further-conflicts-of-interest-for-chief-magistrate-overseeing-assanges-case/) 23 Nov 2019]
* 15 Nov 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** in Sydney AU at PEN’s “Day of the Imprisoned Writer” [[VIDEO](https://youtu.be/nerFdcQhiE4)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/PenSydney/status/1195276890841313280)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/11/25/robi-n25.html)]  
  Update on **health** and wellbeing [2;37]  
  - “I was with Julian Tues [12 Nov] just before I came here.”  
  - “His health has obviously significantly and seriously deteriorated …”  
  - JR notes that earlier the Ecuadorian embassy had sought permission for Julian to seek help for medical treatment - ie safe passage - and was denied that by the UK government: “Effectively making him choose between his right to asylum and his right to healthcare”]  
  - He;s still on the Belmarsh healthcare ward, where “he is in effective isolation, at least 20 hours a day”  
  - Quotes from Nils Melzer’s report.  
    
  On whether he has the **legal support** he needs:[4:33]  
  - “Since he’s been in prison there has been an ongoing fight about being able to bring [legal] papers in for him ...   
  - … mail was going missing, so it was taking weeks for anything we sent to him to reach him, so he was without papers. …  
  - After a significant fight we are now able to hand him over the papers when we see him in prison, but …  
  - … he doesn’t have adequate facilities … [to prepare responses or assist in his huge case] to properly defend himself.”  
    
  On the **legal team** [5:34]  
  “We have a specialist extradition legal team, with some of the best extradition QCs in the country working to defend Julian …”  
  - Notes that an appeal for more time before the Feb 2020 hearing was denied by the magistrate.  
  - [If the magistrates rules positively on the extradition] “there is a right of appeal, all the way to the Supreme Court”  
  - Notes that Julian has “completed his sentence for ‘breach of bail’ and is now being held ‘on remand’ in prison, at the request of the US govt, pending the outcome of the extradition process. ”  
  - “This process could take three years.”  
    
  On what it is like to be in prison [6:47]  
  - JR describes the process of visiting Julian  
  On the role of the **US govt** in the proceedings [8:24]  
  - The UK govt is the applicant and the US govt is represented through them “... ats as the agent of the US govt  
    
  QD “Is the **Australian govt** providing more than what is known as Consular Assistance?” [9:09]  
  - JR “Absolutely not.”  
  - JR discusses “what the AU govt has FAILED to do over the last nine years.”  
  - “The AU govt has not, as far as I am aware, raised ANY objection to the treatment of Julian Assange by the US, or their indictment of him under the Espionage Act ....”  
  - “Now we are in a position where the AU govt is uniquely positioned to raise concerns about his treatment …” [10:22]  
  - “The Au govt couldn’t interfere in the court proceedings, but certainly the AU govt can be making representations to the govt of the UK […] both to the UK govt and the US govt.”  
    
  On the **US indictment** [12:20]  
  - Discusses the publications on which the indictments are based, and the indictments themselves.  
  - Mentions the role of Chelsea Manning in providing the information [to applause]  
  - “I think it’s important to recognise the Public Interest in those publications ,and what we learned from them.”  
  - Describes court cases that relied on the publications, and prizes won by Wikileaks and Julian for the publications. Also important for promotion peace - Julian has been nominated 7 times for the Nobel Peace prize in relation to the importance of these publications.  
  - Discusses the precedent the indictments set for investigative journalism.  
  - Discusses the allegations - in the indictment - of Julian’s ‘irresponsibility’, and Wikileaks redaction and harm minimisation processes, as well as the concept of ‘harm to national security’ which is alleged in relation to these publications.   
  - Mentions that the Cables came to be published unredacted due to a Guardian journalist publishing the password to the unredacted files. [16:54]  
  - “We have not heard of anyone who has actually been harmed [by publication]”  
  - Quotes US reports that releases were “embarrassing but not damaging””to national security.  
    
  On the **US-UK Extradition Treaty** [21:43] [[UK site](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/extradition-treaty-between-the-uk-and-the-usa-with-exchange-of-notes)] [[US site](https://uk.usembassy.gov/our-relationship/policy-history/the-u-s-uk-extradition-treaty/)]  
  - Article 4 says “Extradition cannot be permitted if the alleged offence is, by definition, political.”  
  - This has already been raised in proceedings and will be raised again in Feb 2010.  
  - JR; “There will be other defences raised, but for obvious reasons, we aren’t going to be disclosing what they are.” [22:58]  
    
  Is there any **hope of preventing the extradition**? [23:19]  
  - “This case is so without precedent that it is very difficult to predict what will happen.”  
    
  On David Morales and the UC Global Spanish Security company that conducted **24/7 video spying** **on Assange and his lawyers, doctors, and visitors** in the Ecuadorian embassy - for Ecuador and the CIA.[23:44] [[El Pais](https://elpais.com/elpais/2019/09/25/inenglish/1569384196_652151.html)] [[WL Press Conf](https://youtu.be/72yCVOSHIEM)]  
  - This case is currently in the Spanish courts.   
    
  On “Is Juliaan Assange a journalist?”   
  And “Will he benefit from [First Amendment](https://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/first_amendment#) protection in the US? [25:28]  
  - “Julian is a card-carrying member of the [MEAA](https://www.meaa.org/) (Australian Union of journalists), and a recognised journalist.”  
  - “He has written books, engaged in all kinds of journalistic practices …”  
  - “I have had this debate with a number of quite prominent members of the media in this country [Australia] and they are very certain of what a journalist is NOT, and it’s NOT Julian Assange. But if I ask them how to define what a journalist is, they are unable to do it.”  
  - Regardless “the First Amendment applies to all.”  
  - Discusses the expressed attitudes of the Trump Administration (and his possible replacements, if impeached).  
    
  On what the **people of Australia** can do to assist Julian Assange [29:02]  
  - Notes the recent statement of ABC Alumni [[Article](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/11/15/peti-n15.html)]  
  - Notes that Julian hears about events supporters stage  
  - Please write to MPs and Senators. “”Put sufficient pressure on officials to take action.”  
  - Draws a parallel with what has been happening to AU journalists in AU   
  - Displays the [Statement](https://www.walkleys.com/board-statement-4-16/) of the Walkley Foundation when Julian & Wikileaks won the Walkley Award (in 2011)  
  - Notes that Andrew Wilie has formed a x-party support group for Assange in parliament.  
  - 200k signatures on a petition was presented to the Senate yesterday  
     
  On **nine years of international legal action** against Julian Assange [38:01]  
  - Lists some of the many things which have been done to Julian over those 9 years  
  - “It’s a privilege to have worked with him, and to have worked with some of the lawyers I have worked with on this case. Some of the best Human Rights lawyers in the world have come to his defence … It’s certainly not easy, but compared to what Julian is going through .. We all just crack on. ”  
    
  From **questions from the floor;**  
    
  On whether conditions of imprisonment are affecting Julian’s **fitness to stand trial** [42:08]  
  - Past conditions in the embassy and current conditions have seriously affected his health. “Whether that is sufficient to affect his ability to stand trial remains to be seen.”  
    
  Will a **change of leadership in UK or US govts** affect Julian’s case? [43:13]  
  - “Potentially.”  
  - “In the UK Jeremy Corbyn has already made clear that he does not think Julian Assange should be extradited. There is limited discretion for the Home Secretary to prevent extradition”  
    
  Did the **AU High Commission** block Julian’s access to Consular Support, or did he refuse their help? [44:23]  
  - “Julian has continued to request Consular Assistance.”  
  - “What is needed in this case is more than Consular Assistance.It’s the AU govt actually making political representations to the US and the UK. THAT’s what they are refusing to do.”  
    
  Re **Judge Emma Arbuthnot** [44:58]  
  - Jen Robinson confirmed that Lady Arbuthnot “would not be sitting on the [US Extradition] case going forward” but that it was not yet known which judge would preside.  
    
  Do the **“sexual abuse” allegations** taint support for Julian, or are people able to separate the issues? [45:29]  
  - “I do think the Swedish case has had the impact of splitting support for Julian in ways that are really unfortunate.”  
  - That case was only ever at Preliminary Investigation stage. He’s never been charged.  
  - The case has not progressed, nor do we expect it to.  
    
  Impact of the US having **capital punishment**.[46:06]  
  - “At this point he’s not facing capital punishment.”  
    
  What is the likelihood of Julian’s **conditions in prison** improving?[46:40]  
  - “That’s an ongoing battle.”  
  - “The conditions in Belmarsh prison are a real problem, and it speaks to the issue of austerity cuts and the like, and I know that there are ongoing concerns and questions being asked about Julian’s conditions.  
    
  If Julian is released, will he return to Wikileaks or will he retire? [47:08]  
  - Öne step at a time…. Getting him out of prison would be a good start.”  
    
  Impact on Jen Robinson [47:36]  
  - “There have been so many injustices against him, that retaining a sense of outrage at each one, and not allowing them to become normalised, has been a constant battle.”  
  - There have also been accusations against his lawyers, and they have been spied on.  
  - “It’s oppressive, and sometimes overwhelming.”  
    
  Belmarsh court has **only 3 public seats**. Can the Feb 2020 be moved to Westminster Court where there are more public seats? [49:42]  
  - [Sidestepped.]  
  - Public support is so important, and “I think it’s great that so many people continue to turn up, to be there, because open justice is so important in making sure the judiciary does its job.”  
    
  How do you **protect yourself and your personal communications**? [50:35]  
  - Hmm, really?  
  - Speaks about surveillance and the Spanish case of spying.  
  - Also encryption, and going back to pre-internet methods of communication.  
  - QD: “There’s no such thing as legal professional privilege any more.”  
  - JR: “Well there is, and there ought to be. And it’s a shame that democratic govts are no longer respecting that as a fundamental principle. ”  
    
  Could the charges of receiving and obtaining govt secrets also be levelled against the NYT over the same documents?[52:18]  
  - “Of course they could.”
* 15 Nov 2019 Roger Stone found guilty of five counts of lying to Congress. One was lying about having a “back channel” to Wikileaks and Julian Assange (through Randi Credico). [[BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-50438196?ns_source=twitter&ns_mchannel=social&ns_linkname=news_central&ns_campaign=bbc_breaking)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/usa/473580-roger-stone-guilty-seven-felonies/)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/aaronjmate/status/1195391964348334082)] [Randy Credico interview [[Transcript]](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2019/11/the-roger-stone-wikileaks-russia-hoax/)
* 18 Nov 2019 Julian made a very brief appearance, by videolink, at a case management hearing at Westminster Court.  
  It is reported that:  
  “**Gareth Peirce** alerted the court to the fact that Julian Assange now has access to a computer at Belmarsh but not one that's suitable for his needs.” [[tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1196373387377025024)]  
  Also  
  “**Gareth Pierce**,[sic] … who is acting for Assange, told the Judge that she wanted to put on record that a "major impediment is Mr Assange’s ability to access the materials he need to prepare his case.”   
  She explained that while the prison authorities at Belmarsh prison have finally provided her client with a computer, “after months of battle," the computer is “not suitable for the purpose for which he needs it.” [[M.A.E.](https://sputniknews.com/world/201911181077339881-judge-in-assanges-case-says-she-has-no-jurisdiction-over-the-conditions-over-which-he-is-held/)]
* 18 Nov 2019 **Stefania Maurizi** outlines the vast extent of the spying on Assange and his lawyers, doctors, visitors, in the Embassy. [[La Repubblica](https://www.repubblica.it/esteri/2019/11/18/news/a_massive_scandal_how_assange_his_doctors_lawyers_and_visitors_were_all_spied_on_for_the_u_s_-241314527/)]  
  She reports that:  
  “Spanish lawyer **Aitor Martinez,** one of the lawyers in Julian Assange's legal team filmed by UC Global, tells Repubblica: "Over the years Mr. Assange and his defense team held legal meetings inside the embassy. Those meetings were protected by the lawyer-client relationship and the fundamental right to defense. However we can see those meetings were spied on, according to the videos published by different media . **Under these conditions, it is clear that extradition must be denied. We hope that British justice understands the scope of what has happened and denies extradition as soon as possible”.”**
* 18 Nov 2019Good summary of the “Swedish frame-up” published (using the **Nils Melzer** letter to Sweden) [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/11/18/assa-n18.html)]
* 18 Nov 2019 Report on the cross-party **Parliamentary “Bring Assange Home””group** in Australia, and the 200k petition presented to the Senate. [[The Monthly](https://www.themonthly.com.au/today/paddy-manning/2019/18/2019/1574052706/bring-assange-home-mps)]
* 18 Nov 2019 Detailed information **for people wanting to attend the extradition case**; “What will the Press and the Public face in February 2020 at Belmarsh Magistrates Court?” [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/11/18/what-will-assange-the-press-and-the-public-face-in-february-2020-at-belmarsh-magistrates-court/amp/)]
* 18 Nov 2019 FOIA reply from UK **CPS** costs to dateGBP 59k [via [Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1219159658688122881) 19 Jan 2020]
* 19 Nov 2019 Melbourne, AU, **Jennifer Robinson** speaking for another “*Day of the Imprisoned Writer*” event [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1195468770346557440)] PEN Melbourne have confirmed that there was no audio or video recording made of this session. {Maybe they thought JR was there just for their entertainment.) [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/11/25/robi-n25.html)]  
    
  “‘The media needs to take a stand against criminalisation of its work.’ Jennifer Robinsonspeaking with [@barriecassidy](https://twitter.com/barriecassidy) about treatment of Assange, her role in his ongoing defence, and future of journalism ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MelbournePEN)]
* 19 Nov 2019 at 2pm. Sweden: Deputy Director of Public Prosecution **Eva-Marie Persson** holds a press conference on the Assange case. [[Invitation](https://via.tt.se/pressmeddelande/invitation-to-a-press-conference-on-the-assange-case?publisherId=3235541&releaseId=3265611)]  
  “At the press conference, the prosecutor will inform about the investigative measures taken and provide new information.” English translations will be provide
* 19 Nov 2019 **Sweden drops the ‘rape allegations’against Julian Assange**. [[Swedish Official website](https://via.tt.se/pressmeddelande/the-investigation-against-julian-assange-is-discontinued?publisherId=3235541&releaseId=3265699)] [Press conference [Ruptly](https://youtu.be/OElx7iF9w-g?t=15m13s)] [DefendAssange [Statement](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2019/11/19/sweden-drops-investigation-of-julian-assange/)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/473800-assange-rape-investigation-dropped/)] [[BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-50473792)] [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/world/europe/sweden-drops-julian-assange-rape-investigation-after-nearly-10-years-20191120-p53c68.html)] [[SEP-UK](https://socialequality.org.uk/campaigns/julian-assange/)] [[Guardian](https://archive.ph/ZB6D9)] [[The Age](https://www.theage.com.au/world/europe/sweden-drops-julian-assange-rape-investigation-after-nearly-10-years-20191120-p53c68.html)] [[NYT](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/19/world/europe/sweden-julian-assange.html)] [[C21st Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2019/11/19/breaking-sweden-drops-rape-investigation-for-julian-assange/)]  
    
  Official Statement:  
  “**Deputy Director of Public Prosecution Eva-Marie Persson has today decided to discontinue the investigation regarding Julian Assange. The reason for this decision is that the evidence has weakened considerably due to the long period of time that has elapsed since the events in question.**”  
    
  "I would like to emphasise that the injured party has submitted a credible and reliable version of events. Her statements have been coherent, extensive and detailed; however, my overall assessment is that the evidential situation has been weakened to such an extent that that there is no longer any reason to continue the investigation," says Eva-Marie Persson, Deputy Director of Public Prosecution.”  
    
  During the Press Conference: [[Video](https://youtu.be/OElx7iF9w-g?t=15m13s)]  
    
  “After conducting a comprehensive assessment of what has emerged during the course of the preliminary investigation I then make the assessment that the evidence is not strong enough to form the basis for filing an indictment,””  
    
  [NOTE: A version of the Swedish official interviews is available [online](http://www.nnn.se/nordic/assange/docs/protocol.pdf)]  
    
  **RESPONSES:**  
    
  **DefendAssange** calls on everyone to focus on the immediate priority- the next case [[tweet](https://twitter.com/DefendAssange/status/1196795650026823682)]:  
  “We encourage everyone to be forward looking and deal with our differences after we succeed in stopping the US extradition of Assange.”  
    
  **Nils Melzer** [[tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1196797810114351104)]  
  “Today’s collapse of Sweden’sAssange investigation was inevitable. Given its gross arbitrariness, there must now be a full investigation, and accountability & compensation for the harm inflicted on Julian Assange.”  
    
  **Jonathan Cook** on “covering arse” [[tweet](https://twitter.com/Jonathan_K_Cook/status/1196800031644438528)]  
    
  **Renata Avila** ([@avilarenata](https://twitter.com/avilarenata)) is currently available for interviews by the press [[tweet](https://twitter.com/avilarenata/status/1196807502832308224)]  
    
  **Wikileaks** [[tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1196851793310949381)]  
  “While the world knows Julian's name has been cleared in Sweden, he is sitting in a cell in Belmarsh prison, probably unaware of the news. The Prison cancelled all visits today.”  
    
  **Craig Murray** [[tweet/video](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1196838421043535875)]  
  “"Today, the prosecutor, Ms Persson, was an absolute disgrace ... disgusting and reprehensible. The Swedish people should be ashamed of her - should be ashamed of the entire way they have been played by the CIA …   
  Everybody in Sweden should be deeply, deeply ashamed today."  
    
  **Yanis Varoufakis** [[tweets](https://twitter.com/GuillaumeLong/status/1197886084438466560)] re missing apology, and **Guillaume Long re** UK’s statements at the time Julian entered the embassy:  
  “UK officials told me we were deluded. “Nothing to do with WikiLeaks, just the case in Sweden.” Now Assange is in Belmarsh, facing possible extradition. Lies”  
    
  **More** on [[Defend WikiLeaks](https://defend.wikileaks.org/liveblog/#20-nov-19)]
* 19 Nov 2019 **Darebin Council [AU]** offers support for Julian Assange [[Statement](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/Your-Council/Talk-to-us/Media-Centre#Darebin-Council-offers-support-for-Julian-Assange)]  
  “Darebin Council will write to Foreign Affairs Minister Marise Payne requesting the Australian Federal Government immediately step in to ensure Julian Assange’s human rights are being upheld by British authorities while he is being held in the United Kingdom.  
    
  Mr Assange is an Australian citizen and former Darebin resident, having previously lived in Thornbury. Darebin Council is requesting the Federal Government act as if Mr Assange was being held in Iran, Egypt, Cambodia or Indonesia. They must not turn a blind eye to the violation of any Australian's human rights, just because it is occurring in the West.”

Follow up interview (21 Nov) with Louise Bennet [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/BringJAHome/status/1197415192289660928) video] in 5 parts

* 20 Nov 2019 **Greg Barns** [AU] [[SMH Op Ed](https://www.smh.com.au/national/the-swedish-case-against-assange-was-always-political-20191120-p53cgs.html)]  
  “We need to ask ourselves why the focus is not on the crimes perpetrated by those involved in war crimes. Why is an Australian citizen being subjected to US espionage laws even though he was never on US soil? More importantly, why should an Australian citizen have allegiance to the US?  
  Australia and the Morrison government now face the stark choice. Do we defend an Australian citizen facing rendition and an effective death sentence, because of Trump – a President facing impeachment. Or do we abandon him?”
* 20 Nov 2019 **Ross Cameron** (AU) Radio interview [[2GB](https://www.2gb.com/australia-slammed-for-piss-weak-treatment-of-julian-assange/)]
* 20 Nov 2019 Joe Corré (son of Vivienne Westood) is appealing to the [Clooney Foundation](https://cfj.org/) (‘Trial Watch’) for help for Julian’s case. No reply has been received yet. [[Going Underground](https://youtu.be/n9assL6mKi0?t=3m06s)]]
* 20 Nov 2019 Brussels **Balthazar Garzón** and **Stefania Maurizi** on “*Violations of International Law & Spying*” at screening of "*Hacking Justice*" in the Int’nl Documentary Festival [[Film Preview](https://youtu.be/FLYXTzy1SI0)] [[tweet](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1196699400539705344)] [[Website](http://www.festivalmillenium.org/news/hacking-justice-35)] [[Image](https://twitter.com/KupkaMara/status/1197492396273131522)] [[Film](https://open.tube/videos/watch/3d5bc800-4170-42e3-8643-e5716ecb4747)]

[Event VIDEO to come?]

* 21 Nov 2019 Oslo **John Shipton** “*Can Assange be Rescued?”* (hosted by Norwegian PEN) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1196461266484768769)] [[PressRelease](https://norskpen.no/nb_NO/2019/04/11/arrestasjonen-av-julian-assange-en-trussel-mot-ytringsfriheten/)11 Apr 2019] [[Image](https://twitter.com/bjornnorman/status/1197520012677931009)] [[Facebook VIDEO](https://www.facebook.com/NorskPEN/videos/2529376020625090?vh=e&d=n&sfns=mo) at 7:01] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/people4assange/status/1197681616438431744)] re Glacier  
    
  Q: How can people best help? [54:03]  
  A “There’s two things you can do, and one of them is very pleasant:  
  - One is just have dinner parties, and bring your friends to the truth. That makes momentum of its own ...”  
  - In Oslo, ensure that the Peace Prize Committee re-reads the bequest that Alfred Nobel made, and get it right … And then Julian and Chelsea Manning and Edward Snowden would be nominated. No-one has done more, or suffered more, for peace.
* 21 Nov 2019 Panel discuss “Media Propaganda”” - Lee Camp, Max Blumenthal, Margaret Kimberly & Aaron Maté applaud Julian Assange and celebrate WikiLeaks [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/_w5dX9f53OE)]
* 21 Nov 2019 **Slavoj Zizek** visited Julian in prison [[Spectator](https://spectator.us/free-julian-assange-fate-inextricably-tied/)]  
    
  All the guards were very kind and repeatedly emphasized that everything they do is for our own good. For example, Assange is in solitary confinement 23 hours per day. He has to eat all his meals alone in his cell, and when he is allowed out for an hour he can’t meet other prisoners. The communication with a guard who accompanies him is reduced to a minimum. Why such severe treatment since he is now just in protective custody? ...  
    
  The explanation I was given was a predictable one: it is for his own good — since he is a traitor hated by many, he may be attacked if he mixes with other people. But the craziest case of this ‘care’ happened when Assange’s assistant, who accompanied me, brought me a cup of coffee which was put onto a table where Julian and I were sitting. I took off the plastic cover of the cup, took a sip and then put the cup back on the table without putting on the plastic cover back on; within seconds a guard approached and signaled to me with a hand gesture (very kindly, it is a humanist prison if there ever was one) that I should put the cover back on the cup of coffee. I did as I was told, but I was slightly surprised by this demand and asked a member of staff when leaving the prison why it was given.   
    
  The explanation was again a warm human one — something like: ‘It is for your own good and protection, sir. You were sitting at a table with a dangerous prisoner, probably prone to violent acts, and seeing between the two of you an open cup of hot coffee into your face…’ I felt warmth in my heart at being so well protected ...
* 21 Nov 2019 **Wikileaks** launches the **new Campaign site** “DON’T EXTRADITE ASSANGE: Protests, Events, Petitions …” [[Webpage](https://dontextraditeassange.com/)]
* 21 Nov 2019 **Baltasar Garzon** interview [FR] [[L’Echo](https://www.lecho.be/economie-politique/belgique/general/baltasar-garzon-ne-pas-avoir-d-ideologie-c-est-ne-pas-avoir-de-conscience/10183915.html?fbclid=IwAR3ke-KDsb9IzamQwN-HLk5Ow8rwXMoy8nKiqh-bDP7XL2X0sHl17WAJSGs)]
* 22 Nov 2019 New York **Margaret Kunstler, Aaron Mate** [3:48]**, Nathan Fuller** (Courage Foundation) [8:32], **Amy Goodman** [10:15], **Barry J Pollack** [21:57]and others at US [@orbooks](https://twitter.com/orbooks) Debut Gala for *'In Defense of Julian Assange*'   
  [[Image](https://twitter.com/CredicoRandy/status/1197861493913587713)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/nVreEcH2Ab0)] [[Thread](https://twitter.com/i/moments/1198009556024082433)]  
    
  MK: “What is happening is the Powers That Be are upping the ante - charging a journalist with espionage is eating the First Amendment. It’s outrageous. The First Amendment doesn’t allow for an espionage charge. The entire indictment violates the First Amendment.  
    
  And anyone who is a journalist, who is sensitive to this, knows that this is a total threat to news-gathering, to giving out information, and to educating people about what is happening. It’s a total threat.  
    
  And on the other side of it, Julian is being housed in a prison as if he is a terrorist. So this is really upping the ante ..  
    
  Secrecy is power, and Julian’s ability to inform people has really saved many people. If you read in this book, Jen Robinson … describes how the work Julian has done has saved her clients. And she’s really thrilled, because she gets to use the information that he puts out …  
    
  It’s a wonderful book, and I hope you all purchase it, and share it, and use it as a tool - the way other people are.”
* 22 Nov 2019 **Amy Goodman** with a lengthy video recording of **Nils Meltzer** speaking at Columbia University 15 Oct 2019 [[Democracy Now](https://www.democracynow.org/2019/11/22/nils_melzer_julian_assange)] (Includes transcript)
* 22 Nov 2019 **Amy Goodman** with **Margaret Kunstler** (US) & **Tariq Ali**.(London) .[[Democracy Now](https://www.democracynow.org/)] (Includes transcript) [[meme](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1198204820655616002)]
* 23 Nov 2019 London **Tariq Ali** , **John Pilger**, **Vivienne Westwood**, **Lisa Longstaff** and others at [@orbooks](https://twitter.com/orbooks) Launch, *'In Defense of Julian Assange*' [[Defend Assange](https://defend.wikileaks.org/events/#23-nov)] [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/cP3NLc7QPuE)] [[Transcripts](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fImPhXR3xFWLa5J_Ig8nNcuf2XMphVeXfp9ROJNKIik/edit?usp=sharing) (WIP)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/474181-pilger-blasts-guardian-assange-coverage/)] [[Thread](https://twitter.com/i/moments/1199273047749992449)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/europe/201911251077398695-assange-book-launch-if-they-can-come-for-julian-they-can-come-for-the-rest-of-us-says-john-pilger/)]   
    
  **John Pilger** [[Independent Australia](https://independentaustralia.net/life/life-display/john-pilger-journalism-and-the-assange-effect,13352#.Xd8YRMiqUXU.twitter)]
* 23 Nov 2019 **Doctors’ Petition** - Open letter to **UK Home Secretary Priti Patel** and **UK Shadow Home Secretary Diane Abbott** -   
  [[DoctorsForAssange](https://twitter.com/Doctors4Assange)] [[Letter](https://medium.com/@doctors4assange/concerns-of-medical-doctors-about-the-plight-of-mr-julian-assange-ffb09a5dd588)]  
    
  **News broken by** [[Consortium News](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/11/23/doctors-petition-uk-home-secretary-over-julian-assange/)]  
    
  **Full versions of the letter**: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Doctors4Assange/status/1201274305591558144)]  
  - English [[Medium](https://medium.com/@doctors4assange/concerns-of-medical-doctors-about-the-plight-of-mr-julian-assange-ffb09a5dd588)}  
  - French [[Medium](https://medium.com/@doctors4assange/les-pr%C3%A9occupations-de-m%C3%A9decins-au-sujet-du-sort-de-m-julian-assange-7670da943fe1)] [[LeGrandSoir](https://www.legrandsoir.info/preoccupations-des-medecins-au-sujet-de-la-situation-critique-de-m-julian-assange-lettre-ouverte-au-ministre-britannique-de-l.html)]  
  - German [[Medium](https://medium.com/@doctors4assange/bedenken-von-%C3%A4rzten-%C3%BCber-die-notlage-von-herrn-julian-assange-b1100a138d17)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/de/articles/2019/11/26/lett-n26.html)]  
  - Spanish   
    
  **Articles with link to letter:**  [[WSWS1](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/11/25/open-n25.html)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/11/25/lead-n25.html)2] [[WSWS3](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/11/25/john-n25.html)] [[WSWS4](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/11/27/assa-n27.html)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/474255-assange-die-prison-letter/)] [[ZeroHedge](https://www.zerohedge.com/geopolitical/international-group-doctors-warns-assange-will-die-prison-without-urgent-medical-care)] [[CBS](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/julian-assange-could-die-in-prison-health-hospital-doctors-open-letter-uk-authorities-today-2019-11-25/?ftag=CNM-00-10aab7e&linkId=77657080)] [[WashingtonExaminer](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/julian-assange-could-die-in-prison-without-urgent-medical-care-doctors-say)] [[TheHill](https://thehill.com/blogs/blog-briefing-room/news/471910-more-than-60-doctors-sign-onto-letter-warning-julian-assange) [[GlobalResearch](https://www.globalresearch.ca/concerns-medical-doctors-about-plight-julian-assange/5695627)] [[TheCanary](https://www.thecanary.co/uk/analysis/2019/11/25/due-to-tory-contempt-for-assange-over-60-doctors-warn-he-could-die-in-prison/)] [[SarahWestall](https://sarahwestall.com/international-group-of-doctors-warns-assange-will-die-in-prison-without-urgent-medical-care/)] [[SarahWestall](https://sarahwestall.com/doctors-warn-political-prisoner-assange-may-die-needs-immediate-care-signs-of-torture/) podcast] [[Common Dreams](https://www.commondreams.org/news/2019/11/25/warning-julian-assange-could-die-prison-60-doctors-demand-immediate-medical)]  
    
  **No link** but **good coverage of issues** [[TheAustralian](https://www.theaustralian.com.au/world/julian-assange-could-die-soon-in-prison-doctors-warn-british-authorities/news-story/89c09c4880d2a0832d9c8c3294ee967e)] [[21Wire](https://twitter.com/21WIRE/status/1199048125039689736) Video] [[21Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2019/11/24/episode-303-imperial-desperation-with-guests-lissa-johnson-andre-vltchek-and-more/) Audio with Lissa Johnson from 32:30] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/True78045100/status/1200662790077210624) Lissa Johnson clip] [[RTFrance](https://francais.rt.com/en-direct) video]  
  Followup interview with a signatory [[RT-US](https://youtu.be/I1W8GkrPiyE)]  
    
  **Articles without link** to letter: [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/world/europe/doctors-say-depressed-unwell-assange-needs-hospital-care-20191125-p53ds3.html)] [[Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2019/nov/25/julian-assanges-health-is-so-bad-he-could-die-in-prison-say-60-doctors)] [[Adadarana](http://www.adaderana.lk/news.php?nid=59254)] [[Metro](https://www.metro.news/julian-assange-needs-medical-care-or-hell-die-warn-60-doctors/1809363/)] [[Ulkomaat](https://www.is.fi/ulkomaat/art-2000006319771.html?utm_medium=social&utm_content=android.is.fi&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=fb-share)] [[Montreal](https://www.journaldemontreal.com/2019/11/24/des-medecins-inquiets-de-letat-de-sante-de-julian-assange-detenu-a-londres)] [[SuedDeutsche](https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/assange-aerzte-wikileaks-1.4696117)] [[Focus](https://www.focus.de/politik/ausland/assange-in-lebensgefahr-aerzte-fordern-wikileaks-gruender-muss-sofort-ins-krankenhaus_id_11386068.html?rnd=7a99648929f7a367f62a428f771c1607)] [[BusinessStandard](https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/doctors-fear-assange-could-die-in-uk-jail-119112500059_1.html#.Xdtps9MEJCs.twitter)] [[EdNews](https://ednews.net/en/news/world/402910-doctors-say-julian-assange-could-die-in-british-jail#.XdtpZoTh4k5.twitter)] [[DeccanChronicle](https://www.deccanchronicle.com/world/europe/251119/julian-assange-may-die-in-jail-60-doctors-write-to-uk-home-secretar.html)] [[Blick](https://www.blick.ch/news/ausland/wikileaks-gruender-im-knast-aerzte-bangen-um-leben-von-julian-assange-id15631612.html?utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=share-button&utm_source=twitter)] [[PressAndJournal](https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/news/uk/1897687/julian-assange-could-die-in-prison-without-urgent-care/)] [[AP](https://apnews.com/0a7683f0dd0046748b5d4ef85ccb1041)] [[LA4tmx](https://la4tmx.com/2019/11/25/medicos-preocupados-por-la-salud-de-julian-assange-detenido-en-londres/)] [[NDTV](https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/julian-assange-could-die-in-jail-say-doctors-write-to-uk-home-secretary-2137990)] [[RepublicWorld](https://www.republicworld.com/world-news/uk-news/julian-assanges-health-raises-concerns-60-doctors-write-open-letter.html)] [[DailyMail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7721073/Julian-Assange-die-Belmarsh-60-medics-write-Home-Secretary-Priti-Patel.html)] [[Independent](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/julian-assange-death-prison-health-belmarsh-doctors-wikileaks-priti-patel-a9215506.html)] [[ABC](https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/doctors-ailing-assange-medical-care-hospital-67278545)] [[7News](https://7news.com.au/news/crime/doctors-demand-urgent-care-for-assange-c-573232?utm_campaign=share-icons&utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&tid=1574685138013)]] [[Clarin](https://www.clarin.com/mundo/-julian-assange-puede-morir-prision-dicen-medicos_0_6FNQtnuc.html?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter)] [[Spiegel](https://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/julian-assange-aerzte-sorgen-sich-um-gesundheit-von-wikileaks-gruender-a-1298050.html) [[VTV](https://www.vtv.gob.ve/medicos-julian-assange-prision/)]] [[Jyllands](https://jyllands-posten.dk/international/europa/ECE11779108/60-laeger-advarer-assange-er-saa-syg-at-han-kan-doe-i-faengslet/?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter)] [[20Minutes](https://www.20minutes.fr/monde/2659687-20191125-sante-medecins-inquiets-etat-julian-assange-detenu-londres?utm_term=Autofeed&xtref=twitter.com&utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1574685879)] [[aljazeera](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/11/doctors-uk-authorities-julian-assange-die-jail-191125060147656.html)] [[hindustantimes](https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/wikileaks-founder-julian-assange-could-die-in-top-security-british-jail-60-doctors-open-letter-to-uk-home-secretary/story-2XUG28AOE00T5U72MqSjYI.html)] [[DailyBeast](https://www.thedailybeast.com/julian-assanges-health-is-so-bad-he-could-die-in-prison-say-doctors?via=twitter_page)] [[cnbc](https://www.cnbc.com/2019/11/25/julian-assange-doctors-say-wikileaks-founder-needs-medical-care-in-hospital.html?__source=twitter)] [[NYT](https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2019/11/24/business/ap-eu-britain-julian-assange.html)] [[Sky](https://news.sky.com/story/julian-assange-could-die-in-jail-without-urgent-care-say-doctors-11869711)] [[EveningStandard](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/julian-assange-could-die-in-prison-dozens-of-international-doctors-warn-uk-wikileaks-founder-may-a4295386.html)] [[DW](https://www.dw.com/en/wikileaks-founder-julian-assange-could-die-in-british-jail-doctors/a-51395983?maca=en-rss-en-all-1573-rdf)] [[WaPo](https://t.co/G655kqD9JR?amp=1)] [[RTE](https://www.rte.ie/news/2019/1125/1094914-assange/)] [[LeSoir](https://www.lesoir.be/262571/article/2019-11-25/60-medecins-alertent-sur-letat-de-sante-de-julian-assange-detenu-londres)] [[Time](https://time.com/5738680/julian-assange-medical-treatment/?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=editorial&utm_term=world_&linkId=77666704)] [[NYPost](https://nypost.com/2019/11/25/julian-assange-could-die-in-prison-without-urgent-medical-care-doctors/?utm_medium=SocialFlow&utm_campaign=SocialFlow&utm_source=NYPTwitter)] [[TVN-2](https://www.tvn-2.com/mundo/europa/Assange-podria-prision-atencion-doctores_0_5450454905.html)] [[FullCourtPress](https://www.tvn-2.com/mundo/europa/Assange-podria-prision-atencion-doctores_0_5450454905.html)] [[TalkRadio](https://twitter.com/talkRADIO/status/1199018823971692547)] [[LondonEconomic](https://www.thelondoneconomic.com/news/julian-assange-could-die-in-prison-without-urgent-care-doctors-warn-priti-patel/25/11/#.XdwE2z8Ltpo.twitter)] [[Tagesschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/assange-gesundheit-101.html)] [[DailyCaller](https://dailycaller.com/2019/11/25/julian-assange-prison-die-urgent-medical-care/)] [[21Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2019/11/26/65-doctors-draft-open-letter-warning-british-authorities-assange-may-die-in-detention/)] [[aftonbladet](https://www.aftonbladet.se/nyheter/a/GGJM7m/lakare-varnar-assange-kan-do-i-fangelset)] [[zeit](https://www.zeit.de/gesellschaft/zeitgeschehen/2019-11/wikileaks-gruender-julian-assange-gesundheit-lebensgefahr)] [[LeMonde](https://www.lemonde.fr/pixels/article/2019/11/26/une-soixantaine-de-medecins-alertent-sur-l-etat-de-sante-de-julian-assange_6020602_4408996.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1574846590)] [[TheMalaysianInsight](https://www.themalaysianinsight.com/s/200068)] [[TruePundit](https://truepundit.com/international-group-of-doctors-warns-assange-will-die-in-prison-without-urgent-medical-care/)]   
    
  Signed by **67 doctors  
  EXCERPTS**Conclusion  
  “**Medical doctors have a professional duty to report suspected torture of which they become aware, wherever it may be occurring**. That professional duty is absolute and must be carried out regardless of risk to reporting doctors. We wish to put on record, as medical doctors, our collective serious concerns and to draw the attention of the public and the world to this grave situation.  
    
  The World Health Organisation Constitution of 1946 envisages ‘the highest attainable standard of health as a fundamental right of every human being.’20 We are indebted to those who have sought to uphold this right in the case of Mr Assange.  
    
  From a medical point of view, on the evidence currently available, we have serious concerns about Mr Assange’s fitness to stand trial in February 2020. Most importantly, it is our opinion that Mr Assange requires urgent expert medical assessment of both his physical and psychological state of health. Any medical treatment indicated should be administered in a properly equipped and expertly staffed university teaching hospital (tertiary care). Were such urgent assessment and treatment not to take place, we have real concerns, on the evidence currently available, that Mr Assange could die in prison. **The medical situation is thereby urgent. There is no time to lose**.”

**From Addendum**:  
It is likely that the aforementioned climate of fear and intimidation severely compromised the medical care available to Mr Assange, even within the Embassy, and given all the other concerns surrounding the extraordinary treatment of Mr Assange it is difficult to conclude other than that the creation of that climate of fear and intimidation was deliberate. If it was deliberate, **we as medical doctors condemn such behaviour as reckless, dangerous and cruel**. That all this has been played out in the heart of London for many years is a source of great sadness and shame to many of us.

* 23 Nov 2019 UPDATE on the **Arbuthnot** conflicts of interest [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/world/201911231077316879-investigation-reveals-further-conflicts-of-interest-for-chief-magistrate-overseeing-assanges-case/)]
* 24 Nov 2019 **John Pilger**: “*The Lies About Assange Must Stop Now*” [[ConsortiumNews](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/11/24/john-pilger-the-lies-about-assange-must-stop-now/)] [[Mint Press](https://www.mintpressnews.com/john-pilger-lies-julian-assange-must-stop-now/262990/)]
* 25 Nov 2019 Filmmaker **James Ricketson** speaks out [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/former-political-prisoner-pleads-for-scott-morrison-to-not-let-assange-die-in-jail-20191124-p53dks.html)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Unity4J/status/1198680223509893120)]  
  JR (who spent 15 months as a political prisoner in a Cambodian jail) has implored Prime Minister Scott Morrison to "pick up the phone" to his British counterpart to ensure Julian Assange does not die in prison.
* 25 Nov 2019 **Pamela Anderson** has made a direct plea to AU PM **Scott Morrison** to help Julian Assange [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/psychological-torture-pamela-anderson-s-direct-plea-to-scott-morrison-20191125-p53e03.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1574677493)]
* 25 Nov 2019 Democracy Now in **Doctors’ Petition** [[article](https://www.democracynow.org/2019/11/25/headlines/more_than_60_doctors_warn_assange_could_die_inside_london_prison)] More coming?
* 26 Nov 2019 RT UPDATE on **Doctors’ Petition** [[RT](https://youtu.be/vXIEsMXOCPk) Video] [[RT](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1199397407496257536) Tweet] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/474351-assange-treated-terrorist-uk/) Article]
* 26 Nov 2019 Op Ed by **George Galloway**: “*Justice blind or blinded by titles? A tale of Prince Andrew and Julian Assange*” [[RT](https://www.rt.com/op-ed/474374-prince-andrew-epstein-assange/)}
* 26 Nov 2019 **Jennifer Robinson** tweets re encouraging comment from **Anthony Albanese** - leader of AU Opposition (Labour) [[tweet](https://twitter.com/Unity4J/status/1199309278953299968)]
* 26 Nov 2019 Report from the **Bring Julian Assange Home Parliamentary Group** (AU) [[Website](http://andrewwilkie.org/response-to-the-first-bring-julian-assange-home-parliamentary-group-meeting/)]  
  “The Group is unanimously and strongly of the view that the US extradition request of Mr Assange be rescinded and that he be allowed to return to Australia.  
    
  “The Group agreed that Mr Christensen and I would write to the United States Ambassador to Australia and the British High Commissioner to Australia seeking to meet with them to discuss how Mr Assange can be brought back to Australia as quickly as possible.”  
    
  Report: [[News.com](https://www.news.com.au/national/assange-should-be-freed-and-returned-to-australia-group-of-federal-parliamentarians-has-met-to-discuss-the-wikileaks-founders-fate/video/81a74e0a04263231f72f22ce94195c8c)] Missing video of **WilkieMP** here: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/YonSolitary/status/1206475701429227520)]
* 27 Nov 2019 **Greg Barns** in AU “*Julian Assange's unlikely, powerful friends*” [[ABC Audio]](https://www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/the-signal/assange-campaign/11740726)
* 27 Nov 2019 Parliament House, Brisbane **Greg Barns** “Get the facts” [[Flyer](https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Ascds%3AUS%3A505a58cf-9daa-4869-a5b0-d66ee793674e)]   
  Coverage: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/11/29/assa-n29.html)]
* 27 Nov 2019 Berlin, DE, (12-1pm) “*Anything To Say*” **John Shipton**, **Kristinn Hrafnsson, Nils Melzer** et al[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Unity4J/status/1195279970521759745)]   
  [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/OGQF3uxApQ0?t=10m11s) livestream] [[RT Tweet](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1200054235624177664) video clip] [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/EkxQdU15T6w) short clips]  
    
  [[10:11](https://youtu.be/OGQF3uxApQ0?t=10m11s)] Starts: **Sevim Dagdalen** (DE)  
  [[13:58](https://youtu.be/OGQF3uxApQ0?t=13m58s)] Unveiled  
  [[14:22](https://youtu.be/OGQF3uxApQ0?t=14m22s)] Message from Artist Italian **Davide Dormino** (EN)  
  [[18:52](https://youtu.be/OGQF3uxApQ0?t=18m52s)] Unknown (DE)  
  [[27:85](https://youtu.be/OGQF3uxApQ0?t=27m85s)] **John Shipton** (EN) [[RT Tweet](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1200054235624177664) video clip]  
  “I saw Julian yesterday afternoon. He is, as Niils Melzer described, suffering from years of psychological torture - increasing psychological torture, increasing to the extent of damaging him. And so, it’s quite moving for me to see Julian, and quite worrying. He may die there, unless … If I could describe it to you this way: The Collateral Murder video that Chelsea Manning is alleged to have brought to WikiLeaks shows the murder of two journalists and some other men….”  
  [[31:50](https://youtu.be/OGQF3uxApQ0?t=31m50s)] **Nils Melze**r (DE) : [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1199848674110722048)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/474501-assange-torture-un-berlin-protest/)] [[EN TEXT](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mk5jYuQB8D4-ITWt7Ew6vLYSo389a_DRJAm7dmuok-Y/edit?usp=sharing)] [[Meltzer](https://medium.com/@njmelzer/anything-to-say-this-is-what-i-have-to-say-1e5df397e221?)]  
  [[37:15](https://youtu.be/OGQF3uxApQ0?t=37m15s)] Unknown (DE)  
  [[40:09](https://youtu.be/OGQF3uxApQ0?t=40m09s)] **Kristinn Hrafnsson** (EN)  
  “We are living in very dangerous times. And we all know it. We can feel it. We can sense it. These men (in the sculpture) symbolise the fight that we have to fight for our future, and for our children’s future. We have here the symbols of me who exposed the truth about the evils in this world. Two of them are in prison and one in exile. It’s unacceptable. We need the truth.”   
  [46:29] **ENDS**
* 27 Nov 2019 Berlin, DE (6-9 pm) **Public hearing in the Bundestag**, **Renata Avila, Nils Melzer**, **John Shipton**, **Kristinn Hrafnsson**, MOD **Sevim Dagdelen** , **Daniel Ellsberg** by videolink [[Website](https://www.linksfraktion.de/termine/detail/medien-unter-beschuss/)] [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI) Livestream] [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/nQEFhfeH3ew) short clips]  
    
  [0:[39:39](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=39m39s)] **Starts:** Sevim Dagdelen (Chair) (DE)  
  [0:[46:20](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=46m20s)] Amira Mohamed Ali (DE)  
  [0:[57:48](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=57m48s)] John Shipton (EN) Julian’s current condition  
  [[1:03:43]](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=1h03m43s) Nils Meltzer (DE) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Unity4J/status/1200153061416677376) video]   
   [EN [Transcript](https://medium.com/@njmelzer/state-responsibility-for-the-torture-of-julian-assange-40935ea5d7c3?)] [FR [Transcript](https://www.legrandsoir.info/la-responsabilite-de-l-etat-pour-la-torture-de-julian-assange-medium.html?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter)] [DE [Transcript](https://medium.com/@njmelzer/staatenverantwortlichkeit-f%C3%BCr-die-folterung-von-julian-assange-334c2173a4f)]  
  [[1:18:24]](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=1h18m24s) Renata Avila (EN) (lawyer from Julian’s legal team)   
  [[1:23:11]](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=1h23m11s) Inset video (EN)  
  [[1:25:17](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=1h25m17s)] Renata Avila (EN)  
  [[1:29:43]](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=1h29m43s) Kristinn Hrafnsson {EN] The attack on journalism and journalists  
  [[1:39:01](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=1h39m01s)] Sevim Dagdelen (DE)  
  [[1:50:44](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=1h50m44s)] Daniel Ellsberg (EN) Recorded address  
  [[2:00:12](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=2h00m12s)] BREAK  
  [[2:14:05](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=2h14m05s)] Heike Hänsel (DE) (Chair)  
  [[2:18:12](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=2h18m12s)] Kristinn Hrafnsson (EN)  
  [[2:27:44]](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=2h27m44s) Christian Mihr (DE) (Director, Reporters Without Borders RSF)  
  [[2:37:47](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=2h37m47s)] Cornelia Berger (DE)  
  [[2:46:01]](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=2h46m01s) John Gótz (DE)  
  [[2:56:08](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=2h56m08s)] Michael Sontheimer [DE]  
  [[3:05:26](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=3h05m26s)] Doris Achelwilm [DE]  
  [[3:14:18](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=3h14m18s)] Renata Avila [EN) The European Court of Human Rights is the final option  
  [[3:19:01](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=3h19m01s)] John Shipton (EN) The Grasping Empire (STANDING OVATION)  
  [[3:23:41](https://youtu.be/ErhmlDJ-8RI?t=3h23m41s)] Kristinn Hrafnsson  
  [3:28:26] ENDS
* 27 Nov 2019 France: Open letter from the **French Journalist Unions** to **Emmanual Macron**. [[Letter](https://snjcgt.fr/2019/11/27/julian-assange-lettre-ouverte-a-emmanuel-macron/)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1199775284523876355)]
* 27 Nov 2019 **Pamela Anderson**’s prepared speech for a Canberra event she couldn’t attend (at end of article) [[DailyMail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7731651/Pamela-Anderson-claims-threatened-chief-prison-holding-Julian-Assange.html)]
* 28 Nov 2019 **Walkley Awards** (the highest AU journalism awards)   
  **Kerry O’Brien** (AU journalist) speaks out [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/PeterCronau/status/1199971609680809984)video]. [[ABC](https://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2019-11-28/kerry-obrien-press-freedom-walkley-awards-julian-assange/11748198?pfmredir=sm)]  
  **Paul Murphy** speaks out too. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/PeterCronau/status/1199999070112116736) video]   
  **Jen Robinson** was there too.
* 28 Nov 2019 London: “***Free the Truth***” with **Mark Curtis** (AU journalist), **Lisa Longstaff** (lawyer), **Nils Melzer,** **Craig Murray,** **John Pilger** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kittyhundal/status/1193172177362849794)]   
  [Videos collected in [Consortium News](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/11/30/psychologically-tortured-assange-victim-of-british-rogue-state-london-conference-hears/)] Summary and quotes [[Catherine Brown](https://catherinebrown.org/free-the-truth-academics-and-journalists-speak-for-julian-assange-london-28th-november-2019/)] [Short summary [video](https://youtu.be/crjUPYz8FQA)] [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/12/01/freethetruth-event-in-support-of-julian-assange-photos-and-videos-28-11-2019/)] Also, see video clips noted below.  
    
  RT interview after event [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1200378227711238145)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/9Z8wWJnk6kc)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/474656-assange-uk-campaign-pundits/) article]  
  Event discussed by **Alexander Mercouris** on the Duran] 8 Dec 2019 [[Duran Video](https://youtu.be/q5fSLN9s7M8)]  
    
  **LowKey** (singer) opens the talks:  
  "Julian Assange is not being punished for anything he has done wrong. He is being punished for everything he has done right" [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jmcevoy_2/status/1200115816898990081)] [[Video](https://youtu.be/UVemAd9z-sk)]  
    
  **Fidel Narvaez** accuses Ecuadorian president Lenin Moreno of committing 'a crime' in giving up a political refugee to a country persecuting them [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jmcevoy_2/status/1200119621300428801)] [Full [video](https://youtu.be/N7IXuxUusog)]  
    
  **Lisa Longstaff** of Women Against Rape: "Women's fury and frustration at seeing rapists go free almost every time is being manipulated for government purposes." [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jmcevoy_2/status/1200124400407891969)] [Full [video](https://youtu.be/6Tg6IeS0pyg)]  
    
  **Nils Meltze**r - standing ovation [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CMAGracias/status/1200125374908305408) video]  
  On press freedom: "Why am I so passionate about this case? Because this is about all of us - it is about our future" [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jmcevoy_2/status/1200126851835936769)] [Full [Video](https://youtu.be/qIvZHvNakYs)]  
    
  **John Pilger** saw Julian Assange in Belmarsh prison this morning.   
  He says: "Julian's intellect, resilience, and sense of humour are, I think, protecting him. But for how long, I don't know."” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jmcevoy_2/status/1200140380894900224)] [Partial [Transcript](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/11/29/john-pilger-visiting-britains-political-prisoner/)] [JP [tweet](https://twitter.com/johnpilger/status/1200676895869820928)] [V1 [Video](https://twitter.com/BellaMagnani/status/1200308229068271616)] [Full [video](https://youtu.be/e2CPRlj4UNU)]   
    
  **Mark Curtis** "This whole case comes down to something very simple: are you on the side of those revealing crimes or on the side of those committing them?" [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jmcevoy_2/status/1200137460057092096)] [Full [video](https://youtu.be/5O8R2LjyhuA)]  
    
  **Craig Murray**: "The British government has lost its international credibility... We live in a state that has become a rogue state" [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jmcevoy_2/status/1200132310714245122)] [Full [video](https://youtu.be/bih4nOkQeCg)]  
    
  **Lissa Johnson (**clinical psychologist**)**: Updates on the @Doctors4Assange letter & follow-up.  
  "You cannot adequately treat a torture victim while continuing to torture them" [Tweet](https://twitter.com/jmcevoy_2/status/1200129822938345473)]   
  [Full [video](https://youtu.be/oXgalaAn3aE)]
* 28 Nov 2019 Panorama (German) video ( DE) on the **spying at the embassy**.  
   [[Video](https://www.ardmediathek.de/ard/player/Y3JpZDovL25kci5kZS8xMGUyYzIyOS1hODNjLTQ2ZGYtYjU0YS01ZTJkMDdjNzg2NjY) in DE at 22m11s] [Version in EN {[Video](https://daserste.ndr.de/panorama/archiv/2019/Ecuadors-spy-operation-on-Julian-Assange,panorama9110.html)]  
  DE version: At 22 minutes 11 seconds NDR Reporter **John Goetz** explains that he was spied inside the Ecuadorian Embassy in London by Spanish security firm UC Global while visiting Julian Assange
* 29 Nov 2019 **John Pilger**: “*Visiting Britain’s Political Prisoner*” [[ConsortiumNews](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/11/29/john-pilger-visiting-britains-political-prisoner/)]  
  NB This is a partial transcript of 28 Nov speech (above).
* 29 Nov 2019 **Guillaume Long** [[RT Tweet](https://twitter.com/Underground_RT/status/1200484345116532738) video clip]  
  “Ecuador was right all along. Julian Assange was running a risk of facing what he’s facing now...we must all defend freedom for Julian Assange”
* 29 Nov 2019 British authorities finally allow a videolink interview with Julian Assange in a **Spanish case** (**Audiencia Nacional)** against a security firm that allegedly sent illegally obtained material to the CIA [[El Pais](https://elpais.com/elpais/2019/11/29/inenglish/1575044449_760169.html)]   
  See also 4 Dec 2019 [[Oriental Review](https://orientalreview.org/2019/12/04/julian-assange-in-videoconference-the-spanish-case-takes-a-turn/)]
* 29 Nov 2019 Cologne / Kóhn at 18:30 **John Shipton**, **Sevim Dagdelen** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Unity4J/status/1199071764581625856)]   
  [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/474773-assange-father-huawei-cfo/) article] [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/7tcYpPDQtsI) video clip]
* 29 Nov 2019 **Nils Melzer** [[RT Tweet](https://twitter.com/afshinrattansi/status/1200501328390348800) video clip]
* 30 Nov 2019 **Nils Melzer** [[RT Full video]](https://youtu.be/ACsLL8JC7zY)  
  “The reasons the US wants to extradite him for is a classic case of a political offence, UK law prohibits extradition for a political offence...this whole detention now, at present has no legal basis'”
* 30 Nov 2019 **Wikileaks**: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1200737764309753856)] [[Article](https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/assange-surveillance-101.html)]  
  “German Public Broadcaster NDR filed charges against UC Global on Thursday after learning that its journalists were spied on when visiting the Ecuadorian Embassy. The Spanish security company surveilled visitors and then shared the data with US intelligence”
* 30 Nov 2019 Belgrade at 20:00hrs **Stefania Maurizi** and **Srećko Horvat** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1200493343635116032)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/HorvatSrecko/status/1200490805355515906)] Report to come
* Nov Issue 2019 **Angela Richter** “Es ist unsere Freiheit / It’s Our Freedom” [[Freitag](https://www.freitag.de/autoren/der-freitag/es-ist-unsere-freiheit)]

#### **DECEMBER 2019.**

* **1 Dec 2019** **Nils Meltzer** (28 Nov 2019) on Press TV (“Free the Truth” event)  
  [NM [Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1201240632238510087)] [PressTV [Tweet video](https://twitter.com/Presstvuk/status/1201208910205595648) Pt1] [PressTV [Tweet video](https://twitter.com/Presstvuk/status/1201210270267461634) Pt2] [PressTV [article](https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2019/11/30/612509/Julian-Assange-health-London-solidarity-prison)]
* **1 Dec 2019** Α letter signed by 60 intellectuals from 15 countries was delivered to Lambeth Palace calling on His Grace, **Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CMAGracias/status/1201240571135827971)] [[Letter](https://www.globalresearch.ca/appeal-archbishop-canterbury-liberation-julian-assange/5696379)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1201258822519738368) of whole letter] [[Video](https://youtu.be/88Kzf9ivQSQ) of delivery 29 Nov 2019]  
    
  Coverage: [[Consortium News](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/12/01/appeal-to-archbishop-of-canterbury-to-support-release-of-julian-assange/)]   
    
  Signatories included (among others)  
    
  Nobel Peace Prize laureate **Mairead Maguire,   
  Noam Chomsky,   
  Daniel Ellsberg**,   
  film-maker **Oliver Stone**,   
  human rights defender **Francis Boyle**,   
  former chair of the Human Rights Committee of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly **Dick Marty**,   
  the Greek composer **Mikis Theodorakis,**   
  the popular German Bundestag member **Sahra Wagenknecht**,  
   the ex-editor of Le Monde Diplomatique **Alain Gresh**,   
  **William R. Polk**, descendent of the 11th President of the United States and former President of the Adlai Stevenson Institute of International Affairs,   
  **Manolis Glezos**, named by Charles de Gaulle “the first Resistant in Europe”.
* **1 Dec 2019** **Kristinn Hrafnsson** speaks to all staff lunch at ABC [[Tweet thread](https://twitter.com/FlickRubicon/status/1201313380008546304))
* **1 Dec 2019 Kristinn Hrafnsson** at Sydney Morning Herald (SMH) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/flickrubicon/status/1201292628119015424?s=21)]  
  2 Dec 2019 [[SMH article](https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/wikileaks-editor-in-chief-urges-australians-to-support-julian-assange-20191202-p53g4m.html)]  
  “He said Mr Assange had been prevented from accessing therapy for post-traumatic stress disorder he developed during nearly seven years in the Ecuadorian embassy in London without proper access to medical care, sunlight and exercise. Instead he was allowed to play an occasional game of Monopoly with a guard.”  
    
  “Mr Hrafnsson said the consular assistance offered by the Australian government had so far been tokenistic and designed to “secure the interest of the state to find out how they can minimise their PR humiliation”, rather than aid Mr Assange.”
* **2 Dec 2019** **Kristinn Hrafnsson** and **Greg Barns** on Radio Late Night Live   
  [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/PeterCronau/status/1201457032194183168)]   
  - “*Kristinn Hrafnsson: what's next for Wikileaks and Julian Assange*” [[LNLaudiolink](https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/latenightlive/new-document/11757810)]  
  - Greg Barns “*Is Canberra changing its tune on Julian Assange?*” [[LNL audiolink](https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/latenightlive/is-canberra-changin-its-tune-on-julian-assange/11758090)]
* **2 Dec 2019** **Nils Melzer** RTs his letters to States [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1201599383382482951)]  
    
  GBR27.05.19: [http://bit.ly/2YrnEvM](https://t.co/e2Zp2sBFyE?amp=1)   
  ECU28.05.19: [http://bit.ly/2Opnhhk](https://t.co/fQP1689h22?amp=1)   
  USA28.05.19: [http://bit.ly/30SV8ka](https://t.co/vtxSwPoFj9?amp=1)   
  SWE28.05.19: [http://bit.ly/2YtIGcX](https://t.co/cZkgS4pzUd?amp=1)   
  USA12.09.19: [http://bit.ly/2X1gWJu](https://t.co/KODDmmt8kI?amp=1)   
  SWE12.09.19: [http://bit.ly/2NXUAEN](https://t.co/yc33dCgFFi?amp=1)   
  ECU02.10.19: [http://bit.ly/2OFQAdu](https://t.co/Dvqe6Wkcd9?amp=1)   
  GBR29.10.19: 60 days
* **2 Dec 2019** The Spanish case (spying in the Embassy)   
  [RT [video](https://youtu.be/WUgbuWBsEpA)] [[Int Policy Digest](https://intpolicydigest.org/2019/12/03/julian-assange-in-videoconference-the-spanish-case-takes-a-turn/)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/03/pers-d03.html)]
* **3 Dec 2019** Canberra, National Press Club of AU: “*The fate of journalism and Julian Assange*” **Kristinn Hrafnsson** [[Tweet](https://www.npc.org.au/speakers/kristinn-hrafnsson/)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/PeterCronau/status/1201445918282665984)] [[Transcript](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2019/12/03/the-fate-of-journalism-and-julian-assange/)] [ABC [Video](https://iview.abc.net.au/show/national-press-club-address/series/0/video/NC1912C009S00)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/5C22y4fjoRg)]  
  Coverage: [[Tweets](https://twitter.com/FlickRubicon/status/1201676401771859969) from FlickRuby re Q&A] [[Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2019/dec/03/us-bid-to-extradite-julian-assange-akin-to-forced-rendition-wikileaks-editor-says)] [[SBS](https://www.sbs.com.au/news/the-wikileaks-editor-in-chief-wants-scott-morrison-to-help-bring-julian-assange-home)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/world/201912031077475119-forced-rendition-wikileaks-editor-warns-assanges-extradition-to-us-may-set-dangerous-precedent/)] [[NoosaNews](https://www.noosanews.com.au/news/assange-arrest-inspired-aussie-raids/3893748/)] [[SkyStatement](https://skystatement.com/us-bid-to-extradite-julian-assange-akin-to-forced-rendition-wikileaks-editor-says/)] [[WFMZ](https://www.wfmz.com/news/cnn/us-national/wikileaks-editor-in-chief-urges-australia-support-assange/video_f74b4016-dcbf-5c32-a9ce-39bbedc6bbfe.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&utm_campaign=user-share)]
* **3 Dec 2019 Kristinn Hrafnsson** interview [[Consortium News](https://youtu.be/PbQGLpSXFNw)]
* **3 Dec 2019** **Kristinn Hrafnsson** interview [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/03/hraf-d03.html)]  
  Excerpt:   
  Sometimes I think back about the Dreyfus case, which was confined to just one country a hundred years ago. It is a case that everyone in France is educated about, because they don’t want to miss the lessons of what was a travesty of justice.  
    
  I was reading about the case recently, and I was astonished by the similarities. There were secret trials, there was planted evidence, smearing in the media, corruption on all levels and, initially, nobody was supporting Dreyfus. In the end, he was sent to Devil’s Island.

But it took a small group, basically his brother and a handful of intellectuals, to start supporting him, fighting and campaigning, and even sacrificing quite a lot. Emile Zola, when he wrote “J’accuse,” was taken to court, lost a defamation case and had to flee to London. But things changed rapidly. Within little more than a decade, everything against Dreyfus was lifted. He was exonerated, allowed back in the military and even promoted.

So even though we are seeing dark times, there are signs that we can actually win, and we will win this one way or another. I hope that it does not take a long time, because Julian cannot endure for a long time in this situation.

The fact of the matter is that if he is thrown in a plane and taken to that Devil’s Island across the Atlantic, his life is lost.

* **3 Dec 2019** **Kristinn Hrafnsson** post-speech interview [[Consortium News](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/12/03/cn-live-special-report-hrafnsson-tells-cn-media-is-essential-to-assanges-defense/)]
* **3 Dec 2019** **JuiceMediia** release “***Quiet Australian Policy***” (with a cameo role for Julian) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/thejuicemedia/status/1201748816434618368)] [[Video](https://youtu.be/shBwf97O7zk)]
* **3 Dec 2019** Report that Australian MPs (**Andrew Wilkie** and **George Christensen**) to visit Julian in prison [[Washington Times](https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2019/dec/3/australian-parliamentarians-to-visit-jailed-wikile/)] [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/australian-mps-plan-to-visit-ailing-julian-assange-in-british-jail-20191203-p53gcs.html)]
* **3 Dec 2019** **Jake Appelbaum** ([@ioerror](https://twitter.com/ioerror)) speaks out (in English with French subtitles) - on surveillance,whistleblowers, Wikileaks and Julian Assange (recorded 29 Nov 2019 Berlin) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/iLKPI8roc7g)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Plucille54/status/1202315638963920896) with meme]
* **4 Dec 2019** Update on the **Spanish Case** [[Oriental Review](https://orientalreview.org/2019/12/04/julian-assange-in-videoconference-the-spanish-case-takes-a-turn/)]
* **4 Dec 2019**: **Kristinn Hrafnsson**, **Suelette Dreyfus**, **Julian Burnside QC**, **Lizzie O'Shea** “*What is happening to Journalism & Julian Assange?*” Victorian State Library 6:30pm [[Website](https://pretix.eu/Journalism/julian/)] [[Tweet video](https://twitter.com/melbourne4wiki/status/1202128953982382080?s=21)] [[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/2301719993184488/videos/958141981234372/) video] [[Twitter](https://twitter.com/flickrubicon/status/1202132191943127041?s=21) thread]  
    
  Best versions: [[Box4 video](https://youtu.be/XdTUhIUaKBw)] [[Transcript](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eY8KbSDa_Eh4LFpPhLedXQfRi9l-O09P_p_uSqv6WhM/edit?usp=sharing) - WIP]  
    
  Coverage: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/07/wiki-d07.html)]
* **4 Dec 2019** **Scott Ludlam** (after the 3 Dec Press Club event) [[CN Live](https://youtu.be/G_1YpMAT2Hw)]
* **4 Dec 2019** **Doctors’ New Letter to the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice**- (Followup To 23 Nov 2019 [Open letter](https://medium.com/@doctors4assange/concerns-of-medical-doctors-about-the-plight-of-mr-julian-assange-ffb09a5dd588) to **UK Home Secretary Priti Patel** and **UK Shadow Home Secretary Diane Abbott** )   
  [[DoctorsForAssange](https://twitter.com/Doctors4Assange)] [[New Letter](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/b8b7715550074d7bd8f284baa/files/260e6926-165d-4524-a58b-f7559afa28b7/Second_open_letter_from_medical_doctors_to_UK_Government_4.11.19.pdf)] [Alt version [Letter](https://medium.com/@doctors4assange/second-open-letter-to-the-uk-government-d5b58bca88?)]  
    
  **Articles** with **links** to letter [[The Canary](https://www.thecanary.co/uk/news/2019/12/04/medical-doctors-lambast-home-secretarys-failure-to-respond-to-concerns-over-julian-assange/)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/05/doct-d05.html)] [[TruPublica](https://truepublica.org.uk/united-kingdom/second-medical-doctors-appeal-to-save-julian-assanges-life/)] [[GlobalResearch](https://www.globalresearch.ca/medical-doctors-protest-failure-uk-home-secretary-julian-assange/5696778)] [[Consortium News](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/12/05/doctors-intensify-pressure-on-britain-over-assange/)]  
    
  **Articles** with **no link** [[Washington Times](https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2019/dec/5/julian-assange-case-doctors-rip-irresponsible-brit/)] [[2gB](https://www.2gb.com/he-might-die-doctors-urge-australian-government-to-bring-julian-assange-home/)]

**Followup** articles: [[C21stWire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2019/12/04/dying-inside-assanges-life-is-threatened-by-britains-legal-deceptions/)] Support from Swedish Doctors for Human Rights [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SWEDHR/status/1116399402434945024)]

* **5 Dec 2019** **Kristinn Hrafnsson** on radio [@abcmelbourne](https://twitter.com/abcmelbourne) drive [[LINK](https://www.abc.net.au/radio/melbourne/programs/drive/)?]
* **5 Dec 2019** The **German Pirate Party** calls for the release of Julian Assange.  
  [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/echo_pbreyer/status/1202547248602718210)] [[Statement](https://www.patrick-breyer.de/?p=590019)]
* **5 Dec 2019** Launch of ‘SPEAK UP FOR ASSANGE – **International Journalists** **speak up for Assange**’ statement ’ [[Website](https://speak-up-for-assange.org/)] NB Multiple languages available.  
    
  Thread about people who have signed: [Twitter [THREAD](https://twitter.com/Plucille54/status/1204362917673676800)]  
  Coverage: [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/world/201912061077504148-julian-assange-is-being-persecuted-for-exposing-crimes-of-historic-importance-say-journalists-/)] [[Daily Times](https://dailytimes.com.pk/517916/hundreds-of-journalists-across-the-world-demand-freedom-for-julian-assange/)] [[El National](https://www.elnacional.cat/ca/politica/declararacio-internacional-periodistes-suport-julian-assange_449490_102.html)]  
    
  Followup: John Steppling OpEd (12 Dec) [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/analysis/201912121077556898-julian-assange-a-story-of-colossal-hypocrisy-but-also-cruelty-and-sadism---journalist/)]
* **6 Dec 2019** Interview with **Tariq Ali** [[KCRW](https://www.kcrw.com/culture/shows/scheer-intelligence/the-plot-to-discredit-and-destroy-julian-assange)]
* **6 Dec 2019** **Mary Kostakidis** & **Clinton Fernandes** on the Wikileaks Cables [[CN Live](https://youtu.be/cKkMtKM5gm4)]
* **6 Dec 2019** **Kristinn Hrafnsson** interview [[ABC/Planet America](https://iview.abc.net.au/show/planet-america/series/0/video/NN1906H062S00)]
* **6 Dec 2019** **Brian Eno**, **Ann Wright**, & **Medea Benjamin** with new video   
  “*This Christmas Journalism is on Trial*” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/WLArtForce/status/1203376102674223112)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/RealMediaGB/status/1203021285619449857) Video]
* **7 Dec 2019** Lengthy article quoting **John Shipton** and **Mary Kostakidis** [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/national/love-him-or-hate-him-or-simply-don-t-care-julian-assange-s-fight-for-freedom-concerns-us-all-20191202-p53g1q.html)]  
  NB This article has quite a few unattributed and unsourced comments in it that are quite controversial.
* **7 Dec 2019** Geneva “*We Are Millions*” LAST NIGHT [[Newsletter](https://mailchi.mp/6ada0213c823/lapi-en-fvrier-12002713?e=75726979be)]
* **8 Dec 2019** (Tweeted) **International Lawyers for Assange**   
  [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Doctors4Assange/status/1203615665933807616)] [[Statement](https://www.transcend.org/tms/2019/12/julian-assange-an-appeal-from-international-lawyers/) 2 Dec 2019]  
  Excerpt:  
  “The ongoing proceedings against Australian citizen Julian Assange, founder of WikiLeaks, presently held in Belmarsh Prison near London, display a grave erosion of time-honoured principles of human rights, the rule of law, and the democratic freedom to gather and share information. We would like to join the extraordinary line of earlier protests in the case.  
  [...]  
  Britain should follow the proud example of Iceland. That small nation firmly defended its sovereignty against a U.S. attempt in 2011 to exercise undue jurisdiction, when it expelled a huge team of FBI detectives that had entered the country and had started to investigate WikiLeaks and Assange without permission of the Icelandic government. The treatment of Julian Assange is below the dignity of the great nation that gave the world the Magna Carta in 1215 and the Habeas Corpus. To defend its national sovereignty and obey its own laws, the present British government must set Assange free immediately.”
* **8 Dec 2019** Mullumbimby, NSW, AU **John Shipton**, **Ciaron O’Reilly**, “*Justice for Julian*” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/ngarainstitute/status/1199833007500095489)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/JNIBVwUeG7U)]  
  Coverage: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1203636163321507840)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/RoydrDrew/status/1203633124631953408)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CiaronOReilly/status/1203915944734511105)] [[NBN News](https://www.nbnnews.com.au/2019/12/09/julian-assanges-father-speaks-in-mullumbimby/)]  
  “300 folks last night at the public meeting in Mullumbimby, Australia in support of Julian Assange!” “... with Julian’s father Mr John Shipton towards Bringing Julian Home! Fantastic support and solidarity!”
* **8 Dec 2019** **Edward Snowden** speaks in support of Julian at the *Right Livelihood Awards*  
  [[Video](https://youtu.be/W8Su3koxFOw?t=55m08s)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/09/snow-d09.html) summary]
* **9 Dec 2019 Barnaby Joyce** [AU] interviewed [[Going Underground](https://www.rt.com/shows/going-underground/475352-persecution-of-julian-assange/)]
* **9 Dec 2019** **Nils Melzer** summarises - censorship and growing tyranny, [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/09/melz-d09.html)]  
  **EXCERPT**:  
  “I also saw that the British government had no intention whatsoever to enter into a dialogue with me or take my recommendations seriously. Assange has remained imprisoned after completing his prison sentence, and in a maximum security prison at that, which, in my view, is completely out of proportion.

WSWS: You described the Assange case during the unveiling of the sculptures in front of the Brandenburg Gate as the “most important test case of our time.” Can you elaborate on that? What exactly do you mean by that?

Melzer: The Western democracies, which call themselves mature democracies, have become very self-righteous. Especially since the fall of the Berlin Wall—we are sitting here in Berlin—and the end of the Cold War, they believe that their political and economic system has won and is therefore incontestably the correct and the best one.

In reality, however, we have become fair-weather democracies, whose state institutions cease to function in critical situations because they no longer monitor each other. It is, however, absolutely crucial for the protection of the rule of law that the judiciary and parliament monitor the government and intervene in cases of abuse of power. They have to hold politicians and authorities accountable. This no longer works today, especially where the fundamental interests of the economic and political establishment are at stake.

WSWS: And the media…

Melzer: In theory, the media are the fourth power in the state, which is supposed to observe from the outside to what extent the separation of powers is, in fact, working, and whether they should ring the alarm. But the mainstream media no longer do this because they themselves have become part of the establishment. They profit from it, they are dependent on it.

The same applies to many of the major human rights organisations. At least to some extent, one gets the impression that they have also become part of the establishment. They are supported by large donations and are dependent on the state. They are, therefore, not prepared to risk a lot and take uncomfortable positions that could, above all, cost money.

In this context, where there is no longer any monitoring of the powers of the state, neither through political institutions nor through the media, an organization like WikiLeaks emerges that tries to assume these functions. This is as logical as it is essential for the functioning of democracy, the rule of law and state policy.”  
[...]  
What is at stake here is state responsibility. The term “taking responsibility” contains the word “response.” States must be required to respond to questions from the public about the exercise of state power. What criteria have been applied? Who did what on whose orders?

**If states no longer give the answers, if we get only blacked-out texts, then we no longer have transparency, but censorship. And with censorship inevitably comes tyranny**. That comes as surely as day follows night, because uncontrolled power corrupts. And that is also the essence of the Assange case. Therefore, this is a test case for the system. If we do not pass this test case, then we have opened the doors wide for tyranny.

* **9 Dec 2019** **Greg Barns** and Lisanne Adam “*Assange and the Myth of Due Process*” [[The Jurist](https://www.jurist.org/commentary/2019/12/barns-adam-assange-due-process/)]  
  Excerpt:  
  “Rutherford argues that, like Robin Hood, due process is a myth. Due process is a set of texts and moral values handed down over centuries that prescribes a fair relationship between an individual and the government, safeguarded by the judiciary. Now, roughly 25 years after Rutherford drew this eerily close comparison, due process continues to be a myth, an empty shell that is only enforceable if it suits a political agenda.  
    
  Roughly 700 years after the Robin Hood myth became a symbol for equal treatment and justice for the public, a man whom some have [**likened**](https://www.irishtimes.com/life-and-style/people/robin-hood-of-hacking-1.683707) to a digital Robin Hood’ is suffering an unprecedented departure from due process.”
* **9 Dec 2019** **Kristinn Hrafnsson** thanks MEAA on behalf od Assange [[Video](https://youtu.be/quNETLUA5O4)]
* 10 Dec 2019 **British Journalism Awards** London [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1204023943637721088)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Unity4J/status/1204569716045557761)] [[Video](https://youtu.be/gJwl8pZv6k4)]  
  WiseUp report on **protest** outside: [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/12/11/uk-journalists-time-to-find-some-courage-and-stand-up-for-julian-assange-10-12-2019-outside-british-journalism-awards/)]  
  “We met a mixed response. Some flatly refused to take the leaflet but others did so and seemed sympathetic. A few said they had signed the Open Letter or would consider doing so. We hope so.   
    
  Of the 610 journalists who have signed the Open Letter so far, **only 40 are from the UK** while 63 French journalists have done so.”
* **10 Dec 2019** **Human Rights Day**
* **10 Dec 2019** **Nils Melzer** at Geneva conference on “*Interrogation and Torture: Science, Law and Morality”*  [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1201866565744037888)]  
  Keynote speech **Nils Melzer** [[original video](https://mediaserver.unige.ch/play/124481)] and [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/cKI0Q9uFBEY)] [[Transcription](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1F9mfRbgEUUSW_lYDsb3h175CvxU2_CEGCqctTAqHzKc/edit?usp=sharing)] [[Melzer](https://medium.com/@njmelzer/pay-the-price-for-speaking-out-rather-than-the-price-for-keeping-silent-6e7618e239ac?)]
* **10 Dec 2019** **Ray McGovern** on subpoena from Aaron Rich re the method by which WikiLeaks received the Dem emails [[Richie Allen Show](https://youtu.be/pnzPHg971xQ)]
* **11 Dec 2019** **John Shipton** & **Ciaron O’Reilly** in Brisbane (Kurilpa Hall in West End) [[article](https://independentaustralia.net/life/life-display/julian-assanges-father-speaks-in-brisbane-about-sons-torture,13378#.Xeanxxjr_08.twitter)] [[tickets](https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=579884&)]  
  “Mr Shipton will report on Assange’s prospects in facing U.S. espionage charges, outline Julian’s serious health concerns, and will be interviewed by reporters from Independent Australia, as well as field questions from the audience. The event is to be co-hosted by Independent *A*ustralia and the [Queensland Council of Civil Liberties](https://www.qccl.org.au/).”  
    
  Stream: [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/kLoujC8H0vI)] Partial re John Shipton [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/SQFBBsscqKE)]  
  Summary: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CiaronOReilly/status/1204728918223147008)]  
  “200 folks fronted for a "Free Julian Assange" public meeting.in West End, Brisbane - addressed by the President of Queensland Council for Civil Liberties,+Julian.Assange's dad John Shipton + former anti-war prisoner of the USA Ciaron O'Reilly! Music by [@MuzzRay](https://twitter.com/Muzzray)!”  
    
  **Reports:** [[IndependentAustralia](https://independentaustralia.net/life/life-display/video-julian-assanges-dad-details-sons-torture,13417)]
* **12 Dec 2019** **John Shipton** & Ciaron O’Reilly in Nimbin [[article](https://independentaustralia.net/life/life-display/julian-assanges-father-speaks-in-brisbane-about-sons-torture,13378#.Xeanxxjr_08.twitter)]
* **12 Dec 2019** **UK General Election**
* **13 Dec 2019** **Craig Murray** on implications of Tory win for Assange [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/analysis/201912131077569302-bleak-times-for-assange-i-dont-think-theres-secret-liberal-hiding-in-johnson---craig-murray/)]
* **13 Dec 2019** **John Shipton** interview (AU) [[ABC article](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-12-13/julian-assange-father-pleas-for-government-help/11788198?pfmredir=sm)]
* **13 Dec 2019** **Senator Peter Whish-Wilson** “*The fate of journalism and Julian Assange”* [[Greens](https://greens.org.au/magazine/fate-journalism-and-julian-assange)]
* **13 Dec 2019** **Helen Haines**, MP for Indi, AU, now a “Friend of the Parliamentary Working Group for Julian Assange” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/JLeMura2/status/1205385894527504384)]
* **13 Dec 2019** Update on the **Somerset Bean** (graphic designer) warrant [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/13/bean-d13.html)]  
  “The subpoena is further confirmation that the Mueller probe, and the entire “Russiagate” narrative of the Democrats, the intelligence agencies and the corporate media, has been used to carry out surveillance of alternative and anti-war websites and organisations—above all, WikiLeaks—in an attempt to concoct false charges.”  
    
  ““This is a disturbing insight into what is no doubt going on all the time without a friendly email from Google. Especially now, the extent of the US spying on Assange and all his visitors in the Ecuadorian embassy has been revealed, one would be naive not to believe that a wide net of Assange and WikiLeaks supporters and collaborators are being monitored.”
* **13 Dec 2019** **Mandatory Administrative Hearing**   
    
  Coverage:

**Guardian** Reporting: [[Article](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2019/dec/13/lawyers-complain-about-lack-of-access-to-julian-assange-in-jail)]  
“Assange appeared uncomfortable as he sat waiting for the hearing to start, clenching his hands together before putting them inside the sleeves of his grey sweater.  
  
He spoke to confirm his name and date of birth and to clarify he was Australian, after the court’s legal adviser mistakenly suggested he was a Swedish national.  
  
The court heard that his lawyers had made a request to the judge, complaining about a lack of access to their client behind bars.  
  
**Gareth Peirce**, defending Assange, said the legal team were struggling to prepare documents for the case as Assange had no access to the evidence.  
  
“Without Mr Assange’s knowledge, some of it is recently acquired evidence, some of it is subject to months of investigation not always in this country, of which he is unaware because of the blockage in visits,” she said.  
  
“Despite our best efforts, Mr Assange has not been given what he must be given, and we are doing our utmost to cut through this.”  
  
**Peirce** said the governor of Belmarsh had prioritised family visits over legal visits, and she asked the judge to step in. But the district judge, **Vanessa Baraitser**, said she had no jurisdiction over the Prison Service.  
  
“Can I make it clear that I have no desire to stand in the way of any lawyer having proper access to their client and it’s in the interest of justice that they do,” the judge said. “What I can do and say is to state in open court that it would be helpful to this extradition process that Mr Assange’s lawyers have the access to their client.”  
  
Assange’s lawyers have previously complained that he had been given access to an unsuitable computer in prison.”  
  
**DailyMail** Reporting [[Article](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7788673/WikiLeaks-founder-Julian-Assange-BLOCKED-seeing-key-evidence-authorities.html?ito=social-twitter_dailymailUK)]  
“Gareth Peirce, representing Assange, said: 'The summary case which we have prepared is a dense document. 'Mr Assange has not been given what he must be given, and we are keen to go through this to the best of our abilities to keep with the requests of the court. 'It is predicated on the underlying evidence that Mr Assange has not reviewed.'”

**Sputnik** Reporting [[Article](https://sputniknews.com/europe/201912131077566960-judge-in-assanges-case-ignores-precedence-of-another-judge-intervening-with-belmarsh-prison/)]  
“A judge at Westminster Magistrates Court today dismissed an emergency application made by Julian Assange’s lawyer asking her to instruct prison authorities to give Assange proper access to his case file, despite being provided with a precedent of another judge doing exactly that.  
   
District Judge **Vanessa Baraitser** was unmoved by **Gareth Peirce**'s submissions that Assange is not able to properly prepare for his case. Peirce, a veteran human rights lawyer, provided the court with the precedent of a judge from the Central Criminal Court of England and Wales (aka the ‘Old Bailey’) who recently intervened with prison authorities to ensure an imprisoned defendant had better access to his lawyers and case file.”  
  
“**Peirce** contrasted what Judge Baraitser is prepared to do with the Old Bailey judge who “is on the phone to [Belmarsh] prison saying ‘do it’”.”  
  
“The case summary, which will be submitted by Assange’s legal team to the Court on 19 December, is a “dense document” with “potentially 20 witnesses” and “recently acquired evidence”, **his lawyer** said. “Mr Assange has not had the chance to review the summary let alone other evidence” Peirce told the court, noting that “to do it we would need proper time.”  
  
“The logistics are unfortunately not achievable, Mr Assange is not being given what he needed and we are doing our utmost,” **Peirce** told **Judge Baraitser**.  
  
But **the Judge** appeared to play down the significance of the case summary by asking **Peirce** whether she, “would agree that it is perhaps less important that that information is gone through in any detail [by Assange] because it is a preliminary summary which we wouldn’t hold you to?” **Peirce** pushed back telling the court that the summary was “extremely detailed” and is the product of “intense consultation and conferences with counsel” and which is “predicated on underlying evidence which Mr Assange has not reviewed.”  
  
Peirce said that 18 December “is the only day Belmarsh [prison authorities] have given for a visit which puts in jeopardy the [case] timetable.” She proceeded to emphasise that the document “isn’t a standalone document, it’s a document to inform the court so that it can carry out its objective on case management.” ”  
  
See prior reporting (18 Nov 2019) on same problem [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/world/201911181077339881-judge-in-assanges-case-says-she-has-no-jurisdiction-over-the-conditions-over-which-he-is-held/)]  
  
More reports: [[Independent](https://news.yahoo.com/julian-assange-blocked-seeing-evidence-162050770.html)] [[News.com.au](https://www.news.com.au/world/breaking-news/assange-cant-view-evidence-court-told/news-story/7332f4ed3d4bedda4ddea7a164b5b326#.hg3ob)] [[msn.com]](https://www.msn.com/en-au/news/world/julian-assange-blocked-from-seeing-evidence-over-extradition-to-us-court-told/ar-AAK6l5x?ocid=st) [[elcaribe](https://www.elcaribe.com.do/2019/12/13/los-abogados-de-assange-se-quejan-de-no-tener-suficiente-acceso-a-el-en-la-carcel/)]

* **14 Dec 2019** **Conference** Near Turin, Italy: *Conference on Julian Assange, Wikileaks, & risks to journalists*. Speakers Alessia Pesando, Serena Ferrario, & Journalist Pietro Ratto [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Unity4J/status/1200456628702793729)]
* **16 Dec 2019** **German Greens** ask Federal govt to take a stand on fighting Assange Extradition [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/KupkaMara/status/1206699397884661760)]
* **NOTE:** Video now available for the 8 Dec 2019 event in Mullumbimby, AU with **John Shipton**, Ciaron O’Reilly and others (see above). Starts with news about the petition.
* **NOTE**: Both EN and FR **transcriptions** are now available of **Nils Melze**r’s speech (in German) to the Bundestag 27 Nov 2019 (see above).
* **NOTE**: A **transcription** is now available of the very long Melbourne event 4 Dec 2019 at which **Kristinn Hrafnsson**, **Suelette Dreyfus** & **Julian Burnside** spoke (see above)
* **16 Dec 2019** **3rd letter from 100 @Doctors4Assange** - this time to Australian PM & Minister for Foreign Affairs Marise Payne. [[Letter](https://medium.com/@doctors4assange/open-letter-to-the-australian-government-e19a42597e45?)]  
     
  Coverage: [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/world/europe/doctors-ask-government-to-evacuate-assange-to-an-australian-hospital-20191216-p53k8z.html)] [[Free Matilda](https://newmatilda.com/2019/12/17/pressure-mounts-on-payne-amid-fresh-global-appeal-from-world-doctors-to-release-assange/?utm_campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=twitter&utm_source=socialnetwork)] [[Epoch Times](https://www.theepochtimes.com/doctors-urge-australia-to-lobby-for-imprisoned-wikileaks-founder-julian-assange_3177824.html)] [[ZeroHedge](https://www.zerohedge.com/geopolitical/100-doctors-demand-assange-receive-safe-passage-hospital-it-too-late)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/17/doct-d17.html)]   
  [[NSW Council of Civil Liberties](http://www.nswccl.org.au/australian_doctors_plea_for_assange)] [[ConsortiumNews](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/12/16/doctors-issue-urgent-australian-appeal-to-save-julian-assange/)] [[WashingtonTimes](https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2019/dec/17/julian-assange-case-more-than-100-doctors-ask-aust/)] [[SBS](https://www.sbs.com.au/news/the-torture-must-stop-doctors-urge-australia-to-bring-julian-assange-back-home)] [[SkyNews]](https://www.skynews.com.au/details/_6116274494001) [[2CC](http://www.2cc.net.au/podcasts/13388-doctors-make-urgent-appeal-on-assange.html) AUDIO] [[The Courier](https://www.thecourier.com.au/story/6546655/doctors-sound-warning-on-julian-assange/?cs=10229)] [[TheCanary](https://www.thecanary.co/global/world-news/2019/12/16/after-uk-government-silence-over-100-medical-doctors-urge-australia-to-defend-assange/)] [[Daily Mail](https://www.thecanary.co/global/world-news/2019/12/16/after-uk-government-silence-over-100-medical-doctors-urge-australia-to-defend-assange/)] [[Common Dreams](https://www.commondreams.org/news/2019/12/16/100-doctors-demand-julian-assange-receive-safe-passage-australian-hospital-it-too)] [[Global Research](https://www.globalresearch.ca/medical-doctors-issue-urgent-australian-appeal-save-julian-assange/5697853)] [[New Daily](https://thenewdaily.com.au/news/world/2019/12/17/doctors-sound-warning-on-julian-assange/)]] [[The Age](https://www.theage.com.au/world/europe/doctors-ask-government-to-evacuate-assange-to-an-australian-hospital-20191216-p53k8z.html?fbclid=IwAR36cVR4GyEF2vvTYhX78KS1oc27WOnV_12B-ajSh6bpXn3gyPViVeHSTdY)] [[Gizmodo](https://gizmodo.com/more-than-100-doctors-call-for-australia-to-rescue-juli-1840458584)] [[The Guardian](http://extradition)]  
    
  FollowUp stories: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/19/asau-d19.html)[ [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/world/europe/doctors-ask-government-to-evacuate-assange-to-an-australian-hospital-20191216-p53k8z.html)] [[Mint Press](https://www.mintpressnews.com/wikileaks-publishing-state-secrets-julian-assange-slowly-dies-prison/263775/#.XgbwTBmI45A.twitter)]
* **17 Dec 2019** New **International Open Letter to Scott Morrison AU MP**   
  [[Letter](https://independentaustralia.net/life/life-display/open-letter-to-scott-morrison-regarding-julian-assange,13423)] [[Sign here](https://simonfloth.wixsite.com/freejulianopenletter)] [[Press Release](https://medium.com/@TrevorFitzgibb1/australian-pm-scott-morrison-urged-to-uphold-au-sovereignty-by-intervening-for-julian-assange-5ccde0aea070?)]  
  “Australia must do all in its power to ensure that Britain rectifies, in each way described, its treatment of an Australian citizen who happens to be the world's most famous publisher.|  
    
  It also means that extraterritorial prosecution must be vigorously opposed, and with particular respect to Assange, by way of openly and preemptively refusing his extradition from Australia to the U.S. This should occur in tandem with securing him the option, with an itinerary of his choosing, to be availed of diplomatic escort to a friendly Australian doorstep”
* **17 Dec 2019** **Network in Defense of Humanity**,issue call:  
  [[Website](https://indefenseofhumanity.org/2019/12/freedom-for-julian-assange/)]  
  “Therefore we, members of the Network in Defense of Humanity and those who would like to join this call, demand respect for due process, non-extradition and the immediate release of Julian Assange. We urge national and international organizations, intellectuals and journalists and their media to put an end to the campaign against this brave human being for the crime of revealing war crimes against humanity. We demand that public opinion be truthfully informed about this terrible violation of his fundamental rights.”  
    
  Coverage: [ES: [Mazo4f](https://mazo4f.com/intelectuales-en-defensa-de-la-humanidad-exigen-libertad-de-assange)]
* **17 Dec 2019** **Sigmar Gabriel**, Former Vice-Chancellor of Germany, agrees that Julian has been tortured. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kittyhundal/status/1206993274843652096)]
* **17 Dec 2019** **Ross Cameron** (AU) on 2GB Radio [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1206931589738971136)]
* **17 Dec 2019** **Stefania Maurizi** thread about her ongoing FOIA battle to uncover what happened between the UK CFS and Sweden prosecutor (and other matters) [[Thread](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1207016304017846279)]
* **17 Dec 2019** The **NSW Council for Civil Liberties** (NSWCCL) RTs the Doctor4Assange letter [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NSWCCL/status/1207098560358957056)]
* **17 Dec 2019** The 32nd birthday of **Chelsea Manning**. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Plucille54/status/1201265162663157770)] [[Song & Cake](https://youtu.be/1fjfwZYRK_g)]  
  Reports: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/18/pers-d18.html)]
* **17 Dec 2019** **Carlos Poveda** (Assange lawyer) tweets that the Spanish National Court has “asked“the Ecuadorian Government for international judicial cooperation” as “, large-scale espionage has been demonstrated.” Poveda casts doubt on whether such cooperation will be forthcoming as quickly as Ecuador cooperated with the US govt. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CarlosPovedaMo1/status/1206863806690988032)]
* **18 Dec 2019** **Article19.org** expresses “concerns over use of embassy surveillance in extradition proceedings” [[website](https://www.article19.org/resources/assange-concerns-over-use-of-embassy-surveillance-in-extradition-proceedings/)] (repeated on [[ifex](https://ifex.org/illegal-surveillance-of-assanges-conversations-with-his-lawyers-must-not-be-used-in-court/)])  
    
  Executive Director **Thomas Hughes** said:  
    
  “We call on the UK court to reject the extradition order that could lead to Julian Assange being prosecuted and potentially imprisoned for exposing human rights violations  
    
  “If it is shown that illegal surveillance took place and that recordings were provided to the US authorities, it is further evidence that Assange is unlikely to receive a fair trial. His prosecution under the broadly worded Espionage Act is already problematic.  
    
  “The UK should not allow an extradition that would have severe consequences for investigative journalism and freedom of expression around the world.”  
    
  More on the **Spanish case** theme: [[Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2019/dec/17/julian-assanges-extradition-fight-could-turn-on-reports-he-was-spied-on-for-cia)] [[DW](https://www.dw.com/en/julian-assanges-road-toward-extradition-raises-rights-concerns/a-51724807)] [[ABC](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-12-19/stakes-are-high-for-julian-assange-case-reach-of-us/11813834) negative propaganda]
* **!8 Dec 2019** **Jean-Hervé Bradol** and **Rony Brauman**, former presidents of Médecins sans frontières: "We call for the release of Julian Assange and Chelsea Manning, victims of state revenge" [[Le Monde](https://www.lemonde.fr/idees/article/2019/12/18/nous-appelons-a-la-liberation-de-julian-assange-et-de-chelsea-manning-victimes-de-la-vengeance-d-etats_6023328_3232.html)]
* **18 Dec 2019** **Nils Melzer** on RT America special on whistleblowers [[RT](https://www.rt.com/shows/news-with-rick-sanchez/476240-news-with-rick-sanchez-december/) at 11:34]
* **18 Dec 2019** **The Atlas of Torture** pubishes **Nils Melzer** speech (5 June 2019) on “*Torture and Corruption*” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1210273591574618118)] ][Vimeo](https://vimeo.com/345929332)]
* **18 Dec 2019** **Kristinn Hrafnsson** on ‘Blowing the Whistle’ [[TRT World](https://youtu.be/-GJdcBJ79wg)]
* **18 Dec 2019 Emmy Butlin** write to the court requesting better arrangements (possibly including live-streaming) for future court events related to Julian Assange [[tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1207913494731010048)]   
    
  Also, see UK Media Guidance policy [24 Oct 2018](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-media-guidance-issued-to-all-court-staff)
* **18 Dec 2019** **Evidence deadline** [[WL Press Release](https://www.facebook.com/108734602494994/posts/2458056290896135)]  
  Deadline extended to 10 Jan 2020 at 19 Dec hearing [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/20/assa-d20.html) 20 Dec]
* **19 Dec 2019** **Substantive Hearing** [[Confirmed](https://sputniknews.com/world/201911181077339881-judge-in-assanges-case-says-she-has-no-jurisdiction-over-the-conditions-over-which-he-is-held/)] (to review the progress of the case, including evidence submitted)  
    
  “A case management hearing this morning confirmed that the main hearing will take place over three or four weeks at Belmarsh Magistrates’ Court starting on 24 February 2020, with **District Judge Vanessa Baraitser** presiding.”  
    
  “In a summary submitted to the court, the defence has proposed 21 witnesses, 16 of whom may be called during the hearing.   
    
  Assange was represented at this hearing by **Ed Fitzgerald QC** of Doughty Street Chambers, instructed by Birnberg Peirce.”   
    
  “Two signatories of the open letters … were not able to attend this morning’s hearing because they could not access the courtroom. In her opening statement, Judge Baraitser recognised that there was a valid issue about access to the court proceedings.   
    
  Dr Stephen Frost, who also signed the open letters organised by the group Doctors4Assange, said:  
  “That it is deemed necessary for senior medical experts to attend today’s hearing to observe Julian Assange from the public gallery via video link points to the extreme recklessness of the UK government’s continued arbitrary detention of Julian Assange and the psychological torture which results from that, as stated by the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, Nils Melzer.”   
  [[BFMF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/25-parliamentarians-to-monitor-julian-assange-extradition-hearing-in-february/)]  
    
  “At the court, his lawyer **Edward Fitzgerald** outlined some of the evidence Assange's team would put forward at the full extradition hearing due to start on February 24, saying they could call up to 21 witnesses to testify.   
    
  "We say that there is in the treaty a ban on being extradited for a political offence and these offences as framed and in substance are political offences," he told the court.   
    
  Other arguments would feature medical evidence, public denunciations by leading US political figures, and details from the case of Chelsea Manning, an ex-intelligence analyst who was convicted by a US Army court-martial in 2013 of espionage and other offences for leaking secret cables to WikiLeaks.   
    
  There would also be information from an investigation led by a Spanish judge into "revelations about bugging of conversations with his lawyers" during Assange's long stay in the Ecuadorean embassy in London.  
    
  **Baraister** also seemed unimpressed when **Clair Dobbin**, representing the US authorities, asked for the case to be delayed until April, saying the lawyer earmarked for the case would not be available for the extended hearing.”  
  [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/world/europe/treaty-bans-extradition-of-julian-assange-to-the-us-lawyers-to-argue-20191219-p53lp9.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1576758442)]  
    
  “Assange sniffled as he sat unshaven and wearing glasses, a white shirt and a mauve jumper.”  
   [[The Age](https://www.theage.com.au/world/europe/treaty-bans-extradition-of-julian-assange-to-the-us-lawyers-to-argue-20191219-p53lp9.html)]   
    
  “With hair swept back and wearing a light blue jumper with white shirt underneath, Assange was silent for much of the hearing on Thursday.  
    
  He initially spoke only to confirm his name and date of birth, and then sat, head slightly bowed, hands clasped in his lap, and occasionally closing his eyes during the approximately 45-minute proceedings.  
    
  Assange briefly stuttered in acknowledgement at the end of the hearing when the judge asked if he had heard the dates set for future court appearances. [...]  
    
  **Mr Fitzgerald** reiterated complaints that Assange’s legal team were having “great problems” in seeing him in prison.”  
   [[PressAndJournal](https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/news/uk/1916830/assange-lawyers-will-argue-treaty-prevents-his-extradition-to-us/)]  
    
  “Julian Assange was considered and attentive at this hearing, following things carefully. He had papers in his hand and was flicking through them from time to time. Wearing glasses, a shirt and mauve jumper.”  
  [[Naomi Colvin](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1207656701178077184)]  
    
  "Judge Baraitser also said that for reasons of “open justice” she decided that Belmarsh Magistrate’s Court, which can seat more people, is the “appropriate” venue for the main part of the extradition hearing to be held next year."  
  [[The Interregnum](https://theinterregnum.net/judges-acceptance-of-complexity-of-assanges-case-is-an-important-win-says-historian-john-rees/)]  
    
  “With further evidence likely to emerge from current proceedings in Spain, the deadline for f**inal submission of defence evidence was extended to January 10.**  
    
  “Given the gravity of the issues” and their legal scope, Fitzgerald explained, **Assange would be represented at next year’s hearing by three QC**s. Fitzgerald said the defence would present 21 witnesses, 16 of whom would testify in court.  
    
  “At yesterday’s hearing, German Left Party MP **Sevim Dagdelen** was present as an observer along with the German ambassador to the UK, **Dr Peter Ammon**. But a delegation of medical observers from Doctors4Assange was blocked from entering the public gallery. Court officials refused them access, despite members of the public volunteering to give up their seats.  
    
  WikiLeaks Ambassador **Joseph Farrell** told the WSWS:  
  “*The access to Julian from the legal team has still been very, very poor. The legal team put in a request for the magistrate to make an application, which she wouldn’t do. She said that she would expect the prison to make Julian available to the legal team. But it’s the time of year at the prison when everything is locked down for Christmas, and family days and visits are limited and get cancelled regularly.*

*One would expect Julian’s lawyer,* ***Gareth Peirce,*** *to be able to see him many more times than she has. There was a long period when she couldn’t see him. The legal team took months and months to get the prison to give him a computer that he could review the evidence against him on. He got a computer, but it wasn’t fit for purpose.”*

[[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/20/assa-d20.html) 20 Dec]  
  
From an interview with **Sevim Dagdelen** after the hearing:  
“*The representative of the German embassy and I were almost turned away, but in the end we got standing room. …   
In a case of this scope, however, access for international process observers must be guaranteed. For the extradition process in February, 25 MPs from twelve countries agreed to be on-site as process observers.   
However, it is unclear whether the court will allow this at all.* [...] *The* ***German Embassy is following the procedure on instructions from the Federal Foreign Office.*** *I very much welcome that. It is meaningful: the German embassy normally monitors such procedures outside the EU.”*  
[[Der Freitag](https://www.freitag.de/autoren/der-freitag/seine-rechte-werden-systematisch-verletzt)]  
**Video** clips outside court:   
M.A.E. tweets: [[John Rees 1]](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1207644995840286722) [[John Rees 2](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1207642864416698368)] [[Tariq Ali 1](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1207636108030468096)] [[Tariq Alii 2](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1207639347614363648)]   
Niels Ladefoged: Interviews of Tariq Ali and Joseph Farell [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/AZqyJrRA9Q8)]   
EF Press: [[Jamie](https://youtu.be/rR21cZjJVj8)] [[Deepa Driver]](https://youtu.be/5gRyte6rYtk)   
Medical people not allowed into court [[RT](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1207915223895674881)] Followup article [WSWS]  
  
**Coverage**: [Naomi Colvin [THREAD](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1207593315505516544)] [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/12/21/julian-assange-case-management-hearing-in-westminster-magistrates-court-19-12-2019-videos-and-photos/)] [[Defend.Wikileaks](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2019/12/19/assanges-defense-outlines-extradition-arguments/)] [[BFMF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/25-parliamentarians-to-monitor-julian-assange-extradition-hearing-in-february/)]   
[[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/world/europe/treaty-bans-extradition-of-julian-assange-to-the-us-lawyers-to-argue-20191219-p53lp9.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1576758442)] [[The Age](https://www.theage.com.au/world/europe/treaty-bans-extradition-of-julian-assange-to-the-us-lawyers-to-argue-20191219-p53lp9.html)] [[PressAndJournal](https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/news/uk/1916830/assange-lawyers-will-argue-treaty-prevents-his-extradition-to-us/)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/476379-assange-cannot-be-extradited-treaty/)] [[Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-assange/uk-u-s-treaty-bans-extradition-of-assange-lawyer-says-idUSKBN1YN1G9)] [[9News](https://www.9news.com.au/world/julian-assange-news-mounting-evidence-to-stretch-trial/632de3d1-d069-495c-8f56-5158d8c18614)] [DE [Freitag](https://www.freitag.de/autoren/der-freitag/seine-rechte-werden-systematisch-verletzt)]  
[[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/europe/201912191077629124-assange-supporters-gather-outside-westminster-court-ahead-of-extradition-hearing/) - outside] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/europe/201912191077638526-london-court-sets-dates-for-assange-extradition-hearings/) hearing]   
[[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/20/doct-d20.html) Medical observers] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/20/assa-d20.html) Court proceedings]  
[[DailyMail]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7809883/Wikileaks-founder-Julian-Assange-not-extradited-lawyer-claims.html) [[The Interregnum](https://theinterregnum.net/judges-acceptance-of-complexity-of-assanges-case-is-an-important-win-says-historian-john-rees/)]

* **19 Dec 2019** **BridgesForMediaFreedom** [[BFMF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/25-parliamentarians-to-monitor-julian-assange-extradition-hearing-in-february/)] announce that  
  “Twenty five elected politicians from twelve countries across the European Union have resolved to monitor proceedings in the case of WikiLeaks publisher Julian Assange.”  
    
  **Sevim Dagdelen**,(German MP) after the 19 Dec 2019 hearing [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1207725949380448257)]  
  "I cannot testify to a fair trial," German MP [@SevimDagdelen](https://twitter.com/SevimDagdelen) said today after [#JulianAssange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/JulianAssange?src=hashtag_click)'s hearing in ⁦London. "His rights are systematically violated."
* **19 Dec 2019** **Srećko Horvat** highlights France’s **Dreyfus affair** in relation to the Julian Assange case [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/HorvatSrecko/status/1207759345368342528)]   
  (Also highlighted by **Kristinn Hrafnsson** 4 Dec 2019 [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1207965623961165824)])
* **19 Dec 2019** Phillip Adams delivered “*Free Julian Assange, before it's too late*” **Petition Notice** 40 on behalf of **232,001 signatories**. This notice is being sent to all Australian, USA & British Parliamentarians + the Queen. [[Petition](https://www.change.org/p/free-julian-assange-before-it-s-too-late-stop-usa-extradition?recruiter=524202791&recruited_by_id=bc131eb0-fdd1-11e5-9530-55ef77fd625e&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=petition_dashboard)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/PhillipAdams64/status/1207698501796188161)]
* **19 Dec 2019** **The Telegraph** publish an article showing photos from the illegal spying in the embassy of a semi-naked Julian side by side with a picture of Pamela Anderson in the embassy - under the heading “*Secret video of Pamela Anderson visiting Julian Assange inside London’s Ecuadorian embassy*” - making a clear (if subliminal) suggestion that these two photos were connected in some lewd manner. [[Article](https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/world/secret-video-of-pamela-anderson-visiting-julian-assange-inside-londons-ecuadorean-embassy/news-story/60084ca3c202084588d1dd7f6a254e4b)]
* **19 Dec 2019** The **Future of Freedom Foundation** issues statement “*Pardon Assange and Snowden””* [[Website](https://www.fff.org/2019/12/19/pardon-assange-and-snowden/)]
* **19 Dec 2019** **Nils Melzer** “The rule of law does not work in the Assange case”   
  [DE Audio [Radio BR](https://www.br.de/radio/bayern2/sendungen/radiowelt/nils-melzer-un-sonderberichterstatter-fuer-folter-julian-assange-100.html)]
* **19 Dec 2019** **Nils Melzer** on Swiss TV (in French) [FR [Video](https://www.rts.ch/play/tv/19h30/video/nils-melzer-julian-assange-montre-les-symptomes-des-victimes-de-tortures-psychologiques-?id=10957872)]  
  Followup [DE [Zeit online](https://www.zeit.de/news/2019-12/19/un-sonderberichterstatter-wirft-grossbritannien-im-fall-assange-rechtsbruch-vor?wt_zmc=sm.ext.zonaudev.twitter.ref.zeitde.share.link.x)] 29 Dec 2019 [DE [Blick](https://www.blick.ch/news/grossbritannien-fall-assange-uno-folterexperte-kritisiert-bundesrat-fuer-schweigen-id15683319.html?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter)]
* **19 Dec 2019** NGOs and the Geneva sections of several leftist parties ask **Switzerland** to give asylum to Julian Assange [[Article](https://www.rts.ch/info/suisse/10957149-des-ong-et-des-partis-demandent-a-la-suisse-lasile-pour-julian-assange.html)]  
    
  **Followup**: 29 Dec 2019 [DE [Blick](https://www.blick.ch/news/grossbritannien-fall-assange-uno-folterexperte-kritisiert-bundesrat-fuer-schweigen-id15683319.html?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter)] [FR [Tribune de Geneve](https://www.msn.com/fr-ch/actualite/national/affaire-julian-assange-le-mutisme-suisse-critiqu%c3%a9/ar-BBYr5tX?ocid=st)] [EN [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/society/nils-melzer-_government-s-reticence-over-julian-assange-criticised/45462790)]
* **20 Dec 2019** The **National Union of Journalists** {NUJ) remind UK authorities that journalism is not a crime (re info on Sarah Harrison). [[Website](https://www.nuj.org.uk/news/union-reminds-uk-authorities-journalism-is-not-a-crime/)]
* **20 Dec 2019** Interesting timing - Ryan Gallagher (Bloomberg) announces that he has been told that UK’s Metropolitan Police has shelved its years-long investigation into journalists who reported on secret documents from the Snowden files. [[Statement](https://notes.rjgallagher.co.uk/2019/12/uk-police-curable-snowden-probe-inactive.html)]
* **20 Dec 2019** The **Scott Trust** (Guardian Review Panel) statement [[Website](https://www.theguardian.com/info/2019/dec/20/the-review-panel-narvaez-decision)]
* **20 Dec 2019** **Julian Assange gives evidence to Spanish Court** via videolink  
  [[ElPais](https://elpais.com/elpais/2019/11/29/inenglish/1575044449_760169.html)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/diani_barreto/status/1201849192693538816)]  
    
  **Judge José de la Mata** of Spain’s High Court, the Audiencia Nacional, will interview [Assange] via video link on December 20, said judicial sources.   
    
  Assange will be transferred from Belmarsh prison in southeast London to Westminster Magistrates Court to answer questions from De la Mata, who is investigating alleged [violations of client-attorney privilege](https://elpais.com/elpais/2019/10/04/inenglish/1570197052_180631.html) between the cyber-activist and his lawyers, and allegations that these conversations were passed on to the CIA.  
    
  HM Belmarsh didn’t bring Julian to court as scheduled “due to a mixup” so videolink interview **postponed** until the afternoon. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1207976836560572416)]   
  NB Julian was eventually delivered to the court 7 hrs late for the interview.  
    
  **Video**  
  Livestream outside the court [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/vckP-vd-AF8)]  
  M.A.E. clip of Maxine Walker, Fidel Narvaez and Joe Brack [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/Cv9SNj-MeEw) ]  
  EF Press updates: [[Delay](https://youtu.be/dlsLnWx67u4)] [[Maxine Walker](https://youtu.be/rR21cZjJVj8)]  
  “Word is Julian was too ill to come this morning.”

Julian Assange's lawyer in Spain **Aitor Martinez**, was seen arriving at the High Court building in Madrid on Friday (published **8:36am** GMT), ahead of scheduled videolink conference [[Ruptly](https://ruptly.tv/en/videos/20191220-017?search_key=5f60c661-34f3-4546-a28c-474442858289)]

Julian finally delivered (by Serco) to the UK court **3:30pm** (4:30pm in Spain) on a Friday for his video interview with the Spanish judge. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1208046207190413313)]  
  
Interview with **Joseph Farrell** @SwaziJAF previous day (19 Dec 2019) at Westminster magistrates' Court re the Spanish case [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/XsWVA3cuJpc)]

A poem from **Lauri Love** read outside the court [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/12/21/a-poem-by-lauri-love-in-support-of-julian-assange-20-12-2019/)]  
  
**Live Updates**: [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/europe/201912201077665145-Live-Updates-Julian-Assange-Testifies-on-Espionage-Claims-at-Westminster-Magistrates-Court-Video/)]  
  
Report: [[Daily Mail]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7813701/Wikileaks-founder-Julian-Assange-claims-security-forces-bugged-rooms-Ecuadorian-embassy.html?ito=social-twitter_dailymailus)  
“It is understood the former Wikileaks editor today gave evidence about matters concerning conversations he held with his lawyers while he was residing at the Ecuadorian Embassy.

But reporters were not admitted into the hearing **because it concerned matters of national security**.

On the walls outside the courtroom a sign read simply: 'Closed court'.

Mr Fitzgerald told the court yesterday: 'There is a bundle with the revelations in the Spanish proceedings in regards to the ongoing evidence of the bugging of the conversations with his lawyers in the Ecuadorian embassy.' “  
  
**NOTE**: The version of theDaily Mail article, last updated at 16:31 GMT, also contains a photo of Julian in the Serco van, which they said was understood to be him **leaving** the court, which means that from arrival to departure was no more than one hour.

**From the Spanish end:**  
Report [[ElPais](https://elpais.com/internacional/2019/12/20/actualidad/1576859337_504860.html?ssm=TW_CM)]

"We are going to sell everything from the hotel [the embassy] to the American customer," says an email sent by David Morales, owner of the company to his workers.

"Did you give your consent to the passports being photographed, the mobile phones of your visits opened and your personal correspondence read?" Martínez asked his client. "Under no circumstances," Assange replied

Spanish lawyer **Aitor Martinez** speaks out [ES [Ruptly](https://youtu.be/p9EIw7DfQoM)] [EN [Tweet](https://twitter.com/Ruptly/status/1208359154840166400)] [ES [Telesur](https://youtu.be/4BI93gLFZN8)]   
  
Thread from **Don’t Extradite Assange (DEA) Campaign** [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1208703161294376960)] **More reports**: [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/476529-assange-testify-spanish-spying/)] [[Yahoo](https://news.yahoo.com/wikileaks-assange-testifies-embassy-spying-case-173550372.html?soc_src=hl-viewer&soc_trk=tw&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly90LmNvLw&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAHBw264qX_fGFjprwA_qQkrR2sH0uYkIRi5PEv-pltIbBpzYD5Z0mV0NojV4FCo7GkomytTMVAiEwvzqlzkRhYn2bnHoWieReLKETFuI8o3gHK6cyZLwEuGD4yoxPe8LvQiQdF8JWrkr6anp1u9xfF6k9hV0SHxVGLcUyc6o1Io2)] [[Standard UK](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/julian-assange-ecuadorian-embassy-spying-a4319301.html)] [[Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-wikileaks-assange-spain/wikileaks-assange-appears-in-court-in-spain-spying-investigation-idUSKBN1YO28Y)] [[Paris Match](https://www.parismatch.com/Actu/International/Julian-Assange-entendu-par-un-juge-espagnol-comme-victime-presumee-d-espionnage-1666045#utm_term=Autofeed&utm_medium=Social&xtor=CS2-14&utm_source=Twitter&Echobox=1576865723)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/21/ucgl-d21.html)]   
[ES [Tercerinformacion](https://www.tercerainformacion.es/articulo/actualidad/2019/12/21/julian-assange-declara-ante-la-audiencia-nacional-en-su-querella-contra-undercover-global-ltd)] [[El Pais](https://elpais.com/elpais/2019/12/21/inenglish/1576950842_252812.html?ssm=TW_CC)] [[Daily Mail]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7813701/Wikileaks-founder-Julian-Assange-claims-security-forces-bugged-rooms-Ecuadorian-embassy.html?ito=social-twitter_dailymailus) [[Yahoo](https://news.yahoo.com/wikileaks-assange-testifies-embassy-spying-case-173550372.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly90LmNvL1NDdVIwM2c1OHA_YW1wPTE&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAKExbgo6nXWCYwST0WgddUdXrz6iUVQO9i29nN_A9UhYRUuUmfQUQdMoekqKuChGdwo5ctg48ufYiMpUfqRYt5p2xA0uvwvh56Z5e-UxxkGukO-YCYMtZWapBWROwreYEYc545ZqLoC1NKK33fwwB7q60JpsI0T2-6s8rZEt9X7o)]  
  
Many photos [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/12/22/julian-assange-deposition-to-judge-jose-de-la-mata-on-uc-global-spying-for-the-cia-20-12-2019/)] Call for action [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/01/03/a-shameful-chapter-in-our-londons-history-cia-surveillance-of-julian-assange-inside-and-outside-the-ecuadorian-embassy/)]

* **21 Dec 2019** **Stefania Maurizi** comments on her FOIA results [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1208401511757369347)]
* **21 Dec 2019** Supporter sends **OpenLetter to churches across Melbourne** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/JAyellowribbon/status/1208581948966223873)]
* **22 Dec 2019** **Christine Assange** speaks out before Christmas [[Herald Sun](https://www.heraldsun.com.au/truecrimeaustralia/behindthescenes/julian-assanges-mother-christine-breaks-her-silence-and-reveals-her-agony-as-her-son-remains-in-jail/news-story/c3abe23d1672da546df498e85e96707e)]  
  **(**Contains new photos of Julian when younger.)  
    
  Coverage: [[Mint Press](https://www.mintpressnews.com/wikileaks-publishing-state-secrets-julian-assange-slowly-dies-prison/263775/#.XgbwTBmI45A.twitter)]
* **23 Dec 2019** **El Pais editorial**: “A Question of Rights” [[Website](https://elpais.com/elpais/2019/12/23/opinion/1577125258_935046.html?ssm=TW_CC)]
* **24 Dec 2019** The **Guardian** forced to “correct and clarify” previous story re “Russian plot”   
  [[The Prisma](http://theprisma.co.uk/2019/12/24/the-guardian-forced-to-clarify-misleading-article-on-assange-and-russia/)] [[Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/news/2019/dec/22/corrections-and-clarifications?CMP=share_btn_tw)] [[Scott Trust](https://www.theguardian.com/info/2019/dec/20/the-review-panel-narvaez-decision)]  
  Russian perspective (21 Sep 2018) [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/world/201809211068235522-russian-embassy-uk-assange/)] {[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/476767-guardian-correction-assange-story/)}  
  Narvaez speaks: [[GrayZone](https://thegrayzone.com/2019/08/20/cnn-media-smears-julian-assange-fidel-narvaez/)] [[Jacobin](https://jacobinmag.com/2019/10/julian-assange-fidel-narvaez-ecuador-moreno)]   
  Previous instances of Guardian “errors”: [[Intercept](https://theintercept.com/2016/12/29/the-guardians-summary-of-julian-assanges-interview-went-viral-and-was-completely-false/) 2016]  
  **Follow up**: [RT [Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1210584855001673736) video (27 Dec 2019)] [RT [article](https://www.rt.com/uk/476767-guardian-correction-assange-story/)] [RT FR [Video](https://youtu.be/qhS3dJRVPDw)]
* **24 Dec 2019** **Tracy Worcester** visited Assange in Belmarsh [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/akenneil/status/1209532057405276161) video]
* **24 Dec 2019** **Reporters Without Borders (RSF)** calls for Julian’s release on humanitarian grounds and for US Espionage Act charges to be dropped.   
  [EN [Website](https://rsf.org/en/news/two-months-assanges-extradition-hearing-rsf-calls-his-release-humanitarian-grounds-and-us-espionage)] [ES [Website](https://www.rsf-es.org/news/reino-unido-reporteros-sin-fronteras-pide-la-puesta-en-libertad-de-assange-por-razones-humanitarias-y-que-retiren-los-cargos-por-la-ley-de-espionaje-de-eeuu/)]  
    
  Coverage: [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/europe/201912241077784554-reporters-without-borders-call-for-assanges-release-on-humanitarian-grounds/)] [ES [RT](https://actualidad.rt.com/actualidad/337891-reporteron-sin-fronteras-liberar-assange)] [[Washington Examiner](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/reporters-without-borders-demands-immediate-release-of-julian-assange)]
* **24 Dec 2019** **Nils Melzer** - A Christmas message [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1209621864915644416)]  
  “Last Xmas I asked: Who is dehumanised most by war crimes, torture & exploitation? The victims? The perpetrators? Or all of us, wining & dining complacently as our siblings are broken & crushed on our front steps? The worst cruelty is our own indifference!”
* **24 Dec 2019** Julian calls **Vaughn Smith** from Belmarsh [[Thread](https://twitter.com/VaughanSmith/status/1210278651171934210)]  
  “Julian Assange called my family from prison this Christmas Eve while we were preparing for dinner. Please spare a thought for him. He spoke to my wife, Pranvera and our girls - who remembered Christmas with him in 2010 when he was our guest while on bail.  
    
  This was the last time that Julian had a family Christmas. He told my wife and I how he was slowly dying in Belmarsh where, though only on remand, he is kept in solitary confinement for 23 hours a day and is often sedated. … and he desperately needs our support.”  
    
  Coverage: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/28/assa-d28.html)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/analysis/201912281077885761-he-may-not-make-it-assange-associates-fear-aussie-journalist-may-die-in-uk-prison/)] [[Mint Press](https://www.mintpressnews.com/wikileaks-publishing-state-secrets-julian-assange-slowly-dies-prison/263775/#.XgbwTBmI45A.twitter)] [[The Australian](https://www.theaustralian.com.au/world/im-slowly-dying-here-wikileaks-founder-julian-assanges-prison-phone-call-to-friend-sparks-fresh-health-fears/news-story/b623438e2f6785976775abaad6dc7d25)] [[CitizenTruth](https://citizentruth.org/wikileaks-still-holding-powerful-to-account-as-founder-julian-assange-slowly-dies-in-prison/)]  
    
  Extensive follow up interview 30 Dec 2019 [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/477138-assange-prison-awful-sedated-uk/)]
* **25 Dec 2019** **Julian Assange to spend Christmas in Belmarsh** prison for telling the truth about US and UK War Crimes via award winning WikiLeaks journalism.   
    
  **Previous Christmases:**  
    
  - **2018**: “*Endgame for Assange*” Angela Richter [[Der Freitag](https://www.freitag.de/autoren/der-freitag/endgame-for-assange)]  
   2 German MPs visit (with John Shipton) (20 Dec 2018) [[Unity4J](https://unity4j.com/de-mp-visit)]  
   “*Embassy data cables need a lot of work*” (28 Dec 2018) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wendysone1/status/1078441622134755328)]  
    
  - **2016**: “*The internet has been returned*” (23 Dec 2016) [[La Repubblica](https://www.repubblica.it/esteri/2016/12/23/news/assange_wikileaks-154754000/)]  
    
  - **2015**: “*Christmas with Assange*” [[Open Democracy]](https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/democraciaabierta/christmas-with-assange/)  
    
  - **2012**: Speech from the Embassy balcony (20 Dec 2012) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/SkpUf0tuH84)]  
    
  - **2010**: “*Assange's country house Christmas*” Under House arrest [[Daily Mail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1343362/WikiLeaks-Julian-Assange-enjoys-Christmas-country-house-arrest.html)]  
    
  **Carols** for Julian & Co: [[One](https://youtu.be/78j8hkb049k)] [[Sort of](https://youtu.be/1fjfwZYRK_g)]  
    
  **Chelsea Manning** and **Jeremy Hammond** [[background](https://www.rt.com/usa/467921-hammond-moved-testify-assange-stratfor/)] are also in prison for Christmas in the US - simply for refusing to testify against Julian Assange and Wikileaks.
* **27 to 30 Dec** 2019 Leipzig “*Speak for Assange*” at #36C3  
  [[Sessions](https://defend.wikileaks.org/36c3/)] [[Video streams](https://streaming.media.ccc.de/36c3)]
* **27 Dec 2019** 11:30am Conference #**36c3** **Andy Müller-Maguhn** Leipzig "*Technical aspects of the surveillance in and around the Ecuadorian embassy in London"* [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1210175669658963968)] [Live [thread](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1210515760885489665)] [Permanent link to [video](https://media.ccc.de/v/36c3-11247-technical_aspects_of_the_surveillance_in_and_around_the_ecuadorian_embassy_in_london)] NB Link isn’t working yet.  
    
  **Coverage**: [DE [Golem](https://www.golem.de/news/ueberwachung-von-assange-mit-dem-rauschgenerator-gegen-die-cia-millionen-1912-145756.html)] [DE [Heisse](https://www.heise.de/newsticker/meldung/36C3-Wie-Assange-in-der-Botschaft-ueberwacht-wurde-4623932.html)]
* **27 Dec 2019** **WikiLeaks** release OPCW-DOUMA - Release Part 4 [[Website](https://wikileaks.org/opcw-douma/#OPCW-DOUMA%20-%20Release%20Part%204)]  
    
  Followup: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/28/opcw-d28.html)]
* **27 Dec 2019** **Niki Konstantinidis**, a barrister and supporter of Julian Assange, has filed a complaint with the Judicial Appointments and Conduct Ombudsman (“the Ombudsman”) against England’s top magistrate (Lady Arbuthnot) for alleged violations of conflict of interest rules in the case of the WikiLeaks publisher. [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/europe/201912271077883479-barrister-escalates-conflict-of-interest-complaint-against-top-judge-in-julian-assange-case/)]
* **27 Dec 2019** **Diani Baretto** and **Joe Lauria** (journalists) on “*Twisted Justice: Julian Assange Targeted with Anti-Mafia Laws*” [[Loud and Clear](https://www.spreaker.com/user/radiosputnik/twisted-justice-julian-assange-targeted-_1) Audio]  
  Coverage: [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/analysis/201912281077885761-he-may-not-make-it-assange-associates-fear-aussie-journalist-may-die-in-uk-prison/)]
* **27 Dec 2019** Update on **Nils Melzer** v German Federal Foreign Office argument re his “reports” on torture of Assange [[RT Deutsch](https://deutsch.rt.com/inland/96126-regierungssprecher-zu-assange-und-un-sonderberichterstatter-alles-gesagt/)]
* **28 Dec 2019** Interview of **Nils Melzer** “*Swiss UN Special Representative on Julian Assange's trial - "It reminds of a dictatorial regime"* ” [DE [Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1211059396089962496)] [DE [Blick](https://www.blick.ch/news/ausland/schweizer-uno-sonderbeauftragter-ueber-prozess-gegen-julian-assange-das-erinnert-an-ein-diktatorisches-regime-id15683116.html?utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=share-button&utm_source=twitter)]
* **28 Dec 2019** Conference #**36c3** **Renata Avila**, **Naomi Colvin** & **Angela Richter** in Leipzig "*The Case Against WikiLeaks: a direct threat to our community"* [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1210175697337098240)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1210670062153154560)] [Permanent link to [video](https://media.ccc.de/v/36c3-11090-the_case_against_wikileaks_a_direct_threat_to_our_community)] [EN [YouTube](https://youtu.be/k5CZKDnKMxo)] [FR [YouTube](https://youtu.be/UIk--muq5zE)] [DE [Youtube](https://youtu.be/bt_41OELZow)]  
    
  Followup: [[HeiseOnline](https://www.heise.de/newsticker/meldung/36C3-Der-Fall-Wikileaks-4624443.html)]
* **29 Dec 2019** Conference #**36c3 Robert Tibbo** and **Edward Snowden**: in Leipzig "*Human Rights at a Global Crossroads*” [Permanent link to [video](https://media.ccc.de/v/36c3-10574-human_rights_at_a_global_crossroads)]  
   [EN [YouTube](https://youtu.be/IQeMRCOSlOU)] [FR [YouTube](https://youtu.be/nK08OQVe3us)] [DE [YouTube](https://youtu.be/RH-WR_NUU1U)]
* **30 Dec 2019** Remake of 27 Dec event - Conference #**36c3** **Andy Müller-Maguhn** Leipzig "*Technical aspects of the surveillance in and around the Ecuadorian embassy in London"* [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1210175669658963968)] [Live [thread](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1210515760885489665)] [Screenshots]   
  [Permanent link to [video](https://media.ccc.de/v/36c3-11247-technical_aspects_of_the_surveillance_in_and_around_the_ecuadorian_embassy_in_london)] [EN [Youtube](https://youtu.be/s_0GVg7V3ng)] [FR YouTube] [DE YouTube]
* **30 Dec 2019** Extensive interview with **Vaughn Smith** re Christmas Eve conversation with Julian. [Article & video [RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/477138-assange-prison-awful-sedated-uk/)] [Video content only [Ruptly](https://youtu.be/ZPtAqDLSh5Y)]  
    
  **FollowUp** [[DailyMail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7840847/Julian-Assange-told-journalist-friend-health-worsening-slurred-phone-call-prison.html)] [[Gizmodo](https://gizmodo.com/julian-assange-says-hes-slowing-dying-in-prison-during-1840757057) and Correct the Record [request](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1212404852535545856)] [BR [DCM](https://www.diariodocentrodomundo.com.br/essencial/assange-em-telefonema-de-natal-para-colega-estou-morrendo-aos-poucos/)]
* **30 Dec 2019** End of year publication by **NilsMelzer** of correspondence with **UK** re detention of **Julian Assange** at Belmarsh (Melzer’s letter dated 29 Oct 2019)   
  [[Thread](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1211812961737740289)] [[Full letter](https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownLoadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=24926)] [FR [translation](https://twitter.com/FrancaisUnity4/status/1214298886321381376)]  
    
  **Coverage**: [[RT article](https://www.rt.com/uk/477156-assange-torture-prison-un/)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/europe/201912311077910640-un-torture-expert-blasts-british-governments-failure-to-address-treatment-of-julian-assange/)] [[MorningStar](https://morningstaronline.co.uk/article/b/un-concerned-over-british-government-failure-to-investigate-whether-assange-has-been-subjected-to-psychological-torture#.Xg74Kg_U5VE.twitter)] Re lack of coverage [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/amp/analysis/202001031077925042-hardly-any-coverage-media-ignores-un-accusations-of-torture-in-manning-assange-cases/)]   
    
  **Further followup** (10 Jan 2020) [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/01/10/assa-j10.html)]
* **31 Dec 2019** End of year message from **NilsMelzer** on why **US** ongoing detention of **Chelsea Manning** is not lawful (letter dated 1 Nov 2019) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1211819067503521792)] [[Full letter]](https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownLoadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=24925) **Coverage**: [[RT](https://www.rt.com/usa/477228-chelsea-manning-torture-melzer/) article] [[Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/dec/31/chelsea-manning-us-torture-un-official-wikileaks?CMP=share_btn_tw)] [[NPR](https://www.npr.org/2019/12/31/792681443/jailing-and-fining-chelsea-manning-constitutes-torture-top-u-n-official-says)] [[Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/un-official-equates-chelsea-manning-incarceration-to-torture/2020/01/02/e362e868-2d81-11ea-bffe-020c88b3f120_story.html)] [[Intercept](https://theintercept.com/2020/01/02/chelsea-manning-torture-prison-united-nations/)] [[C21Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/01/03/un-rapporteur-us-using-coercion-by-torture-against-manning/)]  
    
  **FollowUp**: Grand Juries [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/analysis/201912311077905380-a-tradition-manning-hammond-follow-footsteps-of-activists-resisting-egregious-us-grand-juries/)] [**Chelsea Manning** [responds](https://www.sparrowmedia.net/2020/01/chelsea-manning-responds-to-united-nations-rapporteurs-call-for-her-release/)] [**Snowden** [tweet](https://twitter.com/Snowden/status/1212782053915275270)] Re lack of coverage [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/amp/analysis/202001031077925042-hardly-any-coverage-media-ignores-un-accusations-of-torture-in-manning-assange-cases/)]  
    
  **Followup** Tweets by **Nils Melzer** [[2 Jan 2020](https://twitter.com/Plucille54/status/1212906322238287872)]
* **31 Dec 2019** **Doctors4Assange** note that the closest they have had to a response to their letter to the UK Home Office was a public statement by them (25 Nov 2019) denying that Assange was being tortured by the UK. [[Thread](https://twitter.com/Doctors4Assange/status/1212024321591447552)].
* **31 Dec 2019** **Teachers in Australia** defend Julian - supported by Jimmy Dore Show [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/31/dore-d31.html)]
* **31 Dec 2019** **The Press Project** (Greece} Makes Julian Assange their ‘***Person of the Year***’ [[Website](https://thepressproject.gr/person-of-the-year-julian-assange/)]

### **2020 UPDATES**

* **2 Jan 2020** **European Federation of Journalists (EFJ}** Statement in support of Julian Assange [[Statement](https://europeanjournalists.org/blog/2020/01/02/international-journalist-statement-in-defence-of-julian-assange/)]
* **2 Jan 2020** **Chelsea Manning** Says She Is 'Never Backing Down' in Face of US Detention Meant to Break Her [[CommonDreams](https://www.commondreams.org/news/2020/01/02/chelsea-manning-says-she-never-backing-down-face-us-detention-meant-break-her?utm_campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=twitter)]
* **3 Jan 2020** **WiseUp** Call for Action re Surveillance of Julian in the embassy [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/01/03/a-shameful-chapter-in-our-londons-history-cia-surveillance-of-julian-assange-inside-and-outside-the-ecuadorian-embassy/)]
* **3 Jan 2020** **Upcoming actions** Jan/Feb 2020 [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/01/03/solidarity-action-in-support-of-wikileaks-julian-assange-january-2020/)] [[Pinterest](https://www.pinterest.nz/unity4j/street-actions/)]
* **3 Jan 2020** **Mexican President** [Andrés Manuel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andr%C3%A9s_Manuel_L%C3%B3pez_Obrador) López [Obrador](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andr%C3%A9s_Manuel_L%C3%B3pez_Obrador):  
  “... expresses his solidarity and wishes that Julian Assange, founder of Wikileaks, be forgiven and freed, and that "he should not continue to be tortured.” “[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jenarovillamil/status/1213096313237078017)] [[Question](https://youtu.be/f_Y_7la0Rlk?t=50m36s)] [[Answer](https://youtu.be/f_Y_7la0Rlk?t=54m38s)] [EN [Transcript](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/01/03/mexican-president-calls-for-assange-freedom/)]  
    
  Background: “México en Wikileaks, Wikileaks en La Jornada” (launched Feb 2013) [[Video](https://youtu.be/nr2NWSh9Ir8)] [[Video](https://youtu.be/1UJ-DlG3cyQ)] [[Article](https://aristeguinoticias.com/2402/mexico/5-revelaciones-del-nuevo-libro-wikileaks-la-jornada/)]

Coverage: [[Infobae](https://www.infobae.com/america/agencias/2020/01/03/presidente-de-mexico-pide-liberacion-y-cese-de-torturas-a-julian-assange/)]

* **4 Jan 2020** **Bob Carr** (AU) Op Ed: “*An issue of freedom: US treatment of Assange risks souring alliance*” [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/world/europe/an-issue-of-freedom-us-treatment-of-assange-risks-souring-alliance-20200101-p53o6x.html)]  
    
  Followup: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/01/04/assa-j04.html)]
* **4 Jan 2020**: **WiseUp** letter to **HM Courts Service** requesting better access for public and press to future hearings. [[Letter](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/01/04/14400/)]
* **4 Jan 2020** **George Galloway** makes an interesting point about **Judge Baraitser**’s comments [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/AGgK_UDZ3es)]
* **6 Jan 2019** Former President of Brasil **Lula da Silva** and PT (Partido dos Trabalhadores) speak out for freedom for Assange.[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LulaOficial/status/1214261998386655232)] [[Statement](https://pt.org.br/o-partido-dos-trabalhadores-repudia-a-prisao-de-julian-assange-ocorrida-em-londres/)]
* **6 Jan 2020** **Compassion In Care** sends letter to each UK MP [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CompassnInCare/status/1214200991043719169)] [[Letter](https://compassionincare.com/all-mps)]
* **7 Jan 2020** **Mahinda Haththaka**, chairman of **Sri Lankan Journalists for Global Justice**, stated:  
  “*The exposure made by Assange and Manning of the crimes of the imperialists is very important for the progressive masses throughout the world.*” [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/01/07/meet-j07.html)]h
* **7 Jan 2020** **Council of Europe** Threats List “Continued Detention of WikiLeaks Founder and Publisher Julian Assange” [[Website](https://www.coe.int/en/web/media-freedom/detail-alert?p_p_id=sojdashboard_WAR_coesojportlet&p_p_lifecycle=0&p_p_col_id=column-4&p_p_col_pos=2&p_p_col_count=3&_sojdashboard_WAR_coesojportlet_alertId=57066904)]
* **9 Jan 2020** at 7pm Berlin event “***HACKING JUSTICE*** *Documentary & discussion on the ‘Causa Assange*’ “ [[Details](https://amor.cms.hu-berlin.de/~hummelro/beitraege/hackingjustice/)]
* **9 Jan 2020** **Compassion In Care** shares **HMCTS** letter (10 Dec) noting that the extradition hearing will be held at **Woolwich Crown Cour**t [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CompassnInCare/status/1215327094793822209)]
* **10 Jan 2020** **Final deadline for evidence**  
  “With further evidence likely to emerge from current proceedings in Spain, the deadline for f**inal submission of defence evidence was extended to January 10.**” [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/20/assa-d20.html) 20 Dec]
* **10 Jan 2020** Julian Assange awarded **The Dignity Prize** by **The Catalan Dignity Commission** “*for raising awareness around the world about the plight of the Catalans in the lead up to the 2017 independence vote*.” []WL [Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1215595398254993408)] [[AU News](http://julian)]  
  Announcement [Ruptly [live](https://youtu.be/t9BeUenyHN0)]  
    
  “Announced on Friday, the prize recognises his efforts to correct misreporting of events and to provide live video updates to the world of the peaceful Catalan protesters and the brutal crackdown on them by Spanish police.  
    
  The advice Assange gave to Catalans on how to use apps to avoid Spanish Government shut downs was also acknowledged.” See [[Video](https://youtu.be/ny0HHSm8EUw) 10 Oct 2017]  
    
  “Assange, who was at the time under the protection of the Ecuadorean Government and living in the Embassy in London, responded to the despair of Catalans when the Spanish Government disabled voting apps, by tweeting instructions on how Catalan citizens could use other apps to find out information about voting. Millions of people were able to vote as a result.  
    
  He also tweeted information about the historical background to the struggle for independence by the Catalans, giving context to the referendum vote.  
    
  Assange himself maintained he was not taking sides on whether Catalonia should secede or not, only that peaceful legal democratic processes should be respected.”  
    
  Reported: [[AU News](http://julian)] [[Sky News](https://www.skynews.com.au/details/_6121525291001)] [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/t9BeUenyHN0)]
* **10 Jan 2020** The Canary publishes interview with **LowKey** about Julian Assange [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/TheCanaryUK/status/1215615522588352514) video]
* **10 Jan 2019** London event “***Whistleblowing, Transparency and Activism***” [[Website](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/whistleblowing-transparency-and-activism-tickets-85965929409)]  
  Speakers: Marianna Fotaki (Intro), Katharine Gun, Mark Curtis, Iain Munro, Expert panel: Kate Kenny, Dave Lewis & Justin Schlosberg  
    
  Reports: [Mark Curtis [Tweet](https://twitter.com/markcurtis30/status/1216303326607872000)]  
    
  [See Twitter timeline of [Caroline Graterol](https://twitter.com/Moncaro) for small tweeted videos of Mark Curtis (mislabelled), Katherine Gun. Not tweeted as a thread.]
* **11 Jan 2020** **John Pilger** discusses Assange in a wide-ranging interview by Randi Credico [[AUDIO](https://covertactionmagazine.com/index.php/2020/01/11/behind-the-eyes-of-john-pilger-radicalizing-the-conscience-of-the-world-through-the-power-of-the-moving-image/)]

* **13 Jan 2020** **Preliminary hearing** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1215624513741819904)] [[Gordon Dimmack](https://youtu.be/HH63YtRgFGE)]  
  - **Video** of arrival in police van [[RT UK](https://youtu.be/mos-vPlA-gs)]`  
  - **LiveStreams** [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/WOgUMjoFSXk)) [[Gordon Dimmack](https://youtu.be/ISfK45-NKtg)]   
  - **LiveTweets** - see timelines of: [[EmmyB](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1216604436417728513) Public Gallery] [[M.A.E.](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1216647711627280389)] [[SEP](https://twitter.com/Sep_london/status/1216680820427173889)] [[Ladefoged](https://twitter.com/NielsLadefoged/status/1216660988671467520) from Press Gallery] [[Haddad](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad/status/1216724997366001664) Detailed Thread]  
    
  “The judge has asked if the defence wishes that today’s proceeding may be adjourned now so that to offer more time to the defence to prepare. The defence has accepted it and the [#assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/assange?src=hashtag_click) will reappear later today only to have a judge reajusten the case for the 23rd of January 2020” [Ladefoged [tweet](https://twitter.com/NielsLadefoged/status/1216681639423680512)]  
    
  Interviews etc:  
    
  **M.I.A**. says she will relay the message form the protesters [“Free Julian Assange”] to Her Majesty when she visits the palace tomorrow to receive an award. [Ruptly [livestream](https://youtu.be/WOgUMjoFSXk)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kittyhundal/status/1216738816964341760) video] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202001131078026372-rapper-mia-plans-to-ask-the-queen-to-free-julian-assange/)]  
    
  **John Rees**: [Ladefoged [Tweet](https://twitter.com/NielsLadefoged/status/1216692269283188738) video]  
  “The court hearing today was all about access for Julian’s legal team to their client. Gareh Peirce, Julian’s solicitor, said that since they last contacted the court they have had 2 hours of access to discuss with Julin the preparation of the case. It transpires that today they were expecting to have pretty much the whole day in this building with their client. That’s suddenly been reduced to 1 hour because of the number of people in the cells here at WMC.  
     
  Even the judge, who at previous hearings has been pretty unsympathetic to this case, was clearly in a mood which said “They are not getting the access they should have. They are beginning to miss the timetable for the presentation of evidence because they can’t go through it with Julian.”  
    
  So this was a very important moment where the judge in the court began to recognise that Belmarsh - and behind Belmarsh, the government -are not allowing Julian Assange proper access to his legal team.”  
    
  **EmmyB** with update of today’s proceedings at WM court [Ladefoged [Tweet](https://twitter.com/NielsLadefoged/status/1216693938020659201) video]  
  “Julian Assange … looked much better that on 1 October. He was not asked a lot of questions and therefore we are not in a position to give you more information about his mental state. But he looked much better. The whole issue was to progress the case today … and the judge had extensive discussions with Gareth Peirce about the timing of submitting important evidence for the progress of the case.   
    
  GP explained once more that they were having problems with access to JA at Belmarsh prison and for that reason they were under tremendous pressure for presenting evidence - evidence that Julian had to sign-off before submission, and they had to review with him. [Explains arrangements for the rest of the day.]”  
    
  **EmmyB** on fair access to the courts: [Ladefoged [Tweet](https://twitter.com/NielsLadefoged/status/1216691996653510656) video]  
  “We have been here since 6am, queueing up. Tremendous public interest in the case - amongst the press and the public. Once again, WM court is not fit for purpose. [...] That, in combination with a rushed decision to change the court date from Tues 14 Jan to Mon 13 Jan, without the case appearing on the court lists, makes a supporter like myself feel suspicious about, potentially, logistical problems being inserted into this process in order to delay it and sabotage it.   
    
  Things are not done in a proper way and a proper manner - both outside the court and inside the court So it is a concern that every person who is interested in judicial process should take an interest.”  
    
  **Joseph Farrel**l [M.A.E. [Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1216710115509907456) video]  
  “Julian has had extremely poor access to his lawyers so the reason he was brought here in person [rather than by videolink] was so that after the callover hearing he could stay and work through the evidence that is to be submitted, with his lawyers. Due to the various limitations here at WM court, the judge has said that he will be entitled to **an hour**. His lawyer pointed out that since the last time she spoke to the court he had only received 2 hours with his lawyers, and that the way Belmarsh has been acting is brinking on judicial review.   
    
  That’s just a repeat of what the lawyer actually said, but the idea that somebody doesn’t have access to their lawyers when they are facing a life sentence and they have 175 years ahead of them, when the prosecution has had 10 years to mount the hardest case they can with unlimited resources, and for somebody to have 3 hours with their lawyers in order to sign off on their future - it’s unacceptable. ”  
    
  **John Rees**  [M.A.E. [Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1216706084783763458) video]  
  “... [His lawyers] were expecting today to have considerable access [to Julian] in the court building. The judge told them that, because of demand for interview rooms, that would be cut to just one hour. … ”  
    
  **Amna Shaddad**, of [@DEAcampaign](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign), [M.A.E. [Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1216724583920885760) video]  
  says they will continue to organise rallies and protests in defence of JulianAssange in order to galvanise support for the WikiLeaks publisher.  
    
  **Tareq Haddad** reports [10-part Twitter THREAD]  
  “Baraitser said 47 people were currently in custody at court with only 8 rooms available for interviewing so Peirce would only be given an additional hour today. The judge said it would not be fair or just to delay or restrict the access to counsel for others in custody.””[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad/status/1216725000750862336)]  
    
  “Peirce told the court she had 3 substantial sets of documents and evidence she needed to go through with Assange and have him sign off on before they could be submitted to prosecution for response. Said she would struggle to do this under current time constraints.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad/status/1216725002172665856)]  
    
  “Peirce added that the last-minute change to move the hearing from tomorrow to today means she lost additional time with Assange. "This slippage in the timetable is extremely worrying.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad/status/1216725004005662721)]  
    
  “Peirce also added she was considering filing a claim for a judicial review regarding this lack of access to Assange as it was a breach of his rights. She said access was restricted at Belmarsh prison in spite of several empty rooms being available.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad/status/1216725005498830849)]  
    
  **On Judicial Reviews** (JRs):  
  “Most JRs fail. Proving that a public body has behaved so poorly so as to be illegal is not an easy burden to overcome. A loss would be costly & hinder their ability to bring another. Public bodies are given wide latitude by the courts, alienating the judge is also a risk,” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1216795817392189442)]  
    
  **‘News’ Coverage**: [[Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-assange-idUSKBN1ZC18K)] [[DailyMail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7881171/Wikileaks-founder-Julian-Assange-complains-prison-van-journey-court-uncomfortable.html)] [[Lancashire Telegraph](https://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/uk_national_news/18156440.havent-enough-time-julian-assanges-lawyers-tell-court/?ref=twtrec)] [[AOL](https://www.aol.co.uk/news/2020/01/13/we-havena-t-had-enough-time-julian-assangea-s-lawyers-tell-co/)] [[RT](https://youtu.be/mos-vPlA-gs)- arrival] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202001131078026372-rapper-mia-plans-to-ask-the-queen-to-free-julian-assange/) re M.I.A] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/world/202001131078025766-assanges-team-mull-legal-action-against-belmarsh-prison-over-client-access/) re hearing] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/world/202001131078025766-assanges-team-mull-legal-action-against-belmarsh-prison-over-client-access/) re possible legal action] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/478146-assange-camera-court-extradition/)] [[VOA News](https://www.voanews.com/europe/wikileaks-assange-uk-court-fighting-extradition-usa?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=dlvr.it)] [[MetroUK](https://metro.co.uk/2020/01/13/m-supports-julian-assange-wikileaks-founder-appears-london-court-us-extradition-12049872/?ito=article.desktop.share.top.twitter)] [[SBS AU](https://www.sbs.com.au/news/julian-assange-denied-access-to-lawyers-in-uk)] [[Independent](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/julian-assange-court-westminster-magistrates-mia-hmp-belmarsh-a9282201.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1578955756)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/01/14/pers-j14.html) 1] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/01/14/assa-j14.html) 2] [[ABC](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-01-14/wikileaks-founder-assange-needs-more-time-to-speak-to-lawyer/11865574)] [[Breitbart](https://www.breitbart.com/europe/2020/01/15/exclusive-video-interviews-with-protestors-at-julian-assange-hearing/)] [[ModernGhana](https://www.modernghana.com/news/979219/short-of-time-julian-assange-at-the-westminster.html)] [[PressTV]](https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2020/01/14/616207/London-Protesters-Julian-Assange-Trial-) [[Brasil247](https://www.brasil247.com/mundo/assange-se-apresenta-a-corte-em-londres-para-audiencia-sobre-extradicao-aos-eua)] [[RT UK](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1217028075881488384) tweeted video] [[The Canary](https://www.thecanary.co/uk/news/2020/01/13/rapper-mia-supports-julian-assange-at-court/)] [[RealMedia](https://realmedia.press/assange-hearing/) & [YouTube](https://youtu.be/Y8VpUumHHlw)] [[Yahoo - AAP](https://au.news.yahoo.com/assange-denied-access-lawyers-uk-120109037--spt.html)] [[CounterPunch](https://www.counterpunch.org/2020/01/16/short-of-time-julian-assange-at-the-westminster-magistrates-court/)] [[NewsClick](https://www.newsclick.in/assanges-12-minute-hearing-presents-grim-picture-judicial-indifference)] [[9News](https://www.9news.com.au/world/assange-denied-access-to-lawyers-in-uk/39382389-facc-40e3-92ab-03dd3d575427)] [[TheNews](https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/601654-history-is-happening)]  
  [[Official Live Blog](https://defend.wikileaks.org/liveblog/#13-jan-2020)] [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/01/15/__trashed/)]  
    
  **Later Commentary**: [[Nozomi Hayase](https://www.commondreams.org/views/2020/01/19/why-americans-and-world-ought-be-concerned-about-julian-assanges-extradition-case) (Jan19)]
* **13 Jan 2020** **Nils Melzer** comments on **BBC**’s silencing of **Joe Corré** during interview re Assange:  
    
  Interview [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/8GR2gcgq_k4)] [Meltzer [Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1216751236445298693)]  
  “To see how desperatelythe BBC interrupts & discredits [@realjoecorre](https://twitter.com/realjoecorre)’s attempts to expose the gross arbitrariness of legal proceedings against Assange is not only a deplorable betrayal of objective journalism but borders on suppression of legitimate dissent.”  
    
  [**Question - Is Joe Corré an official spokesperson for Julian Assange - as indicated by the interviewer? Does anyone know the answer to this?]  
    
  Nils Melzer**: 8-part THREAD on what constitutes “evading” justice. [[Thread](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1216758360994992129)]  
    
  **Nils Melze**r: 7-part THREAD focused on the role the UK government is playing in the persecution and torture of JulianAssange, and the large gap between their rhetoric and their practice. [[Thread](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1216831993872355329)]
* **13 Jan 2020** **James Goodale** (ex-NYT legal counsel) comments on the legal significance of the CIA spying onJulian in the Embassy. [[The Hill](https://thehill.com/opinion/criminal-justice/477939-will-cia-misbehavior-set-julian-assange-free)]
* **13 Jan 2020** **Estelle Dehon** (UK Barrister) spoke with Randi Credico about the ongoing appeals re FOIA requests of **Stefania Maurizi**, and other related matters   
  [[Audio](https://covertactionmagazine.com/index.php/2020/01/13/live-on-the-fly-julian-assange-countdown-to-freedom-3-interview-with-estelle-dehon/)] [Partial [Transcript](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yB5cKWvK0eo5w_4GXkbOGOs8I46uMzlT7KJv0Hdd0Qo/edit?usp=sharing)]
* **14 Jan 2020 Remand hearing CANCELLED** (replaced by 13 Jan hearing) [scheduled per [WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/20/assa-d20.html) report 20 Dec] [listed on [WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/01/09/14436/) website]  
  (During 13 Jan 2020 [EmmyB](https://twitter.com/NielsLadefoged/status/1216691996653510656) makes it clear that the date was changed with very little notice ie today’s scheduled hearing is cancelled.)
* **14 Jan 2020** Filmmaker **Emir Kusturica** appeared at the Kustendorf International Film and Music Festival in **Serbia** wearing a t-shirt with the image of Julian Assange. [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/europe/202001161078047463-kusturica-assange-is-dying-but-instead-of-news-about-him-we-are-bombarded-with-junk-information/)] Assange video to Serbia (6 Apr 2014) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/lSNOI6IgFkg)]
* **15 Jan 2020** 6-8pm “***A Message of Love,*** *Why we should support Julian Assange*” St James Church, LONDON [[Flyer](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/01/03/solidarity-action-in-support-of-wikileaks-julian-assange-january-2020/)] [[Bookings](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-message-of-love-luke-4-18-why-should-we-support-julian-assange-tickets-88112762645)]  
  **Speakers**: Lisa Longstaff, Maxine Waters, Deepa Driver, Joanne Morrison  
    
  Audio: [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/01/16/we-pray-for-a-miracle-a-message-of-love-why-should-we-support-julian-assange/)]
* **16 Jan 2020** Interview with **Juan Branco** (French member of Assange legal team) [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/01/16/bran-j16.html?fbclid=IwAR2oz2kRCaNZKV7VyZm0h-oJeE-wfwqEaFHIMR33m0RSvZQCP0P1Vz7bx5Q)]  
  “We believe this is a crucial element in our battle to avoid Julian Assange’s extradition. The gross violation of the principles of a fair trial, including the right to a fair defense, are epitomized in this episode.  
    
  The lack of secrecy of his exchanges with his lawyers was not only the fruit of covert operations: the dispositives were probably also used to collect evidence that could be used in trial, i.e., that could be legalized. In these conditions, in which the material basis of an indictment is based on illegal spying operations that violate the basic rights of the defense, it seems to us extremely difficult to argue that an extradition to the US would not violate the basic requisites that apply in these circumstances.  
    
  **The Bar of Paris** **and I are going to file a complaint in France** over the violation of the rights of the defense, professional secrets and the violation of my privacy. What we are trying to do is to fight against the normalization of practices that are devastating the privacy not only of our client, but more broadly of millions of citizens. In our case, the situation was particularly intense, with a few of us being the subject of tailing operations, photo operations, burglaries and so forth.”
* **16 Jan 2020** **Oxford NUJ**: “*Julian Assange – what’s at stake for journalism,* *whistleblowing and free speech?*” Speaker: **Jake Lynch**. Open to non-members.  
  Background: [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/11/26/the-trials-of-julian-assange-and-why-he-is-vital-to-our-future/)]  
  Tweets: [[OxfordNUJ](https://twitter.com/OxfordNUJ/status/1217930137502724096)]
* **17 Jan 2020** 6:30-8:30pm, **JADC Organising Meeting**, Marchmont Community Centre, London [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/01/03/solidarity-action-in-support-of-wikileaks-julian-assange-january-2020/)]
* **18 Jan 2020** “Gareth Peirce is aiming to **finalise** the **exhibits for submission to the prosecution** by January 18.” [[ModernGhana](https://www.modernghana.com/news/979219/short-of-time-julian-assange-at-the-westminster.html)]
* **19 Jan 2020** **Mary Kostakidis** describes her visit to Belmarsh in Oct 2019. [[PressProject](https://thepressproject.gr/belmarsh-high-security-prison-is-surrounded-by-greenery/)]
* **19 Jan 2020** **Workers Party of Brazil** (PT) call for the freedom of Julian Assange [[Website](https://www.prensa-latina.cu/index.php?o=rn&id=332117&SEO=partido-de-trabajadores-en-brasil-exige-libertad-para-julian-assange)]
* **20 Jan 2020** **Eva Jolly** (Norwegian-born French Judge] makes statement in support of Assange [Norwegian [article](https://www.aftenposten.no/meninger/kronikk/i/lAk1ML/julian-assange-doer-i-belmarsh-fengselet-og-vaar-aere-doer-med-ham-eva-joly)]
* **21 Jan 2020** **The Spanish case**: Three protected witnesses - former employees of David Morales - tell a judge in Spain that his company was making recordings of the cyberactivist and his lawyers for the CIA. [[El Pais](https://elpais.com/elpais/2020/01/21/inenglish/1579611351_198492.html?ssm=TW_CM_EN)]  
  “The witnesses said that they were able to prove that the US was accessing the information. A study of the emails sent by Morales to several of his workers shows that the former marine traveled to Alexandria, a US city in Virginia with around 145,000 residents, on March 1 and 2, 2017. The IP addresses of these messages, to which this newspaper has had access, show that they were from the place that was processing the extradition order against Assange.”  
    
  **Follow up:** [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/01/22/ucgl-j22.html)]
* **21 Jan 2020** **Andrew Wilkie** (AU MP) announces that he will probably visit Julian in Belmarsh Sunday 16 Feb 2020. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/WilkieMP/status/1219543687538987008)]
* **21 Jan 2020** Criminal charge lodges against **Glenn Greenwald** in Brasil [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/caitoz/status/1219722401497305088) video] [The [Intercept](https://theintercept.com/2020/01/21/glenn-greenwald-press-freedom-brazil-complaint-congress-response/)] [[Secret Brasil Archive](https://theintercept.com/series/secret-brazil-archive/)]
* **21 Jan at 9pm** (EST) [22 Jan 2020 at 1pm (AU)] [Replay 24 Jan 2020]  
  “***Meet Doctors For Assange***” Sydney/Online event   
  [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CathyVoganSPK/status/1215132511359008768)] [[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/events/567723530446588/)] [Change of [venue](https://twitter.com/SAWCSydney/status/1217012609829892096)] [[Website](http://www.meaa.org/events/meet-doctors-for-assange/)]  
    
  **Host**: Wendy Bacon [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Doctors4Assange/status/1219537811839295488)] [Video - Intro [3:52](https://youtu.be/wd4cRHB-HIQ?t=3m52s)]  
  **Speakers**:   
  Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans (AU) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Doctors4Assange/status/1219537789458448386)] [Video - Speech [6:19](https://youtu.be/wd4cRHB-HIQ?t=6m19s)]  
  Dr Sue Wareham (AU) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Doctors4Assange/status/1219537907196841984)] [Video - Speech [20:44](https://youtu.be/wd4cRHB-HIQ?t=20m44s)]  
  Dr Derek Summerfield (UK) [Video - Speech [25:48](https://youtu.be/wd4cRHB-HIQ?t=25m48s)]  
  Dr Robert Marr (AU) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Doctors4Assange/status/1219537851530055680)] [Video - Speech [31:00](https://youtu.be/wd4cRHB-HIQ?t=31m00s)]  
  Dr Jill Stein (US ) [Video - Speech [34:32]](https://youtu.be/wd4cRHB-HIQ?t=34m32s)  
  - Also see separate [interview](https://youtu.be/rd97x5w-nZ8)   
  - And Tweet clips in [Thread](https://twitter.com/Consortiumnews/status/1221082148079165440)  
  Q&A [Video - Q&A [41:43](https://youtu.be/wd4cRHB-HIQ?t=41m43s)]  
  ENDS [1:08:30] Followed by a second copy  
  .  
  **Livestream**: [Livestream Failed - see [Tweet](https://twitter.com/Consortiumnews/status/1219936443050553344)] [[VIDEO](https://youtu.be/wd4cRHB-HIQ?t=2m55s) replay of event]  
  Separate **interview**: Dr Jill Stein [[Video](https://youtu.be/rd97x5w-nZ8)]
* **22 Jan 2020** **Phillip Adams**. As an Australian petitioner with 250,000 signatures, formally requests a **Royal Pardon** for Julian Assange. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/PhillipAdams64/status/1219959682690777088)]   
  Notice sent to all AU, UK and US parliamentarians / congresspeople [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/PhillipAdams64/status/1207698501796188161)]  
    
  **Follow Up**; Image projected on Buckingham Place [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kittyhundal/status/1220750096888930305)]
* **22 Jan 2020** **Tulsi Gabbard** files defamation complaint against **Hillary Clinton** [[Complaint](https://d3ba7j4nna908t.cloudfront.net/attachments/Tulsi-HRC_2020-01-22_Complaint_filed.pdf)]  
  “With this action, Tulsi seeks to hold Clinton, and the political elites who enable her, accountable for distorting the truth in the middle of a critical Presidential election.”
* **22 Jan 2020** UN Special Rapporteur **Nils Melzer** on the Assange case and the sabotage of UN mechanisms by the United States, Great Britain, Sweden and Ecuador [DE [Heise](https://www.heise.de/tp/features/Praezedenzfall-fuer-ein-repressives-Vorgehen-gegen-investigative-Journalisten-4643313.html)]  
  “In my view, it is in the core of my mandate to publicly protest when unmasked war criminals go unpunished while the whistleblowers and journalists are draconically punished for exposing such crimes”
* **22 Jan 2020** Day 1 of **Senate Trial** of Donald J Trump. [[Livestream](https://youtu.be/UAzzmTLP0Ls)]
* **23 Jan 2020** Opening of “***#HungryForPressFreedom***” event (to Feb 20) Brussels [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1214882813809451008)] [[Website](https://hungryforpressfreedom.wordpress.com/)]
* **23 Jan 2020** **Case Management Hearing**   
  [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/BBCHelena/status/1220285290767683584) BBC] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1220286341977645056) M.A.E] [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1220243535473127424) Colvin] [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/21WIRE/status/1220341089930022912) Henningsen]  
  [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NielsLadefoged/status/1220310987775062018) Ladefoged - NB unthreaded] [YT [Videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV-ZJdwMlWHox0_TM1rC_kQ/videos) Dimmack]   
  [ES [Tweets](https://twitter.com/Moncaro/status/1220370548385112064) Graterol - unthreaded]  
  Press Statement [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/01/27/press-release-from-sunshine-press-on-23-01-2020-on-court-developments-for-julian-assange/)]  
    
  “The court has agreed that the actual extradition hearing will begin on the 24th of February (1 week) and the hearing will then recommence on the 18th of May (3 weeks)” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NielsLadefoged/status/1220310987775062018)]  
    
  **Kristinn Hrafnsson**: “We learned today from the prosecution that the US does not consider foreign nationals to be protected under the 1st Amendment” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jlpassarelli/status/1220314245956538369)]  
    
  “They [the US] are retaining the right to hunt down journalists all over the world, but they will not have 1st Amendment protection. That should send a clear message to all journalists about the importance of this case. ” [M.A.E. [Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1220330029978128384) video]   
    
  See also “It’s not about Julian Assange. It’s about press freedom.” ”[Dimmack YT [video](https://youtu.be/YwK1tPdaHkY)]  
    
  **John Rees**: “"They're saying that if [#JulianAssange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/JulianAssange?src=hashtag_click) is extradited he will immediately be placed under 'Special Administrative Measures'. That means that he will not be able to speak to the press or the public, and neither will his legal team... He will be put in a black hole ..."” [Ladefoged [Tweet](https://twitter.com/NielsLadefoged/status/1220323392940920833) video]  
    
  “Taken together, the assault on the 1st Amendment and the application of ‘Special Administrative Measures’,shows that the US intends that there is to be no effective justice in this case whatsoever.” [M.A.E. [Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1220329982523854849) video]  
    
  **Naomi Colvin**: “The defence intends to submit arguments on abuse of process. The US has made a detailed submission on the publication process, which the defence needs time to respond too.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1220299280545734656)]  
    
  “The CPS has also appointed its own medical expert, although they have not yet been able to gain admittance to Belmarsh to assess” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1220299510208958464)]  
    
  “Several defence witnesses will give evidence anonymously, including two Spanish witnesses (presumably UC Global related) and four who will be referred to by initials only.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1220303805423681538)]  
    
   “Assange was looking calm and composed, wearing a dark coloured suit. ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1220305004197793797)]  
    
  Patrick Henningsen; “Defense lawyer **Mr Fitzgerald** [QC] describes daunting prospect of preparing expert witnesses in what's clearly an incredibly complex case, involving digital analysis, forensics, international treaty and extradition law, all of which makes this a 21st century bell weather case.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/21WIRE/status/1220342035615485952)]  
    
  ““We simply can’t get in as we require to see Mr Assange and take instructions ... we need time to deal with that,” **Fitzgerald [QC]** said. *“*We need to deal with [the] points raised in the US Attorney General's statement. The reality is we are not ready to call the main body of our evidence,” the senior lawyer added.” [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/479003-assange-lawyer-lack-access-hearing/)] Also see [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1220661730625445894)]  
    
  **Emmy Butlin**: “He didn’t look very well … he only spoke to say his name and DOB.” [[Video](https://youtu.be/4JNATbkzZOo)]  
    
  **FollowUp**: [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202001231078116774-assange-extradition-us-government-claims-foreign-journalists-arent-protected-by-first-amendment-/)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/479003-assange-lawyer-lack-access-hearing/)] [[SBS](https://www.sbs.com.au/news/julian-assange-may-not-be-able-to-use-first-amendment-press-protection-if-extradited) AU] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/01/24/assa-j24.html)] [[CommonDreams](https://www.commondreams.org/views/2020/01/24/assange-precedent-spark-lit-fire-war-journalism?utm_campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=twitter)] [[Newsweek](https://www.newsweek.com/wikileaks-julian-assange-latest-extradition-case-doj-belmarsh-prison-1483814)] [[ZeroHedge](https://www.zerohedge.com/political/wikileaks-editor-us-saying-first-amendment-doesnt-apply-foreigners-assange-case)] [[TheCanary](https://www.thecanary.co/uk/analysis/2020/01/25/six-legal-arguments-show-why-the-us-extradition-of-julian-assange-should-be-denied/) Pt1] [[The Canary](https://www.thecanary.co/uk/analysis/2020/01/26/evidence-mounts-of-irregularities-in-uk-court-procedures-in-assange-extradition-case/) Pt2] [[ConsortiumNews](https://consortiumnews.com/2020/01/27/assange-extradition-hearings-scheduled-as-assault-on-press-freedom-spreads/)] [[ABC](https://youtu.be/b_-aCPCykME) video]  
    
  Video **Commentary** [[Lee Camp](https://twitter.com/LeeCamp/status/1221934157489561600)]  
     
  From [WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/01/24/assa-j24.html):  
  **[Kristinn**] **Hrafnsson** explained he had mixed feelings about the change to the hearing dates, “Every day that Julian Assange has to spend in Belmarsh prison is a day too long. The fact that he has to spend another three months because of the delay in the second part of the procedure is of concern. On the other hand, it is such a big case that the lawyers need extra time as well. Bear in mind that they have limited access to Julian inside Belmarsh, which in itself is outrageous.  
    
  “So, I have mixed feelings. Let us hope that this will end as soon as possible. In the meantime, I know the lawyers will push towards changing the situation. Hopefully they will move him from the maximum-security prison in Belmarsh which is no place for a non-violent individual who is innocent by law and who is simply on remand awaiting a trial.”  
    
  WikiLeaks ambassador **Joseph Farrell** added that stripping Assange of free speech protections under the US Constitution “means that any foreign journalist is not protected by the First Amendment. This links in closely with what we have already said in the past is their extraterritorial arm. They are reaching into the United Kingdom for an Australian journalist who worked in Europe and the UK while publishing some of America’s most famous crimes. Now they are adding on to that, that he does not have protection under the First Amendment.”  
    
  “We have said previously that this is a precedent-setting case and the repercussions are already being seen with Glenn Greenwald’s indictment.”
* **23 Jan 2020** Day 2 of **Senate Trial** of Donald J Trump.[[Livestream](https://youtu.be/NhaBxKxQtMo)]
* **23 Jan 2020** New Libertarian support for Assange site started [[Website](https://libertyforassange.uk/)]
* **23 Jan 2020** Day 3 of **Senate Trial** of Donald J Trump.[Livestream]   
  (End of case put by Congress)
* **24 Jan 2020 Doomsday Clock** approaches midnight [[Article](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/01/24/pers-j24.html)]  
  “On Thursday, the *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists*, which for more than seven decades has maintained a Doomsday Clock, warned that human civilization is closer to midnight, i.e., total destruction, than at any other period in history, including the Cuban Missile Crisis at the height of the Cold war.”
* **24 Jan 2020** **Joseph Farrell:** Assange moved out of solitary in the “hospital” wing to new area with other prisoners. [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1220708757702877186) video] [DE [RT](https://deutsch.rt.com/kurzclips/97357-nach-protesten-von-haeftlingen-assange-verlegt/) video]  
    
  Coverage: [[CanberraTimes](https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6597815/assange-moved-out-of-solitary-in-uk-prison/?cs=14232)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202001241078129194-assanges-solitary-confinement-ends-following-pressure-from-lawyers-and-fellow-prisoners/)] [[DailyMail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7925583/Wikileaks-founder-Julian-Assange-moved-solitary-confinement-Belmarsh-prison.html)]   
  Analysis: [[C21Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/01/26/julian-assange-and-inhumanity-of-british-state-prison-healthcare-solitary-confinement-and-torture/)] [[AntiWar](https://original.antiwar.com/nozomi_hayase/2020/01/30/justice-for-assange-belmarsh-prisoners-remind-us-of-our-duty/)] [[CommonDreams](https://www.commondreams.org/views/2020/01/31/justice-assange-belmarsh-prisoners-remind-us-our-duty-civil-disobedience?utm_campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=twitter)] [[TheIndicter](https://theindicter.com/julian-assange-and-the-inhumanity-of-the-british-government-unofficial-solitary-confinement-as-torture/)[
* **24 Jan 2020** **Doctors For Assange** event 9pm EST [CN News [tweet](https://twitter.com/Plucille54/status/1220757867881517057) ]  
  (Rescheduled from 21 Jan 2020 - see above)
* **24 Jan 2020** **Stefania Maurizi** on Live on the Fly [[Website](https://covertactionmagazine.com/index.php/2020/01/24/exclusive-in-depth-interview-with-investigative-journalist-stefania-maurizi-on-assange-countdown-to-freedom/)] [[AUDIO](http://covertactionmagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Randy.Credico_On.The_.Fly_01.24.mp3)]  
  Stefania   
  - highlights the contributions Wikileaks has made to the world of publishing and comments on the CIA four-year illegal spying on Assange, his lawyers and attorneys.   
  - elaborates on her lawsuits to obtain communication between British prosecutors and U.S. Department of Justice, as well as her efforts to obtain emails between British prosecutors and the Swedish prosecutor.   
  - comments on [Vault 7](https://wikileaks.org/ciav7p1/index.html), the largest ever publication of confidential documents on the CIA, and [Cablegate](https://wikileaks.org/plusd/?qproject%5B%5D=cg&q=), among other matters.  
    
  FollowUp reporting: [[MintPress](https://www.mintpressnews.com/interview-randy-credico-stefania-maurizi-julian-assange/264591/)]  
    
  See all 2020 ‘Live on the Fly’ episodes so far [[WiseUp](https://defend.wikileaks.org/credico-radio/)]
* **25 Jan 2020** 2pm Edinburgh “***Scotland Must Resist***” event [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/ScotsDefend/status/1206639443907665921)] [[Tickets](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/scotland-must-resist-tickets-83915861601) (free)]  
  **Speakers**: Craig Murray, John Wight, Lisa Longstaff, Robert Somynne, Helen Mercer (JAD)  
  Livestreams: [Dimmack [Stream](https://youtu.be/CwJAqPSrQkA)] [Sputnik [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SputnikNews/videos/491646428076800/) video]  
  Tweetstreams: [ValentinaFlex [Tweets](https://twitter.com/ValentinaFlex/status/1221079721452109837) (unthreaded)] [DeepaDriver [thread](https://twitter.com/deepa_driver/status/1221354190506618880)]  
  Watching outside Belmarsh prison [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/WISEUpAction/status/1221377779712786439)]  
    
  Speeches from [#ScotsDefendAssange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/ScotsDefendAssange?src=hashtag_click) first public meeting [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/CwJAqPSrQkA)]:

[02:00](https://youtu.be/CwJAqPSrQkA?t=2m00s) - Craig Murray  
 [19:35](https://youtu.be/CwJAqPSrQkA?t=19m35s) - Helen Mercer  
 [34:05](https://youtu.be/CwJAqPSrQkA?t=34m05s) - Lisa Longstaff  
 [45:50](https://youtu.be/CwJAqPSrQkA?t=45m50s) - Anna Brees

[49:00](https://youtu.be/CwJAqPSrQkA?t=49m00s) - Srećko Horvat  
 [54:28](https://youtu.be/CwJAqPSrQkA?t=54m28s) - John Wight

Reporting: [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/01/26/scots-defend-assange-public-meeting-in-edinburgh-by-scotsdefend-25-01-2020/amp/?__twitter_impression=true) summary]

* **25 Jan 2020** 4-6pm **Rally** outside **Belmarsh prison** (with Yellow Vests) [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/01/03/solidarity-action-in-support-of-wikileaks-julian-assange-january-2020/)] plus rallies in many other places  
    
  **On site**: [Dimmack [THREAD](https://twitter.com/GordonDimmack/status/1221020935920275457) videos] [Messages from France [video](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1221068412459327488)] [M.A.E. [tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1221079674056597506)] [WiseUp [Tweets](https://twitter.com/WISEUpAction/status/1221092236194189314) (not threaded)] [Sovetski [Tweet](https://twitter.com/AlexanderSovet1/status/1221093705886683136) video] [Graterol [tweet](https://twitter.com/Moncaro/status/1221209381527748608) videos of French Yellow Vests (not threaded)]  
  Melbourne Rally [[Ruptly](https://twitter.com/Plucille54/status/1221639123334725634)]   
  Messages from around the world [Tweet [video](https://twitter.com/AlexanderSovet1/status/1221919128170176513)]  
  German Author Moritz Müller outside the prison [EFPress [video](https://youtu.be/7JlPjAyGIpo)]   
  (More videos on the YT [EFPress](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwkNI_rBmiJ7pjDssroVAdQ/videos) channel.)  
  TrumanHuman initiative calling out messages from around the world [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/TRUMANHUMAN2020/status/1222324580901171200) videos unthreaded. Maybe a YT video later.]  
    
  **FollowUp**: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/01/25/yell-j25.html)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/479184-assange-protest-belmarsh-prison/)] [[TheCanary](https://www.thecanary.co/feature/2020/01/27/french-yellow-vests-hold-large-solidarity-demo-for-julian-assange-at-belmarsh-prison/)] [ES [TerceraInformacion](https://tercerainformacion.es/articulo/internacional/2020/01/31/chalecos-amarillos-franceses-se-manifestaron-frente-a-la-prision-britanica-contra-la-extradicion-de-assange-a-eeuu)]
* **25 Jan 2020** Award ceremony for **Catalan Dignity Award**. [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/t9BeUenyHN0)]  
  "We are really happy to offer an award to Julian Assange because he was an exemplary referent for us, a democratic reference whose journalism and informatics abilities allowed Catalonia to do the referendum in 2017," said the founder member of Catalan Dignity Commission Toni Strubell.  
    
  Data analyst Joe Brew accepted the award on Assange's behalf and delivered a speech.
* **25 Jan 2020** **Nils Melzer** announces a forthcoming report to the UN re psycholgical torture. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1221202721308540928)].  
  “"If you want to understand what governments have been doing in your name, go and watch *‘Eminent Monsters.’*  
  To mark Nils Melzer's forthcoming report on psychological torture UN HRC, [[the film]](https://twitter.com/EminentMonsters) *‘Eminent Monsters’* will play in cinemas across the UK from 16th Feb. [[Tickets](https://reprieve.org.uk/update/eminent-monsters/?utm_content=buffera5448&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer)]“  
    
  See also this paper on ‘*Personality Disruption as Mental Torture*’ [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1221635269562195970)] [[Journal](https://scholarship.law.georgetown.edu/facpub/2214/)]
* **27 Jan 2020** **Council of Europe** meeting to discuss Assange case  
  Video may appear here later [[COE Livestreams](https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/live#)].  
  Speaking: [Full Colvin [THREAD](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1221765859766669313)]  
    
  - **Andrej Hunko** (German MP) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1221766085168566277)]   
   See also [Hunko [Website](https://andrej-hunko.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/4828-veranstaltung-zu-julian-assange-im-europarat-diesen-montag)[  
    
  - **Nils Melzer** (UN Rap on Torture)  
   “Melzer: [#Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click)'s rights have been "severely violated". His lawyers say they have inadequate access. Concerns that moving him out of medical wing may be designed to undercut medical arguments in the extradition hearing.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1221767848571342848)]  
   “Melzer: the response he has had from UK, US and Sweden are "typical of the kinds of reactions I have from states that are conscious that their conduct is unlawful." [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1221769166845247491)]  
    
   See also followup from Nils Melzer [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1222288505247797248)]

- **Régis Brillat** (European Committee for the Prevention of Torture - CPT)  
 Brillat “describes the committee's inspections of Belmarsh. When they last visited in 2005, they found medical provision for inmates w severe disabilities was inadequate.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1221770348095557638)]  
  
- **Anthony Bellanger** (IFJ Global - Journalists Union) [Multiple tweets]  
 “Bellanger: we have submitted an urgent alert to the Council of Europe platform for the protection of journalists. The UK has not responded to this alert. We have events coming up in Brussels this week.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1221773176423768065)]  
 “Bellanger speculates that [#Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click) has been moved out of isolation because the UK authorities do not want him to be observed in poor health during February's hearings. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1221773641710555137)]  
  
 See also statement (in French) [IFJ [Website](https://www.ifj.org/media-centre/news/detail/category/press-releases/article/le-crime-dassange-denoncer-les-atrocites-des-autres.html)] Includes full **transcript**.

- **John Shipton**

“”... now addressing the room: "together we will free Julian and we will ensure Europeans can keep publishing." ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1221775438197993472)]  
  
 See also interview in [FR [ParisMatch](https://www.parismatch.com/Actu/International/Julian-Assange-qui-va-lancer-l-alerte-pour-le-lanceur-d-alerte-1670311#utm_term=Autofeed&utm_medium=Social&xtor=CS2-14&utm_source=Twitter&Echobox=1580101759)]  
 “Says John Shipton, which recalls that Assange received 16 major journalism prizes. "These people are responsible for the deaths of 1.5 million people and the suffering of millions more, they swim up to their necks in a river of blood, but they point the finger at Julian Assange and claim that he has “Endangered lives.” ”

- **Gianni Marilotti** (head of Italy’s inter-Parliamentary group monitoring this case)  
 Marilotti: "Our aim is to monitor the upcoming hearings in the UK." [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1221776190312210433)]  
 “Marilotti: "We should be outraged by the silence of certain states on what is happening to Assange" [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/auerfeld/status/1221778457408999426)]  
**END  
  
Draft resolution;** [EN [COE](http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/XRef-AMDetails-EN.asp?FileId=28281&amid=28419)] [FR [COE](http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-XML2HTML-FR.asp?fileid=28508&lang=FR)] **Reporting:** [[RT](https://youtu.be/FGVJ3fpqHaQ)] [[Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2020/jan/28/julian-assange-detention-sets-dangerous-precedent-for-journalists)] [FR [LeGrandSoir](https://www.legrandsoir.info/l-assemblee-parlementaire-du-conseil-de-l-europe-demande-la-liberation-rapide-d-assange.html)] [WikiLeaks [THREAD](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1222283277953683462)] [[Bridges FMF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/council-of-europes-parliamentary-assembly-calls-for-assanges-prompt-release/)]   
[ES [Cadenaser](https://cadenaser.com/ser/2020/01/29/tribunales/1580311014_361434.html)] [FR [NextInpact](https://www.nextinpact.com/brief/l-assemblee-parlementaire-du-conseil-de-l-europe-reclame-la-liberation-de-julian-assange-11095.htm)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/europe/202001291078172708-julian-assange-must-not-be-extradited-to-the-us-and-must-be-released-promptly---council-of-europe/)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/03/assa-f03.html)] [[[IndependentAustralia](https://independentaustralia.net/politics/politics-display/council-of-europe-declares-support-for-julian-assange,13565#.Xjoi6se2qYE.twitter)]

* **27 Jan 2020** **Edward Snowden** on the similarities between charges against **Julian Assange** and **Glenn Greenwald** [[WaPo](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/01/26/edward-snowden-trump-has-created-global-playbook-attack-those-revealing-uncomfortable-truths/)]  
  “The most essential journalism of every era is precisely that which a government attempts to silence. These prosecutions demonstrate that they are ready to stop the presses — if they can.”  
  **Lee Camp** on the same theme. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LeeCamp/status/1221872854842646528) video]
* **28 Jan 2020** **Craig Murray** discusses the significance of the FBI emails addressing Seth Rich that recently surfaced via a FOIA request. [[Blog](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2020/01/the-fbi-has-been-lying-about-seth-rich/)] [[ConsortiumNews](https://consortiumnews.com/2020/01/29/the-fbi-has-been-lying-about-seth-rich/)]
* **28 Jan 2020** **Juan Branco** in Greece - “We are lucky Julian is still alive” [[Article](https://medium.com/athenslivegr/juan-branco-we-are-lucky-that-julian-is-still-alive-7ceb79d36c52)]
* **28 Jan 2020** **Simon McDonald**, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the UK Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the European country, reported as saying, in Quito, that the UK never promised not to extradite Julian Assange to a country with the death penalty - only that he would not be extradited if there was danger that he would face the death penaly. [[LaRepubblica](https://www.larepublica.ec/blog/politica/2020/01/28/reino-unido-dice-nunca-prometio-extraditarassange-pais-pena-muerte/)].   
    
  UPDATE: See 4 Feb 2020 Carlos Poveda contradicts this statement.
* **28 Jan 2020** LeMonde discuss Julian’s health and the difficulties he is experiencing meeting with his lawyers [FR [LeMonde](https://www.lemonde.fr/pixels/article/2020/01/28/en-prison-julian-assange-prepare-tant-bien-que-mal-son-proces-en-extradition_6027543_4408996.html)]
* **29 Jan 2020** **Joseph Farrell** and others on ICA’s ‘Closed Circuit: True Information’ in London [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/i/broadcasts/1lPJqVELBnmxb) video]
* **29 Jan 2020** **IFJ Global** call on the Belgium govt to support Assange   
  [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1222498201254682624)] [[Website](https://www.ifj.org/media-centre/news/detail/category/press-releases/article/assange-snowden-manning-and-harrison-are-the-resistance-fighters-of-the-21st-century.html)]  
  They call on the Belgian govt to:  
  1: Recognise #JulianAssange as a political prisoner  
  2: Send observers to his trial  
  3: Grant him protection  
  4:: Do its utmost to avoid his extradition to the US  
    
  Reporting: [[MorningStar](https://morningstaronline.co.uk/article/w/assange-hailed-resistance-fighter-21st-century#.XjWDbD0Ipeo.twitter)] [[IFJ](https://europeanjournalists.org/blog/2020/01/30/assange-snowden-manning-and-harrison-are-the-resistance-fighters-of-the-21st-century/)]
* **29 Jan 2020** **John Shipton** accepts the first Academic Honoris Causa at the Palais des Académies in Brussels on behalf of Julian Assange [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DefendAssange/status/1222486057167589377)]  
  Also at Assange Day in Brussels [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Factsmatter2/status/1222521351044550656) video]
* **29 Jan 2020** **John Shipton** interviewed on his way to visit Julian in Belmarsh prison [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/interviews/202001291078163777-exclusive-the-greater-the-insults-to-julian-the-stronger-i-become-assanges-father-tells-sputnik/)] [[Aydinlik](https://www.aydinlik.com.tr/assange-in-babasi-cezaevindeki-mahkumlar-4-ulkenin-hukumetlerinden-daha-ahlakli-dunya-ocak-2020)]
* **29 Jan 2020** Contents of a 69 page **report** to the **Spanish National** Court from Assange’s defence team re the spying in the Embassy are reported [ES [Article](https://confirmado.net/2020/01/29/ecuador-la-defensa-de-assange-detalla-el-espionaje-en-londres-microfonos-copias-de-moviles-y-perfiles-de-politicos-y-abogados/)]  
  Related articles: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/01/22/ucgl-j22.html)]
* **29 Jan 2020** John **Worthington** (journalist) speaks about Julian Assange in the context of current events at Guantánamo. [[Article](http://www.andyworthington.co.uk/2020/01/29/radio-unauthorized-disclosure-i-discuss-guantanamo-and-julian-assange-with-kevin-gosztola-and-rania-khalek/)] [Audio [Interview](https://www.patreon.com/posts/interview-with-33426595)]
* **30 Jan 2020** 6pm Washington DC “***The Prosecution of Julian Assange & Its Impact on the Freedom of the Press*”** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1218259970787041281)] [[Register](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-prosecution-of-julian-assange-its-impact-on-the-freedom-of-the-press-tickets-90350941097) (free)]  
  **Video**: [[CourageFound](https://youtu.be/sRjqFoB8CVw)]
* **Speakers**:   
  Mary-Rose Papandrea, UNC,(Mod) [[00:00](https://youtu.be/sRjqFoB8CVw?t=0m1s)]   
  Amy Jeffress, former DOJ, [[04:15](https://youtu.be/sRjqFoB8CVw?t=4m15s)]  
  Jameel Jaffer, [[08:08](https://youtu.be/sRjqFoB8CVw?t=8m08s)]  
  Ben Wizner, ACLU [[11:20](https://youtu.be/sRjqFoB8CVw?t=11m20s)]  
  Followed by discussion as a panel

Coverage:  
  
FollowUp: **Barry Pollack** interviewed afterwards [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/Y-6gOGpHFEI)]

* **31 Jan 2020** **Juan Branco** on Democracy and Freedom of Speech, Bristol, UK  
  [[Announcement](https://www.bristol247.com/whats-on/events/better-bristol/wikileaks-lawyer-juan-branco-on-democracy-freedom-of-speech/)]
* **31 Jan 2020** New **Nils Melzer** interview: “*A murderous system is being created before our very eyes*” [EN [Republik](https://www.republik.ch/2020/01/31/nils-melzer-about-wikileaks-founder-julian-assange)] [DE [Republik](https://www.republik.ch/2020/01/31/nils-melzer-spricht-ueber-wikileaks-gruender-julian-assange)] [EN short [YouTube](https://youtu.be/WGbzdAZDY88)] [EN [PDF](https://cdn.repub.ch/pdf/2020/01/31/nils-melzer-about-wikileaks-founder-julian-assange.pdf)]

**Excerpts:**  
“[Sweden] pulled the plug and abandoned the case a week later because they knew I would not back down. When countries like Sweden allow themselves to be manipulated like that, then our democracies and our human rights face a fundamental threat.”  
  
“From my perspective, Sweden very clearly acted in bad faith. Had they acted in good faith, there would have been no reason to refuse to answer my questions.   
  
The same holds true for the British: Following my visit to Assange in May 2019, they took six months to answer me – in a single-page letter, which was primarily limited to rejecting all accusations of torture and all inconsistencies in the legal proceedings. If you’re going to play games like that, then what’s the point of my mandate? I am the Special Rapporteur on Torture for the United Nations. I have a mandate to ask clear questions and to demand answers. What is the legal basis for denying someone their fundamental right to defend themselves? Why is a man who is neither dangerous nor violent held in solitary confinement for several months when UN standards legally prohibit solitary confinement for periods extending beyond 15 days?   
  
None of these UN member states launched an investigation, nor did they answer my questions or even demonstrate an interest in dialogue.”  
  
What does all this mean?  
“On a practical level, it means that you, as a journalist, must now defend yourself. Because if investigative journalism is classified as espionage and can be incriminated around the world, then censorship and tyranny will follow.   
A murderous system is being created before our very eyes. War crimes and torture are not being prosecuted. YouTube videos are circulating in which American soldiers brag about driving Iraqi women to suicide with systematic rape. Nobody is investigating it.  
At the same time, a person who exposes such things is being threatened with 175 years in prison. For an entire decade, he has been inundated with accusations that cannot be proven and are breaking him.   
And nobody is being held accountable. Nobody is taking responsibility. It marks an erosion of the social contract. We give countries power and delegate it to governments – but in return, they must be held accountable for how they exercise that power. If we don’t demand that they be held accountable, we will lose our rights sooner or later. Humans are not democratic by their nature. Power corrupts if it is not monitored. Corruption is the result if we do not insist that power be monitored.”

**FollowUp**: [[SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/politics/un-torture-investigator_assange-being-set-up-to-be--burned-at-the-stake-/45530514#.XjRRpJQPr90.twitter)] [[MediaLens](https://www.medialens.org/2020/burned-at-the-stake-the-un-special-rapporteur-on-torture-demolishes-the-fake-claims-targeting-julian-assange/) 13 Feb]  
“Despite the credibility and integrity of the source, and the obvious newsworthiness of the issue, our ProQuest database search finds that Nils Melzer and his comments published in Republik on 31 January have not been mentioned in any US or UK media outlet.”  
 [[MediaLens](https://www.medialens.org/2020/burned-at-the-stake-the-un-special-rapporteur-on-torture-demolishes-the-fake-claims-targeting-julian-assange/) 13 Feb]

* **31 Jan 2020** **Nils Melzer** [7:10], **Lauri Love** [1:10:04] and **John Kiriakou** [1:42:25] on ‘*Assange - Countdown to Freedom Ep 5 2020’* [[Audio](https://covertactionmagazine.com/index.php/2020/01/31/exclusive-interviews-with-nils-melzer-lauri-love-and-john-kiriakou-on-assange-countdown-to-freedom/) and bios]
* **31 Jan 2020** **Suzie Dawson** discusses her knowledge of Julian Assange (and other matters) with **Tareq Haddad** [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/R4pLplIEqk0?t=58m52s)]

“One of the first most major reasons that I respect Julian is his interventions in saving the lives of at-risk journalists and publishers. And there’s a long history of that. Julian, throughout his career, consistently intervened and advocated for, and attempted to provide security and protection and assistance to whistleblowers, but also particularly to journalists and to publishers who he felt were of significance. And there is a number of journalists and publishers for whom Julian;s intervention made a material difference in the outcome of their situations. …   
  
Wikileaks saves lives! [In contrast to] the government narrative that they endanger lives ...” [[1:01:32](https://youtu.be/R4pLplIEqk0?t=1h01m32s)]  
  
“One of the most saddening things for me - not just in my own case - it saddens me that for all the lives that Julian saved, the jailing of him, the containing of him, the degrading of him, robs future whistleblowers, sources, at-risk journalists and publishers of his intervention and his support and his advocacy. And that is a real crime. It’s not just Julian’s one life, but all of the lives that he would have touched, and would have saved, and positively impacted. ” [[1:53:35](https://youtu.be/R4pLplIEqk0?t=1h53m35s)]

* **31 Jan 2020** Nomination of Julian Assange, Chelsea Manning and Edward Snowden for the **Nobel Peace Prize** by 17 members of the German Bundestag   
  [Tweet](https://twitter.com/SylviaGabelmann/status/1224378890828832768)] [[FullText](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/02/06/julian-assange-chelsea-manning-and-edward-snowden-nominated-for-the-2020-nobel-peace-prize/)]

#### **FEBRUARY 2020.**

* **1 Feb 2020** Germany: Initiative by former SPD leader **Sigmar Gabriel**, fmr Fed. Minister of the Interior **Gerhart Baum** (FDP), fmr Fed. Minister of Justice **Herta Däubler-Gmelin** (SPD), Left MP **Sevim Dagdelen**, journalist **Günter Wallraff**:   
  “We demand humane prison conditions for Assange“ [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/diani_barreto/status/1223614913756782595)] [[Statement](https://www.finanznachrichten.de/nachrichten-2020-02/48746147-initiative-macht-sich-fuer-freilassung-von-assange-stark-003.htm)]  
    
  FollowUp: [[RND](https://www.rnd.de/politik/prominente-fordern-menschlichkeit-fur-julian-assange-VH4QXBBNMZABTO4UJEO7FFIVMI.html)]
* **2 Feb 2020** **Srećko Horvat** speaks about what the world is missing with Julian silenced (made for ScotsDefendAssange event) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1224078608513339395) video]
* **3 Feb 2020** **Joshua Schulte** trial due to start. [[WashingtonTimes](https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/jan/31/assange-team-monitoring-outcome-of-cia-leak-case-a/?utm_campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=twitter&utm_source=socialnetwork)]  
  “**Barry** **J**. **Pollack**, a lawyer for Mr Assange, told The Washington Times that the WikiLeaks publisher’s legal team is interested in the outcome of the trial of Joshua Adam Schulte scheduled to start Monday..  
    
  Mr. Schulte, a former CIA software engineer, has been charged in connection with allegedly supplying WikiLeaks with agency hacking tools released by the website in 2017 under the name “Vault 7.”  
    
  “It shouldn’t have any impact on the case against Assange,” Mr. Pollack said. “The [Assange] indictment has absolutely nothing to do with Vault 7 so there’s really no overlap actually in the two cases.”  
    
  Related [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/emptywheel/status/1223413359812513792)] re slides for presentation  
  **Tweets**: [[Jaraparilla](https://twitter.com/jaraparilla/status/1223828727290687488)] Related [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1224998149959208962)] from **Stefania Maurizi**.  
   Day 2 [InnerCityPress [THREAD](https://twitter.com/innercitypress/status/1225066086896488448)]  
    
  **Reporting**: [[NYT](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/04/nyregion/cia-leak-wikileaks-trial-Joshua-Schulte.html)] [[WSJ](https://www.wsj.com/articles/ex-cia-engineer-goes-on-trial-for-massive-leak-11580741119)] Later - Feb 15 [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/15/schu-f15.html)]  
    
   “The trial will expose the inner workings of an agency that relies on secrecy. Witnesses will include covert C.I.A. employees who will testify under pseudonyms.   
    
  During the testimony of C.I.A. witnesses, reporters will not be allowed to describe their physical appearance. Their identities are so sensitive that prosecutors told Mr. Schulte’s lawyers they could not search for the witnesses on the internet in a way that would link their real names with the C.I.A.” [[NYT](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/04/nyregion/cia-leak-wikileaks-trial-Joshua-Schulte.html)]
* **3 Feb 2020** “***Free******the Truth***” event London [[Register](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/free-the-truth-london-feb-3-freethetruth-tickets-88746570381)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1223388914444066817)]  
  Speakers: **Eva Joly**, **Nils Melzer** & **Craig Murray**  
  **Livestream**: Gordon Dimmack [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/C4DiPPDXdJo)]

**Livestream** **Clip**  
Deepa Driver [MC]  
Craig Murray [[3:28](https://youtu.be/C4DiPPDXdJo?t=3m28s)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/_Y4tyUXy7xs)]  
John Shipton [[15:47](https://youtu.be/C4DiPPDXdJo?t=15m47s)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/KnACVdUWo0g)]  
Eva Joly [[22:30](https://youtu.be/C4DiPPDXdJo?t=22m30s)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/KxFBOWhoEnU)]  
Lisa Longstaff [[35:09](https://youtu.be/C4DiPPDXdJo?t=35m09s)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/yD1n8VyCubQ)]  
Nils Meltzer [[45:14](https://youtu.be/C4DiPPDXdJo?t=45m14s)] [[Transcript](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/02/14/read-learn-act-now-niels-melzer-full-speech-at-the-free-the-truth-3-2-2020-a-call-out-to-everyone-of-us-to-protect-society-from-this-abuse-of-power-by-the-state-on-julian-assange-and-anyone-it-p/amp/?__twitter_impression=true)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/MKa4eH9Kgtg)]  
Emmy B (JADC) [[1:09:55](https://youtu.be/C4DiPPDXdJo?t=1h09m55s)]  
Q & A [[1:13:29](https://youtu.be/C4DiPPDXdJo?t=1h13m29s)]

**Tweets**: [EmmyB [Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1224398691039051776)s unthreaded] [Corredor [Tweets](https://twitter.com/Dr_LCorredor/status/1224579904911495168) unthreaded]   
**Coverage**: [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/02/09/3-2-2020-free-the-truth-event-in-support-of-julian-assange-of-wikileaks/)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/analysis/202002041078224983-assanges-treatment-threatens-the-future-of-our-democracies-says-un-torture-expert/)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/05/melz-f05.html)]  
  
Nils Melzer: “"I refuse to be intimidated ... It's a violation of my independence to try to circumvent official proceedings & to undermine my credibility with the UN and my employer. I will certainly NOT back down."

* **3 Feb 2020** **Lightshow** of “support Assange” memes on buildings in Berlin [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/PixelHELPER/status/1224617744529854464)]
* **3 Feb 2020** **Carlos Poveda** contradicts the reported statement from UK Minister Simon McDonald (in Quito - see 28 Jan 2019) that the UK never promised not to extradite Assange to a country that had the death penalty. He refers to statements made by Ecuador’s Chancellor José Valencia (in Oct 2018) and says there was also a supporting letter from the UK..   
   [EN [Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1224776363950866432)] [ES video [PuntasNoticias](https://youtu.be/ou92rn4Cer4)]
* **3 Feb 2020** Italian Senator **Gianni Marilotti** : On the **Italian Parliamentarian Intergroup** for the Monitoring of Julian Assange case [[Article](https://www.assangecampaign.org.au/italian-senator-gianni-marilotti-on-the-italian-parliamentarian-intergroup-for-the-monitoring-of-julian-assange-case/)]
* **3 Feb 2020** ‘Law and Disorder’ with guests **Debbie Hrbek** (lawyer) and **Nathan Fuller** (executive director of Courage Foundation) [[Podcast](https://lawanddisorder.org/2020/02/law-and-disorder-february-3-2020/)]
* **4 Feb 2020** Interview with **Nils Melzer** on the subject of Torture. [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/analysis/202002041078224983-assanges-treatment-threatens-the-future-of-our-democracies-says-un-torture-expert/)]
* **4 Feb 2020** Interview with **Fidel Narváez**, who says Julian is incarcerated under a “draconian regime” in Belmarsh prison. [ES [Alacarta](https://www.ccma.cat/tv3/alacarta/els-matins/fidel-narvaez-el-govern-de-lenin-moreno-va-aillar-assange-per-les-queixes-despanya/video/6028189/) video]
* **4 Feb 2020** at 12 Midday: “***Legal, Systemic and Reputational Implications of the Assange Case***”   
  Was Chatham House - now at Frontline Club. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1223606530634932227)]  
  **Speakers**:   
  Keme Nzerem (Moderator)   
  Sir **Richard Dearlove** (MI5) - absent   
  **James Goodale**  
  **Helena Kennedy** QC  
  **Nils Melzer** Short clip [RealMedia [YouTube](https://youtu.be/4HpV7m-6YRw)] **Peter Oborne**  
  **Claire Smith  
    
  On Site:** [RealMediaGB [Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1225166169826570241) video] [Longer RealMedia [Youtube](https://youtu.be/-Y5P820kjoc) video] **Reporting:** [[MorningStar](https://morningstaronline.co.uk/article/b/all-journalists-risk-if-assange-handed-us-jailers)] [[Newsweek](https://www.newsweek.com/wikileaks-julian-assange-extradition-trial-nils-melzer-frontline-club-london-1486230)]  
    
  “Intervening from the floor, National Union of Journalists president **Tim Dawson** said that we needed to urgently wake up to the “monstrous” case against Mr Assange. “If successful this will place every journalist under fear of it being used against them,” he said, citing advice from the Law Commission to the Theresa May government which recommended legal changes to allow those in receipt of classified information to be prosecuted as well as those who leaked it.”  
    
  “Human rights lawyer **Clive Stafford-Smith** said that governments in Britain and the US increasingly tried to conflate “national security with political embarrassment,” while former New York Times general counsel **James Goodale** warned that the arrest of Glenn Greenwald in Brazil indicated other governments were already using the precedent of Assange’s prosecution to clamp down on critical journalism.  
    
  The debate, which took place under Chatham House Rules, also heard from journalist **Peter Oborne** on his dismay at the willingness of so many journalists to ignore or collude in the prosecution of Mr Assange.  
    
  Former Foreign Office official **Claire Smith** spoke about the need for accountability on the part of organisations such as WikiLeaks.  
    
  It had been due to hear from former MI6 chief Sir **Richard Dearlove**, but he cancelled at late notice.” [[MorningStar](https://morningstaronline.co.uk/article/b/all-journalists-risk-if-assange-handed-us-jailers)]
* **4 Feb 2020** at 7pm “***Press freedom and the case of Julian Assange***” Logan Hall, London [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1215683169896292353)] [[Details](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/press-freedom-and-the-case-of-julian-assange-tickets-89223874009)] [DEA [PressRelease](https://www.twitlonger.com/show/n_1sr4qpt)]   
  **Speakers**:  
  - Highlights:: [ActivismMunich [YouTube](https://youtu.be/AqEz3y4cn0Y)]  
  - [@johnmcdonnellMP](https://twitter.com/johnmcdonnellMP), Labour, Shadow Chancellor [ActivismMunich [YouTube](https://youtu.be/QpWyTCB1FdM)]  
  - [@suigenerisjen](https://twitter.com/suigenerisjen), lawyer for Assange [ActivismMunich [YouTube](https://youtu.be/gfBHcxK5HkQ)] [DE [video](https://youtu.be/kMoP3Q1dN-M)]  
  - [@NilsMelzer](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer), UN torture expert [ActivismMunich [YouTube](https://youtu.be/FQrlJOk2YMo)]  
  - [@khrafnsson](https://twitter.com/khrafnsson), WikiLeaks editor in chief [ActivismMunich [YouTube](https://youtu.be/KeFPSQVqwPI)] [DE [video](https://youtu.be/fgqrXyyovGg)]  
  - [@TariqAli\_News](https://twitter.com/TariqAli_News), historian & journalist [ActivismMunich [YouTube](https://youtu.be/h_KPqLHAGuE)]  
   **Post-event interviews**:  
  - [@NilsMelzer](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer) [ActivismMunich [YouTube](https://youtu.be/f9KRxF9oVxQ)]  
  - John Shipton and Kristinn Hrafnsson [ActivismMunich [YouTube](https://youtu.be/roiyDkNbOkc)]  
  - Richard Burgon MP (includes speech as well) [ActivismMunich [YouTube](https://youtu.be/yhSnZ91VcyU)]  
    
  See John Rees speaking about the importance of this event [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1222443254630752256) video] [  
    
  **On site: [**llulinspector [Tweets](https://twitter.com/lulinspector/status/1224797312800763907) videoclips (unthreaded)] [Passarelli [tweets](https://twitter.com/jlpassarelli/status/1224771044034129920) unthreaded]  
  [Nineham [Tweet](https://twitter.com/ChrisNineham/status/1224796123732365313) videos unthreaded] [Joseph Farrell [tweets](https://twitter.com/SwaziJAF/status/1224790867963260929) unthreaded]   
  Video snippets [[EFPress](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwkNI_rBmiJ7pjDssroVAdQ/videos)] [[Photos](https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipO0vcRuME-_TG2wnN5i67w9ER12HcNauq7hdhT6vTKPrUCR2Pp_p_gaZFF_KhSHYw?key=eDNVRGdNdTUyMzF5SkM0V3prcndKWW1pTEh6aGhB)]  
    
  **Reporting**: On the politics [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/06/deam-f06.html)] On speeches [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/interviews/202002051078234214-uk-us-sweden-ignoring-rule-of-law-in-assange-case-continue-breakdown-in-intl-norms---hrafnsson/)] Background [[Counterfire](https://www.counterfire.org/news/20872-when-exposing-war-crimes-becomes-a-crime-julian-assange)] [[CamdenNewJournal](http://camdennewjournal.com/article/assange-now-a-focus-of-press-freedom)]
* **4 Feb 2020** **Swiss** article outlining the problems in **Sweden’s** treatment of Assange, quoting **Nils Melzer**. [[NZZ](https://www.nzz.ch/international/schwedens-assange-untersuchung-ist-kein-ruhmesblatt-fuer-das-nordische-land-ld.1538242)]
* **4 Feb 2020** **Lauri Love** interview - discusses his suicidal thoughts when facing extradition to the US [[BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-51373430/lauri-love-i-was-suicidal-when-facing-extradition)]
* **5 Feb 2020** The **City** of **Yarra** in Melbourne has just passed a motion of support for Julian Assange, joining Darebin City Council calling on the Australian government to Bring Assange Home. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SomersetBean/status/1225108295414882304)] [Council Agenda [PDF](https://twitter.com/JimMoore1963/status/1225207931773181952)]
* **5 Feb 2020** Senate vote on the impeachment of Donald Trump - acquitted.
* **5 Feb 2020** at 10pm ‘***Eminent Monsters***’ (a documentary abouy state torture playing on the UK ET/PT Documentary channel.  
  See discussion about the film here: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kittyhundal/status/1224372374444945413) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/GB2W7SUr9qo)] and **Nils Melzer** comment above at 25 Jan 2020, and [[AlJazeera](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/06/states-impunity-torture-190625151542565.html) June 2019]
* **6 Feb 2020** **Greg Barns** and Lisanne Adam “***Julian*** ***Assange*** - ***The Long Road to Europe”*** [[Article](https://johnmenadue.com/greg-barns-and-lisanne-adam-julian-assange-the-long-road-to-europe/)]  
    
  “This commentary outlines the breaches of Assange’s human rights in the European Convention of Human Rights (herein after ECHR) and how he can seek effective protection against encroachment of his rights.

Although the UK is in the process of leaving the European Union, its membership of the Council of Europe remains and currently the UK purports to adhere to European Human Rights Law. As a Member State, the UK has committed itself to honouring ECtHR precedent and protect the rights outlined in the ECHR. When considering the proceedings against Assange, there are at least three relevant charter provisions that are at stake. The potential breaches of these human rights provide him sufficient grounds to apply for consideration to the ECtHR.”

* **6 Feb 2020** **John Shipton** and **Joseph Farrell** speak in Brighton UK [[Register](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/free-julian-assange-his-father-john-shiptons-fight-for-justice-tickets-91517321773)]  
  Reporting: [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/02/07/06-02-2020-john-shipton-and-joseph-farrell-speaking-at-brighton-in-support-of-press-freedom-and-julian-assange/)]
* **6 Feb 2020** 10am Event - Appeal for the release of Julian Assange from UK extradition custody, during the **Bundes Press Conference**   
  [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1224605318686048256)] [DE [Link](https://t.co/9jcKsbJORY?amp=1)]  
  **Speakers**: Sigmar Gabriel, Gerhart Baum, Herta Däubler-Gmelin, **Sevim Dagdelen** (Member of the Bundestag), Navid Kermani, writer Günter Wallraff  
    
  **Letter** and **signatories** (currently 2,267). **Sign** [**online**](http://assange-helfen.de/en/).   
  RSF reminder to sign petition 14 Feb [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/cmihr/status/1228368462143160320) video]  
    
  **Reporting**: [PT [Lusa](https://www.lusa.pt/article/meTPcXB1whkb9_38mF5IczMSZM5iuSI1)]
* **6 Feb 2020** **German cross-party appeal** for release of Julian Assange launches in Berlin [Livestream [Ruptly](https://youtu.be/tx3kRvpNZu8?t=543)]  
    
  **German papers** full of Assange articles: [DE [Tweet](https://twitter.com/ReporterOG/status/1225395928431022080)] [DE [ORF](https://orf.at/stories/3153395/)] [DE [ZDF](https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten/heute/wikileaks-gruender-appell-zu-assange-freilassung-100.html#xtor=CS5-21)] [DE [Freitag](https://www.freitag.de/autoren/mladen-gladic/es-ging-nicht-nur-um-assange-es-ging-auch-gegen-frauen)] [DE [DW](https://www.dw.com/de/breiter-appell-f%C3%BCr-freilassung-von-wikileaks-gr%C3%BCnder-assange/a-52274494) ][EN [DW](https://www.dw.com/en/prominent-germans-appeal-for-julian-assanges-release/a-52277571)] [DE [Stern](https://www.stern.de/news/mehr-als-130-prominente-fordern-freilassung-von-julian-assange-9125192.html?utm_campaign=&utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=mweb_sharing)] [DE [Tagesspiegel](https://www.tagesspiegel.de/politik/julian-assange-wie-ein-un-experte-den-wikileaks-gruender-entlastet/25517070.html)] [DE [Taz](https://taz.de/Buendnis-fuer-Meinungs--und-Pressefreiheit/!5658367/)] [DE [Taz](https://taz.de/Pressefreiheit-in-Gefahr/!5658727/) 2] [DE [Zeit](https://www.zeit.de/2020/07/wikileaks-gruender-julian-assange-haftbedingungen-gesundheit-lebensgefahr?wt_zmc=sm.ext.zonaudev.twitter.ref.zeitde.share.link.x)] [DE [NZZ](https://www.nzz.ch/meinung/kolumnen/freiheitskampf-um-julian-assange-ld.1539259?mktcid=smsh&mktcval=Twitter)]  
  [Ruptly [tweet](https://twitter.com/Ruptly/status/1225506949413818368) video] [DE [CourrierInternational](https://www.courrierinternational.com/article/wikileaks-mobilisation-en-allemagne-pour-la-liberation-de-julian-assange)] [[HeuteJournal](https://youtu.be/50zQG6yPY58)]  
    
  EN **FollowUp**: [[ConsortiumNews](https://consortiumnews.com/2020/02/06/ray-mcgovern-german-tv-exposes-the-lies-that-entrapped-julian-assange/) US] [[Standard](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/world/german-politicians-julian-assange-free-from-prison-a4355801.html) UK] [[DissidentVoice](https://dissidentvoice.org/2020/02/german-tv-exposes-the-lies-that-entrapped-julian-assange/)] [EN [DW](https://www.dw.com/en/opinion-i-am-julian-assange/a-52286292) Opinion]  
    
  **Nils Melzer** Interview (in German) [DE [DeutschlandFunk](https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/un-sonderberichterstatter-ueber-julian-assange-da-wird-ein.2907.de.html?dram:article_id=469719)]  
  “And the argument that nobody is above the law, I think, is completely inappropriate here. Or perhaps the other way around: one would have to ask whether the British authorities and the Swedish and American authorities are above the law.  
    
  It should also not be forgotten that WikiLeaks has proven the most serious crimes, including war crimes, with its publications and that no one has been prosecuted to this day - that is, the credibility of the **rule of law** is already very badly affected there. Instead, the person who published this information is now being tracked.”  
    
  More on **Nils Melzer** [[Sueddeutsche](https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/profil-nils-melzer-1.4787127)] [DW [tweet](https://twitter.com/dwnews/status/1225735317531045890) video]
* **6 Feb 2020** **Quentin Lafay**: “*I* *support Assange*” FR [[LeMonde](https://www.lemonde.fr/idees/article/2020/02/06/quentin-lafay-victime-de-wikileaks-je-soutiens-julian-assange_6028632_3232.html)]  
  “A member of Emmanuel Macron's campaign team in 2017, Quentin Lafay saw his emails hacked, then disseminated by the Wikileaks site. In a column in "Le Monde", he considers that if his experience highlights the excesses of transparency, it in no way calls into question the value of the work carried out for years by Julian Assange, whose trial is due to start on February 24.”
* **7 Feb 2020** “***Five countries attacking the press***” Article [[ThePrivacyIssue](https://theprivacyissue.com/privacy-and-society/countries-attack-free-press)]  
  Looks at **Brazil** (Glenn Greenwald), **Saudi Arabia** (recent report), **US** (Chelsea Manning), **UK** (Julian Assange), **NZ** (Suzie Dawson)  
    
  DIscussed with the author here [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/HSUNYg3z4eU)]
* **7 Feb 2020** **Juan Branco** “Julian Assange is not in compromise with the truth" [[SudFed](https://www.sudradio.fr/societe/juan-branco-julian-assange-nest-pas-dans-la-compromission-avec-la-verite/) audio and text]
* 7 Feb 2020 “The government deadline for responding to defence documents will be February 7” [[Modern Ghana](https://www.modernghana.com/news/979219/short-of-time-julian-assange-at-the-westminster.html)]
* **7 Feb 2020** **Remand hearing**   
  (Don’t know what happened to this - cancelled?)
* **7 Feb 2020** **Dr Cornell West, Max Blumenthal, and Ben Wizner** on Live on the Fly [[Website](https://covertactionmagazine.com/index.php/2020/02/07/exclusive-interviews-with-cornel-west-max-blumenthal-and-ben-wizner-on-assange-countdown-to-freedom/)] [[AUDIO](https://covertactionmagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Randy.Credico_02.06%20-%20B.mp3)]
* **7 Feb 2020** David Morales, owner of the Spanish company UCGlobal -, investigated for alleged spying on Julian Assange, during his stay at the embassy of Ecuador in London- will testify at the **Spanish National Court**.  
    
  **Reporting**: [ES [Confirmado](https://confirmado.net/2020/02/07/el-acusado-de-espiar-a-assange-dice-que-ecuador-le-pidio-poner-microfonos-en-la-embajada/)]
* **7 Feb 2020** Julian Assange, **John Pilger** and Wilfred Burchett, three extraordinary Australian journalists discussed [[MintPress](https://www.mintpressnews.com/three-extraordinary-australian-journalists-that-spoke-truth-to-power/264753/#.Xj7Okxx9494.twitter)]  
  “Each of these journalists made unique contributions to our understanding of the world. Although Australia is part of the western world, each of these journalists exposed and criticized Western foreign policy.
* **8 Feb 2020** **Fidel Narváez**, Ecuador's ex-consul in London: "Assange is a political prisoner" [[RTVE](http://www.rtve.es/noticias/20200208/fidel-narvaez-exconsul-ecuador-londres-assange-preso-politico/1999667.shtml)]
* **8 Feb 2020** Report from **E15 Campaign** re solidarity with Free Julian Assange efforts (meeting dated 1 Feb) [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/02/08/solidarity-with-the-struggle-for-julian-assange-report-by-focus-e15-campaign/)]
* **8 Feb 2020** Solidarity action at the Home Office, London. [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/02/17/08-02-2020-solidarity-actions-in-support-of-julian-assange-in-london/)]
* **8 Feb 2020** Meeting in **Montreal**, Canada to support Assange [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/08/asca-f08.html)]  
  “A key first step in this campaign is to break through the wall of silence the Canadian political establishment and media have erected around the persecution of Julian Assange, the founder and publisher of Wikileaks, and Chelsea Manning.”
* **8 Feb 2020** **Yanis Varoufakis** and **Brian Eno** on Intelligence Squared [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/awP2BFm8G1g?t=1h22m24s)]  
  In this segment Brian Eno alludes to a recent phonecall Varoufakis is said to have received from Assange (without date or details) - “Yanis talked to him very recently” - but Varoufakis does not specifically comment on that phonecall, although he does claim that Assange is still in solitary confinement “23 hours a day”.  
    
  Amongst his statements supporting Assange in this clip, Varoufakis goes on to claim [erroneously] that Assange was “supporting Trump” - without providing any evidence for that.
* **9 Feb 2020** in Australia, Dr **Alison Broinowski** (former AU diplomat) speaks out for Assange [[IndependentAustralia](https://independentaustralia.net/life/life-display/assange-collaery-snowden-smethurst-criminalising-truth,13573#.Xj7OY5i3IOY.twitter)]
* **9 Feb 2020** 2-5pm Los Angeles “***The Prosecution of Julian Assange & the Threat to the Freedom of the Press***” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1218270768448053248)] [[Register](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-prosecution-of-julian-assange-the-threat-to-the-freedom-of-the-press-tickets-89484441373) (free)]  
  **Speakers**: Alveena Shah, Barry Pollack (Julian Assange’s US attorney), Marjorie Cohn, Carey Shenkman, Jim Lafferty, Stephen Rohde, Sharon Kyle  
    
  **Presentation**: [[Website](https://www.laprogressive.com/julian-assange-defense/)] [[Event materials](https://defend.wikileaks.org/event-materials/)] [[Videoclips](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gA6xDPwXLOSJBwzLBTTyPMR-ZH--3nID1zKP80ziATc/edit) used] [Video ??]
* **9 Feb 2020** Interview re Assange situation published in **Brazil** [BR [DCM](https://www.diariodocentrodomundo.com.br/exclusivo-julian-assange-e-submetido-a-tortura-psicologica-na-prisao-em-londres-denuncia-comite/)]
* 10 Feb 2020 **Nozomi Hayase** public lecture *“****The Prosecution of Julian Assange: The War on Journalism***” Sonoma State University, CA [[Event details](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-prosecution-of-julian-assange-the-war-on-journalism-tickets-92158720213)]   
  [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/4c-HaPI1kUU) full lecture]  
    
  **Reporting**:
* **10 Feb 2020** **Chris Hedges** writes “***What is happening to Assange will happen to the rest of us***” [[TruthDig](https://www.truthdig.com/articles/what-is-happening-to-assange-will-happen-to-the-rest-of-us/)]
* **10 Feb 2020** **George Christenson** and **Andrew Wilkie** (both Australian MPs) to travel to UK to visit Assange. Wilkie tables petition in parliament.: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Plucille54/status/1226871264607981568) video]

“Julian Assange is an Australian citizen & should be allowed to return home to Australia. Myself & Andrew Wilkie MP will travel..to visit Mr Assange..to assess his condition first-hand after concerning reports about his health & treatment w/in Belmarsh Prison." [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Plucille54/status/1226868898596818946) from FB video]  
  
See also AustraliansForAssange meeting with the MPs [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Aus4Assange/status/1227224097005826048)]  
  
**Follow Up**: [SkyNews [article and video](https://www.skynews.com.au/details/_6131991553001) 12 Feb]

* **10 Feb 2020** Assange wins **Gary Webb Freedom of the Press Award** - “for courage in the face of an unprecedented attack on press freedom.” [[ConsortiumNews](https://consortiumnews.com/2020/02/10/julian-assange-wins-2020-gary-webb-freedom-of-the-press-award/)]  
    
  “The award is named after journalist Gary Webb whose life was cut short after the mainstream press vilified him for accurate reports about a CIA operation that flooded urban areas of the U.S. with cocaine from Nicaragua.Journalist and filmmaker   
    
  John Pilger, a member of the ***Consortium News*** board, said: “Having been close to Julian Assange through much of his struggle against corrupt power, I had no hesitation in voting for him for the Gary Webb prize. While Gary was a tragedy at the end, Julian must be a triumph.”
* **10 Feb 2020** Latest report on **Spanish National Court** case [ES [El Pais](https://elpais.com/internacional/2020/02/10/actualidad/1581338537_252896.html?ssm=TW_CC)] [EN [ElPais](https://english.elpais.com/international/2020-02-11/spaniard-at-center-of-julian-assange-spying-accusations-claims-espionage-was-ordered-by-now-deceased-ecuadorian-ambassador.html)]  
    
  **David Morales** , owner of the Spanish security company that spied on Julian Assange at the Embassy of Ecuador in London, has declared before Judge José de la Mata that the recently deceased Ecuadorian ambassador **Carlos Abad** asked him to record the cyber-activist's conversations during his stay in the diplomatic legation. The ex-military and director of the UC Global SL gave a statement last Friday in the Court of the National Court that instructs the case and, despite the numerous evidence revealed by El Pais and accumulated in the judicial investigation, denied that the espionage had finally carried out.”
* **11 Feb 202**0 **Peter Whish-Wilson**, Australian (Green) Senator, makes statement in parliament in support of Assange. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SenatorSurfer/status/1227425696894443521)]  
    
  And later (12 Feb) in support of Jeremy Corbyn’s remarks [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SenatorSurfer/status/1227755964486414336)]
* **12 Feb 2020** **Jeremy Corbyn** asks the UK PM, in parliament:   
  [ITV [Tweet](https://twitter.com/itvnews/status/1227568399007539200) video] [RT [Tweet](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1227579248849903616) subtitled video]  
    
  'Will the PM agree with the parliamentary report that is going to the Council of Europe that this extradition should be opposed and the rights of journalists and whistleblowers upheld?”  
    
  The PM states that he will not comment on any individual case, BUT “'It is obvious that the rights of journalists and whistleblowers should be upheld - and this government will clearly continue to do that.”  
    
  The PM also agrees that there are “areas of that relationship which are unbalanced” in the US/UK extradition treaty. [ITV [tweet](https://twitter.com/itvnews/status/1227567247167807490) video]  
    
  **Reporting**: [[IndependentUK](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/jeremy-corbyn-julian-assange-extradition-us-wikileaks-war-crimes-a9331376.html)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/13/assa-f13.html)]
* **12 Feb 2020** NY Courage Foundation “***Assange & Press Freedom***” event, with **James Goodale** (former NYT General Counsel) speaking [[Announcement](https://youtu.be/nVreEcH2Ab0?t=9m35s)]  
  Video ????  
  Reporting ????
* **12 Feb 2020** German TV report “***Enemy*** ***of the State or Victim of Justice***?”   
  [DE [AuslandJournal](https://youtu.be/-Y2Zw3kLvBM) video]
* **12 Feb 2020** UK official “Press Freedom” event at Chatham House - Assange supporters demonstrate outside [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/02/15/press-freedom-debate-at-chatham-house-london-but-what-about-wikileaks-publisher-julian-assange/)]
* **13 Feb 2020** The French firm of [Dupond-Morretti & Vey](https://www.dupondmoretti.com/) have joined the international team of lawyers who will be representing Assange in tte upcoming extradition trial. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/antoinevey/status/1227973329711136769)]

**Reporting**: [[LeParisien](http://www.leparisien.fr/amp/faits-divers/eric-dupond-moretti-futur-avocat-de-julian-assange-13-02-2020-8259198.php?__twitter_impression=true)] [[Europe1](https://www.europe1.fr/international/eric-dupond-moretti-va-defendre-julian-assange-3949355)]

* **13 Feb 2020** BBCScot The Nine interviews **Nls Melzer** about the nature of torture for coming documentary about Dr Ewan Cameron. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/BBCScotNine/status/1228072630885998593) video]
* **13 Feb 2020** MediaLens analyse the persecution of Assange via commentary by **Nils Melzer -** *“****Burned******at* the *stake****”* [[Article](https://www.medialens.org/2020/burned-at-the-stake-the-un-special-rapporteur-on-torture-demolishes-the-fake-claims-targeting-julian-assange/)]
* **13 Feb 2020** **Phillip Adams** interviews **John Pilger** from Australia:[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/RadioNational/status/1228117558257045504) video] [ABC Radio [Webpage](https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/latenightlive/julian-assange-is-us/11962126)]  
    
  In this clip Phillip Adams also refers (at 0:25) to an email he received from **Yanis Varoufakis** which allegedly described a 30min phonecall from Assange to Varoufakis a few days previously in which Assange is said to have stated that - despite being moved to the new wing - he is still only allowed out of his cell for just “one hour a day.” This reiterates what Adams said in his **10 Feb** [tweet](https://twitter.com/PhillipAdams_1/status/1227010414090670082). So far Varoufakis doesn’t seem to have put out any first hand report on this phonecall, confirming when it happened or any details, although it is alluded to in his comments recorded on 8 Feb 2020 (see above).
* **14 Feb 2020** Interview with **Stefania Maurizi** [ES [ElConfidencial](https://www.elconfidencial.com/mundo/europa/2020-02-14/entrevista-stefania-maurizi_2436116/)]

“A: From 2017, shortly after the **change of the video surveillance cameras in the embassy** and its replacement by others that incorporate audio. It is true that these cameras looked, what we did not know is that they also listened to us, and that they were recording us. Also discovering that my phones were disassembled has been a cushion. To this day I don't know if they managed to access the information I had stored on my devices. I don't know if they were able to break the encryption. It's something that worries me a lot. **I tried my best to protect my sources** , but I don't know if I succeeded.  
  
**Q: Don't you know what happened with that data?**

A: Exactly. And this is one of the reasons why I hope we can soon **know the truth about the espionage of UC Global** . I would like to know what they had access to and what they were looking for. I want to underline that, to access the embassy, ​​[UC Global staff] asked us for our data and belongings, **guaranteeing** that **nothing was going to** be touched.” [...]

“A: I give an example. One of the main **journalists of The Washington Post has also been spied on** . She is [**Ellen Nakashima**](https://twitter.com/nakashimae) , a reporter specializing in national security, and so, as far as I know, she has not published a line on the alleged espionage of UC Global. Why? Why the British newspaper The Guardian, which is in London, has not given space to the case? These are questions that I ask myself. Repubblica [the newspaper where Maurizi now writes] has done it, other newspapers too, but we are a minority.”

* **14 Feb 2020** **Reporters Without Borders** (**RSF**) tweeting in support of Assange [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/RSF_inter/status/1228347013995081728)]
* **14 Feb 2020** **Vivienne Westwood** opens her VWAW2021 Fashion Show with items related to Julian Assange - using as a template the cloak worn by Pamela Anderson when she first visited Julian at Belmarsh prison. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1228437581462896641)]
* **14 Feb 2020** **Nils Meltzer** interviewed [DE [Beobachter](https://www.beobachter.ch/gesetze-recht/interview-mit-nils-melzer-julian-assange-zeigt-typische-foltersymptome) article and video]
* **14 Feb 2020**: **Glen Ford, Renata Avila, Howie Hawkins, Max Blumenthal** “***Countdown to Freedom*** (Ep 7)” [[Podcast](https://covertactionmagazine.com/index.php/2020/02/14/interviews-with-assange-legal-advisor-renata-avila-journalists-glen-ford-max-blumenthal-and-more-in-new-assange-countdown-to-freedom/)] [[Transcript](https://wiseupaction.info/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Transcript-of-Credico-show-14022020.pdf)]
* **14 Feb 2020** **Bill Binney**, 32 year National Security Agency (NSA) expert, has made a sworn declaration that Wiki-leaks did not receive stolen data from the Russian government. [[NationalFile](https://nationalfile.com/nsa-whistleblower-binney-says-there-was-no-russian-hack-as-stone-prosecution-claims/)]  
    
  “Intrinsic metadata shows that the data in question was put on a thumb drive and physically taken from the DNC.”
* **15 Feb 2020** The **Joshua Schulte** (Vault 7) trial continues. [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/15/schu-f15.html)]  
    
  “The proceedings provide a glimpse into the kind of kangaroo court that Julian Assange will face if he is extradited from Britain to the US to face trumped-up Espionage Act charges over separate 2010 and 2011 WikiLeaks publications. If Schulte is convicted, it may also aid the attempts of the US Department of Justice to concoct further charges against Assange, on the grounds that he violated US “national security.”

“The corporate media is seeking to suppress any public discussion of the Schulte trial. The handful of reports in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post* and other prominent publications have said virtually nothing about the assault on whistleblowers revealed in Schulte’s treatment, or the content of the material he is alleged to have leaked. It is as if Edward Snowden, the whistleblower who came to international prominence by exposing US National Security Agency surveillance operations, were on trial in New York and the media did not bother to show up.”

* **15 Feb 2020** Julian Assange “**Show** **Trial**” Portobello Rd, London. [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/02/16/saturday-15th-february-2020-julian-assange-show-trial-portobello-parade/)]  
  “Julian Assange Show Trial Portobello Parade started at Ladbroke Grove station with leafleting and discussion, then under the Westway to Portobello Road.   
    
  Led by Chief Magistrate Arbuthnot with her Hammer of Injustice, followed by the Accused masked, Gitmo jumpsuited, chained, their slow shuffle causing public shock in West London’s premiere market.”
* **15 Feb 2020** 2pm CUNY Law, NYC “***Prosecution of Julian Assange: His Right to* *Publish is Our Right to Know***” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Plucille54/status/1222305381822672902)] [[Register](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/prosecution-of-julian-assange-his-right-to-publish-is-our-right-to-know-tickets-91717356081) (free)] [[Livestream](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw)]  
  Speakers:  
  - Daniel Ellsberg [ [6:08](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw?t=6n08s)] Pre-recorded  
  - Jennifer Robinson [ [8:23](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw?t=765)] Pre-recorded  
  - Margaret Kunstler [[10:05](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw?t=10m05s)] Intro re “In Defense of Julian Assange”  
  - Anya Parampil (Moderator) [[11:50](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw?t=11m50s)]  
  - Jim Goodale [[12:45](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw?t=12m45s)]  
  - Daniel Ellsberg & Noam Ckomsky [[22:58](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw?t=22m58s)] Pre-recorded  
  - Renata Avila [[28:20](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw?t=28m:20s)]  
  ,- Glen Ford, [[40:32](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw?t=40m32s)]  
  - Alice Walker [[52:37](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw?t=52m37s)] By Phone  
  - Max Blumenthal [[58:35](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw?t=58m35s)]  
  - Noam Chomsky [[1:14:41](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw?t=1h12m41s)] Pre-recorded  
  - Q & A [[1:19:11](https://youtu.be/r3J6i6Zk-Bw?t=1h19m11s)]  
    
  **Reporting**: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/18/wnyc-f18.html)]   
    
  NOTE: Ironically, WSWS - who were prevented from speaking at the meeting (due to “time constraints”) - were the first to give a substantial report on the meeting (to my knowledge).
* **16 Feb 2020** **Letter** (dated 28 Jan 2029) received/published from **Buckingham Palace** in response to a suggestion that she invoke “the Royal Prerogative” [ie a Royal Pardon] on behalf of Assange. A copy of the petition was sent with the letter to the Palace.:

Content of the original letter: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kungfu_mandarin/status/1229038902452813831)]  
Response from Palace: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kungfu_mandarin/status/1228994305030643714)]   
Public Petition: [[Petition](https://secure.avaaz.org/en/community_petitions/The_Queen_of_England_and_the_UK_Parliament_Release_Julian_Assange_from_Belmarsh_Immediately/?oPFuepb&utm_source=sharetools&utm_medium=twitter&utm_campaign=petition-804574-Release_Julian_Assange_from_Belmarsh_Immediately&utm_term=PFuepb%2Ben)]  
  
From Buckingham Palace:  
“I have been asked to write in response to your letter to the Queen from which careful note has been taken of your comments regarding Mr Julian Assange.

I must tell you, however. That as a constitutional Sovereign, Her Majesty acts on the advice of her Ministers and **remains strictly non-political** at all times. This is, therefore, not a matter in which the Queen would intervene.” [emphasis added]  
  
**Reporting**: [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/480974-queen-elizabeth-julian-assange/)]

* **16 Feb 2020** **Nils Melzer** at “***Eminent*** ***Monsters***”:  
  "By not speaking up we align ourselves with the human rights abusers and criminals in our military and governments. As a consequence we persecute the very people who take their lives in their hands to expose them." [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/EminentMonsters/status/1229080592236601344)]  
  See also earlier [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/BBCScotNine/status/1228072630885998593)]  
    
  **Reporting**” [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/20/mons-f20.html)] FollowUp [[The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/law/2020/feb/21/un-rapporteur-warns-of-rise-of-cybertorture-to-bypass-physical-ban?CMP=share_btn_tw)]
* **16 Feb 2020** **Geoffrey Robertson** QC announces Australian speaking tour  
   “***It’s No Longer Hypothetical***” from 19-28 May 2020 [[Agenda](https://www.miragenews.com/geoffrey-robertson-qc-announces-australian-tour/)]  
  “Geoffrey Robertson will take to the stage in an evening of thought and analysis as he discusses some of the of the big issues of our time. He will discuss   
  - Brexit and Trump in a post-truth era and   
  - calls for Australia’s constitutional regeneration after the bushfires. He will explain   
  - what is really happening to the royal family and to **Julian Assange**,   
  - how fake news distorts democracy and   
  - why the rich will inherit the earth.  
    
  The tour coincides with the start [18 May] of the second part of the Assange extradition trial.
* **16 Feb 2020** **Nozomi Hayase** *“Assange’s Extradition Case: Critical Moment for the Anti-War Movement*” [[CommonDreams](https://www.commondreams.org/views/2020/02/16/assanges-extradition-case-critical-moment-anti-war-movement?utm_campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=twitter)]
* **16 Feb 2020** The **German media** blast continues: with a focus on the petition to free Julian DE [[ReporterAG](https://twitter.com/ReporterOG/status/1229027209320521728): tweet] [DE [Petition](https://www.reporter-ohne-grenzen.de/mitmachen/petitionen-protestmails/julian-assange-nicht-an-die-usa-ausliefern/)]  
  Also [DE [Kulturzeit](https://youtu.be/DgVV3gkgY4I) video - Nils Melzer] [DE [Heute](https://youtu.be/kha_5G70pi0) video - Nil Melzer] [DE [Taz](https://taz.de/Wikileaks-und-Pressefreiheit/!5661171/)]  
    
  **Commentary**: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/19/germ-f19.html)]
* **16 Feb 2020** The **Australian MPs** (Andrew Wilkie and George Christensen) arrive in London and meet up with **Nils** Melzer. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/WilkieMP/status/1229201589652447233)].  
    
  **Reporting**: [[EveningStandard](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/londoners-diary/the-londoner-aussie-mps-fly-in-for-assange-a4363831.html)] [[MSN](https://www.msn.com/en-au/news/world/doctors-call-for-end-of-assange-torture/ar-BB106b9w?ocid=st2) with SkyNews video]
* **16 Feb 2020** Ongoing **Swiss petition** for the Swiss government to offer asylum for Julian Assange [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/freeassange_ch/status/1229341259329921026)] [[Petition](https://www.asylassange.ch/)]
* **16 Feb 2020** [ES] Interview with **Fidel Narváez** [[DiarioContexto](https://www.diariocontexto.com.ar/2020/02/16/fidel-narvaez-assange-es-perseguido-por-haber-publicado-crimenes-de-guerra-espionaje-e-invasion-a-la-privacidad-hechos-por-los-estados-unidos/)]
* **17 Feb 2020** **Afshin Rattansi** trolls Special UK Envoy **Amal Clooney** for her statement on Press Freedom (reported by the Guardian): [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/afshinrattansi/status/1229339737690968065)]  
    
  **Clooney**: “UK should be more innovative in defending press freedom.”  
  **Rattansi**: “Like releasing from detention the most famous journalist/publisher in the world - Julian Assange of Wikileaks  
    
  Further **commentary** on this theme: [[C21stWire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/02/17/media-freedom-campaign-pushes-magnitsky-sanctions-while-ignoring-the-persecution-of-julian-assange/)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/481019-assange-guardian-press-freedom/)] [[RT](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1229819652525756421) with Neil Clark]
* **17 Feb 2020** **WSWS** accuse **Australian MSM** of a media blackout on Assange on the eve of the extradition trial - listing all the key events in the last few weeks that have NOT been covered in the AU media [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/17/auas-f17.html)]  
    
  “It is unconscionable that what can only be described as an almost total media blackout is taking place on the Assange case on the eve of the extradition hearings. Developments that are inherently in the public interest are being flagrantly censored.

The Australian media is a particularly graphic example of this censorship, as Assange is an Australian citizen, a member of the Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance, and, in 2011, WikiLeaks was bestowed the profession’s Walkley Award for “Most Outstanding Contribution to Journalism.”

Listed below are just some of the developments over the last several weeks that have not been reported in any serious fashion—let alone made the subject of probing commentary and investigation—by the print, radio and television media in Australia, including both corporate-owned media and the state-owned Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and Special Broadcasting Service (SBS).

* **17 Feb 2020** Statement on Australian secrecy laws from **David Anderson**, **ABC** Managing Director [[Statement](https://about.abc.net.au/statements/statement-on-federal-court-ruling-from-david-anderson-abc-managing-director/)]   
    
  “This ruling highlights the serious problem with Australia’s secrecy laws. Australia has by far the most onerous secrecy laws of any comparable western democracy – the UK, US, Canada, New Zealand.”
* **17 Feb 2020** A reminder of the courage of **Chelsea Manning** [[RedFlag](https://redflag.org.au/node/7023?__cf_chl_jschl_tk__=8e09dbbfa67821d6d416b449b1f0e96a38c5dcc6-1581958436-0-AT4JF5GSxhf85dhIZV60PMcu-X1Ap54__E4ADDXRNoflMoGRYpVGhWV3IvCqGAd1E2CAwRWSQLTr_biLn-wL_u1pjut11aQw1SQ1sgFcUOJJNrCKobL-h5hlZD_p7MMxNVg53DnHawTVN5GHHthnvd6MkU0BPRYt0zMmRYWGhgexW3N6oPZJUrYshCu4e-gKY5lOHf85IrSfyEWiys_PnguHU1SHztHVQ_5PkmZsIWRaQmDXpE71bQiM9nhMXdaKNbXYIh4PpnUIgI38GQhlK7-V3Qu8HSwF2ukmHh3aO2OE)]

“... of any individual in the West, Chelsea Manning has done the most to fight against all of the torture, all of the murders, all of the lies of the occupation. She found a crack in the armour of the US military: her own humanity. She pushed it open until it was wide enough that the world could see into the realities of the war, and she fuelled opposition to militarism by millions.

Chelsea Manning’s imprisonment serves as a reminder of the lengths to which capitalist states will go to commit murder and keep it out of the public eye, to punish anyone who exposes or fights it. But her heroic ongoing refusal to testify serves as a lesson. The history of war is also the history of heroic resistance to war.”

* **17 Feb 2020** **Andrew Wilkie** (Australian MP) meets with **Jeremy Corbyn** and speaks about Assange [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1229419745394528258)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/WilkieMP/status/1229539912015237121)]  
    
  **Reporting**: [[ABC](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-02-18/julian-assange-and-us-extradition-deal-view-changing-in-uk/11974080)]
* **17 Feb 2020** **WikiLeaks** locked out of their **Twitter** account. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/khrafnsson/status/1229454629940998144)].   
   **Account restored** late at night. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1229584668154114048)]  
    
  **Reporting**: [[GatewayPundit](https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2020/02/wikileaks-locked-out-of-twitter-account-one-week-before-julian-assanges-extradition-hearing-begins/)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/481049-wikileaks-locked-twitter-extradition-assange/)]
* **17 Feb 2020** **ABC (Aus)** step up with a decent report of recent happenings. [[ABC](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-02-18/julian-assange-and-us-extradition-deal-view-changing-in-uk/11974080)]
* **17 Feb 202**0 **Doctors For Assange report** published in [[TheLancet](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)30383-4/fulltext)]  
    
  **Reporting**: [[7News](https://7news.com.au/news/crime/doctors-call-for-end-of-assange-torture-c-703123)] [DE [SRF](https://www.srf.ch/news/international/sorge-um-assange-aerzte-fordern-ende-der-psychologischen-folter)] [DE [Stern](https://www.stern.de/politik/deutschland/julian-assange--aerzte-und-psychologen-werfen-briten-folter-vor-9143284.html)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/18/lanc-f18.html)] [[NewMatilda](https://newmatilda.com/2020/02/18/on-the-eve-of-julian-assanges-extradition-hearing-doctors-renew-calls-for-his-freedom/?utm_campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=twitter&utm_source=socialnetwork)] [[TheAustralian](https://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/latest-news/doctors-call-for-end-of-assange-torture/news-story/f0fb0e20cef8204738e48a49dde0d750)] [DE [Zeit](https://www.zeit.de/politik/ausland/2020-02/juilan-assange-wikileaks-gruender-haft-psychologen-aerzte?wt_zmc=sm.ext.zonaudev.twitter.ref.zeitde.share.link.x)] [[9News](https://www.9news.com.au/national/julian-assange-us-extradition-hearing-uk-doctors-allege-torture-wikileaks-news/487039ca-9fc7-42bd-93f4-feed67d4c699)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/481096-doctors-worry-assange-condition/)] [[MorningStarOnline](https://morningstaronline.co.uk/article/b/more-doctors-join-call-end-assanges-torture)] [[UK Standard](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/world/doctors-call-for-end-to-psychological-torture-of-julian-assange-a4364351.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1582004941)]  
    
  Comment: **George Galloway** on [RT]
* **17 Feb 2020** **John Pilger** writes, as trial about to commence, “***Julian Assange Must Be Freed, Not Betrayed***” [[ConsortiumNews](https://consortiumnews.com/2020/02/17/john-pilger-julian-assange-must-be-freed-not-betrayed/)]
* **17 Feb 2020 Mary Kostakidis** tweets video of (sadly, now dead) **Aaron Swartz** (“[The Internet’s Own Boy](https://youtu.be/9vz06QO3UkQ)”) speaking about Julian Assange: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MaryKostakidis/status/1229529274220040192)]
* **18 Feb 2020** (am) **Press conference** with **Andrew Wilkie** & **George Christensen** (**Australian MPs in UK** to see Assange), **Jennifer Robinson**, **Kristinn Hrafnsson**  
    
  **Livestream**: [Wikileaks [Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1229726767256100864) video] [[pscp](https://www.pscp.tv/w/1MYGNkaYogwJw?t=2m14s)] [CN News [YouTube](https://youtu.be/FIGkd_qR_a8)]  
    
  **On site**: [Solmaz [Tweets](https://twitter.com/MhmtSlmz/status/1229711601734955008)] [Crump [Tweets](https://twitter.com/IskaralCrump/status/1229722179555774465)] [Rees [Tweet](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1229766749769359360)] [FPA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/FPALondon/status/1229820721565663233) photos]  
  **Interviews**: **George Christensen** [[CN News](https://twitter.com/Consortiumnews/status/1229782366996004871)]  
    
  **Stefania Maurizi**: “Just look at this overcrowded press conference in London and imagine if the media had done any serious journalism on the Julian Assange case: if so, Julian Assange would have never ever gone through the suffering he has in the last 10 years.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1229766749769359360)]  
    
  **NOTE**: During this session Andrew Wilkie voiced the concern (31:15) that, should Julian defeat the extradition request in court, the UK might then deport him to Australia, which has a “much looser” extradition agreement with the US - ie Australia could extradite Assange to the US on ‘political’ grounds (while the UK cannot). Wilkie accidently uses the term ‘deport’ in that context when he clearly means ‘extradite’.  
    
  **Wilkie**: “And that’s why it’s so important for the Australian government to come out and express its support for its citizen.”  
    
  **See also** quotes recorded under “Access to lawyers”” and “Reports from Visitors” sections of this document  
    
  **Reporting:**  [[News](https://www.news.com.au/world/breaking-news/doctors-call-for-end-of-assange-torture/news-story/f0fb0e20cef8204738e48a49dde0d750#.jhjkp) au] [[TheGuardian](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2020/feb/18/julian-assange-australian-mps-uk-boris-johnson-block-us-extradition)] [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/world/europe/our-ratbag-julian-assange-suffers-from-psychological-torture-say-two-australian-mps-20200218-p5423b.html)] [[ComputerWeekly](https://www.computerweekly.com/news/252478786/US-breached-due-process-in-spying-operation-against-Assanges-lawyers)] [[Globe and Mail](https://www.theglobeandmail.com/world/article-assanges-father-pleads-with-britain-to-halt-extradition-to-us-of/?utm_medium=Referrer:+Social+Network+/+Media&utm_campaign=Shared+Web+Article+Links)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/19/assa-f19.html)] [[Independent UK](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/julian-assange-australia-george-christensen-extradition-a9342461.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1582052612)]
* **18 Feb 2020** **Visit** of **Australian MPs** to Julian at **Belmarsh** (postponed from previously announced date) [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/02/15/committee-to-defend-julian-assange-newsletter-10-upcoming-actions-in-support-of-julian-assange/)]  
  - Solidarity **protest** outside the prison. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1229164177329131523)]  
  - **Press conference 4pm** outside Belmarsh. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Unity4J/status/1229778262290812932)]  
    
  - Comment from **Andrew Wilkie**:MP [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/WilkieMP/status/1229899313783832576) photo of press conference]   
   [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/WilkieMP/status/1229890620333772800) comment] [[Crikey](https://www.crikey.com.au/2020/02/19/my-prison-visit-with-julian-assange-by-andrew-wilkie/) article]  
  - Comment from **George Christenson** [RT [Tweet](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1230104378473951232) video]  
  - From both [RT [Tweet](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1230104378473951232) video] in context  
    
  **On site:** [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/B3brZWiA5fM) video] [LewisMedia [Tweet](https://twitter.com/benlewismedia/status/1229780554691883008) photos] [M.A.E. [Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1229843495273324544) video]   
  [M.A.E. [Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1229886905510223872) video] [HughWhitfield [Tweet](https://twitter.com/hughwhitfeld/status/1229811686225391617)]  
    
  **Follow Up**: [7News [Tweet](https://twitter.com/7NewsAustralia/status/1229857482912092160)  video] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002181078343519-australian-mps-blast-treatment-of-julian-assange-as-a-threat-to-democracy/)] [TheTodayShow [Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1229847876517474308) video]  
  [[Crikey](https://www.crikey.com.au/2020/02/19/my-prison-visit-with-julian-assange-by-andrew-wilkie/) article] [[RT](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1230104378473951232) video] [[SBS](https://www.sbs.com.au/news/leave-our-bloke-alone-australian-mps-call-for-government-to-support-julian-assange)] [[9News](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1230224180794286081)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/19/belm-f19.html)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/481242-australian-mp-assange-journalism-crime/) article]
* 18 Feb 2020 **John Shipton** interview with BBC [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/VictoriaLIVE/status/1229877498449661957) video] [[Website](https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-51530280/julian-assange-father-fears-worried-son-s-extradition)]
* **18 Feb 2020** Public screenings of ***‘Eminent Monsters - A Manual For Modern Torture’*** begin to coincide with the publication of **Nils Melzer’s** Report to the UN on Psychological Torture.[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1221202721308540928)] [[Tickets](https://reprieve.org.uk/update/eminent-monsters/?utm_content=buffera5448&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer) UK]
* **18 Feb 2020** **DIEM25** begins big publicity campaign - Julian is a member of their advisory panel. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DiEM_25/status/1229752187267506178)] [[Website](https://diem25.org/diem25-demands-no-extradition-of-julian-assange-to-the-united-states/)]
* **18 Feb 2020** **NSW** (Australia) **Council for Civil Liberties** comes out in support of Julian [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1230054275608432640)]
* **18 Feb 2020** **Amnesty** Australia finally come out with a carefully worded statement and peotion. [[Website](https://action.amnesty.org.au/act-now/usa-drop-charges-against-julian-assange?srctid=1&erid=30531700&efndnum=000054456114&trid=d48616c8-eb8c-4a52-8f85-7b7d10019229&fbclid=IwAR3Lx4FVBVK2XPX1IsGJK4QR8EWCZosnkHnwAN5lanPC9mvFHUQ-sDdm1W0)]
* **18 Feb 2020** **Light Campaign** began, starting with Belmarsh prison walls and Houses of Parliament. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1230074657467961349) video] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1230031090913566721) photos]  
    
  **Reporting**: [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/481270-assange-projection-protest-parliament/)]
* **18 Feb 2020** **Craig Murray** points out the appalling dishonesty of the US spin put on Roger Stone’s conviction, and the part The Guardian played in that. [[Blog](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2020/02/seeing-through-the-lies-us-edition/)]  
  “The Guardian has, in a feat of some skill, contrived to give its readers the impression that Stone has been convicted for Trump/Wikileaks links, when that is in fact the precise opposite of the truth.

Stone has been convicted for fabricating the existence of Trump/Wikileaks links, of which there were none.”

* **18 Feb 2020** **James Goodale** writes “***The Dumb Waiter Defense***”   
  [[Columbia Journalism Review](https://www.cjr.org/opinion/greenwald-intercept-assange-manning-wikileaks.php)]  
  NOTE: Goodale referred to this coming article at the CUNY event (15 Feb 2020).  
    
  “Recently, the Justice Department has moved to fill the hole left open by *Bartnicki*—that is, how much journalists *can* do to pursue a leak. The assertion is essentially that a journalist can never actively seek the release of classified documents.   
  This is what the Assange and Greenwald cases are really about.”
* **18 Feb 2020** **Stefania Maurizi** confirms that aspiring leader of the UK Labour party **Keir Starmer** WAS the head of the Crown Prosecution Service (**CPS**) at the time of key correspondence in the Swedish phase [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1229780054701461504)]:  
  “I have been asked this question for months: YES, I DO CONFIRM that the head of the [@cpsuk](https://twitter.com/cpsuk) during the most crucial phase of the Julian Assange case was [KeirStarmer](https://twitter.com/hashtag/KeirStarmer?src=hashtag_click), it was his [#CPS](https://twitter.com/hashtag/CPS?src=hashtag_click) that advised the Swedish prosecutors NOT to question Julian Assange in London”
* **19 Feb 2020** **Case Management hearing** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1220496711396855808)]   
  For those attending: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1229166408564662272)] Scheduled for **3pm** GMT [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1230076127139504130)]  
  Julian will appear by videolink.  
    
  **On site**: [BenLewis [THREAD](https://twitter.com/benlewismedia/status/1230172453185429505)]  
  “Julian Assange court appearance today- His lawyer mentioned a statement, that alleges former US Congressman Dana Rohrabacher visited Assange, saying he was there on behalf of the President, offering a pardon if JA would say Russia had nothing to do with DNC leaks.”  
    
  “District Judge Vanessa Baraitser said the evidence is admissible. That's not a ruling on its accuracy, just that Mr Assange's lawyers can submit it as part of their case.”  
    
  “Mr Assange's lawyer who mentioned the statement in court was Edward Fitzgerald QC. The statement itself is by Jennifer Robinson, Mr Assange's long time legal counsel.”  
    
  **NOTE** This is NOT an allegation that Trump MADE an offer - rather it is (possibly) an allegation that Dana Rohrabacher SAID that he was there on behalf of Trump (to make an offer).  
    
  **Reporting**: [SkyNews [Tweet](https://twitter.com/SkyNews/status/1230209780003885058) video] [[SkyNews](https://news.sky.com/story/trump-offered-assange-pardon-if-he-said-russia-not-involved-in-leaked-emails-court-hears-11938058) article] [[9 News](https://www.9news.com.au/world/wikileaks-founderjulian-assange-offered-pardon-by-donald-trump/4200c2a3-7ffa-43f5-b944-bcdf9da0189c)] [[CNBC](https://www.cnbc.com/2020/02/19/trump-offered-julian-assange-pardon-for-covering-up-russian-hacking.html)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002191078353723-donald-trump-offered-pardon-to-wkileaks-founder-julian-assange-uk-court-told/) 1] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002201078359630-wikileaks-confirms-an-offer-was-made-to-julian-assange-prior-to-his-indictment/) 2] [[LeParisien](http://www.leparisien.fr/international/wikileaks-trump-aurait-propose-de-gracier-assange-s-il-disculpait-la-russie-dans-les-fuites-sur-hillary-clinton-19-02-2020-8263263.php?utm_campaign=twitter_partage&utm_medium=social)] [[DailyBeast](https://www.thedailybeast.com/trump-offered-assange-pardon-if-he-covered-up-russian-hack-court-hears)] [[Daily Mail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8022947/Julian-Assange-offered-pardon-deal-not-Donald-Trump-says-former-Republican-congressman.html)] DE [Zeit](https://www.zeit.de/politik/ausland/2020-02/julian-assange-usa-donald-trump-begnadigung-russland)] [[YahooNews](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/n7jd8k/yes-dana-rohrabacher-dangled-a-pardon-in-front-of-julian-assange-just-ask-dana?utm_campaign=sharebutton)] [[Vice](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/n7jd8k/yes-dana-rohrabacher-dangled-a-pardon-in-front-of-julian-assange-just-ask-dana?utm_campaign=sharebutton)] [[UK Independent](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-election/trump-julian-assange-wikileaks-pardon-russia-us-election-court-a9345081.html)] [[Yahoo News](https://news.yahoo.com/rohrabacher-confirms-he-offered-trump-pardon-to-assange-for-proof-russia-didnt-hack-dnc-email-131438007.html?soc_src=hl-viewer&soc_trk=tw)] [[Seattle Times](https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/assange-lawyer-claims-congressman-offered-pardon-on-behalf-of-trump-in-exchange-for-absolving-russia-in-wikileaks-case/?utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=owned_echobox_tw_m&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1582153418)]  
    
  **Analysis**: [Nebojsa Malic[RT](https://www.rt.com/op-ed/481238-assange-trump-rohrabacher-russia-dnc/)] [Gosztola [THREAD](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1230278209826099205)] [[Jimmy Dore](https://youtu.be/Y8nMOWqIijg)] [[21Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/02/20/whats-really-behind-rohrbachers-assange-pardon-story/)1] [[21Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/02/21/media-spinning-assange-pardon-as-proof-of-russiagate-conspiracy/) 2]  
    
  **NOTE**: **Sky News** appears to be misrepresenting the claim re **Dana Rohrabacher**. [See also [Washington Times](https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/aug/20/russia-hack-of-dnc-will-be-proved-to-be-untrue/) 20 Aug 2017, Rohrabacher on Hannity [[The Duran](https://theduran.com/dana-rohrabacher-r-ca-99-certain-russiagate-is-a-complete-con-job/) 21 Aug 2017)] and [[Big League Politics](https://bigleaguepolitics.com/journalist-met-assange-willing-testify-government-body/) 20 Sept 2017]  
    
  **WikiLeaks comments**: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1230221005924294663)]  
  “Chronology matters:

“The meeting and the offer were made ten months after Julian Assange had already independently stated Russia was not the source of the DNC publication.

The witness statement is one of the many bombshells from the defence to come”  
  
And another [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1230228988238401536)]:  
  
“The meeting and the offer were made prior to Assange's indictment. If you really want to know what this is about -- tune in to Court on Tuesday 25th”  
  
**Reporting** re Wikileaks Comment: [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002201078359630-wikileaks-confirms-an-offer-was-made-to-julian-assange-prior-to-his-indictment/)]  
  
**Stefania Maurizi** reminds people: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1230206344801718274)} from [[La Repubblica](https://www.repubblica.it/esteri/2018/03/27/news/julian_assange-192387103/) 27 Mar 2018]  
ARCHIVE:   
SM “You met with US senator Dana Rohrabacher here with your lawyers and all those cameras around...

JA to SM: "Yes, that was an interesting meeting, which I will have more to say about in due course..."  
  
**Dana Rohrabacher** comments [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/amp/us/202002191078355289-rohrabacher-at-no-time-did-i-offer-a-deal-to-wikileaks-julian-assange-from-trump/?__twitter_impression=true)]:  
“"at no time" did he speak to US President Donald Trump about offering a deal to the WikiLeaks founder in exchange for a statement admitting Russia played no role in the 2016 Democratic National Committee email leaks.”  
  
His statement concludes: [[website](https://www.rohrabacher.com/news/my-meeting-with-julian-assange)]  
“Even though I wasn't successful in getting this message through to the President I still call on him to pardon Julian Assange, who is the true whistleblower of our time. Finally, we are all holding our breath waiting for an honest investigation into the murder of Seth Rich.”  
  
UPDATE **Yahoo News**: [[Article](https://news.yahoo.com/rohrabacher-confirms-he-offered-trump-pardon-to-assange-for-proof-russia-didnt-hack-dnc-email-131438007.html?soc_src=hl-viewer&soc_trk=tw)]  
“Former California Republican congressman Dana Rohrabacher confirmed in a new interview that during a three-hour meeting at the Ecuadorian Embassy in August 2017, he told Julian Assange he would get President Trump to give him a pardon if he turned over information proving the Russians had not been the source of internal Democratic National Committee emails published by WikiLeaks.  
  
In a phone interview with Yahoo News, Rohrabacher said his goal during the meeting was to find proof for a widely debunked conspiracy theory: that WikiLeaks’ real source for the DNC emails was not Russian intelligence agents, as U.S. officials have since concluded, but former DNC staffer Seth Rich, who was murdered on the streets of Washington in July 2016 in what police believe was a botched robbery.”

* **19 Feb 2020** **Judicial Watch** comments re Seth Rich [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/TomFitton/status/1229995169312845825)]
* **19 Feb 2020** **Swiss canton** aiming to offer humanitarian visa to Assange [DE [SRF](https://www.srf.ch/news/international/wikileaks-gruender-bedroht-schweizer-hilfe-fuer-assange?ns_source=mobile&srg_sm_medium=tw)]
* **20 Feb 2020** **Greg Barns**: “Democracy is at stake” in Assange trial [[GreenLeft](https://www.greenleft.org.au/content/barrister-says-democracy-stake-assange-trial)]
* **20 Feb 2020** Joint statement from **1200 journalists from 98 countries** released today in defence of Wikileaks publisher Julian Assange, [[Pressenza](https://www.pressenza.com/2020/02/world-wide-journalists-condemn-court-action-against-julian-assange/)]   
  [Dutch? [Tweet](https://twitter.com/cafeweltschmerz/status/1230467374329073664)]
* **20 Feb 2020 Marjorie Cohn** analyses why extradition would be contrary to the UK/US Extradition Treaty [[ConsortiumNews](https://consortiumnews.com/2020/02/20/assanges-indictment-on-political-offense-runs-counter-to-extradition-treaty/)]
* **20 Feb 2020** **Felicity Ruby** lists videos of some of Julian’s key speeches [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/FlickRubicon/status/1230470937453088769)]
* **20 Feb 2020** **WiseUp** showcases **Street Art** that has sprung up around London in the run up to the extradition trial [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/02/17/street-art-solidarity-with-julian-assange-the-wikileaks-publisher-february-2020/)]
* **20 Feb 2020** **French** publications joining the fight [[Marianne](https://www.marianne.net/debattons/editos/julian-assange-ce-lanceur-d-alerte-traite-en-paria)]  
  “In 2015, [Julian Assange] made a request for asylum in France, which remained a dead letter. In Paris, we have other priorities. We preferred to welcome a man above all suspicion like Piotr Pavlenski, who swayed the sexual escapades of the former candidate for mayor of Paris, but we forget the fate reserved for a character designated by the United States as the public enemy number 1. France prefers to keep quiet, leaving some NGOs and free spirits to recall that there are principles with which we do not compromise.   
  The sense of honor is a commodity that is becoming scarce.” [AI translation]
* **20 Feb 2020** The **Commissioner for Human Right**s, **Council of Europe** (COE) publishes statement [[COE](https://www.coe.int/en/web/commissioner/-/julian-assange-should-not-be-extradited-due-to-potential-impact-on-press-freedom-and-concerns-about-ill-treatment)]  
  “Julian Assange should not be extradited due to potential impact on press freedom and concerns about ill-treatment.”  
    
  **Reaction**: **Clare Daly** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/ClareDalyMEP/status/1230500109156261889)] Redacted Tonight {[Tweet](https://twitter.com/RedactedTonight/status/1230291979281584128) video]  
    
  **Reporting**: [[Reuters](https://in.reuters.com/article/britain-assange-rights-idINKBN20E22X)] [M.A.E [THREAD](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1230560793881542656)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/europe/202002211078369422-dont-extradite-julian-assange-says-council-of-europes-commissioner-for-human-rights/)]
* **20 Feb 2020** **John Shipton** interview: “*Assange 'visualising walking the Camino'*” [[Canberra Times](https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6637566/assange-visualising-walking-the-camino/?cs=14232)]
* **20 Feb 2020** **John McDonnell (**UK Shadow Chancellor**)** visits Julian in Belmarsh [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1230271473182482434)] **Press Conference** at **11am** GMT outside prison. **John Rees** came too.  
    
  **On site**: [Emmy B [Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1230502866781196288)] [BenQuinn [Tweet](https://twitter.com/BenQuinn75/status/1230467960168468480) [[Sputnik](https://youtu.be/4iUxhEr5aXE) video] [[Consortium News](https://youtu.be/HoQhHgffZjE)]  
    
  **John Rees** commented afterwards:[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/JohnWRees/status/1230602113908199424)]  
    
  **Reporting**: [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002201078360525-assange-strong-despite-political-extradition-trial-needs-cross-party-support---labour-mp/)] [[The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2020/feb/20/julian-assange-case-is-the-dreyfus-of-our-age-says-john-mcdonnell?CMP=share_btn_tw)] [[The Canary](https://www.thecanary.co/uk/news/2020/02/20/john-mcdonnell-visits-julian-assange-and-slams-his-political-persecution/)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/21/mcdd-f21.html)] [[OANN](https://www.oann.com/u-k-shadow-chancellor-assanges-case-biggest-political-trial-of-contemporary-era/)] [[The Mirror]](https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/politics/extraditing-julian-assange-would-damage-21538444?utm_source=twitter.com&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=sharebar)  
    
  From [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002201078360525-assange-strong-despite-political-extradition-trial-needs-cross-party-support---labour-mp/)]  
  “When asked by the press about the potential extradition, McDonnell said that if it took place, it would "damage the democratic standing" of the UK and US.

McDonnell said: "We have a long tradition in this country of standing up for journalistic freedom, standing up for the protection of whistleblowers and those who expose injustices. If this extradition takes place, I think it will damage our reputation; I’m hoping it doesn’t.

When asked about the [alleged pardon from the Trump administration](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002191078353723-donald-trump-offered-pardon-to-wkileaks-founder-julian-assange-uk-court-told/) and nature of the trial, McDonnell agreed that it demonstrated "the political nature of the trial itself", adding that supporters needed to ensure that "extraditions shouldn't be used for political purposes"  
  
From [[The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2020/feb/20/julian-assange-case-is-the-dreyfus-of-our-age-says-john-mcdonnell?CMP=share_btn_tw)]  
“The US attempt to extradite Julian Assange is the “the Dreyfus case of our age”, John McDonnell has said, as Europe’s human rights watchdog added her voice to opposition to the move.”

* **20 Feb 2020** at 14:45h Paris. **Press conference** with the i**nternational legal team**.  
  [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/antoinevey/status/1227973329711136769)]  
  Present:  
  - **Éric Dupond-Moretti** (France) [[00:00](https://youtu.be/S8fB1dteZGw?t=0m01s) FR]- **Antoine Vey** (France) [[10:32](https://youtu.be/S8fB1dteZGw?t=10m32s) FR]- **Baltasar Garzon** (Spain - Leader of the international team) [[15:14](https://youtu.be/S8fB1dteZGw?t=15m14s) ES / FR]  
  - **John Shipton** [[38:33](https://youtu.be/S8fB1dteZGw?t=38m33s) EN]  
  - **Christophe DeLoire** (Secretary General RSF) [[44:08](https://youtu.be/S8fB1dteZGw?t=44m08s) FR]  
  - **Q & A** [[48: 50](https://youtu.be/S8fB1dteZGw?t=48m50s) FR]  
  - ENDS [1:28:24]  
  Not in the video:  
  - **Jen Robinson** (London)   
  - **Christophe Marchand** and **Annemie Schaus** (Brussels)  
    
  **On site**: [Sputnik [Livestream](https://youtu.be/S8fB1dteZGw)] Multiple THREADS [[RSF](https://twitter.com/RSF_inter/status/1230497501679099904)] [SR [Tweets](https://twitter.com/SeverineRouby/status/1230487391279951872)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/world/202002211078370661-hopes-low-for-julian-assanges-france-asylum-bid-as-extradition-battle-looms/)]  
    
  **Reporting**: [ [News2lv](https://news3lv.com/news/nation-world/defense-lawyers-say-they-will-seek-french-asylum-for-assange)] [ES [efe](https://www.efe.com/efe/espana/portada/garzon-convencido-de-que-las-pruebas-evitaran-la-extradicion-assange/10010-4178394)] [[RSF](https://rsf.org/en/news/assanges-extradition-us-would-threaten-work-all-journalists)] [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/world/europe/defence-lawyers-say-they-will-seek-french-asylum-for-assange-20200221-p542zf.html)] [[21Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/02/21/assange-european-defense-lawyers-will-try-for-asylum-in-france/)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/22/euas-f22.html)]  
    
  **Interview** with **Baltasar Garzón** [ES [Rac1](https://www.rac1.cat/info-rac1/20200223/473718906625/garzon-assange-wikileaks-extradiccio-tortura.html?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_content=rac1_info-rac1) article & audio]
* **20 Feb 2020** Paris: “***La soirée de solidarité avec les lanceurs d'alerte***” / Evening of solidarity with the whistleblowers.  
  **John Shipton** prerecorded a statement for the event [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Meriem_Laribi/status/1230602218652491776)]   
    
  **On site**: [FR [Tweets](https://twitter.com/Meriem_Laribi/status/1230554798237241347) unthreaded] FR [Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1230809810435760128) video] FR [Edwy Plenel [Tweet](https://twitter.com/edwyplenel/status/1230828018173698050) video]   
  [FR Laribi [Tweet](https://twitter.com/Meriem_Laribi/status/1230603871740977157) video]
* **20 Feb 2020** **Joshua Schulte** [Vault 7 case] moves for mistrial due to CIA withholding exculpatory information [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/_cryptome_/status/1230557516863430658)] [[PDF](https://cryptome.org/2020/02/schulte-328.pdf)]
* **20 Feb 2020 Anthony Belllinger** statement “***Why supporting Julian Assange is defending freedom of information***” [FR [EqualTimes](https://www.equaltimes.org/pourquoi-soutenir-julian-assange-c?lang=fr#.Xk4MMErKSB8.twitter)]
* **20 Feb 2020** **Article 19** organisation urges the UK courts not to extradite Wikileaks publisher Julian Assange [[website](https://www.article19.org/resources/article-19-urges-uk-courts-not-to-extradite-wikileaks-publisher-julian-assange/)]
* **20 Feb 2020** “***Journalists on Assange***” Frontline Club, London [CN News [Youtube](https://youtu.be/bjvqFYFpzSQ)]]  
  **Speakers**: (in discussion format)  
  - Richard Gizbert (Chair)   
  - Patrick Cockburn See also OpEd in [[UK Independent](https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/julian-assange-wikileaks-extradition-prison-trump-chelsea-manning-a9351246.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1582304136)]  
  - Q & A
* **20 Feb 2020** “***Countdown to Freedom”***” [[Podcast](https://covertactionmagazine.com/index.php/2020/02/20/assange-countdown-to-freedom-interviews-with-craig-murray-naomi-colvin-and-aaron-mate/) (Ep 8)]  
  The coming Assange extradition hearing:  
  [ 0:00] Craig Murray - the "Trump pardon", "UK judicial independence",   
   spying in the embassy

[21:53] Aaron Mate - threats posed to press freedom by the case

[36:24] Naomi Colvin - what to expect this week & later (format & issues)

* 21 Feb 2020 2pm at State Library, Vic, AU “Melbourne4Wikileaks” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Melbourne4Wiki/status/1225937702446518272)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Melbourne4Wiki/status/1226085271050977281)]  
  **Speakers**:   
  - Caitlin Johnstone, [[FaceBook](https://www.facebook.com/2301719993184488/videos/187806339151950/) video] [[Transcript](https://medium.com/@caityjohnstone/assanges-persecution-has-exposed-media-depravity-the-world-over-2e5e47a1f0f0)]  
  - Dr Margaret Beavis [[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/2301719993184488/videos/193852241854536/) video] Doctors For Assange  
  - John Shipton [[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/2301719993184488/videos/491138898508037/) video] By videolink  
  - Julian Hill MP,   
  - Robbie Thorpe  
    
  **More Videos**: [[FaceBook page](https://www.facebook.com/Melbourne-4-WikiLeaks-2301719993184488/)] (Sorry I can’t see that)  
  **On site**: [M4WL [Tweets](https://twitter.com/Melbourne4Wiki/status/1230793080179019776) unthreaded] [MAPW [Tweets](https://twitter.com/MAPW_Australia/status/1230758453154471937) unthreaded]  
    
  **Reporting**:
* **21 Feb 2020** The **BBC** puts out their own version of what the case is about and how extradition works (in the UK). [[Website](https://www.bbc.com/news/explainers-51586120)]
* **21 Feb 2020** German documentary “***WikiLeaks - Enemy of the State Julian Assange***” [DE [ARD](https://youtu.be/MQ8vlyAQ7cA) YouTube] [DE [ARD](https://www.daserste.de/information/reportage-dokumentation/dokus/sendung/doku-julian-assange-100.html) Article]
* **21 Feb 2020** More revelations re Chief Magistrate **Lady Arbuthnot**.   
  [[DeclassifiedUK](https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-02-21-revealed-chief-magistrate-in-assange-case-received-financial-benefits-from-secretive-partner-organisations-of-uk-foreign-office/)] [[Archived version](https://archive.ph/PRMsr)]  
    
  “The senior judge overseeing the extradition proceedings of WikiLeaks publisher Julian Assange received financial benefits from two partner organisations of the British Foreign Office before her appointment, it can be revealed.

It can further be revealed that Lady Emma Arbuthnot was appointed Chief Magistrate in Westminster on the advice of a Conservative government minister with whom she had attended a secretive meeting organised by one of these Foreign Office partner organisations two years before.”   
  
**Reporting**: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/22/judg-f22.html)]

* **21 Feb 2020** **Andrew Fowler** (Australian journalist) speaks out on Assange and the Australian press and government [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/21/afow-f21.html)]  
    
  “AF: WikiLeaks revealed the truth about all the political parties in Australia and consequently, it was party politically friendless. I know from my own experience that none of the mainstream political parties will take up the cudgels for you if you’ve just revealed what they’re all doing behind the scenes.“

“Absolutely. Australian governments are terrified of the United States in case they’re cut out of intelligence-sharing. That’s what Australian involvement in the Iraq War was about. If Assange was brought back to Australia from the UK there’d be a new US extradition attempt here.”

“The defence of Assange and WikiLeaks is extremely relevant to preventing another war. If people can’t reveal the truth from inside intelligence organizations. If [former Office of National Assessments intelligence analyst] Andrew Wilkie did now what he did and said about the Iraq War in 2003 both he and [Australian journalist] Laurie Oakes could have been charged.”

“It should be incumbent on all journalists in this country to report on every single thing that happens to Julian Assange. Not as just Julian Assange, but as the editor-in-chief of WikiLeaks. These stories should be in news bulletins every night with live crosses from the courts.”

* **21 Feb 2020** **Roger Waters** interview [[Sky News](https://news.sky.com/video/pink-floyd-member-calls-for-assanges-release-11939708)]
* **21 Feb 2020** **Christian Mihr** (Reporters Without Borders - RSF) interview [[DW](https://www.dw.com/en/inside-europe-support-for-julian-assange/av-52462621)]
* **21 Feb 2020** **Lissa Johnson** spoke at the SEP Rally (AU) [[FaceBook](https://www.facebook.com/people4assange/videos/1029623954090579/?__tn__=-R) video]  
    
  **21 Feb 2020** **Caitlin Johnstone** spoke at the SEP Rally [[Transcription](https://medium.com/@caityjohnstone/were-asking-one-question-in-assange-s-case-should-journalists-be-punished-for-exposing-war-f8dbf404514c)]
* **21 Feb 2020** **Nils Melzer** interviewed by Juan Passarelli ([@jlpassarelli](https://twitter.com/jlpassarelli))  
    
  - Discusses the nature of pschological torture [Tweet] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/TySsUeWANo4)] (4:49  
  - “Psychological torture is to deprive sense of all control" [Tweet] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/FkBikCzX2a4)] (1:33)  
  - "The UK did not conduct any investigations" on Assange. [Tweet] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/LxTXssnoM7w)] (2:37)  
  - Lists why Assange should be freed [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1231032577475194882)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/yWLh2bukjVA)] (1:41)  
  - Can Assange get a fair extradition hearing in the UK? [Tweet] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/CFlukymNZ_0)] (1:06)  
  - "Even in the UK he's not going to get a fair extradition trial." [Tweet] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/xP69fMIigK8)] (3:08)  
  - "First they came for Assange, (...) now I hear they're   
   coming for the BBC." [Tweet] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/FlLBkvRnZaQ)] (1:01)  
  - "It's about all of us, it's about democracy, It's about   
   the rule of law" [Tweet] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/-UIvFfi_tkU)] (0:46)  
  - “3 levels on which my mandate is clearly involved” [Tweet] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/ohFCsv6QC8U)] (1:04)  
  - “You don't need to be a specialist to see that US soldiers  
   have been intentionally massacring people.” ” [Tweet] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/VdhXewKXh4M)] (1:26)  
  - "Once it has become a crime to tell the truth,   
   then we will have tyranny." [Tweet] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/QllYah-1MN8)] (1:24)  
    
  NOTE These are loaded on the Wikileaks channel
* **21 Feb 2020** **Patrick Cockburn** OpEd: “***With WikiLeaks, Julian Assange did what all journalists should aspire to do***” [[UK Independent](https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/julian-assange-wikileaks-extradition-prison-trump-chelsea-manning-a9351246.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1582304136)]  
  “I was in Kabul in 2010 when [Julian Assange](https://www.independent.co.uk/topic/JulianAssange) and [WikiLeaks](https://www.independent.co.uk/topic/WikiLeaks) first released a vast archive of classified US government documents, revealing what Washington really knew about what was happening in the world. I was particularly interested in one of these disclosures, which came in the shape of a video that the Pentagon had refused to release despite a Freedom of Information Act request.

When WikiLeaks did release the video, it was obvious why the US generals had wanted to keep it secret. Three years earlier, I had been in Baghdad when a US helicopter machine-gunned and fired rockets at a group of civilians on the ground who its pilots claimed were armed insurgents, killing or wounding many of them.

Journalists in Iraq were disbelieving about the US military’s claims because the dead included two reporters from the Reuters news agency. Nor was it likely that insurgents would have been walking in the open with their weapons when a US Apache helicopter was overhead.

We could not prove anything until WikiLeaks made public the film from the Apache. Viewing it still has the power to shock: the pilots are cock-a-hoop as they hunt their prey, including people in a vehicle who stop to help the wounded, saying, “Oh yeah, look at those dead bastards,” and, “Ha, ha, I hit them.” **Anybody interested in why the US failed in Iraq should have a look.” [Emphasis added]**“The disclosures were probably the greatest journalistic scoop in history, and newspapers such as *The New York Times* recognised this by the vast space they gave to the revelations. Corroboration of their importance has been grimly confirmed by the rage of the US security establishment and its overseas allies, and the furious determination with which they have pursued Assange, the co-founder of WikiLeaks.”

* **22 Feb 2020** More revelations re background to Assange extradition hearing.   
  [[DeclassifiedUK](https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-02-22-uk-minister-who-approved-trumps-request-to-extradite-assange-spoke-at-secretive-us-conferences-with-people-calling-for-him-to-be-neutralized/?utm_content=buffer64517&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer)] [[Archived version](https://archive.ph/9Lrea)]  
    
  “UK minister who approved Trump’s request to extradite Assange spoke at secretive US conferences with people calling for him to be “neutralized””
* **22 Feb 2020** Letter from 44 **International Jurists** to **Boris Johnson** [[Medium](https://medium.com/@deepadriver/international-jurists-letter-82c90061994c)]  
  Letter has been delivered to 10 Downing St. [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/deepa_driver/status/1231241942316523521)]  
  “As international jurists, with an acute awareness of the responsibilities that our profession [demands of us](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/DEONTOLOGY/DEON_CoC/EN_DEON_CoC.pdf), we call on the British authorities to refuse the request for the extradition of Mr. Julian Assange to the United States. We also call for his immediate release.”  
    
  NOTE “If you are a retired or serving judge, lawyer, legal academic, or a representative of an organisation engaging on behalf of civil society with the justice system, AND if you would like to sign this letter, the contact details are provided.”
* **22 Feb 2020** **Roger Waters** interview [[Newsweek](https://www.newsweek.com/roger-waters-julian-assange-extradition-ruling-class-1488585)]
* **22 Feb 2020** **Concert** and then **March from Australia House** to Parliament Sq LONDON. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1220040261205745666)] [[FaceBook](https://www.facebook.com/events/931609000567992/)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1227555732704419844)]  
  **Speakers**: **Live Stream** **Clip Text**  
  - John Rees (Intro) [[1:20:32](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=1h20m32s)]  
  - ?? Choudry (MC) [[1:21:14](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=1h21m14s)]  
  - John Shipton [[1:21:46](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=1h21m46s)] [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/helena_jennie/status/1231639056619986949)}  
  - Deepa Driver [[1:27:11](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=1h27m11s)]  
  - Tim Dawson (NUJ, IFJ) [[1:29:39](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=1h29m39s)]  
  - Vivienne Westwood [[1:34:43](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=1h34m43s)]  
  - Kristinn Hrafnsson [[1:39:09](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=1h39m09s)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/2GhnxS5OLNI)]  
  - Roger Waters [[1:42:34](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=1h42m34s)] [[Transcript](https://rogerwaters.com/assange-london-speech/)]  
  - Tariq Ali [[1:54:22](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=1h54m22s)]  
  - Lindsy German [[2:01:35](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=2h01m35s)]  
  - Brian Eno [[2:06:19](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=2h06m19s)]  
  - Yanis Varoufakis. [[2:12:40](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=2h12m40s)] [[Transcript](https://www.yanisvaroufakis.eu/2020/02/23/we-are-here-so-that-unarmed-truth-has-the-final-word-speech-at-julian-assange-london-rally-22-2-2020/)]  
  - LowKey [[2:19:45](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=2h19m45s)]  
  - Craig Murray [[2:26:42](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=2h26m42s)] [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/AssangeEdits/status/1231423760005201921)]  
  - Chrissie Hynde [[2:32:44](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM?t=2h32m44s)]  
  .   
  **Livestream:** Ruptly [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/P06A2DfcGQM)] [Edited AcTVism Munich [YouTube](https://youtu.be/rSzVjzy7bDs)]  
    
  **On site tweeting**: [Sputnik [THREAD](https://twitter.com/SputnikInt/status/1231177260075495424)] [[TaylorHudak](https://twitter.com/_taylorhudak/status/1231181725553827841)] [[CharlotteG](https://twitter.com/Charlotte3003G/status/1231180386937561088)] [[M Enarsson](https://twitter.com/MEnarsson/status/1231176719358398464)] [[EmmyB](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1231185510061813762)] [[Peter Tatchell](https://twitter.com/PeterTatchell/status/1231193824069914624)] [[Patrick Henningsen](https://twitter.com/21WIRE/status/1231208754307371010)] [[Barnaby Nerberka](https://twitter.com/barnabynerberka/status/1231208080408489984)] [[Randy Credico](https://twitter.com/CredicoRandy/status/1231207782604406784)] [[SEP](https://twitter.com/Sep_london/status/1231214448049672193)] [[Juan Passaelli]](https://twitter.com/jlpassarelli/status/1231229303251197958) [[AnonMediaUK](https://twitter.com/AnonMedia_UK/status/1231176590240948225)] [[Harlock](https://twitter.com/GianniMagini/status/1231270768396337154)] [[Carolina Graterol]](https://twitter.com/Moncaro/status/1231512168014733313)  
    
  Tweeted **Interviews**: Richard Gizbert [[M.A.E.](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231304420002058246)] John Shipton [[M.A.E.](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231310995408261122)]  
    
  Great clip of **key speakers together**: [Ruptly [Tweet](https://twitter.com/people4assange/status/1231202899625005059)]  
  More **footage [**[DIEM Pt 1](https://twitter.com/DiEM_25/status/1232759799827324940)**]** [[Action 4 Assange](https://youtu.be/cQXx7lCXZVs)] [GianniMagini / [Harløck Røck](https://youtu.be/I5g0q-u4aH8)] [Assange Edits] unthreaded  
    
  **Barcelona / Catalonia** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/avilarenata/status/1232014279362125830) photos] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/mitrebcn/status/1232019563031691264)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CataloniaHelp2/status/1234554018376159235) video of speech]  
  **Brisbane**  [Facebook [livestream](https://www.facebook.com/brisbaneassangeaction/videos/2809836015769017/)]  
    
  **Reporting**: [Sputnik [Live updates](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002221078377827-live-updates-protest-march-held-in-london-ahead-of-assanges-extradition-hearing---video/)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/481472-assange-rally-extradition-london/) 1] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/481475-assange-protest-brian-eno/) 2] [[NYT](https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2020/02/22/business/ap-eu-britain-assange.html)] [[WaPo](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/courts_law/marchers-support-assange-ahead-of-london-extradition-hearing/2020/02/22/33d0bac2-5592-11ea-80ce-37a8d4266c09_story.html)] [[ABC](https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/marchers-support-assange-ahead-london-extradition-hearing-69144887)] [[SeattleTimes](https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/nation/marchers-support-assange-ahead-of-london-extradition-hearing/)] [[UK Express](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1245952/Julian-Assange-protest-pink-Floyd-roger-waters-Vivienne-Westwood-Wikileaks-free-assange)] [[New Daily](https://thenewdaily.com.au/news/world/2020/02/23/assange-protest-london-hearing/)] [[Evening Standard](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/julian-assange-protest-extradition-wikileaks-a4368926.html)][[UPI](https://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2020/02/22/London-protesters-rally-against-Assange-extradition/6741582402766/)]   
  [[Activism Munich](https://youtu.be/tMwXD5tPtrQ) video] [[SBS](https://twitter.com/Dr_LCorredor/status/1231505741124493312)] [[ITV](https://www.itv.com/news/2020-02-22/hundreds-protest-against-extradition-of-julian-assange-ahead-of-hearing/)] [[Independent](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/julian-assange-extradition-protest-london-wikileaks-parliament-embassy-vivienne-westwood-a9352831.html)] [[Sky News](https://news.sky.com/story/julian-assange-celebrities-turn-up-to-protest-against-proposed-extradition-to-us-11940331)] [[Wiltshire Times](https://www.wiltshiretimes.co.uk/news/national/18254797.hundreds-protest-extradition-julian-assange-ahead-hearing/?ref=twtrec)] [[TodayOnline](https://www.todayonline.com/world/pink-floyd-co-founder-joins-assange-supporters-london-protest-march-0)] [[Yahoo News](https://uk.news.yahoo.com/julian-assange-protest-father-speaks-161547906.html) video] [[9News](https://twitter.com/9NewsAdel/status/1231487779491713028) Adelaide] [[Arkansas Online](https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2020/feb/23/london-protesters-stand-by-assange-2020/)] [[Dhaka Tribune](https://www.dhakatribune.com/showtime/2020/02/23/roger-waters-of-pink-floyd-joins-assange-supporters-in-london-protest-march)] [[SentinelandEnterprise](https://www.sentinelandenterprise.com/2020/02/22/marchers-support-assange-ahead-of-london-extradition-hearing/)]   
  [[M.A.E.](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231596410224676865) video] [[EuroNews](https://www.euronews.com/2020/02/22/protesters-march-for-assange-s-release)] [[NPR](https://www.npr.org/2020/02/22/808504575/protesters-demand-julian-assange-be-freed-ahead-of-extradition-hearing)] [[C21Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/02/24/assange-no-extradition-london-protest/)] [[London Economic](https://www.thelondoneconomic.com/politics/yanis-varoufakis-exclusive-to-persecute-assange-is-to-murder-the-truth/25/02/#.XlU5zziORzQ.twitter)]  
  [[AcTVism Munich](https://youtu.be/rSzVjzy7bDs) 2]
* **22 Feb 2020** As promised by **Yanis Varoufakis**,.protestors also assembled in **Greece** outside the UK embassy [GR [The Indicator](https://indicator.gr/free-assange-fonaxan-diadilotes-exo-apo-tin-presveia-tis-m-vretanias)]
* **22 Feb 2020** J**oe Lauria** of **Consortium News** presents the **2020 Gary Webb Freedom of the Press Award** - won this year by Julian Assange - to **Kristinn Hrafnsson**, ahead of Kristinn’s visit to Julian in Belmarsh prison. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1231505471732961280) video]  
    
  (See 10 Feb 2020 [[Consortium News](https://consortiumnews.com/2020/02/10/julian-assange-wins-2020-gary-webb-freedom-of-the-press-award/)] re awarding of the prize.)
* **22 Feb 2020 Kit Klarenberg** again raises the **Mark Davis** video, re the issue of redactions, and the sequencing of publication around the War Logs.  
   [[Article](https://medium.com/@KitKlarenberg/assange-guardian-new-york-times-betrayal-fe6dbbfe78fa)] [Related [THREAD](https://twitter.com/i/events/1160267582324269057)]
* **22 Feb 2020** **Going Underground** focuses on Assange story [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/afshinrattansi/status/1230529908742467585)]  
  - [[Full video](https://youtu.be/s6Tjp5ZT3Sk)]  
  - **Richard Burgon** (UK Labour MP) [Tweet video]   
  - **Roger Waters** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Underground_RT/status/1231146655350652928) video]
* **22 Feb 2020** Various **international reports** in the lead up to the main hearing  
  [PT [Observador](https://observador.pt/2020/02/22/assange-arrisca-ate-175-anos-de-prisao-se-for-extraditado-para-os-eua/)] [ES [Alicia Castro / Sputnik](https://twitter.com/AliciaCastroAR/status/1231223240762286080)] DE [Das Erste](https://www.ardmediathek.de/daserste/player/Y3JpZDovL2Rhc2Vyc3RlLmRlL3JlcG9ydGFnZSBfIGRva3VtZW50YXRpb24gaW0gZXJzdGVuL2VlNmE3ZjBjLWVkYzYtNDM5Ny04NDMxLWJiMWUxMDk2MGU5Nw/wikileaks-staatsfeind-julian-assangeCausa) video]   
  [[ABC](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-02-23/surveillance-of-julian-assange-captured-lawyers-conversations/11985872) Australia report re embassy spying] [[Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-assange-idUSKBN20F0UZ)] [[DW](https://www.dw.com/en/inside-europe-support-for-julian-assange/av-52462621)]
* **22 Feb 2020** **Harry Dunn**’s parents demand that the UK refuse to extradite Julian. [[DailyMail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8033161/Harry-Dunns-family-demand-UK-refuses-extradite-Julian-Assange-hands-Anne-Sacoolas.html)]  
  “The Mail on Sunday can reveal that, in a meeting with the Foreign Secretary last month, the family demanded that Britain refuse a US extradition request for WikiLeaks founder Assange.. And they claim Mr Raab told them he was ‘reviewing all options.”  
    
  “Last month Washington refused a UK extradition request for Sacoolas to return to Britain to face justice over the crash outside a US spy base in Northamptonshire last August.”  
    
  “Their lawyer and adviser Radd Seiger said: ‘Despite its disgraceful refusal to extradite Anne Sacoolas, the US continues to seek the extradition of people in the UK such as Julian Assange. In doing so, they are demonstrating an extraordinary amount of hypocrisy.’”

**Comment**: **Deepa Driver** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/deepa_driver/status/1231503216342425601)]  
  
**Reporting**: [[BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-51602975?at_custom1=link&at_medium=custom7&at_campaign=64&at_custom2=twitter&at_custom3=BBC+England&at_custom4=0511423A-5617-11EA-A60F-79DD4744363C)] [[The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2020/feb/23/harry-dunns-family-want-julian-assanges-extradition-stopped?utm_term=Autofeed&CMP=twt_gu&utm_medium=&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1582422786)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/world/202002231078385069-harry-dunns-family-slams-hypocritical-us-demand-stop-to-julian-assanges-extradition-/)]

* **23 Feb 2020** at 2pm Protest **Melbourne** State library [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/14/rall-f14.html)]
* **23 Feb 2020** at 2:30pm SEP public meeting **London** [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/02/15/committee-to-defend-julian-assange-newsletter-10-upcoming-actions-in-support-of-julian-assange/)]  
  **Speakers**: Chris Marsden, Joseph Kishore, Oscar Grenfell  
  **On site**: [SEP [Tweets](https://twitter.com/SEP_Britain/status/1231596189398765568)]
* **23 Feb 2020** **Yanis Varoufakis** and **John Shipton** visit Julian in Belmarsh [[Website](https://www.yanisvaroufakis.eu/2020/02/23/we-are-here-so-that-unarmed-truth-has-the-final-word-speech-at-julian-assange-london-rally-22-2-2020/)] **Christophe DeLoire** (Secretary General RSF) [@cdeloire](https://twitter.com/cdeloire) also speaks.  
    
  **On site tweets**: [DIEM25 [Tweet](https://twitter.com/HorvatSrecko/status/1231580348586299392)]   
  **Video**: AssangeEdits [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/AssangeEdits/status/1231738978249908224)] Taylot Hudak [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/L4K5mtJRHE8)] ActivismMunich [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/7rDs78JLgiQ)]  
    
  **Reporting**: [[Daily Mail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8035213/Former-Greek-Finance-Minister-Yanis-Varoufakis-visits-Julian-Assange-Belmarsh-Prison.html)] [[UK Standard](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/julian-assange-john-shipton-wikileaks-extradition-belmarsh-prison-a4369351.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1582481395)] [[Mogaz News](https://en.mogaznews.com/World-News/1445578/Former-Greek-Finance-Minister-Yanis-Varoufakis-visits-Julian-Assange-at-.html)]  
  “Julian had a harassment today. He goes to court tomorrow. They searched his cell this afternoon just before he came down to see us.   
  “This plague of malice that emanates from the Crown Prosecution Service to Julian Assange must stop immediately.” [[Standard](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/julian-assange-john-shipton-wikileaks-extradition-belmarsh-prison-a4369351.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1582481395)]
* **23 Feb 2020** 3pm **Protest** outside **Belmarsh** prison [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1231340026077863937)]  
  “Reporters Without Borders (RSF) Secretary-General [@cdeloire](https://twitter.com/cdeloire), UK Bureau Director [@rebecca\_vincent](https://twitter.com/rebecca_vincent), and Germany Director [@cmihr](https://twitter.com/cmihr) are staging an action tomorrow outside Belmarsh prison at 3pm.”  
  **On site**: [RSF [THREAD](https://twitter.com/RSF_inter/status/1231616360825982978)] [Hudak [Tweet](https://twitter.com/_taylorhudak/status/1231631880082030593) video]
* **23 Feb 2020** **Harlem Desir,** Representative on Freedom of the Media of the Office of the [@OSCE](https://twitter.com/OSCE), world’s only intergovernmental media watchdog, calls for Assange to be released. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/OSCE_RFoM/status/1231522971824590848)] [[Statement](https://www.osce.org/representative-on-freedom-of-media/446923)]
* **23 Feb 2020** **Stefania Maurizi** on latest UN Report on civilian casualties in **Afghanistan** [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1231518059606822914)]  
  “The US wants put in prison for life Julian Assange for publishing AfghanWarLogs: we know from theChelsea Manning trial NO ONE died/ was injured as a result. Today we learn that CIVILIAN victims due to US war in Afghanistan exceeds 10,000. [[OHCHR](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25594)]  
  Remember the Wolf and the Lamb fable?”
* **23 Feb 2020** **Defend Wikileaks** puts out an extensive **Guide Sheet** to the coming hearings, including a reading backlist and a list of commentators for different aspects of the hearing (useful for journalists), as well as more mundane issues such as how to get to court. [[Website](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/02/23/usa-v-julian-assange-extradition-hearing/)], [[PDF version](https://unity4j.com/content/communications/usa_v_assange_press_briefing.pdf)]
* **23 Feb 2020** **Nils Melze**r writes a (for him) scathing tweet response to a vicious article in a Swiss paper. He says a longer response is coming in the same paper.  
  - Article [[NZZ](https://www.nzz.ch/international/julian-assange-ist-ein-wenig-glaubwuerdiges-opfer-einer-grossen-verschwoerung-ld.1541522)] **Melzer** responses: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1231649564370722816)] [Article- still coming]
* **23 Feb 2020** **Australian MP Wilkie** says Assange extradition efforts should be dropped after US spying revelations. [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/wilkie-says-assange-extradition-efforts-should-be-dropped-after-us-spying-revelations-20200223-p543j3.html?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1582484100)]  
  “The revelation Julian Assange's confidential conversations with his Australian lawyers were secretly recorded should force the British courts to throw out attempts to extradite him to the United States, independent MP Andrew Wilkie says.
* **23 Feb 2020 Frank Schwabe (**SPDGermany) [DE [SPDFraktion](https://www.spdfraktion.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/keine-inhaftierung-julian-assange)]  
  “Someone with such serious illnesses should be in a hospital, not a prison. There must be no further detention or extradition for political reasons. We need comprehensive protection for whistleblowers at all levels. Whistleblowing is not a crime, but a basic condition for a functioning democracy. ”
* **23 Feb 2020** in Paris, 134 **French** activists have gathered to travel to Belmarsh for the start of the extradition hearing. [John McEvoy [Tweet](https://twitter.com/jmcevoy_2/status/1231658781819441153) & [Tweet](https://twitter.com/jmcevoy_2/status/1231676880853577728) video
* **23 Feb 2020** **James Goodale** interviewed by **Kevin Gosztola** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1231736964187066371)]   
  [[Shadowproof](https://shadowproof.com/2020/02/23/interview-with-james-goodale-stunning-how-few-in-us-care-about-threat-posed-by-assanges-case/) Text and audio]
* **23 Feb 2020** **ABC** (Australia) report on **spying** at the embassy, including interviews with Assange lawyers **Geoffrey Robertson** QC and **Aitor Martinez** [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/siigAameuGg)] [[ABC](https://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2020-02-24/geoffrey-robertson-responds-to-julian-assange-secret-recording/11993792?pfmredir=sm)]
* **23 Feb 2020** **OSCE** Media Freedom Representative calls on UK authorities not to extradite WikiLeaks editor Julian Assange to the US [[Website](https://www.osce.org/representative-on-freedom-of-media/446923)]

#### 🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆

#### Start of PHASE 1 - Extradition hearing 🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆

#### **24 Feb 2020** **DAY 1** : **US Extradition hearing begins** (1 wk) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NielsLadefoged/status/1220310987775062018)]

* At Belmarsh Magistrates Court (inside Woolwich Crown Court).  
  - Information from Courts for attendees [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/11/18/what-will-assange-the-press-and-the-public-face-in-february-2020-at-belmarsh-magistrates-court/amp/)]  
  - Background material [[Defend Wikileaks](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/02/23/usa-v-julian-assange-extradition-hearing/)]  
    
  - **PROSECUTION** Opening Note [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/OpeningNoteUS.pdf)] 30 July 2019  
  - **PROSECUTION** Outline of Case Not searchable [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/US-Skeleton-Argument-FULL.pdf)] 17 Feb 2020  
     
  - **DEFENCE** Submission re ‘Political Offences’ [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/AsangeDefenceSkeletonArgument.pdf)] 18 Oct 2019  
  - **DEFENCE** Reply on ‘Political Offence Protection’ [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/AssangeDefenceReply.pdf)] 21 Feb 2020  
  - **DEFENCE** Outline of Case Searchable [[PDF](https://dontextraditeassange.com/JA_Defence_Opening.pdf)] 24 Feb 2020  
    
  - US-UK **Extradition Treaty** [[PDF](https://fas.org/irp/world/uk/extradite.pdf)] [UK [Status](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/extradition-treaty-between-the-uk-and-the-usa-with-exchange-of-notes)]  
  - UK **Extradition Act 2003** [[Link](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/41/section/79)]  
  - The **US Indictment** (18 charges) [[Link](https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/wikileaks-founder-julian-assange-charged-18-count-superseding-indictment)]  
    
    
  **DAY 1** **Livestream**: [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/Ge9gZ20qMs4)]  
    
  **DAY 1 - on site reporting**:  
  - **Overnight** - waiting [M.A.E. [THREAD](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231722120205537282) People camping outside the prison]  
  - **Before court**  
  - General - [Taylor Hudak [Tweets](https://twitter.com/_taylorhudak/status/1231901904214601732)] [RSF [THREAD](https://twitter.com/RSF_inter/status/1231864299645231104)]  
  - **John Shipton** - [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/Ge9gZ20qMs4?t=31m04s)] [Hawley [Tweet](https://twitter.com/samanthahawley/status/1231865437492695040) video with **Gabriel Shipton**]  
    
  - **Inside the court NOTE:** Only a sampling from available tweets is included below  
    
  - **MacWBishop** [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1231885871516921856)] Blow by blow. plus **images** of **court outline** - **OUTLINE** of **PROSECUTION** Case (document) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1231915617436999682)] [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/US-Skeleton-Argument-FULL.pdf)] Not searchable  
   - **OUTLINE** of **DEFENCE** Case (document) starts here [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1231961848452407297)] [[PDF](https://dontextraditeassange.com/JA_Defence_Opening.pdf)] Searchable  
   [This person deserves a BIG prize for useful thread & providing images of the documents.]  
    
  - **M.A.E.** [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231892020068847622)]  
  **James Lewis QC** (for the prosecution): "In short [#Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click) is charged with publishing classified docs with the names of people that risked their safety", He's “not charged for publishing the so called collateral murder video”, [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231901345264918529)]   
  “… none of the charges allege he violated the law by obtaining and publishing the video, what Mr Assange seeks to defend as free speech or journalism .. is not the publication of classified material but the names of sources...” ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231901349039742977)]  
  “Assange revealed human sources... created a grave & imminent risk to human life”   
  “By publishing the docs w/o redacting human sources name Assange created grave & imminent risk that innocent people he named would suffer... [harm] or arbitrary detention” ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231901352512643072)]  
  **M.A.E**.: “They are using criticisms from papers like The Guardian & NYT. In essence they are arguing that unlike these 'proper' journalistic outlets [#WikiLeaks](https://twitter.com/hashtag/WikiLeaks?src=hashtag_click) published thousands of unredacted documents, Iraq & Afghanistan War logs and Dip Cables which put sources at risk” [Tweet]  
  - There are **sound problems** as James Lewis QC isn’t using the microphone properly.  
  - Also sound problems with Defence lawyers microphones.  
  **James Lewis QC**: "If a journalist or newspaper publishes secret information which is likely to cause harm, it commits and offence".   
  There is no "public interest defence" Lewis emphasises when discussing the relevant law in England under Official Secrets Act. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231925052251176960)]  
  J**ames Lewis QC**: “Article 10 [HRA 1998] "does not prevent anyone being charged with or convicted of such an offence"  
  "Otherwise you could publish anything you wanted to which is clearly contrary to statutory intention…"” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231925444699619329)]  
  **M.A.E.**: [Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click) attempted to speak, we are informed by a source in court Assange said [he's can't to hear proceedings and struggling to concentrate] but Judge said it is most irregular, Fitzgerald QC is now speaking to the court but we cant hear what’s being said. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231926728143953921)  
  J**ames Lewis QC**: "it is irrelevant that the activities [in question] transpired" when Assange and Manning were out of the US because Chelsea Manning was a soldier in the US military when the unauthorised activities happened.” [Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231923047738859521)]  
    
  - “Kicked out of press room for an hour by security.”  
    
  **Edwin Fitgerald QC**: “Because US requests seeks [#Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click) for what is a classic political offence which is expressly prohibited by the Anglo-US treaty "it is an inherently abuse of process".  
  “We say [extradition] should be refused on further grounds:” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1231964375277240320) with graphic]  
    
  - **Carolina Graterol** (many unthreaded tweets) [  
  - “Conditions in the press annexe for Assange extradition case are appalling. We are over 70 journalists in a stuffy room with no available WIFI connection and we cannot hear the prosecutors words because he keeps moving away from the microphone!!” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Moncaro/status/1231915606141739008) video]  
    
  - Later interviewed on [[Telesur](https://videos.telesurenglish.net/video/813627/from-the-south-813627/) at 1:56] and on [ES [RT](https://actualidad.rt.com/video/343950-eeuu-intenta-suprimir-verdad-revelar-assange)]  
    
  - **Patrick Henningson** [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/21WIRE/status/1231908625821708289)]  
  “Last thing b4 lunch: [#JulianAssange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/JulianAssange?src=hashtag_click) stands up at back of room, behind the glass, tapping to get attention of court, saying he 'could not concentrate' proceedings, apparently in part because of horns & noise from outside from protesters/supporters, but...”  
  ...JulianAssange added that he was ALSO grateful for all the support outside!”  
    
  - **Kevin Gosztola** [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1231889705496666113)]  
  “It’s terribly cumbersome. The Woolwich Court could learn a lot from US military about how to run a hearing of this magnitude and accommodate dozens of journalists.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1231930090809970689)]  
  “We finally can hear the judge. This is monumental ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1231944029094449154)]  
    
  “Judge asks James Lewis QC if offense of publishing this info would apply to newspapers. He replied 1989 Official Secrets Act would cover.

“If journalist of newspaper publishes secret information likely to cause harm in the categories, it commits an offense.”” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1231927563309735937)]  
  
- **Julia Hall** (Amnesty International) [Tweets unthreaded]  
“James Lewis QC refuses to speak into the microphone at [#JulianAssange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/JulianAssange?src=hashtag_click) hearing. We in the press annex cannot year anything. He has actually moved the microphone to the side after being asked to speak into it. It’s essentially a press/NGO blackout at the moment. ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/JuliaHall18/status/1231914540507566081)]  
  
“Judge asked Lewis to please speak into microphone. Lewis said, “I’ll try.” We’ve lost at least 15 minutes. **[Court] Transcripts immediately available essential now**. ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/JuliaHall18/status/1231918818143936513)]  
  
[**DAY 1 Text Report**](https://shadowproof.com/2020/02/24/assanges-defense-details-cia-backed-espionage-operation-trumps-politicization-of-justice-department/) from **Kevin Gosztola**  
[**DAY 1 Video Report**](https://youtu.be/7HI4INb0wq4) from **Kevin Gosztola**  
  
- **Wikileaks** [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1231947771244093448)]  
Defence lawyer **Edward Fitzgerald QC**:   
- “The extradition is for political purposes and that’s prohibited under US/UK treaty.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1231947771244093448)]  
- ”This prosecution is not about criminal justice, it is due to underlying political motives of the US government.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1231948532413816832)]  
- “... political motivation fuels this prosecution" and cites comments from the US government that Assange and Wikileaks are a 'non-state hostile intelligence agency'.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1231953588752130048)]  
- “It’s not about criminal justice, it’s about the manipulation of the system to ensure the United States could make an example of Assange"” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1231953866809397249)]  
- Fitzgerald: Julian Assange was subjected to surveillance on the instructions of US intelligence while in the Ecuadorian embassy. A witness (unnamed) has provided detail including how they collected sound recordings from microphones every 14 days”[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1231956360486703104)]  
- Witness #2 will testify that: “extreme measures” such as kidnapping or poisoning Assange were discussed among personnel involved in the espionage operation [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1231957008825360384)]  
  
- **James Doleman** [Unthreaded]  
- “Before he begins Lewis says that while the protesters we can hear outside are no on the court grounds, there is precedent for removing them as per the Court of Appeal judgment in a "Tommy Robinson" case.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1231909221647765505)]  
Re the case:  
- “Fitzgerald says he will call expert witnesses that will say there was no harm done to anyone as a result of Wikileaks, ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1231959369195171840)]  
- “The defence says WikiLeaks used technology to strip names from released documents, quotes New York Times piece [possibly [this one](https://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/30/magazine/30Wikileaks-t.html)].” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1231959807705395200)]  
- Fitzgerald says it is "unlikely," that Julian Assange will give evidence in the case. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1231965750522454016)]  
- Defence on Julian Assange: "He is Anti-war, anti-imperialist, for free speech and an open society. Those beliefs inevitably bring him into conflict with powerful states, and have led to him being called a 'terrorist." [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1231966844845744129)]  
- Defence "Julian Assange faces life in prison for publishing true information that was in the public interest..if truth becomes treason we are all in trouble." [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1231969959930204161)]  
- Defence [#Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click) suffers from a long term mental health issue, and clinical depression, that could be exacerbated by the inhumane conditions in US prisons. Cites the case of Lauri Love who was not extradited for that reason [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1231972139751890952)]  
- Defence, "The consequences of extradition could be fatal." [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1231972519181197312)]  
  
--Court rises for the day, back tomorrow at 10am.  
 Thanks, everyone for retweets, favourites and follows. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1231974533046898688)]  
  
-[**DAY 1 AM Repor**](https://assangecourt.report/day-1-morning-en/)**t** from **James Dolman [in** [**Italian**](https://assangecourt.report/it/day-1-morning)**]**  
- [**DAY 1 PM Report**](https://assangecourt.report/day-1-afternoon-en/) from **James Dolman [in** [**Italian**](https://assangecourt.report/it/day-1-afternoon)**]  
-** [**DAY 1 Photos**](https://assangecourt.report/day-1-photos-en/) **from James Dolman**  
  
- **Tareq Haddad** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad/status/1231924662172573696)]   
“Interesting side note re today's [#Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click) hearings while I write my summary: press room was packed for the opening statements from the U.S. government prosecution but room was half-empty for Assange's defense... is this fair and balanced journalism?”[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad/status/1232010582792056834)]  
  
- [**DAY 1 Report**](https://thewatchdog.net/2020/02/24/trumps-extortion-of-assange-makes-extradition-political-lawyers-say/) from **Tareq Haddad**  
  
- **Craig Murray** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CraigMurrayOrg/status/1231821949740998658)] - He got a seat in the court.  
“Back to our base after draining day in court. About to start writing up my report.   
First thought - if there was a jury I would say we had a great day. But experience of the Assange trials so far indicates what happens in court is utterly irrelevant to pre-determined verdict.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CraigMurrayOrg/status/1232003858471235587)]  
  
- [**DAY 1 Repor**](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2020/02/your-man-in-the-public-gallery-assange-hearing-day-1/)t from **Craig Murray  
 Version in French** (with photo of Julian in the dock) [FR Le Grand Soir]“**Lewis had thus just flat out contradicted his entire opening statement to the media stating that they need not worry as the Assange charges could never be applied to them.** And he did so straight after the adjournment, immediately after his team had handed out copies of the argument he had now just completely contradicted. I cannot think it has often happened in court that a senior lawyer has proven himself so absolutely and so immediately to be an unmitigated and ill-motivated liar.   
**This was undoubtedly the most breathtaking moment in today’s court hearing.**  
Yet remarkably I cannot find any mention anywhere in the mainstream media that this happened at all. What I can find, everywhere, is the mainstream media reporting, via cut and paste, Lewis’s first part of his statement on why the prosecution of Assange is not a threat to press freedom; but nobody seems to have reported that he totally abandoned his own argument five minutes later.   
**Were the journalists too stupid to understand the exchanges?”** [emphasis added]  
  
- **Randi Credico** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CredicoRandy/status/1231904307500527619)] - Sitting next to Craig Murray  
- **Stefania Maurizi** (la Repubblica) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1231902593930158080)]  
  
- **Courage Foundation** [@couragefound](https://twitter.com/couragefound) [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1232255574542364672)]  
  
- [**DAY 1 Summary**](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/02/24/usa-v-julian-assange-extradition-day-1/) from **Courage** [Defend WikiLeaks]  
  
  
- **Updates from KEY PEOPLE**  
- **Joseph Farrell** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/ChristyDopf/status/1231914525852565504) video] First break of the morning  
- **John Shipton** [AnonScan [Tweet](https://twitter.com/AnonScan/status/1231971696959279105)] With family, before court  
- **John Shipton** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1231938681780473859) video]  
- **John Shipton** [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/Ge9gZ20qMs4?t=31m04s)] During lunch  
- **John Shipton** [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/Ge9gZ20qMs4?t=2h35m27s) End of day] (Livestream cuts out)  
- **Kristinn Hrafnsson** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1231962990292996098) video] In the 10 minute break  
- **Kristinn Hrafnsson** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1231968565986656258) video] Nothing new in the prosecution case  
- **Kristinn Hrafnsson** [John McEvoy [Tweet](https://twitter.com/jmcevoy_2/status/1231923554809262080) video] Why aren't we talking   
 about the War Crimes?  
- **Jen Robinson** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1232020434281009152) video]  
  
**DAY 1 other Reporting**  [[Defend Wikileaks](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/02/25/usa-v-julian-assange-extradition-day-2/)]  
[[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002241078391026-live-updates-week-long-assange-extradition-hearing-kicks-off-at-woolwich-court---video/) Live Updates] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002241078394013-assange-hearing-prosecution-claims-wikileaks-publisher-isnt-wanted-for-revealing-war-crimes/) 1] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002241078394920-no-harm-resulted-from-wikileaks-revelations-us-government-admits-at-julian-assange-court-hearing/) 2] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/world/202002241078394176-it-would-be-the-end-of-free-speech-protest-against-assanges-extradition-at-belmarsh-prison/) 3] [[BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-51616077) article] [[C21 Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/) to come] [[USNews](https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2020-02-24/factbox-who-is-wikileaks-founder-julian-assange) “factbox”] [[NBC](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/assange-put-lives-risk-lawyer-u-s-says-extradition-hearing-n1141496)] [[RawStor](https://www.rawstory.com/2020/02/julian-assange-lawyer-tells-court-after-pardon-fell-through-trump-administration-resorted-to-extortion/)y] [[AmericanConservative](https://www.theamericanconservative.com/state-of-the-union/doj-drooling-over-likely-assange-extradition/)] [[NewsWeek](https://www.newsweek.com/wikileaks-julian-assange-extradition-hearing-london-kristinn-hrafnsson-trump-pardon-1488762)] [[Catalan News](https://www.catalannews.com/society-science/item/hundreds-turn-out-in-barcelona-to-support-julian-assange)] [[Telesur](https://www.telesurenglish.net/news/assanges-trial-for-us-extradition-begins-in-london-20200224-0002.html)] [DE [DerTagesspiegel](https://www.tagesspiegel.de/politik/beginn-des-auslieferungsverfahren-gegen-assange-der-gruender-von-wikileaks-darf-nicht-an-die-usa-ueberstellt-werden/25577748.html)] [[CNBC](https://www.cnbc.com/2020/02/24/julian-assange-british-court-begins-us-extradition-trial.html)] [[WSJ](https://www.wsj.com/articles/assange-put-lives-at-risk-u-s-argues-as-extradition-hearing-begins-11582559555)] [[ChicagoTribune](https://www.chicagotribune.com/nation-world/ct-nw-julian-assange-wikileaks-extradition-20200224-3hly4p2jlzczvk3duuqlw2vsgu-story.html)] [[Time](https://time.com/5789707/julian-assange-criminal-extradition-case/)] [[Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/britain-assange-defence/assange-would-be-suicide-risk-if-extradited-to-u-s-his-lawyer-says-idUSL9N28502R)] [ [MSN](https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/world/assange-struggling-to-concentrate-asks-supporters-to-be-quiet/ar-BB10klZD)] [[7News Boston](https://whdh.com/news/hero-or-criminal-court-hears-2-views-of-wikileaks-assange/)] [[USA Today](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2020/02/24/trump-wikileaks-julian-assange-extradition-hearing/4857467002/)] [[KPBS](https://www.kpbs.org/news/2020/feb/24/julian-assange-extradition-hearing-begins-in/)] [FR [Vox](https://thevoxpopulichanel.com/2020/02/24/trump-veut-faire-de-julian-assange-un-exemple-selon-ses-avocats/)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/481576-assange-extradition-hearing-begins/) 1] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/481561-kim-dotcom-history-kind-assange/) 2] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/481552-assange-protest-flags-masks/) 3] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/481550-assange-father-extradition-trial/) 4] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/481402-assange-journalism-rt-doc/) 5] [[RT](https://youtu.be/0ArMMV2Yd_8) 6] [[Shadowproof](https://shadowproof.com/2020/02/24/assanges-defense-details-cia-backed-espionage-operation-trumps-politicization-of-justice-department/)] [[CraigMurray](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2020/02/your-man-in-the-public-gallery-assange-hearing-day-1/)] [[The Duran](https://theduran.com/assanges-extradition-hearing-reveals-trumps-war-on-free-press-is-targeting-wikileaks-publisher/)] [[Telesur](https://videos.telesurenglish.net/video/813627/from-the-south-813627/)] [[Independent](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/julian-assange-extradition-hearing-wikileaks-suicide-us-trump-a9356141.html)] ES [RT](https://actualidad.rt.com/video/343950-eeuu-intenta-suprimir-verdad-revelar-assange)] [[SMH](https://www.smh.com.au/world/north-america/whatever-you-think-of-assange-his-case-has-broad-implications-20200224-p543sg.html) Opinion] [[Daily Mail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8037135/Julian-Assange-supporters-camp-ahead-WikiLeaks-founders-fight-against-extradition-US.html)] [[Common Dreams](https://www.commondreams.org/views/2020/02/25/assanges-extradition-hearing-reveals-trumps-war-free-press-targeting-wikileaks)][DE [DerStandard](https://www.derstandard.at/story/2000114928342/investigativjournalistin-der-fall-assange-ist-ein-armutszeugnis-fuer-den-journalismus#click=https://t.co/b4mpVJFu8c)] [[TheGrayzone](https://thegrayzone.com/2020/02/24/assanges-trial-risk-extradition-cia-spying/)] [[CountPunch](https://www.counterpunch.org/2020/02/26/assanges-extradition-hearing-reveals-trumps-war-on-free-press-is-targeting-wikileaks-publisher/)] [[Al Jazeera](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/02/conflicting-portraits-assange-extradition-hearing-opens-200224211627686.html)] [[MSN](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/assange-extradition-hearing-opens-with-claims-of-retribution-against-the-media-danger-to-us-informants/ar-BB10kRRl)] [[LatinAmericanTribune](http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=2489868&CategoryId=12395)] [[TulsaWorld](https://www.tulsaworld.com/news/trending/hero-or-criminal-court-hears-views-of-wikileaks-julian-assange/article_9ee4dfd5-cb64-52aa-9911-c48001f98383.html)] [[WFDD](https://www.wfdd.org/story/julian-assange-extradition-hearing-begins-london)]  
  
- **CN Live** (Consortium News) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/r8ESi1ApiQk?t=7m29s) 1] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/lLK0_woqlB0) 2]  
 **Commentators**: Catherine Brown, Alexander Mercouris, Ray McGovern, Craig Murray, Randy Credico, Patrick Henningsen, Kristinn Hrafnsson, Jen Robinson, Andrew Wilkie, Yanis Varoufakis & more  
  
**Tweeted or Blogged Comments**- **Kim Dotcom** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/KimDotcom/status/1231914961321938945)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/481561-kim-dotcom-history-kind-assange/) article]  
- **Yanis Varoufakis** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/yanisvaroufakis/status/1231877378391105537) To Progressives] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/yanisvaroufakis/status/1231875786996621312) To Conservatives]  
- **Caitin Johnstone**[ [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/caitoz/status/1231924653154717696)] on fiasco for press arrangements  
- **Christophe Deloire** (RSF) [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/cdeloire/status/1231984046202376193)]  
- **Ron Paul Institute** [[Statement](http://ronpaulinstitute.org/archives/featured-articles/2020/february/24/trump-s-betrayal-of-julian-assange/)]  
- **Glenn Greenwald** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/ggreenwald/status/1231912937046016013)]  
- **John Pilger**  [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/johnpilger/status/1232094136896905217)]

* **24 Feb 2020** **Global Day of Action** [[Website](https://dontextraditeassange.com/)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Candles4Assange/status/1226698210988580865) video]   
  Map of events [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kittyhundal/status/1230611226079698944)]  
    
  **Sydney** at 12:00h - Martin Place [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/people4assange/status/1226679509010661377)]   
    
  **Speakers**:   
  Mary Kostakidis MC [@MaryKostakidis](https://twitter.com/MaryKostakidis) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/F4TkH_bc7zc)]  
  Quentin Dempster [@QuentinDempster](https://twitter.com/QuentinDempster) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/x-u8nx1D698)]  
  Greg Barns [@BarnsGreg](https://twitter.com/BarnsGreg) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/XJajqAV-FJg)]  
  Dr Lissa Johnson [@LissaKJohnson](https://twitter.com/LissaKJohnson) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/6MB7hQpwE4U)]  
  Mark Davis [@ImpossibleBeast](https://twitter.com/ImpossibleBeast) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/w9Vi7qPqFPs)]  
  Prof John Rees [@ProfStuartRees](https://twitter.com/ProfStuartRees) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/0oijajI47_I)]  
  Father Dave [@fatherdave](https://twitter.com/fatherdave) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/_tgKQt9I4zA)]  
  John Pilger [@johnpilger](https://twitter.com/johnpilger) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/4dmK_kuGdU4)]  
  Ancrew Fowler [@AndrewJFowler](https://twitter.com/AndrewJFowler) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/PGmf92CTcjQ)]  
  Quentin Dempster [@QuentinDempster](https://twitter.com/QuentinDempster) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/x-u8nx1D698)]  
  Wendy Bacon [@Wendy\_Bacon](https://twitter.com/Wendy_Bacon) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/cu-yifIlrbo)]  
  Leslie Lynch [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/W-RsFOg_87w)]  
  Chamira Gamage [@ChamiraGamage](https://twitter.com/ChamiraGamage) [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/kTRpt-0Udkw)]  
    
  **Livestream**: [People4Assange [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/people4assange/videos/d41d8cd9/817107905422494/?__so__=permalink&__rv__=related_videos)] [Twitter [Livestream](https://twitter.com/people4assange/status/1231748083983122432)]  
  **On site**: [TatianaSchild [THREAD](https://twitter.com/tatianaschild/status/1231724696711753730) photos]  
  **Reporting**:  
    
  - Other **Australian** and **New Zealand** cities [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Candles4Assange/status/1226611135505240064)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/14/rall-f14.html)]  
  - **London** at 9:30am in front of Belmarsh Prison [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Candles4Assange/status/1226612932571582464)]  
   NOTE: Volunteers needed to help with logistics on the day. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1227205773236801536)]  
  - **Edinburgh** at 10:30am in front of parliament [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Candles4Assange/status/1226612932571582464)]  
  - **European** cities [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Candles4Assange/status/1226613482004463617)]  
  - Large demonstration in **Barcelona** [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/assemblea_int/status/1232011653828444160)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/avilarenata/status/1232014279362125830) photos]   
   [CatalanNews [Tweet](https://twitter.com/catalannews/status/1232043888795320322)]  
  - **America** - **East Coast** cities [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Candles4Assange/status/1226614800156749824)]  
   - Washington DC [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/medeabenjamin/status/1232000268562247681) video]  
  - **America** - **West Coast** cities [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Candles4Assange/status/1226616216883609600)]  
   **-** Report from ***Haiti Liberté***[[Report](http://bigapplecoffeeparty.org/world-wide-rallies-demand-dont-extradite-asange/)]  
    
  - **NOTE**: A “Free Julian” Stencil is now available for printing on your Yellow Vest (or whatever) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Aus4Assange/status/1230712137648984065)]
* **24 Feb 2020 Geoffrey Robertson QC** speaks about illegal surveillance of his meetings with Assange in the Embassy as “a possible lifeline” [[ABC](https://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2020-02-24/geoffrey-robertson-responds-to-julian-assange-secret-recording/11993792?pfmredir=sm)]
* **24 Feb 2020 Kristinn Hrafnsson** - “A conversation with Wikileaks editor-in-chief Kristinn Hrafnsson about transparency and journalism in a world full of secrecy. And about clean craft.” [DE [Republik](https://www.republik.ch/2020/02/24/sie-wollen-eine-linie-ziehen-zwischen-wikileaks-und-dem-uebrigen-journalismus-zwischen-assange-und-den-anderen-journalisten)]
* **24 Feb 2020 Nils Melzer “J’Accuse”**[EN [Schweizer Monat](https://schweizermonat.ch/jaccuse/#)] [DE [Schweizer Monat](https://schweizermonat.ch/assange/)]
* **24 Feb 2020 Nils Melzer** interviews **- Going Underground** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Underground_RT/status/1231919131932405760)][[YouTube](https://youtu.be/f4rTv8FL6lg)]  
  **- German TV**  [DE [tagesgespraech](https://www.srf.ch/sendungen/tagesgespraech/nils-melzer-polarisiert-mit-aussagen-zu-julian-assange?ns_source=web&srg_sm_medium=tw?ns_source=web&srg_sm_medium=tw)]
* **24 Feb 2020** **Nils Melzer** releases a draft of his coming **Report** to the UN Human Rights Council, focusing **on psychological torture**. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1232067039910662145)]  
  “In the present report, the Special Rapporteur examines conceptual, definitional and interpretative questions arising in relation to the notion of “psychological torture” under human rights law. ”  
    
  NOTE: Para 42 directly addresses the situation currently faced by **Chelsea Manning** - defining her indefinite imprisonment and her fines as forms of psychological torture.  
    
  **Reporting**: [[Al Jazeera](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/02/report-shines-light-psychological-torture-200225083958507.html)]
* **24 Feb 2020** **Australian Lawyers Alliance (ALA)** condemns the secret filming of Assange’s legal meetings [[Statement](https://www.lawyersalliance.com.au/news/ala-condemns-secret-filming-of-assanges-legal-meetings)]  
    
  “All individuals have the right to confer with their legal advisers in confidence. This is a fundamental principle of the legal system and a basic legal right,” said Mr Andrew Christopoulos, National President, ALA. “It does not matter who that person is, or what they are alleged to have done.

“We call on Attorney General, Christian Porter and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Marise Payne to condemn this behaviour and to raise this issue with their US counterparts. Julian Assange is an Australian citizen who has had his right to confidential communications with his legal team breached.

“This breach sets a dangerous precedent that will erode confidence in the legal proceedings. The revelation confirms the ALA’s view that the Assange extradition proceedings must end.”

* **24 Feb 2020 The Council of Bar and Law Societies of Europe [CCBE]** writes to **Priti Patel**  regarding the interception of communications between Assange and his lawyers [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/AitorxMartinez/status/1232987190373777408) Images]
* **24 Feb 2020** Premier of “***The Assange Story***” [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/mcmastersteve/status/1231238555508277251)] [[Youtube](https://youtu.be/630X89TbI74)]  
  “The Assange Story. WikiLeaks founder’s journey from whistleblowing hero to exile. The Assange Story will premiere on February 24th, the very same day Julian Assange’s fate is to be decided in the first part of a landmark US extradition hearing in London.  
    
  Watch Assange’s friends, father and former colleagues for a profound insight into his personality and motives. John Shipton, Suelette Dreyfus, Vaughn Smith, Renata Avila and Johannes Wahlstrom as they- offer their personal perspectives on the WikiLeaks founder.”  
    
  Reporting: [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/481402-assange-journalism-rt-doc/)]
* **24 Feb 2020** **Prof Marcello Ferrada de Noli**, chairman of Swedish Doctors for Human Rights (SWEDHR) speaks on (Russian) REN TV about the case   
  [[The Indicte](https://theindicter.com/so-you-ask-me-why-all-this-torture-against-assange/)r transcription]

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#### **25 Feb 2020** **DAY 2** : **US Extradition hearing** (1 wk)

* At Belmarsh Magistrates Court (inside Woolwich Crown Court).  
  - Information from Courts for attendees [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/11/18/what-will-assange-the-press-and-the-public-face-in-february-2020-at-belmarsh-magistrates-court/amp/)]  
  - Background material [[Defend Wikileaks](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/02/23/usa-v-julian-assange-extradition-hearing/)]  
    
  - **PROSECUTION** Opening Note [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/OpeningNoteUS.pdf)] 30 July 2019  
  - **PROSECUTION** Outline of Case Not searchable [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/US-Skeleton-Argument-FULL.pdf)] 17 Feb 2020  
     
  - **DEFENCE** Submission re ‘Political Offences’ [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/AsangeDefenceSkeletonArgument.pdf)] 18 Oct 2019  
  - **DEFENCE** Reply on ‘Political Offence Protection’ [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/AssangeDefenceReply.pdf)] 21 Feb 2020  
  - **DEFENCE** Outline of Case Searchable [[PDF](https://dontextraditeassange.com/JA_Defence_Opening.pdf)] 24 Feb 2020  
    
  - US-UK **Extradition Treaty** [[PDF](https://fas.org/irp/world/uk/extradite.pdf)] [[Status](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/extradition-treaty-between-the-uk-and-the-usa-with-exchange-of-notes)]  
  - UK **Extradition Act 2003** [[Link](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/41/section/79)]  
  - The **US Indictment** (18 charges) [[Link](https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/wikileaks-founder-julian-assange-charged-18-count-superseding-indictment)]  
    
  **DAY 2 Livestream**: [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/QLMAYA0jZR4)]  
    
  **DAY 2 - on site reporting**:  
  - **Overnight**]  
  - **Before court NOTE:** Only a sampling from available tweets is included below  
    
  - **Rebecca Vincent** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/rebecca_vincent/status/1232204656639643649)]   
  - “At day two of the Assange extradition hearing, wikileaks editor in chief [**Kristinn Hrafnsson** @khrafnsson](https://twitter.com/khrafnsson) is not being allowed into the court, under orders, for unspecified reasons.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/rebecca_vincent/status/1232241175400198144)] [See followUp below]  
    
  - **Inside the court**- **Rebecca Vincent** (RSF) [@rebecca\_vincent](https://twitter.com/rebecca_vincent)  
  - “**Kristinn Hrafnsson** has now been allowed into the public gallery at the Assange hearing. The reason for his being told by court officials he had been banned remains unclear. [@RSF\_inter](https://twitter.com/RSF_inter) is relieved he has now been granted access & awaits a further explanation from the court.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/rebecca_vincent/status/1232247598045704192)]  
  - “Assange’s lawyers say he has been strip-searched twice, taken to five different holding cells, handcuffed 11 times, and had his legal documents confiscated on entry and exit from Belmarsh prison.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/rebecca_vincent/status/1232269109016002561)]  
  - “In court this morning, [@RSF\_inter](https://twitter.com/RSF_inter) observers were alarmed to hear reports of mistreatment of Julian Assange, and interference with his legally privileged documents, at Belmarsh prison since the extradition hearing has started.””[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/rebecca_vincent/status/1232268826902978561)]  
    
  - **Christian Mihr** (RSF) [@cmihr](https://twitter.com/cmihr)  
  - “Good to see [@GermanEmbassy](https://twitter.com/GermanEmbassy) represantative observing Assange extradition hearing in London. ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/cmihr/status/1232305395244392448)]  
  - Happy about **German parliamentarian**s observing Assange hearing in London. Thanks to [@DorisAchelwilm](https://twitter.com/DorisAchelwilm) [@SevimDagdelen](https://twitter.com/SevimDagdelen) & [@HeikeHaensel](https://twitter.com/HeikeHaensel) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/cmihr/status/1232304388401750016)]  
    
  - **Mac William Bishop** [@MacWBishop](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop) [THREAD](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1232244701711028225) (very long)  
  - “The way this works moving forward is this: lawyers representing the US government (prosecutors) will continue to make the argument that the charges against Assange meet all legal requirements for his extradition to the United States.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1232244995526135808)]  
  - “Meanwhile Assange’s lawyers (defense) will argue against his extradition using multiple lines of attack, built primarily around the UK legal concept of “abuse of process,” eg that something is “so unfair and wrong that the court should not allow a prosecutor to proceed” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1232245444253814785)]  
  - “This defense will rely upon the idea that the charges against Assange are political in nature, and his attorneys have already indicated in their opening summary that they intend to harness the contentious partisan debate surrounding Assange in service of this defense.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1232246408738152449)]  
    
  - “John Lewis, the prosecutor, is complaining that the defense is receiving transcripts of the proceedings, while the prosecution is not.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1232249816958328832)]  
  - “The discussion about the transcripts has been resolved with a compromise, in which the defense will give the prosecutors a copy of the their transcripts.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1232251398298927104)]  
    
  - “Summers is describing how a database of unredacted cables was accessed by multiple third parties after the **Guardian’s David Leigh** published the password to the database as part of a book; the defense seeks to show Assange was not responsible for the release of unredacted docs.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1232251398298927104)]  
    
  Later:  
  “We pause as the magistrate inquires whether Assange is feeling sufficiently well to continue for today.  
  Assange replies through his team that he is having trouble concentrating and is not feeling well. The judge instructs Lewis to complete his current point quickly.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1232328755500244992)]  
    
  - **James Doleman** [@jamesdoleman](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman) (unthreaded)  
  Re treatment of Julian Assange on the way to court:  
  - “James Lewis QC for US government rises to support the defence submission that Assange treatment may interfere with Assange's right to a fair hearing.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232252635987816448)]  
    
  - **Mark Summers QC**: "Wikileaks had a process to identify and redact the names of anyone ar risk. A very different situation from what you heard [from the prosecution] yesterday.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232264959989616640)]  
  - “Summers says this continued for 9 months, until the unredacted release. Says that one of the media partners published a book that gave away the password to the archive, which led to other sites publishing the unredacted cables.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232265822598500352)]  
  - “Julian Assange personally warned the White House that an encrypted database if unredacted cables was about to leak on the internet. He was told to call back in a few hours.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232275799216181248)]  
    
  -[**DAY 2 AM Report**](https://assangecourt.report/day-2-morning-en/) from **James Dolman [in** [**Italian**](https://assangecourt.report/it/day-2-morning)**]**  
  - [**DAY 2 PM Report**](https://assangecourt.report/day-2-afternoon-en/) from **James Dolman [in** [**Italian**](https://assangecourt.report/it/day-2-afternoon)**]  
  -** [**DAY 2 Photos**](https://assangecourt.report/day-2-photos-en/) from **James Dolman**  
    
  - **M.A.E.** [@MElmaazi](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi) [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232265367306801152)]  
  - “It's come to his [Julian’s] attention the cables will be published unredacted "imminently" & that "lives are going to be put at risk".  
  Before he contacted the state department he contacted Cryptome & "begged" them to stop publicising & take down the info.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232304818628288512)]  
  - ”This call by Assange to the US state department was actually recorded in the documentary Risk by Laura Poitras.” ][Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232309534351384577)]  
    
  - **Wikileaks** [@wikileaks](https://twitter.com/wikileaks)  
  - “Barry Pollack - [US] Defense Attorney for Julian Assange: [from outside court]  
   "The US gov claims Julian Assange intentionally published names of sources without redaction. What we learned today is that the US govt knew all along that that wasn't true"” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1232308472085204993)]  
    
  - **Patrick Hennigsen** [@21WIRE](https://twitter.com/21WIRE) [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/21WIRE/status/1232270900726304769)]  
  - “5) Defense **Mark Summers** called US govt extradition allegations, "Bold, blatantly misrepresenting facts of what actually happened." In his opening remarks this morning flatly describing calling US Prosecution's case against Julian Assange as, "**Lies, lies and more lies.**"” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/21WIRE/status/1232302765164109825)]  
  - “7) How embarrassing for Washington and [@realDonaldTrump](https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump) to have mailed this one in. Today was a total blow-out! DOJ indictments against Julian Assange are a work of fiction.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/21WIRE/status/1232270900726304769)]  
    
  - **Kevin Gosztola** [@kgosztola](https://twitter.com/kgosztola)[[THREAD](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232250011209097216)]  
  - “**Chelsea Manning’**s grand jury resistance is enormous for the Assange defense. By never saying a word about her statement to court in 2013 that may have contradicted it, the defense can cite as reliable chronology to rebut and undermine the flawed chronology of US case” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232280435109003265)]  
  - “In great detail, I previously addressed the way **Chelsea Manning**’s chronology conflicted with chronology in US case against Assange and why that mattered” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232281634919063553)]   
   [[Quoted Article](https://medium.com/@kevin_33184/trump-justice-departments-prosecution-of-julian-assange-relies-on-contrived-conspiracy-theory-86aae70f131c) 28 May 2029]   
  - “Once more, defense makes point in testimony about how access was tracked. The detainee assessment briefs did not require a username nor did it require a user account nor did it require a password. It was tracked by IP addresses. So why would she need decryption? ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232286442799407106)]  
    
  - [**DAY 2 Text Repor**](https://shadowproof.com/2020/02/25/assange-extradition-hearing-chelsea-mannings-grand-jury-resistance-a-major-hurdle-for-prosecutors/)t from **Kevin Gosztola**  
  - [**DAY 2 Video Report**](https://youtu.be/Yh7Jis-H6d0) from **Kevin Gosztola**  
    
  - **Julia Hall** (Amnesty International) [@JuliaHall18](https://twitter.com/JuliaHall18) [Tweets unthreaded]  
    
  - **Stephania Maurizi** [@SMaurizi](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi)  
    
  - **Craig Murray** [@CraigMurrayOrg](https://twitter.com/CraigMurrayOrg)  
   - [**DAY 2 Report**](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2020/02/your-man-in-the-public-gallery-assange-hearing-day-2/) from **Craig Murray  
   Version in French** (with photo of Julian in the dock) [FR [[Le Grand Soir](https://www.legrandsoir.info/compte-rendu-du-proces-assange-2eme-jour.html)]  
    
  - **Tareq Haddad** [@Tareq\_Haddad](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad)  
  - “Apologies for lack of updates: a lot of details in defense statements and busy taking a transcription. So far, defense has thoroughly taken apart prosecution claim that Assange solicited documents from Manning ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad/status/1232295729953153026)]  
  - [**DAY 2 Report**](https://thewatchdog.net/2020/02/25/u-s-prosecution-team-has-willfully-lied-to-the-courts-assange-lawyers-say/) from **Tareq Haddad  
  -** [**DAY 2 Interview**](https://twitter.com/_taylorhudak/status/1232363769155739648)of **Tareq Hahhad**  
    
  - **Randi Credico** [@CredicoRandy](https://twitter.com/CredicoRandy)

#### - **Carolina Graterol** [@Moncaro](https://twitter.com/Moncaro) - Appears not to be in court today - NUJ /IFJ (Tim Dawson) - [DAY 2 Report](https://www.nuj.org.uk/news/attending-the-assange-trial-day-two/) from NUJ - **Courage Foundation** [@couragefound](https://twitter.com/couragefound) [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1232255574542364672)] - [**DAY 2 Summary**](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/02/25/usa-v-julian-assange-extradition-day-2/) from **Courage** [Defend WikiLeaks] - **Outside the court,** **protesters** keep on keeping on [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jlpassarelli/status/1232306611919736832) video] **DAY 2 Updates from KEY PEOPLE** - **Kristinn Hrafnsson** banned from the hearing (later rescinded). [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232265367306801152) video] - **John Rees** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1232304237973032961) video] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jlpassarelli/status/1232363974563332096) video] - **Kristinn Hrafnsson** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1232302962720018432) video] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232339782052859905) video] - **Barry Pollack** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1232306677162049536) video] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jlpassarelli/status/1232312153484300288) video] - **Joseph Farrell** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jlpassarelli/status/1232299745403719681) video] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jlpassarelli/status/1232403866467127301) video] - **Fidel Narvaez** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1232344503304048643) video] - **John Shipton** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/AnonScan/status/1232310355050676224) video] - **Jen Robinson** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/StefSimanowitz/status/1232405955524136960) video] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Ruptly/status/1232595548915499008) video] **DAY 2 other Reporting** [[Defend Wikileaks](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/02/25/usa-v-julian-assange-extradition-day-2/)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002251078397806-assange-hearing-defence-blasts-politically-motivated-charges-as-abuse-of-process/) 1] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002251078399727-wikileaks-editor-in-chief-hrafnsson-banned-from-assange-hearings-with-no-explanation/) 2] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002251078395679-assange-hearing-trump-was-aware-and-approved-of-pardon-offer/) 3] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/analysis/202002261078405595-unbelievable-abuse-prison-torture-of-assange-persists-alongside-extradition-hearing/) 4] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002251078402898-assange-hearing-manning-sought-help-accessing-video-game-database-not-hacking-us-government-system/) 5] [[TheGuardian](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2020/feb/25/julian-assange-handcuffed-stripped-naked-claim-lawyers?CMP=share_btn_tw)] [DE [Zeit](https://www.zeit.de/digital/2020-02/wikileaks-julian-assange-auslieferungsverfahren-isolation-ueberwachung-todesdrohung)] [[C21Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/02/25/the-health-of-julian-assange-a-case-of-state-sponsored-neglect/) Health] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/25/pers-f25.html) 1] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/25/prot-f25.html) 2] [[Consortium News](https://consortiumnews.com/2020/02/25/ray-mcgovern-queens-counsel-charges-vs-assange-significantly-overwrought/)] [[Fox News](https://www.foxnews.com/world/julian-assange-prison-mistreatment-allegations)] [[BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-51633303)] [[ZeroHedge](https://www.zerohedge.com/political/us-plotted-kidnap-or-kill-julian-assange-wikileaks-attorney-tells-london-court)] [[ABC Aus](https://twitter.com/Dr_LCorredor/status/1232634925045563392)] [[9News](https://www.9news.com.au/world/julian-assange-court-case-london/072d51bb-ebae-4082-9b61-d8c211405d46)] [[DailyMail 1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8041597/US-plotted-kill-Julian-Assange-make-look-like-accident.html?ito=social-twitter_dailymailus&__twitter_impression=true) [[DailyMail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8043771/The-Guardian-published-unredacted-Wikileaks-cables-not-Julian-Assange-lawyer-tells-court.html) 2] [[Vice](https://www.vice.com/en_in/article/wxep74/julian-assange-was-strip-searched-twice-after-the-first-day-of-his-extradition-hearing)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/481662-assange-extradition-hearing-day-two/) 1] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/481657-wikileaks-barred-extradition-assange-abuse/) 2] [[Jurist](https://www.jurist.org/news/2020/02/uk-court-begins-assange-extradition-hearing/)] [[Craig MurrayOrg]](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2020/02/your-man-in-the-public-gallery-assange-hearing-day-2/) FR [[Le Grand Soir](https://www.legrandsoir.info/compte-rendu-du-proces-assange-2eme-jour.html)] [[NUJ](https://www.nuj.org.uk/news/attending-the-assange-trial-day-two/)] [[IndependentAustralia](https://independentaustralia.net/politics/politics-display/defence-digs-in-as-julian-assange-fights-extradition,13639#.XlwGFjCUCv4.twitter)] [ES [Pagina12](https://www.pagina12.com.ar/249377-no-importa-assange)] **DAY 2 Important Comments**: - **Yanis Varoufakis:** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/yanisvaroufakis/status/1232322479982551040)] - **Raffi Khatchadourian** [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/raffiwriter/status/1232296738813349889)] - **CAGE UK** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/UK_CAGE/status/1232314132533088257)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/UK_CAGE/status/1232393770370465792)] Re harassment of Assange - **Ian Overton** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/iainoverton/status/1231948664584704000)] Re his personal experience of redactions - **Jonathan Cook** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Jonathan_K_Cook/status/1232297893450698752)[ [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Jonathan_K_Cook/status/1232304137116823554)] - **Kristinn Harnsson** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/khrafnsson/status/1232404629314572289)] [See previous related [article](https://medium.com/@KitKlarenberg/assange-guardian-new-york-times-betrayal-fe6dbbfe78fa) and [THREAD](https://twitter.com/i/events/1160267582324269057) related to the redactions]

* **25 Feb 2020** “***Imperialism on Trial (#5)***” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Unity4J/status/1226134937864196097)] [[Register](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/imperialism-on-trial-free-julian-assange-tickets-93623557581)]  
  [Previous four Assange events [here](https://twitter.com/i/events/1152567140643430400)]  
   [RT video]] [Tweeted clip]  
  **Speakers**:  
  - MC: **Greg Sharkey**   
  - **Craig Murray** (Former UK Ambassador) [[0:13:55](https://youtu.be/CxNgQI6kzgs?t=13m55s)]  
  - **Alexander Mercouris** (The Duran) [[0:27:15](https://youtu.be/CxNgQI6kzgs?t=27m15s)]  
  - **Eva Bartlett** (Investigative journalist) [[0:37:29](https://youtu.be/CxNgQI6kzgs?t=37m29s)]  
  - **Peter Lavelle** (CrossTalk host RT) [[0:54:03](https://youtu.be/CxNgQI6kzgs?t=54m03s)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/_taylorhudak/status/1232385307229769732) clip]  
  --**George Galloway** [[1:02:20](https://youtu.be/CxNgQI6kzgs?t=1h02m20s)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1232397496124690432) clip]  
  - **LIVE “Cross Talk” Panel** [[1:18:58](https://youtu.be/CxNgQI6kzgs?t=1h18m58s)]  
   **Panel includes (left to right)**  
  - **Peter Lavelle** (CrossTalk host RT)  
  - **Joe Lauria** (Consortium News)  
  - **Joti Brar** (Author)- **Eva Bartlet** (Journalist)- **Neil Clark** (journalist)   
  - **Mike Barson** (Madness)  
  - **PUBLIC Questions**  
   “Who is behind the persecution of Assange” [[2:29:40](https://youtu.be/CxNgQI6kzgs?t=2h29m40s)]  
    
  (See also Sputnik [article](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002261078407957-imperialism-on-trial-alternative-media-heavyweights-slam-fraud-of-western-assange-case-narrative/) and facebook [video](https://www.facebook.com/SputnikNews/videos/194995805068181/) and Twitter [Moment](https://twitter.com/i/events/1152567140643430400))
* **25 Feb 2020** **DW** (Germany) promote the English version of the recent (2020) Documentary “***Wikileaks: Julian Assange, Public Enemy***?” [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/pgw6FoFPhjo)]
* **25 Feb 2020** J**ulian Hill MP** (Federal MP for Bruce, Australia) speaks out for Julian in Parliament. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/JulianHillMP/status/1232500228814589952) video] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/UMiZVXBxuho)]
* **25 Feb 2020** Anne Ramberg (Secretary-General of the Swedish Bar Association 2000-2019 )- “***The Treatment of Assange - A Swedish Failure***”  
  [SW [Anne Ramberg Blog](https://annerambergs.wordpress.com/blogg-2/)]  
  “Assange is a cautionary example of where the Swedish judicial system has failed.”  
    
  “The fact that a preliminary investigation was initiated at all can be strongly questioned. The fact that the preliminary investigation was not carried forward is remarkable. The fact that the courts did not make a claim on the prosecutor was weak. That the closure decision was delayed for so many years was unjustifiable.”  
    
  “It is little flattering for a country like Sweden, which usually speaks with a loud voice when it comes to other countries' shortcomings in terms of legal security and human rights violations, that as completely as we did in the case of Julian Assange. The consequences for Assange are unhelpful. The effects on trust in the legal community are detrimental. Now freedom of expression is at stake.”

#### **26 Feb 2020** **DAY 3** : **US Extradition hearing** (1 wk)

* At Belmarsh Magistrates Court (inside Woolwich Crown Court).  
  - Information from Courts for attendees [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/11/18/what-will-assange-the-press-and-the-public-face-in-february-2020-at-belmarsh-magistrates-court/amp/)]  
  - Background material [[Defend Wikileaks](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/02/23/usa-v-julian-assange-extradition-hearing/)]  
    
  - **PROSECUTION** Opening Note [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/OpeningNoteUS.pdf)] 30 July 2019  
  - **PROSECUTION** Outline of Case Not searchable [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/US-Skeleton-Argument-FULL.pdf)] 17 Feb 2020  
     
  - **DEFENCE** Submission re ‘Political Offences’ [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/AsangeDefenceSkeletonArgument.pdf)] 18 Oct 2019  
  - **DEFENCE** Reply on ‘Political Offence Protection’ [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/AssangeDefenceReply.pdf)] 21 Feb 2020  
  - **DEFENCE** Outline of Case Searchable [[PDF](https://dontextraditeassange.com/JA_Defence_Opening.pdf)] 24 Feb 2020  
    
  - US-UK **Extradition Treaty** [[PDF](https://fas.org/irp/world/uk/extradite.pdf)] [[Status](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/extradition-treaty-between-the-uk-and-the-usa-with-exchange-of-notes)]  
  - UK **Extradition Act 2003** [[Link](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/41/section/79)]  
  - The **US Indictment** (18 charges) [[Link](https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/wikileaks-founder-julian-assange-charged-18-count-superseding-indictment)]  
    
  **DAY 3 Livestreams**: [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/hWWx897xuRk) 4hrs] [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/F7bwEA3H4UI) Pt2 ] [[Sputnik](https://youtu.be/gF5wNdTgURw) 3hrs]  
    
  **DAY 3 - on site reporting**  
  - **Overnight**  
  - **Before court**- **Inside the court NOTE:** Only a sampling from available tweets is included below  
  - **Rebecca Vincent** (RSF) [@rebecca\_vincent](https://twitter.com/rebecca_vincent)  
    
  - **Christian Mihr** (RSF) [@cmihr](https://twitter.com/cmihr)  
    
  - **Mac William Bishop** [@MacWBishop](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop) [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1232606281086775296)] (very long)  
    
  - **James Doleman** [@jamesdoleman](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman) (unthreaded)  
  - Defence on "treason" comments by Republican lawmakers on Assange, "Its hard to understand how he could commit treason when he is not a citizen of the United States." ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232647722299162625)]  
  **PM**  
  - “[Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click) told the court "I am as much a participant in these proceedings as I am at Wimbledon."” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232677349222703104)]  
  - “The prosecution lawyer says "The Defence are trying to create a right via the backdoor."” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232689752777859072)]  
  - “(Sorry for lack of updates, we are back to legal precedent examples.)” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232692498516074496)]  
  - “(These are very difficult for us to follow as they are **referring to sections of documents we here on the press benches simply don't** have. Any update would be "Lawyer refers to page three, paragraph 17 of a document," which is not very informative)” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232693067985100800)]  
    
  -[**DAY 3 AM Report**](https://assangecourt.report/day-3-morning-en/) from **James Dolman [in** [**Italian**](https://assangecourt.report/it/day-3-morning)**]**  
  - [**DAY 3 PM Report**](https://assangecourt.report/day-3-afternoon-en/) from **James Dolman [in** [**Italian**](https://assangecourt.report/it/day-3-afternoon)**]  
  -** [**DAY 3 Photos**](https://assangecourt.report/day-3-photos-en/)from **James Dolman**  
    
  - **M.A.E.** [@MElmaazi](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi) [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232612796011106304)]  
  - “Fitzgerald QC quotes USG rep [James] Lewis QC  
  who notes "pure political offences cant result in extradition. Pure political offences "are directed against the government or political (treason, sedition, espionage)" so he himself accepts that espionage is a pure political offence.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232636627064885248)] [Name corrected in later quote]  
    
  - “"He can’t deny that it is prohibited to extradite for a political offence in the treaty itself. Therefore we submit it would be pretty strange if the court was powerless to do anything about it. … You’re charged with 17 counts of espionage and another which is espionage too, the “[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232636632194600960)]  
    
  - “treaty says you cant be extradited for a political offence, espionage is a political offence, but there’s nothing we can do. It would be strange"  
  [30 min adjournment]  
  "Madam I can show you authority, after authority textbooks w/ recognise espionage as a 'pure political offence'" ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232636637433212928)]  
    
  **DAY 3 Articles from M.A.E**  [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002261078408817-assange-hearing-judge-rejects-plea-to-intervene-against-mistreatment-of-assange-by-prison-officials/) 1]  
    
  - **Wikileaks** [@wikileaks](https://twitter.com/wikileaks)  
    
  - **Patrick Hennigsen** [@21WIRE](https://twitter.com/21WIRE) [THREAD]  
  - Looks like no thread today. Not clear if Patrick is in court today.  
    
  - “ASSANGE HEARING UPDATE: JulianAssange defense **Ed Fitzgerald** has raised a fundamental challenge to UK's legal ability to actually extradite Assange as it would fundamentally violate 1972 Treaty baring extradition on basis of a political offense...” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/21WIRE/status/1232633160921419778)}  
    
  - **Kevin Gosztola** [@kgosztola](https://twitter.com/kgosztola)[[THREAD](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232603895488225281)]  
  - “Here is main thrust of defense argument: Julian Assange is charged under US Espionage Act. All charges depend on alleged intent to obtain or disclose US state secrets in manner damaging to US government. These are “political offenses” and unlawful under extradition treaty.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232608159078010880)] [Shows image from points 1.3 to 1.6 in [Defence Outline](https://dontextraditeassange.com/JA_Defence_Opening.pdf)]  
    
  - “Judge is fixed on the UK Extradition Act passed in 2003 that went into force in 2004. Defense emphasizes the US-UK treaty in force was ratified by UK in 2007. It did not discourage reliance on “political offenses” provisions to protect from unlawful extradition.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232625582581698560)]  
    
  - “Defense: “The more we research this, the more one sees this is a universal norm.” It dates back 100 years. In standard UN model treaty. in European Convention that contains prohibitions on extradition. In Interpol convention. It has universal application.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232626449389096961)]  
    
  - “From defense’s reply to prosecution, which has come up in this argument from defense. Prosecutors haven’t spoken on this matter in court, **but judge is advancing their argument.** Defense insists UK 2003 Extradition Act shouldn’t be license to disregard treaty protection” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232627527371411456)] [Image attached]  
    
  - “Under the umbrella of “abuse of process,” defense is putting a lot in the record that would be useful at High Court, Appeal Court, Supreme Court, or European Court of Human Rights. Because the judge may not be receptive to much of their defense case.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232633763252838400)]  
    
  - “Defense is making this argument, which I highlighted in April 2019 after Assange was initially indicted. Computer crime charge is really an Espionage Act charge. See 793e of the Act and compare to language in the charge. ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232637881090486279)] [[Article link](https://shadowproof.com/2019/04/11/justice-department-charges-julian-assange-with-computer-crime-but-alleges-conspiracy-to-abet-espionage/) 11 Apr 2019] [Image also attached to tweet]  
    
  - “Fitzgerald: Purely political offenses lack essential elements of common crime. Person is acting on basis of their beliefs. That is expressly what is alleged in indictment, crimes committed against United States. “Classic example” of political offenses” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232641857135562752)]  
    
  -Read more important tweets on the thread.  
  - LUNCH  
  - ReTweets Diani Barreto [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/diani_barreto/status/1232676870338027520)]  
   “Julian [#Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click) is speaking now to the Magistrate; that he cannot instruct his lawyers; that there is no privacy, he cannot participate. He cannot speak to his lawyer’s, without any confidence. Judge orders him to cease speaking; its not allowed for a Defendant to speak.”  
    
  - “Defense says it will make application for bail so Julian Assange can sit with defense attorneys.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232680969276215296)]  
  - “**Prosecutor James Lewis is being more sensible than the judge**. He says a security guard could still be on either side of Assange. Judge seems to believe he would no longer be in custody if no longer in dock so dismissive of request.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232681332381274112)]  
  - “Prosecutor James Lewis: From prosecution’s point of view we take a neutral stance. We’re not sure a bail application would be most appropriate” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232682163168038921)]  
  - “Judge says defendant surrenders to the dock of court and "release from the dock requires an application of bail." But incredibly, the prosecution disagrees! They're okay with figuring out how it would be permissible for Assange to sit in well of court with attorneys” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232682165130887169)]  
  - “So we're all supposed to proceed like this is normal and totally reasonable when it is completely preposterous ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232682454282055681)]  
    
  - “Again, if I have this right, **Lewis** says **political offense exception was abolished by omission by Parliament.** So he is saying judge must only apply what was proscribed in the Extradition Act itself” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232694314133860353)]  
  - “This obviously is contested by defense. Lewis says, "You can’t introduce [political offense] as abuse of process cause there always has to be prejudice caused by prosecution."   
  I don't follow entirely, but on its face, he says no bad faith on part of prosecution ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232694316012908545)]  
  - “Lewis agrees defense is right about Shayler case. Official Secrets is "pure political offense." "[But] we don't extradite for pure," Lewis insists. "Not approach ever in England or United States"” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232696334437814274)]   
    
  [**DAY 3 Text Report**](https://shadowproof.com/2020/02/26/prosecution-us-uk-treaty-does-not-apply-to-assange-extradition/) from **Kevin Gosztola**  
  [**DAY 3 Video Report**](https://youtu.be/YcwOx9qAPLo)from **Kevin Gosztola**  
  - **Julia Hall** (Amnesty International) [@JuliaHall18](https://twitter.com/JuliaHall18) [Tweets unthreaded]  
    
  - **Stephania Maurizi** [@SMaurizi](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi) [Tweets unthreaded]  
  - In court today [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1232601909644660743)]  
    
  - **Craig Murray** [@CraigMurrayOrg](https://twitter.com/CraigMurrayOrg)  
  - [**DAY 3 Report**](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2020/02/your-man-in-the-public-gallery-the-assange-hearing-day-3/) from **Craig Murray  
   Version in French** (with photo of Julian in the dock) [FR [[Le Grand Soir](https://www.legrandsoir.info/compte-rendu-du-proces-assange-3eme-jour.html)]  
    
  - **Tareq Haddad** [@Tareq\_Haddad](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad)  
  - No tweets from the courtroom yet today  
  - [**DAY 3 Report**](https://thewatchdog.net/2020/02/27/u-s-prosecution-seeking-assange-extradition-relies-on-sad-litany-of-human-rights-abuse-cases-court-hears/) from **Tareq Haddad**  
    
  - **Randi Credico** [@CredicoRandy](https://twitter.com/CredicoRandy)  
  - [[Tweeted](https://twitter.com/Credico2016/status/1232710743226802176) photo]

- **Carolina Graterol** [@Moncaro](https://twitter.com/Moncaro)  
- No tweets today from court.  
  
- **Courage Foundation** [@couragefound](https://twitter.com/couragefound) [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1232624850306506752)] **Detailed stuff with links**- [**DAY 3 Summary**](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/02/26/usa-v-julian-assange-extradition-day-3/) from **Courage** [Defend WikiLeaks]  
  
- **Outside the court,** **protesters** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NielsLadefoged/status/1232644948559892481) video] [[Consortium News](https://consortiumnews.com/2020/02/26/assange-extradition-interview-with-jeremie-zimmermann-assange-collaborator-and-friend-on-the-travesty-at-woolwich-crown-court-2/)]  
 **DAY 3 Updates from KEY PEOPLE**  
  
- Lunchtime Presser [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/hWWx897xuRk?t=3h39m03s)] KH  
- After court Presser [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/F7bwEA3H4UI?t=4400)] JR, JF, KH, plus 2 MEPs & RSF  
- **Joseph Farrel**l [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1232675462339530752) video] On ‘What is a political act?’  
- **Kristinn Hrafnsson** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1232645628813025282) video] Julian treated as ‘a terrorist’  
- **Kristinn Hrafnsson** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1232642940130021376) video] On extradition exemption  
- **Kristinn Hrafnsson** [M.A.E. [Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232679153419329536) video] Espionage is a political offence  
- **John Shipton** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1232757471174897668) video] 3 things to note  
- **John Rees** [Passarelli [Tweet](https://twitter.com/jlpassarelli/status/1232754534713372673) video]  
  
**DAY 3 other Reporting** [[Defend Wikileaks](https://defend.wikileaks.org/category/news/#post-5275)]  
[[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002261078407565-day-three-uk-court-holds-hearing-on-julian-assanges-extradition---video/) Live Updates] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002261078408817-assange-hearing-judge-rejects-plea-to-intervene-against-mistreatment-of-assange-by-prison-officials/) 1] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002261078409452-extradition-hearing-assange-and-wikileaks-redacted-documents-and-protected-sources---defence-team/) 2] [[Yahoo News](https://www.yahoo.com/news/assange-uk-court-outburst-over-distance-lawyers-171008783.html)] [[Reuters](https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/assange-complains-he-cannot-follow-us-extradition-hearing/ar-BB10qoaf)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/481756-assange-extradition-hearing-treaty/) 1] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/481753-mick-wallace-julian-assange-extradition/) 2] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/481718-assange-legal-team-spied-on-hearing/) 3] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/op-ed/481750-assange-extradition-free-speech-media/) OpEd] [[GoingUnderground](https://youtu.be/zLwQuZvK5Tw)] [[KIro7](https://www.kiro7.com/news/world/lawyer-says-assange/PXAZFKZQXPSVYJNODFSQK7EPYM/)] [[RT](https://youtu.be/-cge5cEhZhQ?t=22) video] [[ShadowProof]](https://shadowproof.com/2020/02/26/prosecution-us-uk-treaty-does-not-apply-to-assange-extradition/) [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/28/ship-f28.html)] [[MediaPart](https://www.mediapart.fr/en/journal/france/260220/support-julian-assange-and-defence-journalism?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=Sharing&xtor=CS3-67)] [[Fox News](https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/judge-andrew-napolitano-julian-assange-first-amendment)] [[US News](https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2020-02-26/uk-should-not-allow-assanges-extradition-on-political-charges-lawyer-says)] [[USA Today](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2020/02/26/julian-assange-wikileaks-founder-claims-unfairness-spying/4880602002/)] [[The Telegraph](https://www.thetelegraph.com/news/crime/article/Lawyer-says-Assange-shouldn-t-face-political-15086121.php)] [[Daily Mail]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8046931/Sending-Julian-Assange-political-offences-illegal-break-Extradition-Treaty.html)  
  
**DAY 3 Discussions**[[The Watchdog](https://www.pscp.tv/w/1YpJkQadPAVKj)] Kevin Gosztola, Tareg Haddad, Sarah Marbrouk, Nathan Fuller with Taylor Hudek  
  
**DAY 3 Important Comments**:

- **Craig Murray** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1232679713048604677) video] On nonsense re treaty not applying  
- **RSF** (Rebecca Vincent) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/RSF_en/status/1232725939144024066) video] Calls for Assange to sit with lawyers  
- **Clare Daly MEP** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1232748342087692297) video] The isolation of Julian in court

- **Mick Wallace MEP** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1232749779614126080) video] International law is under threat  
- **George Galloway** [[RT](https://youtu.be/-cge5cEhZhQ?t=22) video] Down the Rabbit Hole  
- **Jeffrey Sterling** (Whistleblower) [[GoingUnderground](https://youtu.be/zLwQuZvK5Tw?t=69)] Mentioned today by Lewis QC

- **Judge Andrew Napoliano** [[Fox News](https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/judge-andrew-napolitano-julian-assange-first-amendment)] First Amendment concerns

- **Adolfo Pérez Esquivel [**[Tweet](https://twitter.com/PrensaPEsquivel/status/1232709298456756224) photo] Demands release if Assange  
**- Somerset Bean** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SomersetBean/status/1232825819334094848) graphic]  
- **Bob Carr** [Tweet]  
- **Mick Wallace MEP** [Tweet] Breach of international law  
- **Clare Daky MEP** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/ClareDalyMEP/status/1232730748181979137)] The glass cage

* **26 Feb 2020** Australian broadcaster **Alan Jones** speaks with **Bob Carr** in calling for [#Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click) to be brought home. Jones says he will be speaking to Foreign Minister, **Marise Payne.** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MaryKostakidis/status/1232832661007134720) video]
* **26 Feb 2020** Protesters set up camp at the detention center where **Chelsea Manning** and **Jeremy Hammond** are incarcerated for refusing to participate in the secret grand jury process. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SlowNewsDayShow/status/1232722258281607171)]
* **26 Feb 2020** Recent NEW videos:  
  - “***Journalists speak up for Assange***” [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/ZHOoMhu8FPg)]  
  - “***Why Assange Matters***” [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/IBrD3ec241A)]  
  - Mediapart debate re Assange [FR [YouTube](https://youtu.be/njH2-94mxd0)]   
   (Eva Joly, Jérémie Zimmermann, and others)
* **26 Feb 2020 Cassandra Fairbanks** releases video (in two parts) related to Grenell’s part in the Moreno deal and the arrest of Julian Assange.[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CassandraRules/status/1232502172325203968) 1] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/CassandraRules/status/1232508957173993472) 2]
* **26 Feb 2020** at 6pm “***Bring*** ***Assange Home***” Sydney NSW parliament [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Plucille54/status/1228303221879451650)]  
  [Video?]  
  **Speakers**:   
  - Greg Barns (Assange lawyer)  
  - Shaoquett Moselmane (NSW Legislative Assembly)  
  - Alison Broinowski (Former AU diplomat)  
  - Bob Carr (Former Foreign Minister of Australia)  
    
  **Reporting**

#### **27 Feb 2020** **DAY 4** : **US Extradition hearing** (1 wk)

* At Belmarsh Magistrates Court (inside Woolwich Crown Court).  
  - Information from Courts for attendees [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/11/18/what-will-assange-the-press-and-the-public-face-in-february-2020-at-belmarsh-magistrates-court/amp/)]  
  - Background material [[Defend Wikileaks](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/02/23/usa-v-julian-assange-extradition-hearing/)]  
    
  - **PROSECUTION** Opening Note [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/OpeningNoteUS.pdf)] 30 July 2019  
  - **PROSECUTION** Outline of Case Not searchable [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/US-Skeleton-Argument-FULL.pdf)] 17 Feb 2020  
     
  - **DEFENCE** Submission re ‘Political Offences’ [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/AsangeDefenceSkeletonArgument.pdf)] 18 Oct 2019  
  - **DEFENCE** Reply on ‘Political Offence Protection’ [[PDF](https://bridgesforfreedom.media/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/AssangeDefenceReply.pdf)] 21 Feb 2020  
  - **DEFENCE** Outline of Case Searchable [[PDF](https://dontextraditeassange.com/JA_Defence_Opening.pdf)] 24 Feb 2020  
    
  - US-UK **Extradition Treaty** [[PDF](https://fas.org/irp/world/uk/extradite.pdf)] [[Status](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/extradition-treaty-between-the-uk-and-the-usa-with-exchange-of-notes)]  
  - UK **Extradition Act 2003** [[Link](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/41/section/79)]  
  - The **US Indictment** (18 charges) [[Link](https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/wikileaks-founder-julian-assange-charged-18-count-superseding-indictment)]  
    
  **DAY 4** **Livestream**: [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/_koquJwIGJU)]   
     
  **DAY 4 - on site reporting**  
    
  - **Inside the court NOTE:** Only a sampling from available tweets is included below  
  - **Rebecca Vincent** (RSF) [@rebecca\_vincent](https://twitter.com/rebecca_vincent)  
   In court today  
  - **Christian Mihr** (RSF) [@cmihr](https://twitter.com/cmihr)  
    
  - **James Doleman** [@jamesdoleman](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman) ([THREAD](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232983880690470913))  
   Start of Day  
  - “Assange asks for a moment to speak to his lawyer, he has to communicate through a slit in the glass in front of the dock.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232977417171611654)]  
    
  -” The court has offered Assange headphones so he can hear proceedings better, the court now adjourns briefly while this is tested.  
  Various people are now speaking into the microphones scattered around the court and asking the defendant if he can hear them” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232978028764028929)]  
    
  - “James Lewis QC for the prosecution resumes his rebuttal of the defence argument yesterday that the US/UK extradition treaty bars extradition for "political offences."” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232979164594102272)]  
    
  - “He is arguing that only Parliament can set the law, and it specifically removed the "political" defence from extradition in 2003.  
  Lewis now quoting various authorities to support his position.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232980582927392768)]  
    
  - “lewis argues that a political offence would involve having an aim to change the government, in this case of America. Suggests it is not clear this was [#Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click)'s goal.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232981724151320576)]  
    
  “Lewis says it was the clear intention of parliament to remove the political bar on extradition which had existed since 1870.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1232986406550675458)]  
    
  - [**DAY 4 PM Report**](https://assangecourt.report/day-4-afternoon) from **James Dolman [in Italian]  
  - DAY 4 Photos** from **James Dolman**  
    
  - **M.A.E.** [@MElmaazi](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi) [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232977302885216257)] (only partly threaded)  
  -”And then, for the prosecution case, the 2003 Act when it came into force, which repealed the 1989 Act, removed the political offence exception.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232985922267947008)]  
    
  - “When one reads the outmoded and outdated reasoning for having the political offences exception in the 1978 Act, which Lord Mustal (sp?) explained. - Lewis QC for the USG  
  [[Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click) has taken off the head phones and is wearing them around his neck]” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232986624163708929)]  
    
  - “”Lewis QC is arguing that English courts have argued that the world as it existed when political exceptions to extradition were all the rage no longer applies. It applies to a time when countries like UK/US sought to give refuge to those who sought to overthrow 'despotic' regimes [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232986624163708929)]  
    
  - [“Lewis QC summarises case law which says that determining "there s no all embracing definition of .... political offence" "there is no bright line test"  
  Which is what we [USG] say. "One has to look at the purpose and other tests which we have set out in the cases of Chang[sp?]"” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232988824285929472)]  
    
  - “cites a case judgement "it is not possible to provide an all embracing definition of political offence"  
  So madam it is a complicated issue.  
  JUDGE: Do all of these discussions relate to pure political offence?  
  LEWIS: Not quite madam, that is the wrong way of approaching it..” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232988826500550656)]  
    
  - “The right way is using the criteria set out [in the cases of] Chang and Tee (SP?).  
  "Extradition is based upon conduct, it is not, anymore, based upon the names of offences."” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232988828836802560)]  
    
  [More tweets]  
  - “[NOTE FROM M.E. Despite all of above, Anglo-US Treaty ratified by UK/US in 2007 does have the political offence exception. Why did they include it if it isn't relevant? He hasn't addressed that today, I don't know if he did yesterday but I have not heard a proper explanation]” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232990837929369601)]   
    
  [More tweets]  
  - “LEWIS QC: The alleged offences can't be considered to be a political offence "are not his [Assange] leaking to the press, but his actions of publishing activity reports, absent redaction - thereby putting [informants or sources at] risk.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232992046333468679)]  
    
  - The idea that WikiLeaks was involved in a major struggle with the US government to change it or its policies "must be examined much more closely".  
  LEWIS QC FIN SUBMISSIONS FOR NOW   
  FITZGERALD QC SAYS NEEDS SOME TIME TO RESPOND   
  COURT ADJOURNED [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi/status/1232992048149602304)]  
    
  - **Wikileaks** [@wikileaks](https://twitter.com/wikileaks)  
    
  - {See RT from Justice UK below)  
    
  - **Patrick Hennigsen** [@21WIRE](https://twitter.com/21WIRE) [THREAD]  
   [No thread today]  
    
  - **Kevin Gosztola** [@kgosztola](https://twitter.com/kgosztola)[[THREAD](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232973789325090822)]  
  [At start of day]  
  - “Apparently, the defense made some formal request to court to have Assange sit with them in the well, but we have not seen the submission. The judge made no ruling. I presume the headset is the judge’s attempt to avoid having to rule on this request.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232980928617689089)]  
  - “Issue isn’t can Assange hear but can he participate in his defense. He wants to be able to consult with attorneys during proceedings and judge is prioritizing the security concerns of guards and counter-terrorism courthouse personnel over due process rights.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232980931805360129)]  
    
  [Later]  
  - “Assange is never in court when judge sits down to start proceedings. We are consistently waiting for guards.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232997145143279616)]  
  - “Assange is here now, wearing sweater and jacket which he wasn’t wearing before” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232997816299139073)]  
  [More tweets]  
    
  - “”Judge pushes Edward Fitzgerald, defense, to clarify whether Assange is covered by treaty.  
  “We’re in pretty strange **Alice in Wonderland** world,” where country says yes there is this treaty governing extraditions but it’s got nothing to do with lawfulness of request or detention. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1233002170968047616)]  
    
  - “Judge replies that answer is treaty was signed by executive authorities, not Parliament.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1233002521662234624)]  
    
  - “Judge asks the defense how exception that is supposed to cover political struggle covers Assange. And defense says it extends to someone seeking to “induce change in government policy.”” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1233007695202070528)]  
    
  - “Judge asks why he contends Assange sought to induce a change in public policy rather than expose government wrongdoing” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1233007697290833922)]  
    
  - “Defense: Two are intimately connected. “Why was he seeking to expose the rules of engagement [for Iraq]?”” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1233008219053838336)]  
  - “Defense: Rules of engagement were “published to show that war crimes [were committed] that breached their own rules of engagement.” (Meaning the US military)” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1233008531575656448)]  
  - “Defense: Guantanamo detainee files were disclosed to “show there were abuses of human rights and torture being done in the war on terror” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1233008743220158464)]  
  - “Defense: “It’s the very definition of seeking to induce a government to change a policy.”” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1233008960204148737)]  
  - “Defense: "What other purpose could there be to publishing the rules of engagement as well, as the Apache strike ["Collateral Murder" video], but to show the war was being prosecuted in conflict with human rights."” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1233011356342849536)]  
    
  [**DAY 4 TEXT Repor**](https://shadowproof.com/2020/02/27/judge-julian-assange-must-remain-in-glass-box-during-extradition-proceedings/)t from **Kevin Gosztola**  
  [**DAY 4 ViDEO Report**](https://youtu.be/JxgL7-1QLes) from **Kevin Gosztola** and later discussion [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/N0xDozAobS4)}  
    
  - **Mac William Bishop** [@MacWBishop](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop) [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1232974572263219200)] (very long)  
   Today’s [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1232974572263219200)]  
   Just before lunch   
  - “Baraitser is asking the defense & prosecution if they agree that witnesses expected to testify about alleged surveillance of Assange in the Ecuadorean Embassy can be kept anonymous (a requirement due to an ongoing legal proceeding in Spain).” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233008299534057472)]  
    
   After lunch  
  - “Summers, for the defense, is telling Baraitser that the headphones provided by the court are not particularly helpful for Assange.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233031278330621952)]  
  - “”Summers: “We have now been in this court for four days, and Mr Assange has dealt with the proceedings stoically.”  
  Summers adds there are practical issues with conducting a defense of Assange, including the fact that the dock is at the back of the courtroom. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233032356186988544)]  
  - “Baraitser is suggesting that there are practical methods for passing notes to Assange which can be arranged.  
  Summers adds that the presence of microphones in the courtroom and the presence of US government personnel makes it difficult for the defense to consult with the client.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233032825055698945)]  
  - “Summers responds that moving forward it will be essential to communicate regularly and freely with Assange.  
  Baraitser says she is happy to give as many breaks as needed so that the defense can confer with their client privately outside the courtroom.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233033210218545152)]  
  - ““**If a three-week hearing needs to become a six-week hearing, so be it,” Baraitser says.**  
  Summers continues to argue that this would be impractical for conducting a thorough defense, noting that it would be hard to stop proceedings every two or three minutes...” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233033829557899266)]  
  - “...for the defense team to meet with Assange to take instructions in a location outside of the courtroom.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233033945941454848)]  
  - “Summers is arguing that keeping his client in a glass enclosure prevents a fair hearing from being conducted. He is citing instances in which other courts have ruled this to be the case.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233034369499041793)]  
  - “The right for the accused to confer with their lawyer without fear of being overheard by a third party is an essential part of a fair trial, Summers said.  
  Baraitser says it’s a bit of an exaggeration for Summers to say that the proceedings would have to be halted every 2-3 mins.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233034914691461120)]  
  - “Summers is not backing down.  
  “In short,” he says, “the European Court regarded [a similar setup] as completely incompatible with the right to a fair hearing.”  
  “We remind you, madam, of Mr Assange’s particular vulnerability,” he adds.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233035297308454913)]  
  - “The solution we invite you to undertake, Summers says, is to permit Assange to sit with his attorneys. This is the practice around the world, he adds.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233035666499522561)]  
  - “Surrendering to the dock is a separate process from surrendering to the Crown Court, Summers says. Someone can be in custody of the court without being in custody of the dock.  
  “The authorities on this are legion,” Summers says.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233036161372839936)]  
  - “For vulnerable clients there is no requirement to enter the dock, Summers continues. The issue is whether defendants are being properly supervised.  
  Summers says that Baraitser has jurisdiction on this matter, and the magistrate agrees that she does.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233036724206546944)]  
  - “What we are asking for in this case, Summers says, is regarded as not unusual by the UK’s criminal justice system.  
  Summers says that it is unnecessary for the defense to make an application for bail as per the defense’s understanding of the concept of custody.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233036724206546944)]  
  - “Summers says that the prosecution does not contest this issue.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233037615257071616)]  
  - ““What we are seeking is not exceptional treatment,” Summers says.  
  **Assange interrupts.**” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233037858514100226)]   
  **- “Baraitser asks him to speak through his lawyers.  
  “That’s exactly the problem,” Assange says**.  
  Summers notes the impracticalities of knowing when his client has an issue with the proceedings without discreet access to his client.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233038242355843072)]  
  - “Lewis for the prosecution says that they are completely neutral on this issue.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233038528579358720)  
  - “Baraitser tells Assange: This court has an overriding responsibility to ensure the conduct of a fair trial.  
  **It is quite apparent over the past four days that you have had no difficulty in communicating with your legal team, Baraitser says**.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233039039860789250)]] [ME Choke, Splutter]  
  - “Baraitser adds that she has been willing to repeat or stop the proceeds whenever Assange has raised his hand to indicate he was having trouble hearing.  
  This court routinely conducts proceedings with defendants in the secure dock, Baraitser says.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233039438982324226)}  
  - “There are measures which can be taken to ensure Assange has sufficient private access to his attorneys outside the courtroom, Baraitser says.   
  Regarding Assange’s various psychiatric vulnerabilities, Baraitser says she has received no specific information about conditions...” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233039438982324226)]  
  - “...which might affect his ability to participate in the proceedings.  
  **The application to leave the dock is denied,** Baraitser concludes.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233039438982324226)]  
    
  - “Fitzgerald, for the defense, returns to the discussion about how anonymous witnesses will appear during the evidentiary phase of the extradition hearing.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233040820065964033)]  
  Brief Recess  
    
  - “Fitzgerald and Baraitser are working out whether Assange can appear at a related portion of the hearing in Westminster via video link; this is a logistical discussion more than a legal one.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233046855577194499)]  
    
  - “One thing that may be of interest to some: Baraitser said it was at defense’s request that this portion of the hearing be held at Woolwich Crown Court beside Belmarsh, instead of Westminster, in order to simplify travel arrangements for Assange.”[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233047728894173185)]  
    
  - “I say it is of interest as some have asserted that the hearing being held in Woolwich Crown Court was evidence of bias against Assange.  
  I’ll follow up with the defense team when possible to see if I understood this correctly.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233048025192378368)]  
    
  - “Hearing resumes, and concludes. **The evidentiary portion will continue on May 18.** Every 28 days Assange must appear before the court as a procedural matter, Baraitser says. So there will be **an appearance on April 25**.

That’s all for now, thanks to everyone for following along.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233048025192378368)]  
  
**END OF DAY** and **END OF WEEK**  
  
- **Julia Hall** (Amnesty International) [@JuliaHall18](https://twitter.com/JuliaHall18)   
 [Unthreaded [Tweets](https://twitter.com/JuliaHall18/status/1232975394917122053) start here]]  
  
- **Stephania Maurizi** [@SMaurizi](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi)   
 Unthreaded [tweets](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1232957433858940928) start here]  
- “In the last 2days,**we journos** [but not the public gallery hopefuls] have been allowed inside the [WoolwichCrownCourt](https://twitter.com/hashtag/WoolwichCrownCourt?src=hashtag_click) building earlier, whereas the first 2days of the Julian Assange extradition Hearing we were literally freezing outside for hours.  
I’m afraid for activists freezing outside and I’m very impressed by them” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1232957433858940928)]  
  
- **Craig Murray** [@CraigMurrayOrg](https://twitter.com/CraigMurrayOrg)  
 [**DAY 4 Report**](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2020/02/your-man-in-the-public-gallery-assange-hearing-day-four/) from **Craig Murray**   
 **Version in French** (with photo of Julian in the dock) [FR [Le Grand Soir](https://www.legrandsoir.info/compte-rendu-du-proces-assange-4eme-jour.html)]  
 **NOTE**: Related [Gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/extradition-treaty-between-the-uk-and-the-usa-with-exchange-of-notes) re **Treaty status** [**DAY 4 Addendum**](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2020/03/the-armoured-glass-box-is-an-instrument-of-torture/)**: “*The Armoured Glass Box is an Instrument of Torture”***  
 **Version in French** (with photo of Julian in the dock) [FR [Le Grand Soir](https://www.legrandsoir.info/la-cage-de-verre-blindee-est-un-instrument-de-torture.html)]  
- **Tareq Haddad** [@Tareq\_Haddad](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad)  
 No thread today, Comment here [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad/status/1232978890383122435)]  
   
- **DAY 4 Report** from **Tareq Haddad**  
  
- **Randi Credico** [@CredicoRandy](https://twitter.com/CredicoRandy)  
- Reporting via “***Countdown to Freedom*** (Ep 9)” 28 Feb [[Podcast](https://covertactionmagazine.com/index.php/2020/02/28/what-happened-at-assanges-extradition-trial-eyewitness-reports-from-julians-father-and-others-on-assange-countdown-to-freedom/)]

#### - **Carolina Graterol** [@Moncaro](https://twitter.com/Moncaro) No thread today - “I was just yanking to WikiLeaks source who was telling me that this morning the public queuing for the public gallery at [#Assange](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Assange?src=hashtag_click) extradition case have not been allowed into the Court complex.Temperature is 3 degrees outside. Appalling behaviour of the court. ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Moncaro/status/1232953876967542789)] - **Courage Foundation** [@couragefound](https://twitter.com/couragefound) [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/couragefound/status/1232977887822798850)] [**DAY 4 Summary**](https://defend.wikileaks.org/category/news/#post-5283) from **Courage** {Defend WikiLeaks) - **Outside the court,** **protesters** **DAY 4 Updates from KEY PEOPLE -** Lunchtime Pressers [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/_koquJwIGJU?t=3h37m16s)] Clare Daly & Mick Wallace MEPs [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/_koquJwIGJU?t=3h37m16s)] Kristinn Hrafnsson & Joseph Farrell - After court Presser [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/_koquJwIGJU?t=6h36m07s)] Kristinn Hrafnsson, JD, Jen Robinson - **Jennifer Robinson** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1233102457724710918) video] - **Rebecca Vincent** (RSF) [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1233101601860210691) video] - **Rebecca Vincent** (RSF) [RSF [Tweet](https://twitter.com/RSF_en/status/1233076722989518848) video] - **John Shipton** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1233099506805243905) video] - **Kristinn Hrafnsson** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1233043205085593601) video] talking with protestors - **Kristinn Hrafnsson** [Ruptly [Tweet](https://twitter.com/Ruptly/status/1232976236525375488) video] - **Craig Murray** [Passarelli [Tweet](https://twitter.com/jlpassarelli/status/1233026375361212418) video] - **Joseph Farrel**l [Harlock [Tweet](https://twitter.com/GianniMagini/status/1233044696043335680) video] - **John Shipton** [Harlock [Tweet](https://twitter.com/GianniMagini/status/1233045892762083328) video] - **Craig Murray** [Harlock [Tweet](https://twitter.com/GianniMagini/status/1233043044204732416) video] **DAY 4 other Reporting**: [[Consortum News](https://consortiumnews.com/2020/02/27/live-updates-from-london-assange-extradition-hearing-adjourned-until-may-18/) Live Updates] [[Consortium News](https://consortiumnews.com/2020/02/26/assange-extradition-interview-with-jeremie-zimmermann-assange-collaborator-and-friend-on-the-travesty-at-woolwich-crown-court-2/?unapproved=395571&moderation-hash=5f862b489ca82422110c4bcf34a5c022#comment-395571)] [[Shadowproof](https://shadowproof.com/2020/02/27/judge-julian-assange-must-remain-in-glass-box-during-extradition-proceedings/)] [[Caitlin Johnstone](https://medium.com/@caityjohnstone/this-assange-trial-is-a-self-contradictory-kafkaesque-nightmare-b945d9e99f5d)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002271078417410-live-updates-london-court-holds-fourth-day-of-hearings-on-assanges-extradition---video/) Live Updates] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002271078410889-assange-hearing-us-government-claims-it-doesnt-matter-if-alleged-offences-are-political/) 1] [[21Wire](https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/02/27/assange-courtroom-drama-encapsulates-this-illusion-of-justice/)] [[LA Times](https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2020-02-27/assange-denied-request-to-sit-next-to-his-lawyers-as-first-phase-of-extradition-hearing-ends)] [[ibtimes](https://www.ibtimes.com/assanges-uk-extradition-hearing-paused-until-may-2930308)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/uk/481823-assange-judge-denies-bench-lawyers/)] [[RichmondTimes](https://www.richmond.com/news/national/britain-adjourns-assange-s-us-extradition-hearing-until-may/article_e0706f67-74f6-5b4a-a0eb-2a328637b0bf.html)] [[RawStory](https://www.rawstory.com/2020/02/julian-assanges-uk-extradition-hearing-paused-until-may/)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/28/assa-f28.html) 1] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/28/ship-f28.html) 2] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/27/assa-f27.html) 3] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/02/27/osca-f27.html) 4] [[MSN / IOL](https://www.msn.com/en-za/news/other/britain-puts-assanges-us-extradition-hearing-on-hold-until-may/ar-BB10uf7b)] [[MSN](https://www.msn.com/en-za/news/other/julian-assange-the-glass-cage-and-heaven-in-a-rage-day-four-of-extradition-hearings/ar-BB10vLZi) 2] [[NPR](https://www.npr.org/2011/02/11/133686788/assange-hearing-ends-in-britian-decision-in-2-weeks)] [[Military](https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/02/27/lawyer-says-assange-shouldnt-face-political-extradition.html)] [[CraigMurrayOrg](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2020/02/your-man-in-the-public-gallery-assange-hearing-day-four/)] [[RSF](https://rsf.org/en/news/uk-legal-arguments-during-first-week-julian-assanges-extradition-hearing-highlight-lack-us-evidence)] [[Counterfire](https://www.counterfire.org/articles/opinion/20924-assange-trial-shows-all-journalists-are-now-under-attack)] [DE [derFreitag](https://www.freitag.de/autoren/der-freitag/luegen-luegen-und-noch-mehr-luegen)] [[Daily Mail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8052523/Judge-refuses-allow-Wikileaks-founder-Julian-Assange-leave-dock-sit-lawyers.html)] [[Crikey](https://www.crikey.com.au/2020/02/27/assange-stands-up-to-the-courts-but-what-of-the-press/)] FR [LeMonde](https://www.lemonde.fr/m-le-mag/article/2020/02/27/la-premiere-fois-que-le-monde-a-ecrit-julian-assange_6031012_4500055.html)] [FR [France 24](https://www.france24.com/es/historia/20200227-historia-julian-assange-wikileaks-extradicion-juicio?ref=tw_i)] [[The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2020/feb/27/julian-assanges-lawyers-us-files-were-leaked-for-political-ends?CMP=share_btn_tw)] **In DC** [[CodePinkRadio](https://radiopublic.com/codepink-radio-WwnANm) at 33:56] [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/AndrewZigmund/status/1233838581019480069)] **DAY 4 Important Comments**: **Amnesty International** [[Website](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/02/uk-amnesty-international-urges-the-uk-to-guarantee-a-fair-extradition-process-to-julian-assange/)] Urges “a fair extradition process””(??} **Julia Hall** (Amnesty) {[Tweet](https://twitter.com/JuliaHall18/status/1233120493772976130) video] **Rafael Correa** [ES [Tweet](https://twitter.com/MashiRafael/status/1233021383707373568)] Embassy spying 9The Spanish vase} **Srecko Horvat** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/HorvatSrecko/status/1233317700350435328) photos] Condition sis the Hague for War Criminals **Renata Avila** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/avilarenata/status/1233319231695065089) photo] Conditions for Pinochet under UK arrest **Rebecca Vincent (RSF)** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/rebecca_vincent/status/1233436385694056451)] [[Statement](https://rsf.org/en/news/uk-legal-arguments-during-first-week-julian-assanges-extradition-hearing-highlight-lack-us-evidence)] **George Galloway** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/georgegalloway/status/1232962915482898432) Impact on image of UK] **Mick Wallace** [Tweet] “Political offence” Janes Dolman [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman/status/1233444066932744192) image] Court sketch of Juian trying to get

#### attention through the glass cage **DAY 4 Discussions** [[The Watchdog](https://www.pscp.tv/w/1zqKVlnOBmXJB)], Tareg Haddad, Kristinn Hrafnsson, M.A.E., Joseph Farrell, Jérémie Zimmermann', Fidel Narvaéz, with Taylor Hudek

* **27 Feb 2020** **Aitor Martinez** tweets Letter from **The Council of Bar and Law Societies of Europe** (CCBE) to UK authorities [dated 24 Feb 2020] about the interception of communications between Julian Assange and his lawyers [lTweet](https://twitter.com/AitorxMartinez/status/1232987190373777408)] [Image attached]
* **27 Feb 2020** **Wikileaks** tweets report from **UK Justice (UK)** (dated 1 July 2015) “**Reassessing the use of the dock in criminal trials**” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/JUSTICEhq/status/1232964630932226049)] [[Website](https://justice.org.uk/in-the-dock/) Recommendations]
* **27 Feb 2020** **Dr Sue Wareham** (Doctors For Assange) has Letter published in the Canberra Times: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Doctors4Assange/status/1233765380683898881)] [[CanberraTimes](https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6650225/bushfires-arent-the-only-threat-to-acts-precious-wildlife/?cs=14244)]  
  “Healthcare is not a privilege to be withheld from those who publish information that incriminates governments.”  
    
  **POSTSCRIPT Reporting**
* **28 Feb 2020**  
  **Media**: [[Sky News](https://www.msn.com/en-au/news/australia/assange-forced-into-glass-box-in-extradition-hearing-in-london/ar-BB10xaia)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002281078431971-outrage-over-judges-refusal-to-allow-assange-to-sit-with-his-lawyers-during-extradition-hearings/) 1] [I[rish Examiner](https://www.irishexaminer.com/breakingnews/views/columnists/michael-clifford/michael-clifford-democracy-abandons-assange-at-its-peril-984797.html)]  
    
  - [RSF](https://rsf.org/en/news/uk-legal-arguments-during-first-week-julian-assanges-extradition-hearing-highlight-lack-us-evidence): “UK: Legal arguments during the first week of Julian Assange’s extradition hearing highlight lack of US evidence”   
    
  **Commentary**: [[John Wigh](https://medium.com/@JohnWight1/julian-assange-is-the-subject-of-an-experiment-in-legalised-brutality-a152bdc19eb2)t] [[SMH OpEd](https://www.smh.com.au/national/the-only-questions-that-should-matter-in-the-assange-extradition-battle-20200227-p54543.html) Elizabeth Farrelly] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/analysis/202002281078432958-assanges-hearing-is-the-most-politicised-trial-in-decades---journalist/) John Steppling]  
  **Discussions**:   
  - [CrossTalk](https://youtu.be/OpXa8MotSIM): **Joe Lauria, Alexander Mercouris**, Taylor Hidak  
  - [Countdown to Freedom](https://covertactionmagazine.com/index.php/2020/02/28/what-happened-at-assanges-extradition-trial-eyewitness-reports-from-julians-father-and-others-on-assange-countdown-to-freedom/) (Ep 9):   
   **Craig Murray** [4:08] **John Shipton** [25:43], **Fidel Narváez** [41:50],   
   **Sevim Dağdelen** [1:10:34], **Angela Richter** [1:26:15], **Aaron Maté**.[1:42:05]  
    
  **Critiques of Media**:  
  - **Mick Wallace** MEP [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wallacemick/status/1233495892302450692)]
* **29 Feb 2020**   
  **Media**: [[Ifex](https://ifex.org/julian-assanges-extradition-hearing-highlights-lack-of-us-evidence/) (rsf) [ES [La Jornada](https://www.jornada.com.mx/2020/02/29/opinion/022a1mun#.Xl1N5GqjwRY.twitter)]] [[IndependentAustralia](https://independentaustralia.net/politics/politics-display/press-freedom-on-trial-chronicles-from-the-julian-assange-extradition-hearing,13645#.Xlq3Z_zmhJc.twitter)]  
    
  **Discussions**:  
  - [The Listening Post](https://twitter.com/AJListeningPost/status/1233438577998139394) Short version [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/nR_28RIEGyw) full version]  
  - [On Contact](https://youtu.be/QXtpaWyNjKg) **Chris Hedges** with **Joe Lauria**. See also [[TruthDig](https://www.truthdig.com/videos/chris-hedges-assanges-trial-echoes-stalinist-tactics/)]  
  - [ConsortiumNew](https://youtu.be/TrrLUZlrWJE)s and [Sputnik](https://www.rt.com/shows/sputnik/481906-assange-extradition-hearing-london/): **Joe Lauria** speaks to **George Galloway.  
    
  Comment:  
  - Dr Lissa Johnson c**alls out the judge’s use of the term “condition” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LissaKJohnson/status/1233671029714587649)]  
  “It's inaccurate to call psychological harm resulting from psychological torture a "condition" as the judge in Assange's case has here  
  It's a linguistic effort to pin the impact of his torture on him   
  Like calling the bruises and welts from beatings a disease  
  They're injuries”  
    
  **Critiques of Media**:   
  Growing thread re **silence of MSM journalists** on Assange and hearing [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/Satiresocialist/status/1233820215068254208)]  
  - John Pilger [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/johnpilger/status/1233934453057052672)]  
  - Media of Empire [[Website](https://swprs.org/the-american-empire-and-its-media/)]  
  - Renata Avila [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/avilarenata/status/1234073811068346371)]  
  - Complaint re BBC [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1233729958641573889)}
* **1 Mar 2020**  
  **Media**: [[The Canary](https://www.thecanary.co/uk/analysis/2020/03/01/more-bombshells-from-assange-lawyers-extradition-case-exposed-as-seriously-flawed/)] [DE [ntv](https://www.n-tv.de/politik/Vergewaltigungsvorwuerfe-waren-konstruiert-article21611834.html)] [[RCFP](https://www.rcfp.org/tech-press-freedom-march-1-2020/)] [DE [DerSpeigel](https://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/prozess-gegen-julian-assange-alles-deutet-auf-einen-reinen-schauprozess-hin-a-5ab91355-e834-4acc-9a7c-7adb18ab126b)]  
    
  - [21 Wire](https://youtu.be/sqcETpaFdr8)“***Analysis***” with **Patrick Henningsen**  
  - [Going Underground](https://twitter.com/Underground_RT/status/1234113063739174913) **Sevim Dagdelen**   
  - [MOATS](https://youtu.be/lbC5xfTT7fs?t=1h58m00s) **Craig Murray** with **George Galloway**  
  - **Felicity Ruby** [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/FlickRubicon/status/1233997458121740289)]   
   In one tweet she questions all the strip-searching of Julian [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/FlickRubicon/status/1233997495874666497) map]
* **2 Mar 2020**   
  **Media** [[Deutschland](https://www.neues-deutschland.de/artikel/1133693.assange-vor-gericht-vorgefuehrt-wie-ein-schwerverbrecher.html)]  
    
  - **Craig Murray:**  “***The Armoured Glass Box is an Instrument of Torture***”  
   [[CMO Blog](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2020/03/the-armoured-glass-box-is-an-instrument-of-torture/comment-page-1/#comment-926123)] [[Consortium News](https://consortiumnews.com/2020/03/02/assange-extradition-the-armoured-glass-box-is-an-instrument-of-torture/)] [FR [Translation](https://www.legrandsoir.info/la-cage-de-verre-blindee-est-un-instrument-de-torture.html)]  
  - **Stefania Maurizi:**  “***Julian Assange is the defendant, journalism is under trial***”  
   [[Il Fatto Quotidiano]](https://www.ilfattoquotidiano.it/2020/03/02/julian-assange-is-the-defendant-journalism-is-under-trial/5722796/)  
  - **Jennifer Robinson** interview  
   [[Democracy Now](https://youtu.be/ap1wTUnRATQ)]  
  - **Yanis Varoufakis** interviewed by Phillip Adams for ABC Radio   
   [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1235506797760393216)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/I181RKgtPs0)] [[ABC](https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/latenightlive/yanis-varoufakis/12017372)]  
  - A “thank you” from **Kevin Gosztola** for financial assistance for his reporting [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1234519675666665477)]
* **3 Mar 2020**  
  **Media**  [IT [Pressenza](https://www.pressenza.com/it/2020/03/se-questa-e-giustizia-cronaca-del-processo-assange/) - Daily record]  
    
  - **Baltasar Garzon: “*Assange, the press in danger*”**  [ES [El Pais](https://elpais.com/elpais/2020/03/03/opinion/1583254446_261701.amp.html)]
* 4 Mar 2020  
  **Media** [[AsiaPacific Report](https://asiapacificreport.nz/2020/03/04/defend-beleagured-rights-of-wikileaks-founder-assange-call-to-morrison/)]  
    
  - **Angela Richter** “***In the heart of the judicial farce***” [DE [Freitag](https://www.freitag.de/autoren/der-freitag/im-herzen-der-justizfarce)]  
   “On the last evening of the trial, I meet Assange's lawyer Jennifer Robinson, who I've known since 2011. She confirms that both sides are ready to go through all instances of UK jurisdiction - which can take three to four years.  
  Will Julian Assange be able to survive this under the current prison conditions? His defense lawyers have made it clear that psychiatric reports are at risk of suicide if he is extradited to the United States.”   
  NOTE This article was changed when an error in an earlier version of this paragraph was noted.
* **5 Mar 2020**  
  **Media**  [[EchoNetDaily](https://www.echo.net.au/2020/03/the-sadistic-trial-of-julian-assange/#.XmAwwNc6wVw.twitter)] [[Redacted Tonight](https://youtu.be/W_Q1PXeJLho?t=465)]
* **6 Mar 2020**  
  **Media**  [[JD Journa](https://www.jdjournal.com/2020/03/06/julian-assange-extradition-case-intensifies-as-supporters-get-together/#disqus_thread)l]
* **8 Mar 2020**  
  **Media** [[The Bristolian](https://thebristolian.net/2020/03/08/investigative-journalism-on-political-show-trial/)]
* **Undated.**   
  **Media** [[RenegadeInc](https://renegadeinc.com/the-show-trial-of-julian-assange-where-is-the-outrage/)]

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#### End of PHASE 1 - Extradition hearing 🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆🔆

* **28 Feb 2020**  The sessions with the Special Rapporteur on Torture **Nils Melzer,** at the 43rd Session of UN Human Rights Council (**UNHRC**)  
    
  - Speech plus Interactive Session [[Part 1](http://webtv.un.org/search/id-sr-on-torture-12th-meeting-43rd-regular-session-human-rights-council-/6136876421001/?term=&lan=english&page=5) video ] [[Part 2](http://webtv.un.org/search/id-sr-on-torture-contd-13th-meeting-43rd-regular-session-human-rights-council/6137577528001/?term=&lan=english&page=5#player) video] [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1234940127442612225)]
* **28 Feb 2020** **EFJ** Open letter to Macron from **French journalists** [[Website](https://europeanjournalists.org/fr/2020/02/28/lettre-ouverte-a-lattention-du-president-macron-concernant-la-demande-dasile-de-julian-assange/)]  
  “Eight organizations, including the European Federation of Journalists, signed an open letter on February 27, 2020 to the President of the French Republic Emmanuel Macron**,** asking him to grant asylum to the journalist and founder of WikiLeaks, Julian Assange .”
* **28 Feb 2020** The **coronavirus** scare heats up. [[Tracker](https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6)]
* **29 Feb 2020** at 18:00h Event in Berlin “***Against the Extradition of Julian Assange to the US - Our Right to Know***” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/avilarenata/status/1231511543067660293)] [[Register](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gegen-die-auslieferung-von-julian-assange-an-die-us-unser-recht-auf-wissen-tickets-95456483913)]  
  **Speakers**: **Renata Avila**, **Joseph Farrell**, **Angela Richter** and Whistleblower N  
    
  **On site**: [Avila [Tweet](https://twitter.com/avilarenata/status/1233823763717857282)] [DIEM25 [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DiEM_25/status/1233837150845784082)]   
  **Interviews**: [ActivismMunich [YouTube](https://youtu.be/rEmG_SW2fkM)]  
  **Reporting**:
* **29 Feb 2020** Julian Assange **Solidarity Walk**: Blackheath to Belmarsh [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/02/28/saturday-29-02-2020-0930-am-julian-assange-solidarity-walk-blackheath-to-belmarsh/)]
* **29 Feb 2020** Count 2 dropped in **Joseph Schulte** case [[Inner City Press](http://www.innercitypress.com/sdnylive21schulte022820.html)]  
  **NOTE** The article is seriously worth a read.
* **29 Feb 2019** **Catalan President** and MEP **Puigdemont** starts his speech to the large Assemblea by remembering Julian Assange: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/assemblea_int/status/1233752685901381643)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/assemblea_int/status/1233738323878961153) photos of event]  
    
  "It's an absolute shame that Assange is imprisoned and suffering. He must be released immediately!"  
    
  **UPDATE 2 Mar 2020**: Formal statement from **Catalonia** approved [ES [El Mon](https://www.elmon.cat/politica/junta-portaveus-parlament-demana-llibertat-julian-assange_2113946102.html)] [EN [Text](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zn2c_Nq-SCH4HKANlGgG79-6RBrAgKmN/view)]

#### **MARCH 2020**.

* **1 Mar 2020** **John McDonnell** (Australian MP) speaks out [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DoubleDownNews/status/1234420109285916672) Video]
* **1 Mar 2020** **Sevim Dagdelen** interview “***Everything points to a pure show trial***” [DE [Spiegel](https://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/prozess-gegen-julian-assange-alles-deutet-auf-einen-reinen-schauprozess-hin-a-5ab91355-e834-4acc-9a7c-7adb18ab126b)]
* **2 Mar 2020** **Model Motion** in support of Julian Assange, publisher of WikiLeaks (for use by clubs, incorporated societies, NGOs etc) [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/model-motion-in-support-of-wikileaks-julian-assange/)]
* **2 Mar 2020** More on the **‘Rohrabacher offer’   
  Media:** [[The Watchdog](https://thewatchdog.net/2020/03/02/leaked-evidence-shows-that-assange-arrest-came-after-wikileaks-publisher-refused-to-name-sources/)] [[Vice](https://www.vice.com/amp/en_us/article/939zwy/heres-why-wikileaks-founder-julian-assange-is-dangerous-for-trump)] [[Action4Assange](https://youtu.be/71KaJLAE1Qw) video] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/03/03/assa-m03.html)]
* **2 Mar 2020** Interview with **Frank Schwabe**, spokesman for the **German SPD** parliamentary group on human rights, who demands that Assange be released   
  "***The opposite of treason***" [DE [IPG](https://www.ipg-journal.de/interviews/artikel/das-gegenteil-von-verrat-4114/)] [EN [IPG](https://www.ips-journal.eu/regions/europe/article/show/he-shouldnt-be-extradited-4130/)]
* **2 Mar 2020** US Federal Court Orders Deposition of **Hillary Clinton** on Emails and Benghazi Attack Records [[Judicial Watch](https://www.judicialwatch.org/press-releases/judicial-watch-victory-federal-court-orders-deposition-of-hillary-clinton-on-emails-and-benghazi-attack-records/)]
* **3 Mar 2020** **Mairead Maguire** - “***Stop the Extradition of Julian Assange-Defend Freedom of the Press***” [[Pressenza](https://www.pressenza.com/2020/03/stop-the-extradition-of-julian-assange-defend-freedom-of-the-press/)]
* **3 Mar 2020** **Bob Carr** tweets again [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/bobjcarr/status/1234687152019005440)]  
  “Does an Australian passport mean nothing? That q is raised by Canberra’s failure to act on revelations about the cruelty in the treatment of Julian Assange. It’s not hard for Aus govt to let Boris know that strip searches, isolation, handcuffs & a glass booth are over the top”
* **3 Mar 2020** **Transparency Deutschland** & **Netzwerk Recherche** call on German federal government to draw conclusions from the Assange case [DE [NR](https://netzwerkrecherche.org/blog/transparency-deutschland-und-netzwerk-recherche-fordern-bundesregierung-auf-konsequenzen-aus-dem-fall-assange-zu-ziehen/)]
* **3 Mar 2020** **Christine Assange** (Julian’s mother) launches a GoFundMe for her new, Australian-based, official '***Save My Son Julian***' campaign “” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MrsC_Assange/status/1234692791143264256)]
* **3 Mar 2020** The trial of Julian’s friend and Swedish computer scientist **Ola Bini** is due to start Thurs 5 March in Quito. At least 15 international NGOs will sit in as observers. [ES [EFE](https://www.efe.com/efe/america/politica/al-menos-quince-ong-supervisaran-la-audiencia-de-juicio-a-amigo-assange/20000035-4187180?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter&utm_campaign=rss)] [ES [Vistazo](https://www.vistazo.com/seccion/pais/actualidad-nacional/audiencia-de-ola-bini-sera-este-jueves)]  
  - **Amnesty** puts out a statement re this trial [[Statement](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/03/ecuador-authorities-must-monitor-trial-digital-defender-ola-bini/)]
* **4 Mar 2020** **Peter Whish-Wilson** raises the reports by **Nils Melzer** re Julianwith **Marise Payne** (Minister fo Foreign Affairs) in the Australian parliament’s Legislative Committee [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SenatorSurfer/status/1235398132046786561) video]   
  - Also **Penny Wong** [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/ZOf50f1u7u0)]  
  - Relevant **Marise Payne** ([Tweet](https://twitter.com/AnonScan/status/1235497306822193152)] on the day Julian was expelled from the Embassy  
    
  **Reporting  
  Media**: [[ArmidaleExpress](https://www.armidaleexpress.com.au/story/6663733/consular-officials-watching-assange-trial/)] [[SBS](https://www.sbs.com.au/news/consular-officials-pressured-over-trial-conditions-facing-julian-assange?cid=news:socialshare:twitter)] [[The Standard](https://www.standard.net.au/story/6663733/consular-officials-watching-assange-trial/?cs=10264)]   
  - In a follow up, WSWS referred to **Penny Wong**’s “feigned concern” [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/03/07/assa-m07.html)]
* **4 Mar 2020** **Quentin Dempster**: “***The Frankenstein effect – why whistleblowers are needed now, more than ever***” [[PEN Sydney](https://pen.org.au/blogs/news/the-frankenstein-effect-why-whistleblowers-are-needed-now-more-than-ever)]
* **4 Mar 2020** **Eileen Chubb** (Compassion n Care) “***Julian Assange Case Shows Every Journalist is in Danger!*** ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Underground_RT/status/1234824013937086465) Clip] [[Going Underground](https://youtu.be/ZSAPk1_G4Vc)]  
  - “'The Gavin MacFayden Award...Julian Assange won that award and he was voted for by whistleblowers'”
* **5 Mar 2020** Appeal judges at the **International Criminal Court** (ICC) have given prosecutors the go-ahead to launch an investigation into alleged war crimes by Taliban, Afghan und US forces in **Afghanistan.** [[DW](https://www.dw.com/en/international-court-backs-afghan-war-crimes-probe/a-52646926)]  
    
  - **Diani Baretto** wonders if **Wikileaks** will be cited in the **ICC**? [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/diani_barreto/status/1235909542438985728)]
* **5 Mar 2020** Lawyers for accused WikiLeaks source **Josh Schulte** have asked the court to temporarily halt jury deliberations to make sure jurors "were not exposed to prejudicial extra-record information" from a former juror. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/apblake/status/1235605543487709184)]  
  - Request was denied. [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/apblake/status/1235650478161170433)]  
  - “Jury is falling apart” [[EmptyWheel](https://www.emptywheel.net/2020/03/05/the-joshua-schulte-jury-is-falling-apart/)]
* **5 March 2020** **Nils Melzer** comments on the detention of **Chelsea Manning**  
  [DE [Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1236430918665097216)] [DE [DeutschlandFunk](https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/whistleblowerin-chelsea-manning-un-berichterstatter.2907.de.html?dram:article_id=471778)]
* **5 March 2020** **John Shipton** in a long article. (Seems to be a kind of Transcript to the RT Documentary (of 4 Mar 2020) [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/482346-assange-father-shipton-wikileaks/amp/) Article] [[RT](https://youtu.be/KRCw9NKx_QU) Documentary]
* **5 March 2020** **Kevin Gosztola** on ways the current **US Espionage Bill** would protect journalists like Julian Assange [[ShadowProof](https://shadowproof.com/2020/03/05/espionage-act-reform-bill-would-protect-journalists-like-julian-assange/)]
* **5 March 2020** **Tareq Haddad** on “***Inside The Assange Extradition Trial***”  
  - [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1236592998416252930)] [[Watching The Hawks](https://youtu.be/tMZknuciVBA) RT]
* **6 Mar 2020** One of the women from the **Swedish** allegations, **Anna A**, has now hit out at **Nils Melzer**. [DE [Spiegel](https://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/julian-assange-opfer-von-wikileaks-gruender-kritisiert-uno-folterexperten-nils-melzer-a-5d1882b7-945f-42fd-a7a0-ec3012dd886b)]  
  “She has never felt "so much abused" as by him, writes Anna A. from Sweden in a dossier that she sent to Melzer's office and which SPIEGEL could see. Melzer had spoken of manipulation by the Swedish investigators and claimed the invention of a "rape story".  
    
  So he blames the victims, the woman writes; it was "a classic patriarchal technique to define the conditions for how 'a real rape victim' should behave". It also accuses the lawyer of personally slandering her and, in part, spreading the untruth about the investigation, such as Assange's willingness to testify about the incidents. **This is "completely unacceptable, shocking and a reason to quit his job at the UN**". …  
    
  Similar to Anna A., more than 300 human rights lawyers and law professors from numerous countries have already sharply criticized Melzer. In an open letter they accused him last summer that his statements were "both legally wrong and harmful with regard to sexual violence". **Melzer rejected this even then**.   
    
  While he shares the signatories' legal opinion, he also believes "that every victim must be supported and taken seriously who is brave enough to report sexual abuse". In the Assange case, however, he stuck to the fact that the evidence gathered in Sweden was not a basis to investigate on suspicion of rape - a clarification that the three initiators of the open letter "sincerely welcomed"
* **6 Mar 2020 Nils Meltzer** tweets initial response to the article (above) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1236048305840369664)]  
    
  “I thank Ms A. for her courage & resolve to reach out & provide her views. She cannot be blamed for Sweden’s human rights violations, nor expected to disprove them. This is the Government's duty, whose failure to cooperate with UN bodies speaks for itself.”  
    
  And again, in response to another outburst (see this [[article](https://feministisktperspektiv.se/2020/03/06/un-support-conspiracy-theory-about-rape-case-against-assange/)] ) [NM response [Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1236238304229683200)]
* **6 Mar 2020** **Crowdstrike** now claim they **“***did not do any investigations around the release of the information***.**“ [[The Gateway Pundit](https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2020/03/breaking-exclusive-crowdstrike-and-their-pr-firm-now-distance-themselves-from-russias-link-to-wikileaks-huge-development/)]”  
  “Now after three and a half years of the fraudulent Russia collusion scam being repeated so often that half of America believes that Russia hacked the DNC and gave their emails to WikiLeaks, Crowdstrike announces that it had nothing to do with assessing that Russians gave the emails to WikiLeaks??!!   
    
  **So if Crowdstrike now claims they didn’t confirm that Russians gave emails to WikiLeaks, then who the hell did?”**
* **6 Mar 2020 Tucker Carlson** (Fox News, 2.9 mill Twitter followers) has **Roger Waters** on his show to explain issues related to Julian [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/W8lRg-DVNdc)] [[Fox News](https://video.foxnews.com/v/6139209248001#sp=show-clips)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/TuckerCarlson/status/1236114526791180295)]  
    
  - **7 Mar 2020** **Roger Waters** thanks **Tucker Carlson** for “shining a light on Julian Assange’s innocence.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/rogerwaters/status/1236293590059532289)]  
    
  **Reporting** [[Fox News](https://www.foxnews.com/media/pink-floyds-roger-waters-blasts-doj-claims-double-standard-for-wikileaks-assange-major-news-outlets)]
* **6 Mar 2020** Interview With Lawyer-Journalist **Mark Davis** [“***Julian Did Redact***”:](https://www.sydneycriminallawyers.com.au/blog/julian-did-redact-an-interview-with-lawyer-journalist-mark-davis/)  
  [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1236070778023677952) ] [[SydCriminaLawyer](https://www.sydneycriminallawyers.com.au/blog/julian-did-redact-an-interview-with-lawyer-journalist-mark-davis/)]  
  - See also *Politics In The Pub* video (9 Aug 2019) and partial transcription [[THREAD](https://twitter.com/i/events/1160267582324269057)]
* **6 Mar 2020** **John Shipton** meets with **ex-President Lula**  of Brasil (in Geneva)  
   [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/ggreenwald/status/1236280288810078208)]{PO [Tweet](https://twitter.com/LulaOficial/status/1235998651010494465)] [PO [YouTube](https://youtu.be/ERUDQPl17xw)]  
  “All my solidarity with the founder of [@wikileaks](https://twitter.com/wikileaks) . Humanity should demand his freedom. Instead of being arrested, he should be treated like a hero”  
    
  **Reporting**: [[El Pais](https://elpais.bo/lula-da-silva-pide-libertad-de-julian-assange/)]
* **6 Mar 2020** **Johannes Stefansson** (of the [Fishrot leaks](https://wikileaks.org/fishrot/)} says: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/JohannesStefans/status/1235912725517266944)]  
  “”I have so much to thank [@khrafnsson](https://twitter.com/khrafnsson) [@wikileaks](https://twitter.com/wikileaks) [@couragefound](https://twitter.com/couragefound) for the very good and brave work, endless support, they made all this possible for Fishrot cases to come out. I and we all stand behind Assange Wikileaks, and to protect freepress.”
* **6 Mar 2020** Interview of **Professor Ferrada de Noli** (chairman of Swedish Doctors for Human Rights) with Ren TV (aired 24 Feb 2020), "***So, you ask me, why all this torture against Assange?***" [[The Indicter](https://theindicter.com/so-you-ask-me-why-all-this-torture-against-assange/)]  
  - “Of course [the surveillance of Assange inside the embassy] is illegal, and the question is why the US government would pursue such an illegal endeavour –which became very known, particularly after the Edward Snowden revelations about the purpose and scope of this espionage the US has on its own citizens.   
  And this (about Assange) it’s because the US would consider journalists, professors, intellectuals of all kinds, a threat to national interests just by telling the truth.”  
    
  “The extradition per se would be feasible, juridically speaking, if the UK government finally authorize it. In that case Julian Assange will be taken to the US, and he will be charged in court, and possibly he would receive that long sentence that you mentioned. But beyond that, the US strategy aims to hit the all whistle-blower movement. These measures, these extreme measures that the US government is using, is to deter future revelations of the kind done by WikiLeaks in regards to the abuse of power, the war crimes in Iraq, the documents on Afghanistan [the Afghan files], etc.  
    
  Assange is one thing as an individual, but then you have the societal phenomenon which Assange represents. And there you will find the political or geopolitical strategy which is behind these strong measures that the government of the US is deploying in the case.”  
    
  “**This is not a juridical case. This is a political case with strong geopolitical implications**. And things have to be analysed from that perspective. And the solution should be given from that area, too.  
  So, what needs to be mobilized, is pressure from politicians, from governments, from human rights organizations, and from the mass movements that gradually have been formed in order to support the just cause of freedom for Julian Assange, which is also the cause for truth.”
* **7 Mar 2020** **Craig Murray** comments on the **coronavirus** scare [[Blog](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2020/03/a-chink-in-the-wall/comment-page-1/#comment-927044)] [[Tracker](https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6)]
* **7 Mar 2020** **Noam Chomsk**y tweets “Hillary Clinton Confession: ‘We created Al Qaeda / ISIS’ ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/noamchomskyT/status/1236349084589580288)]  
  “In this video Hillary Clinton admits that the US government created and funded Al-Qaeda in order to fight the soviet union”  
    
  - See also ”*Brzezinski (1998) interview in Le Nouvel Observateur re Afghanistan (Annotated)*” [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/0eghUafgJv4)]
* **7 Mar 2020** **Tracy Worcester** (Duchess of Beaufort ) visits Julian in Belmarsh   
  [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/TracyWorcester/status/1236398930889449473) video]
* **7 Mar 2020** **Russian** spokesperson at OSCE speaks out against mistreatment of Assange [ES [Sputnik](https://mundo.sputniknews.com/politica/202003121090765687-el-ministerio-de-exteriores-ruso-denuncia-que-assange-sufre-torturas/)]
* 8 Mar 2020 **Fidel Narváez** speaks about the hearings & background [ES [Sputnik](https://mundo.sputniknews.com/opinion/202003081090716428-un-exdiplomatico-ecuatoriano-confia-en-la-victoria-judicial-de-julian-assange/)]
* **8 Mar 2020** Summary of the redaction issie [[The Canary](https://www.thecanary.co/uk/analysis/2020/03/08/a-note-reveals-exactly-why-the-julian-assange-extradition-case-is-based-on-lies/)]
* **9 Mar 2020** **Joshua Schulte** [Vault 7] case ended in hung jury (with conviction on two counts)  
     
  **Reporting** [[NYT](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/09/nyregion/cia-wikileaks-joshua-schulte-verdict.html)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/03/10/schu-m10.html)] [[Inner City Press](http://www.innercitypress.com/sdnylive28schulte030920.html)] [[The Hill]](https://thehill.com/regulation/court-battles/486650-jury-fails-to-decide-whether-former-cia-engineer-leaked-secrets-in) [[ICP](https://anchor.fm/innercity-press/episodes/March-9-Schulte-guilty-on-2--mistrial-on-rest--Nejad--sealing-requested-by-SDNY--UN-rapes-ebcmsv) podcast] [RT [YouTube](https://youtu.be/WioEYD9b76E)] [[DailyMail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8092247/Minor-convictions-ex-CIA-coder-hacking-tools-case.html)]  
    
  **NYT**: “The judge declared a mistrial on the most serious charges against Joshua Schulte, who was accused of giving secret documents to WikiLeaks.”  
    
  **WSWS**: “After a week of deliberations, the jury returned on Monday to state that it could not reach an agreement on the most serious charges facing Schulte. The divided opinion centred on eight counts under the Espionage Act, including illegally gathering and transmitting national defence information. The jury had only agreed to convict Schulte on the lesser counts of contempt of court and making false statements to the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Schulte will remain imprisoned and likely faces a retrial.  
    
  The failure of the prosecution to convict Schulte of the charges relating to WikiLeaks’ 2017 Vault 7 publication, which consisted of leaked documents from within the CIA, is significant. It may mark a hurdle in the campaign of the US government against WikiLeaks and its publisher Julian Assange, who faces extradition from Britain to the US and prosecution under Espionage Act charges over separate 2010 and 2011 releases.   
    
  **It is clear that if he is extradited, Assange could face additional US charges, possibly related to Vault 7.** Three days after closing arguments in the Schulte trial, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade officials confirmed that it was possible that Assange would face additional counts carrying the death penalty if he was dispatched to the US. The timing of their statements, which contradict the previous claims of US allies, could indicate that there is much at stake for Assange in the attempted US prosecution of Schulte.  
    
  The failure of the jury to convict, after a “national security” trial in which all advantages were slated to the prosecutors, **underscores the criminal character of the media blackout of the proceedings, which began in late January**. For over a month, the most prominent corporate media outlets have remained silent on court hearings which revealed aspects of the politically-motivated witch-hunt of WikiLeaks and its alleged sources.”  
    
  **NOTE**: The exception to media blackout was detailed daily reporting from [[Inner City Press](http://www.innercitypress.com/sdnylive28schulte030920.html)]  
    
  **ICP**: “In the conclusion of the month long trial of accused CIA leaker Joshua Schulte, on the morning of March 9 the jury returned **guilty verdicts on Counts 8 and 10**, with mistrial granted on all other counts. Judge Crotty set **March 26 for the next date**.   
  March 9 thread [here.](https://twitter.com/innercitypress/status/1237018008192782337) **Count 8** involves causing the transmission of a harmful computer program, information, code or command; **Count 10** involves obstruction of justice.”
* **9 March 2020** New US document released by US Cyber Command via FOIA [[TechCrunch](https://techcrunch.com/2020/03/09/wikileaks-cables-google-aurora/)]  
  “A previously secret document from 2010 warned that classified diplomatic cables published by [**WikiLeaks**](https://crunchbase.com/organization/wikileaks)  would likely result in “observable changes” in the tactics and techniques used by foreign spies, potentially making it easier to avoid detection by U.S. agencies.  
    
  The document, recently declassified through a Freedom of Information request by the nonprofit National Security Archive and shared with [**TechCrunch,**](https://crunchbase.com/organization/techcrunch)  reveals a rare glimpse inside U.S. Cyber Command, the military’s main cyber-warfare unit, which feared that the leaked diplomatic cables of communications between U.S. foreign embassies would uncover and hamper its ongoing cyber operations.”
* **9 Mar 2020** **Swiss Petition** seeking asylum for Assange in that country [DE [Petition](https://www.asylassange.ch/fr/)]  
  “We, lawyers, jurists, Swiss citizens and co-signers, ask the Federal Council to grant asylum to Julian Assange in Switzerland. .Because: Those who discover war crimes should not be extradited to war criminals!”
* **9 Mar 2020** The **International Bar Association’s Human Rights Institute** (IBAHRI)   
  “condemns the reported mistreatment of Julian Assange during his United States extradition trial in February 2020, and urges the **government of the United Kingdom** to take action to protect him.” [[IBAHRI](https://www.ibanet.org/Article/NewDetail.aspx?ArticleUid=c05c57ee-1fee-47dc-99f9-26824208a750)]   
    
  “The IBAHRI is concerned that the mistreatment of Julian Assange constitutes **breaches of his right to a fair trial and protections enshrined** in the [**United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment**](https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cat.aspx), to which the UK is party. It is deeply shocking that as a mature democracy in which the rule of law and the rights of individuals are preserved, the **UK Government has been silent** and has taken no action to terminate such gross and disproportionate conduct by Crown officials.   
    
  As well, we are surprised that the **presiding judge** has reportedly said and done nothing to rebuke the officials and their superiors for such conduct in the case of an accused whose offence is not one of personal violence.” ...  
    
  “It is troubling that Mr Assange has complained that he is **unable to hear properly** what is being said at his trial, and that because he is locked in a glass cage **is prevented from communicating freely with his lawyers** during the proceedings commensurate with the prosecution.’  
    
  - **Nils Melzer** thanks the IBAHRI [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1237371979440807936)]  
    
  **Reporting** [[Law Gazette UK](https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/news/rights-body-turns-its-sights-on-uk-over-assange/5103407.article)] [[Irish Legal News]](https://www.irishlegal.com/article/human-rights-body-condemns-alleged-mistreatment-of-julian-assange) [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202003121078548231-uk-treatment-of-julian-assange-condemned-by-international-bar-associations-human-rights-institute/)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/03/12/ibah-m12.html)] [[Lawyers Weekly](https://www.lawyersweekly.com.au/biglaw/27699-michael-kirby-throws-support-behind-julian-assange)]  
    
  **Comment** [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1238100508080046086) video]
* **?? March 2020** **ARTICLE 19** and partners have developed criteria for the appointment of a **new UN Special Rapporteur on FreedomOfExpression.**   
  [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/article19UN/status/1237398742883618820)] [[Summary](https://www.article19.org/resources/selection-and-appointment-of-a-new-special-rapporteur-on-the-promotion-and-protection-of-the-right-to-freedom-of-opinion-and-expression/)] [[PDF](https://www.article19.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Selection-and-appointment-criteria-for-a-new-Special-Rapporteur-on-the-promotion-and-protection-of-the-right-to-freedom-of-opinion-and-expression.pdf)]  
    
  - Formalities of nomination process [[OHCHR](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx)]  
  - Online Survey for Mandate holders [[OHCHR](https://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/937632)]  
  - Application form [[OHCHR](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/HRC44.aspx)]  
  - **Deadline** for nominations 12:00pm GMT on **15 April 2020**.
* **9 Mar 2020** **Christine Assange** (and doctors) warns of risk to Julian of **coronavirus** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MrsC_Assange/status/1236917836112519168)]  
    
  **Reporting**: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/03/11/asvi-m11.html)]
* **10 Mar 2020** The so-called [EARN IT Act](https://www.eff.org/document/earn-it-act-introduced) ([S. 3398](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3398/)): Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) recently introduced a bill that would undermine key protections for **Internet speech in US law**. [[EFF](https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2020/03/graham-blumenthal-bill-attack-online-speech-and-security)]  
  “[The Bill] is an attack on speech, security, and innovation. Congress must reject it.

The bill deals with the very serious issue of child exploitation online, but it offers no meaningful solutions. It doesn’t help organizations that support victims. It doesn’t equip law enforcement agencies with resources to investigate claims of child exploitation or training in how to use online platforms to catch perpetrators. Rather, the bill’s authors have shrewdly **used defending children as the pretense for an attack on our free speech and security online**.”  
**Reporting**: [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/03/17/earn-m17.html)]  
**Comment**  
- **Edward Snowden** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Snowden/status/1237707215903096834)]  
“The government is attempting to exploit anger at tech companies to pass a law that intentionally undermines digital security and censors speech.   
That such a law is even being considered by Congress is a national disgrace.”

* **10 Mar 2020** [Interview with **John Shipton** by Peter McCormack](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/03/21/interview-with-john-shipton-from-defiance-by-peter-mccormack-transcript/) of Defiance  
  [[Podcast](https://www.defiance.news/podcast/julian-assange-by-his-father-john-shipton)] [[Transcript](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/03/21/interview-with-john-shipton-from-defiance-by-peter-mccormack-transcript/)]
* **11 Mar 2020** **Chelsea Manning** has been reported has having attempted suicide whileimprisoned for not testifying against Assange.[[Sparrow Media](https://www.sparrowmedia.net/2020/03/statement-from-chelsea-mannings-legal-team-ms-manning-is-recovering-in-hospital-scheduled-to-appear-in-court-friday/)]  
  “On Wednesday, March 11, 2020, Chelsea Manning attempted to take her own life. She was taken to a hospital and is currently recovering.   
    
  Ms. Manning is still scheduled to appear on Friday for a previously-calendared hearing, at which Judge Anthony Trenga will rule on a motion to terminate the civil contempt sanctions stemming from her May, 2019 refusal to give testimony before a grand jury investigating the publication of her 2010 disclosures.

In spite of those sanctions — which have so far included over a year of so-called “coercive” incarceration and nearly half a million dollars in threatened fines — she remains unwavering in her refusal to participate in a secret grand jury process that she sees as highly susceptible to abuse. Ms. Manning has previously indicated that **she will not betray her principles**, **even at risk of grave harm to herself**.”  
  
**Petition** to free her: [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SaveManning/status/1238027843851833346)] [[Petition](https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/sign-the-petition-free-chelsea-manning-now?source=direct_link&referrer=group-fight-for-the-future)]  
  
**Reporting**: [[Gizmodo](https://gizmodo.com/chelsea-manning-attempted-suicide-in-jail-on-wednesday-1842277955?utm_medium=sharefromsite&utm_source=gizmodo_twitter)] [[New Matilda](https://newmatilda.com/2020/03/12/assange-show-trial/)] [[The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/mar/11/chelsea-manning-suicide-attempt-hospital)] [[The DailyBeast](https://www.thedailybeast.com/chelsea-manning-recovering-after-trying-to-take-her-own-life-in-jail-lawyers-say)] [[Daily Mail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8102311/Former-Army-intelligence-analyst-Chelsea-Manning-attempts-suicide-Virginia-jail-cell.html)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/03/12/chel-m12.html)] [[AP News](https://apnews.com/eacc20cfdf0869c4498d57f31041ee8f)] [[NY Times](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/11/us/chelsea-manning-suicide-attempt.html?smid=tw-nytimes&smtyp=cur)] [FR [FranceInfo](https://www.francetvinfo.fr/faits-divers/affaire/assange/la-lanceuse-d-alerte-chelsea-manning-a-tente-de-se-tuer_3862769.html)] [RT](https://youtu.be/-8b1SvyAgiA) video] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/usa/482887-manning-suicide-jail-testimony-wikileaks/) article] [[DemocracyNow](https://www.democracynow.org/2020/3/12/headlines/jailed_us_army_whistleblower_chelsea_manning_hospitalized_after_suicide_attempt)] [[The Intercept](https://theintercept.com/2020/03/12/chelsea-manning-suicide-attempt/)]  
  
**Discussion**:   
- **Daniel Ellsberg** and **Kevin Gosztola** [[Defending Rights & Dissent](https://www.facebook.com/bordc/videos/488493105363181/?__tn__=-R) from 18:00]  
  
**Comment**:  
- **Nils Melzer** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1237895768561745920)]  
“Alarming news on [@xychelsea](https://twitter.com/xychelsea)

On 1 Nov [2019] I called on USGovt to terminate her coercive detention without delay, categorized it as **torture** ([http://bit.ly/2ZAn10Y](https://t.co/uhqKoFBftQ?amp=1) ) & reiterated this in my official report to [HRC43](https://twitter.com/hashtag/HRC43?src=hashtag_click) ([http://bit.ly/2vYhNBL](https://t.co/azqzjMwvN8?amp=1)).   
No response.”  
[**NOTE**: Chelsea Manning is referenced by name in FNs 8, 32 & 50 of the Draft Report.]  
  
 - More from **Nils Melzer** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1238086155205324800)]  
“After speaking to [@xychelsea](https://twitter.com/xychelsea)'s lawyers: Her state was critical but stable now.

Such acts of desperation are typical for the confusion, dehumanisation & suffering deliberately inflicted through prolonged PsychologicalTorture ([http://bit.ly/2vYhNBL](https://t.co/azqzjMO7bI?amp=1)).”  
  
- **Yanis Varoufakis** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/yanisvaroufakis/status/1238046908339404801)]  
“And so, the torture of Chelsea Manning (to force her to lie about Julian Assange) continues year in year out. Putin, Xi, Orban and assorted despots are laughing their heads off as our so-called liberal democracies shred human rights”  
  
- **Matt Kennard** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DCKennard/status/1238016079659773952)]  
“Be in no doubt. The US/UK govts are trying to break Manning+Assange. They want to send a message: if you expose our crimes, we will destroy you. These prisoners are the frontline of battle to hold on to our freedom. Those who remain silent are complicit.”  
  
- **Stefania Maurizi**  
“I am completely upset and devastated to realise how the US government has treated one of the greatest journalistic sources of all times:” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1237885652764508160)]  
  
“I am devastated.I have worked on her documents, published by Wikileaks, for the last decade. No one put me in prison, no one ever questioned me, whereas [@xychelsea](https://twitter.com/xychelsea) and Julian Assange are literally dying slowly, killed by the US government” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1237883128384901122)]  
  
- **Renata Avila** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/avilarenata/status/1237890598159306758)]  
“US is torturing [@xychelsea](https://twitter.com/xychelsea). The case against her and Wikileaks is an example of lawfare and use of torture to silence and punish non-violent action.”  
  
- **Glenn Greenwald** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/ggreenwald/status/1237933633056448512)]  
“The persecution and abuse of Chelsea Manning is a decade-long and ongoing disgrace to the country. There are no words for it. ”

- **US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo** (on the same day) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SecPompeo/status/1237754105545789440)]  
“Our nation was founded on the premise that all human beings are created equal in rights and in dignity. I’m proud that 244 years later, the US remains a leader in the effort to champion human rights with the 2019 [#HumanRightsReport](https://twitter.com/hashtag/HumanRightsReport?src=hashtag_click)“”

* **11 Mar 2020** Webinar**: “*The Extradition of Julian Assange & the Future of Global Press Freedom*”** [[Register](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_m1_HQzIURWWiN9O6E51pRA)]  
    
  **Video**: [[FaceBook](https://www.facebook.com/bordc/videos/488493105363181/?__tn__=-R) video]  
   **Speakers: Chip Gibbons, Daniel Ellsberg, and Kevin Gostzola**
* **11 Mar 2020 Nils Melzer** gives a briefing on the Assange case to members of [the Swiss Parliament @ParlCH](https://twitter.com/ParlCH) in Bern [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1237887028718473228)] [DE [Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1237886869934768128)]  **“...**  thanks to the participating MPs for the open & constructive discussion!”
* **11 Mar 2020** J**ohn Pilge**r comments on The pandemic announcement for **coronavirus** (but not for the dire circumstances of people elsewhere). [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/johnpilger/status/1237917012958924803)]
* **11 Mar 2020** Australia: **Melbourne teachers** vote to defend Assange and Manning [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/03/14/cfpe-m14.html)]
* **12 Mar 2020** Detailed update on the **medical** and **judicial treatment** of Julian Assange by **Lissa Johnson** and **Doctors For Assange** [[New Matilda](https://newmatilda.com/2020/03/12/assange-show-trial/)]

“Given that an Australian citizen is at the heart of this global attack on press freedom and human rights, we Australians must hold our government to its human rights obligations according to its own Human Rights Commission.  
  
Because this abuse will not stop at **Julian Assange** and **Chelsea Manning**. [**Glenn Greenwald**](https://twitter.com/trevortimm/status/1234948582702186499?s=20) is in the crosshairs as we speak. Other gentle journalists and whistleblowers the world over are at risk. A **senior official** at the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (**OPCW**) has recently expressed [fear for his family’s safety](https://twitter.com/PiersRobinson1/status/1235789466176024576?s=20) if he tells the truth about what goes on behind the scenes.  
  
Persecutors everywhere will be emboldened by the Assange precedent. Secrecy will run riot. Victims’ stories will go unheard and untold.  
  
And that is what this show-trial is ultimately all about. It is about rendering victims’ voiceless, with no journalists or whistleblowers to tell their stories, nor hold their abusers to account.”  
  
**Comment:  
- Nils Melzer** “Thanks to ⁦[@LissaKJohnson](https://twitter.com/LissaKJohnson)⁩ for one of the best, sharpest & most convincing articles on the Assange case I have ever read - systematically demasking the UK Govt’s disgraceful betrayal of the most fundamental norms of humanity, justice & RuleOfLaw.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1239694336645881856)]

* **12 Mar 2020** Judge orders **Chelsea Manning**'s **released from jail** in Virginia   
  [WL [Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1238217745646391296)]   
  “A federal judge has ordered the release of Chelsea Manning: "the court finds Ms. Manning's appearance before the Grand Jury is no longer needed, in light of which her detention no longer serves any coercive purpose."”  
    
  NOTE: The bad news is that the fines still stand. $256,000   
    
  **Official fundraising** for Chelsea; [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SaveManning/status/1238299378160242688)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SaveManning/status/1238433253540806657)]  
  **Official Statement** [[The Sparrow](https://www.sparrowmedia.net/2020/03/chelsea-manning-released-after-edva-grand-jury-probe-expires/)]   
    
  **Court Order** [[Court Listene](https://www.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.vaed.412520/gov.uscourts.vaed.412520.41.0.pdf)r PDF] [[Document Cloud](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/6809231-200312-Trenga-Hammond-Release.html) Text]  
     
  **Livestream** outside the jail [[Ruptly](https://youtu.be/anlNNtFg1CU)]  
  **On site**   
  - Ford Fischer - The Sheriff speaks [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/FordFischer/status/1238254070646833154) video]  
    
  **Reporting** [[The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/mar/12/chelsea-manning-jail-release-virginia?CMP=share_btn_tw)] [[ShadowProof](https://shadowproof.com/2020/03/12/federal-judge-orders-chelsea-mannings-release-from-jail/)] [[NBC](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/judge-orders-chelsea-manning-be-released-n1157381)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/usa/482983-manning-release-suicide-attempt-jail/)] [[The Intercept](https://theintercept.com/2020/03/12/chelsea-manning-judge-order-released/)] [ES [RT](https://youtu.be/DXdnV9pkSao) video] [[NewsWeek](https://www.newsweek.com/chelsea-manning-released-prison-refused-testify-before-grand-jury-julian-assange-case-1492062)] [[WaPo](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/public-safety/chelsea-manning-ordered-released-from-jail/2020/03/12/0ee56efc-6478-11ea-845d-e35b0234b136_story.html)] [[DissidentVoice](https://dissidentvoice.org/2020/03/chelsea-manning-is-free-from-jail-faces-exorbitant-fines/)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/03/13/mann-m13.html)] [[Caitlin Johnstone](https://caitlinjohnstone.com/2020/03/13/judge-releases-manning-after-suicide-attempt-effectively-fines-her-supporters-256000/)] [[CNN](https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/12/politics/chelsea-manning-suicide-attempt-virginia-jail/index.html)]  
  **Comment:**  
  - **Nils Melzer** “Judge orders [@xychelsea](https://twitter.com/xychelsea)'s release. Finally a first step in the right direction!” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1238225303203459077)]  
    
  - **EmmyB** “Chelsea Manning is Free, Jeremy Hammond no longer in contempt of court, the struggle continues but time to lift the grief and go for the final line!!!! ” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1238230737641406464)]  
    
  - **Diani Barreto** “Vigilance, unrelentingly militance, political & grass root support for **Chelsea Manning** & **Jeremy Hammond** have paid off in regard to coercive measures deployed by the secret grand jury. Grateful to all.   
  Now we must vigorously engage to free **Julian Assange**.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/diani_barreto/status/1238228881129312256)]  
    
  - **George Galloway** (In OpEd) “***US govt’s persecution of Chelsea Manning is medieval punishment, the cutting out of tongues, the murder of truth***” [[RT](https://www.rt.com/op-ed/482979-chelsea-manning-punishment-truth/)]  
    
  - **Stefania Maurizi** “I celebrate [@xychelsea](https://twitter.com/xychelsea): an ethical giant  
  Now it's time to free Julian Assange and to put an end to the appalling treatment he has received in the last 10 years.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi/status/1238222284948725772)]  
    
  - **John Pilger** “Chelsea Manning has been freed, but only after trying to take her life again. The thug-judge who tried to intimidate her into lying about Julian Assange failed. This may be the first significant crack in the Assange case. Now demand this hero's freedom.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/johnpilger/status/1238262877020176385)]  
    
  - **Edward Snowdon** “The government cast Manning into a dungeon for resisting a scheme to make publishers of news subject to the Espionage Act. They offered to let her out in exchange for collaboration, but she chose her principles instead.   
  That is moral strength.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Snowden/status/1238354696185798656)] [[RT](https://www.rt.com/news/483039-chelsea-manning-snowden-principles/)]  
    
  - **Doctors For Assange** “D4A is relieved that the torture of Chelsea Manning has at last ended, 4 months after the UN SR on Torture [@NilsMelzer](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer) demanded that the US end its punitive and coercive imprisonment and fines.”  
  “Despite releasing her from jail, Judge Trenga entered an order for a fine of $256,000. Doctors4Assange protests this vindictive fine & calls for its dismissal, adding it's voice to the UN Special Rapporteur’s call for Manning to be compensated for her torture. ”  
   [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/LissaKJohnson/status/1238389425895124993)] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Doctors4Assange/status/1238385706428444672)] [[Full statement]](https://doctorsassange.org/doctors4assange-statement-on-chelsea-manning/)  
    
  - **Glenn Greenwald** “Chelsea Manning has done more for the world in her 32 years than can be expected of any person in a lifetime, & has sacrificed so much & paid such a huge price for her public service. She was released from prison yesterday but faces huge fines & challenges to live. Please donate” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/ggreenwald/status/1238441941689303040)]  
    
  - **Amnesty International** “Good news! A federal judge ordered the release of [@xychelsea](https://twitter.com/xychelsea), who has been incarcerated since May for refusing to testify to a grand jury. She never should have been imprisoned in the first place. We stand in solidarity with her.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/1238408498414792704)]
* **12 Mar 2020** Statement from **Wikileaks**:   
  “The WikiLeaks Grand Jury running 10+ years has been disbanded. **Chelsea Manning** and **Jeremy Hammond** have been released from its coercive machinations. Now drop all charges against **Julian Assange** and release him.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1238256152506437638)]  
    
  **Court Order** [[Court Listene](https://www.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.vaed.412520/gov.uscourts.vaed.412520.41.0.pdf)r PDF] [Document Cloud](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/6809231-200312-Trenga-Hammond-Release.html)]
* **12 Mar 2020** Russian MFA spokesperson **Maria Zakharova** menitons torture of Assange in weekly briefing. [ES [Sputnik](https://mundo.sputniknews.com/politica/202003121090765687-el-ministerio-de-exteriores-ruso-denuncia-que-assange-sufre-torturas/)]   
  See also [[RT](https://youtu.be/JmE4yAwVwi0?t=1h33m06s) video at 1:33:06]
* **13 March 2020** **NOT NEEDED NOW!** **Chelsea Manning** goes to court (in VA) with a motion to be released.[Robert Boyle in [Audio](https://covertactionmagazine.com/index.php/2020/03/05/whistleblowers-and-their-warriors-episode-10-of-julian-assange-countdown-to-freedom/) about 1:32:40] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/apblake/status/1235564180268253185)]  
    
  **Supporting documentation** [[ReleaseChelsea](https://www.releasechelsea.com/faq/b/)]  
    
  **Reporting**: (**Before**) [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/analysis/202003061078498825-by-insisting-chelsea-manning-is-assange-agent-us-refuses-her-agency/)] [[Gizmodo](https://gizmodo.com/psychologist-finds-chelsea-mannings-imprisonment-pointl-1841790431)] (**After**)
* **13 Mar 2020 NOT NEEDED NOW!** Important Court date for **Jeremy Hammomd**. A public show of support is important [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/FreeJeremyNet/status/1237539749008572418)] 401 Courthouse Sq, Alexandria, VA  
    
  “Jeremy Hammond will once again appear in court and a decision will be made on the Grumbles motion filed by his legal team. A Grumbles motion argues that the incarceration a person is experiencing is purely punitive and serves no purpose other than to punish. This could be a major milestone in Jeremy’s contempt case and, if successful, could free him to return to federal prison to finish serving the remainder of his sentence, bringing him that much closer to freedom.

In deciding past Grumbles motions, judges have remarked that **community support has been key factor that has tipped the scales** in favor of releasing a grand jury resister from their contempt, so if you can make it, please come out and show Judge Trenga that you support Jeremy and his brave resistance!”

* **14 Mar 2020** Release date for **EuroLeaks** (per DIEM25 and Yanis Varoufakis) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/SomersetBean/status/1235479062564319232)] (NOTE: Date changed from 10 March) [New [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DiEM_25/status/1237325956232118272)][[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/HorvatSrecko/status/1238427076434239488) video]  
  [[Website](https://euroleaks.diem25.org/)]   
  - **Yanis Varoufakis**: “EUROLEAKS: We are now live, as promised. What better way to spend our Covid-19 isolation hours/days than to listen in, to read up, on the manner in which the Troika, the Eurogroup and the EU establishment operate behind close doors against the interests of most Europeans.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/yanisvaroufakis/status/1238769007479709699)]  
  “Message to Julian Assange: The best way to honour your struggle for transparent authorities and opaque citizens is to follow in your steps. Today we did this by releasing Euroleaks. Thank you for pointing the way” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/yanisvaroufakis/status/1238776385474306048)]
* **15 Mar 2020** Jeffrey Sterling (CIA Whistleblower) “***Reject Using My Unjust Conviction Against Julian Assange***” [[La Progressive]](https://www.laprogressive.com/jeffrey-sterling/)
* **15 Mar 2020** ABC Four Corners “***Killing Field***” examines possible **Australian** war crimes in **Afghanistan** - with people recognising the parallels to “”***Collateral Murder***” and connection to **The War Logs**.   
  [[ABC](https://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2020-03-16/new-allegations-unarmed-civilians-killed-by-sas-in-afghanistan/12028448?pfmredir=sm) article] [[ABC](https://iview.abc.net.au/show/four-corners) video] [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/KellieTranter/status/1239499639172124673)]   
    
  **Comment**  
  - **Nils Melzer** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1239570050023133184)]  
  “ Total impunity for Western [#WarCrimes](https://twitter.com/hashtag/WarCrimes?src=hashtag_click) & [#CaH](https://twitter.com/hashtag/CaH?src=hashtag_click):  
  - CollateralMurder 2007  
  - CIA Torture Rpt 2014  
  - UK Torture Rpts 2018  
  - EU Migrant pushbacks 2019  
  - AUS SAS murder 2020  
  BUT: Assange [@xychelsea](https://twitter.com/xychelsea) Snowden etc persecuted  
  How far have we sunk?”
* **15 Mar 2020** **Russian Embassy** re Assange [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/RussianEmbassy/status/1239192113377656832)]  
  “MFA spox [#Zakharova](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Zakharova?src=hashtag_click): World community has no doubt about political underpinnings of Julian Assange persecution. We call on Human Rights activists and related intl organisations to do all they can to ensure justice for Assange or at least prevent [US flag] & [UK flag] from murdering him.”  
  - See also weekly briefing 12 Mar 2020 [[RT](https://youtu.be/JmE4yAwVwi0?t=1h33m06s) video at 1:33:06]
* **15 Mar 2020 UK Labour Party** local branches pass resolutions in support of Assange  
  - [[Isle of Wight](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/03/15/motions-in-support-of-julian-assange-signed-in-the-isle-of-wight-by-labour-constituency/)] [[Canonbury ward](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/03/10/canonbury-ward-islington-south-and-finsbury-labour-constituency-passes-assange-motion/)] [[Abbey Wood](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/03/09/abbey-wood-branch-labour-party-passes-motion-in-support-of-julian-assange/)]
* **17 Mar 2020** **Ian Overton** on “***Anonymous Bites Back”***  
  [[Podcast](https://www.pscp.tv/w/1jMKgQyAXVbJL)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/Zu4hb9Flv4U?t=3m07s)] [[Transcript](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/03/22/iain-overton-iraq-war-logs-at-anonymous-bites-back-speaks-in-defence-of-julian-assange/)]  
  “Investigative journalist and author [Iain Overton](http://www.iainoverton.com/) worked with WikiLeaks Julian Assange in the publication of the Iraq War Logs while he was working for The Bureau of Investigative Journalism. Here, speaking to the podcast Anonymous Bites Back, he raises a strong voice in defence of the WikiLeaks publisher almost 10 years after their initial collaboration.”  
    
  **NOTE**: This interview, with a journalist who was actively involved at the time, gives a full description of the **redaction process** initiated by Assange for the Iraqui War Logs.
* **18 Mar 2020** The **danger** to Julian of a **coronavirus** outbreak in **prison** is highlighted:  
  - A prison officer has tested positive for the virus, and a former prisoner talks about prison capacity )or lack thereof) to deal with an outbreak [RT [Tweet](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1240218890472321024) video]  
  - The specific danger to Julian, given his poor health, is outlined by UK doctor   
  RT [Tweet](https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/1240233989639737346) video]  
  - Joseph Farrell calls for Julian to be released to avoid the virus [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/BellaMagnani/status/1239945567326928896)]  
    
  Also **19 Mar 2020** More calls to release prisoners [[The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/world/live/2020/mar/19/coronavirus-update-live-news-who-covid19-cases-outbreak-us-states-uk-school-closures-australia-europe-eu-africa-asia-latest-updates?page=with:block-5e740cba8f085e564ad87926#block-5e740cba8f085e564ad87926)]  
    
  **Reporting**: [UK [Standard](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/julian-assange-mother-christine-coronavirus-prison-release-a4388601.html)] [[The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/world/live/2020/mar/17/coronavirus-live-news-updates-uk-us-australia-europe-france-italy-who-self-isolation-travel-bans-borders-latest-update?page=with:block-5e70e8858f085c6327bc199d#block-5e70e8858f085c6327bc199d)] [RT [YouTube](https://youtu.be/LiAFUlB3WeE)] [[Washington Times](https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/mar/18/julian-assange-wikileaks-founder-release-from-jail/)]
* **18 Mar 2020** The ***Wikileaks Lockdown list*** - videos to watch while the **coronavirus** keeps you at home. [[DontExtraditeAssange](https://dontextraditeassange.com/playlist/)]]
* **19 Mar 2020** **George Galloway** brings up the Assange case with the **Sarcolas** lawyer - in the context of the US/UK Extradition Treaty [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/3Sg7HYRr7Pc)]
* **20 Mar 2020** “***Hacksmiths: An open discussion about Julian Assange***” London  
  [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Unity4J/status/1238089264925196288)] [[Details](https://2020.goldsmiths.tech/events/discussion-about-assange/)]  
  **Speakers**: **Lisa Longstaff, Joseph Farrell Chair: Emmy Butlins**

NOTE Not sure if this event happened.

* **20 Mar 2020** **Nils Melze**r RT’d “***Freedom from Torture***” tweet video abou toture being used to begin he Iraq War. [[[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NilsMelzer/status/1241029981469323269)]
* 23 Mar 2020 **Lawyers** for Julian Assange will make a **bail application** at Westminster Magistrates’ Court on Wednesday (March 25). [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1242122153065054208)]   
    
  **Reporting** [[The Watchdog](https://thewatchdog.net/2020/03/23/news-assange-to-apply-for-bail-as-experts-warn-of-covid-19-spread-in-h-m-p-belmarsh/)] [[Bloomberg](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-23/julian-assange-to-apply-for-bail-on-coronavirus-concerns)] [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202003231078683996-julian-assange-to-apply-for-bail-amid-fears-of-coronavirus-outbreak-in-prisons---campaign/)] [[WSWS](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2020/03/24/assa-m24.html)]
* **23 Mar 2020 DIEM25 TV starting** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DiEM_25/status/1241357906974556160)] [[More info and registration](https://mailchi.mp/gr/diem25-tv-world-after-coronavirus?e=0f4a9ba489)]  
    
  - 23 Mar 2020 [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/jelIraqya6o?t=41m22s)] **Yanis Varoufakis:** Europe's latest historic failure   
  - 24 Mar 2020 **Vijay Prashad:** Cost of pandemic must not bankrupt the people- 25 Mar 2020 **Srecko Horvat**: Hope & Humour in Times of Coronavirus  
  - 26 Mar 2020 **John Shipton:** The Flames of Truth: **Assange**  
  - 27 Mar 2020 **Saskia Sassen**: What if this is the beginning of a possibility?  
  - 28 Mar 2020 **Noam Chomsky:** Coronavirus - what is at stake? (pre-rec)  
   **Gael Bernal & Srećko Horvat:** Love in Times of Coronavirus   
  - 29 Mar 2020 **Ece Temelkuran:** Corona-Neo-Fascism: A deadly combo  
  - 30 Mar 2020 **Stefania Maurizi:** Why we must save **Julian Assang**e

See also [Defend.WikilLeaks LIVE BLOG](https://defend.wikileaks.org/liveblog/) & DE [German Assange Campaign](https://germanassangecampaign.org/)

### **END of most recent UPDATES**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS FOR KEY PEOPLE.**

**For EVENT MANAGERS**:  
Please **ensure** there is AT LEAST an **audio** record (and preferably a **video** record) of your event and load it to YouTube or some other accessible platform (and **tweet the link**). Please put the **date** and **place** of the event in the header information of the loaded record - and anything else important for understanding the event in 50 years time (like the names of key speakers).  
  
Please **encourage** speakers to **publish** the **transcript** of their speech (if they have one).  
  
If there is a VIDEO recording made, please put the **names** of the speakers in front of them. It makes tweeting, and making transcripts much easier.

* See also Coming Events at [Defend Wikileaks](https://wiseupaction.info/2020/02/15/committee-to-defend-julian-assange-newsletter-10-upcoming-actions-in-support-of-julian-assange/) and [ChallengePower wiki](https://challengepower.info/events)   
  & Candles4Assange [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/Candles4Assange/status/1233697081639833600)]
* **25 Mar 2020 (Confirmed) Procedural Appearance at Westminster Court** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233052164836249600)]  
  NOTE This tweet says April but presumably he meant March?  
    
  **NOTE** This appearance will include an **application for bail** for Julian, related to his vulnerability to **coronavirus**. [DEA [Tweet](https://twitter.com/DEAcampaign/status/1242122153065054208)]   
    
  **Reporting**  [[The Watchdog](https://thewatchdog.net/2020/03/23/news-assange-to-apply-for-bail-as-experts-warn-of-covid-19-spread-in-h-m-p-belmarsh/)]
* **26 March 2020** Next date for **Joshua Shulte** [Vault 7] case after partial mistrial  
  [[Inner City Press](http://www.innercitypress.com/sdnylive28schulte030920.html)]
* **6 April 2020** at 6:30pm Futures event: “***Hacktivism***” London. [[Website](https://futurespodcast.net/events/fplive-hacktivism)]  
  **Speakers**: **Maureen Webb** (author) & **Lauri Love** (alleged hacker)
* **2 May 2020** TrumanHuman UK “Drive By Protest” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/TRUMANHUMAN2020/status/1240289972801986562)]
* **7 April 2020 Case Management hearing** (Joseph Farrell on [[Video](https://www.pscp.tv/w/1zqKVlnOBmXJB) at 55:26])
* 1**1 April 2020** Vigil at Belmarsh prison to **mark one yea**r since Julian’s arrest [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/alimay101234/status/1236330156555468801)]
* **20 April 2020** ***“Free The Truth***” London [[Register](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/free-the-truth-london-april-20-6pm-freethetruth-tickets-98461477931?utm-medium=discovery&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&aff=estw&utm-source=tw&utm-term=listing)]  
  **Speakers**: Mark Curtis, Andrew Feinstein, Peter Oborne, Chris Williamson and others
* **25 April 2020 (??)** **Procedural Appearance at Westminster Court** [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1233052164836249600)]  
  NOTE This tweet says April but seems he meant March?
* **18 May 2020** **US Extradition Trial continues** (Up to 3 wks) [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/NielsLadefoged/status/1220310987775062018)]   
  At Belmarsh Magistrates Court (inside Woolwich Crown Court). [[Video](https://youtu.be/4JNATbkzZOo)]
* **19-28 May 2020** **Geoffrey Robertson** QC on Australian speaking tour “***It’s No Longer Hypotherical***” [[Agenda](https://www.miragenews.com/geoffrey-robertson-qc-announces-australian-tour/)]  
  “Geoffrey Robertson will take to the stage in an evening of thought and analysis as he discusses some of the of the big issues of our time. He will discuss   
  - Brexit and Trump in a post-truth era and   
  - calls for Australia’s constitutional regeneration after the bushfires. He will explain   
  - what is really happening to the royal family and to **Julian Assange**,   
  - how fake news distorts democracy and   
  - why the rich will inherit the earth.  
    
  The tour coincides with the start [18 May] of the second part of the Assange extradition trial.  
    
  - 19 May Sydney State Theatre  
  - 21 May Brisbane Concert Hall, QPAC  
  - 23 May Canberra Royal Theatre, ACC  
  - 26 May Adelaide Festival Theatre  
  - 28 May Perth Perth Concert Hall

## **REPORTS from VISITORS to Julian Assange in Belmarsh Prison**

[**7 May 2019**](https://youtu.be/Kl3Sj6ZKI6g)**: Kristinn Hrafnsson** (Wikileaks Editor) and **Pamela Anderson** (friend)

**First social visit** (after one month in prison)

* **Kristinn Hrafnsson**
* “Shocking to see my friend, an intellectual, a publisher, a journalist, a man that has transformed the world of journalism with his with his work, sitting in a high security prison
* Spending 23 hours a day in a cell
* Having a half hour outdoors (if weather allows)
* Half hour to do everything else
* “This visit did not reflect well on this [UK] society”
* “Julian Assange is bent but not broken”
* Need to take into account the years in the embassy especially the last year when he was harassed every day
* Has lost weight
* His spirit is strong - heartened to hear of growing support, that gives him strength
* It is a question of life and death. That’s how serious it is.
* **Pamela Anderson**
* He does not to be in a SuperMax prison - he has never committed a violent act
* He has no access to a library, a computer, he is really cut off from everybody
* He hasn’t been able to speak to his children
* Public support and fundraising are very important
* Justice will depend on public support
* Write to him, encourage him, he’s appreciative of any support he gets
* He hasn’t received any letters yet but I know people are writing them
* We need to save his life. That’s how serious it is.

[**11 June 2019**](https://youtu.be/1KRND_oFoME) **(**&[**article**](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7129091/Chinese-artist-Ai-Weiwei-visits-Julian-Assange-prison.html)**) John Shipton** (father) and **Ai Weiwei** (Chinese artist)

* **Ai WeiWei**
* His condition is shaky
* He’s much skinnier than before. He lost about 20lbs (9 kg)
* He’s under psychological stress, pressure
* He’s very happy to see his father, and me, and to see there are still people concerned about his condition
* I’m deeply worried [about him]
* **John Shipton**
* He’s lost about 10kg
* Under a lot of stress and pressure
* He’s determined and his spirit is very strong
* It;s impossible to prepare a case, no access to a library, no access to computers  
  I would like the AU govt to - diplomatically - defend an AU citizen
* He was dragged out [of the embassy and 3 hours later in court
* I would like the AU gvt to involve itself in these offences against an AU citizen.  
  I understand his health has stabilised and his weight loss has stopped, so he will be moving back into the prison population. [This didn’t happen.]
* Julian is an icon for what will happen and what is happening to journalists all over the world.
* Julian asked him to move from Melbourne in Australia to the UK
* “If Julian goes down, the rest of you go down.”  
    
  John Shipton made further comments about this visit, and an aborted visit the previous week, in a radio interview 16 Aug 2019. [[Audio](https://youtu.be/nqxAocdTl4I)] [[Summary](http://intsse.com/wswspdf/en/articles/2019/08/20/ship-a20.pdf)]  
  His scheduled visit the previous week was cancelled by the prison for unexplained reasons (which may have been an unscheduled doctor’s visit).   
  This week:  
  “We waited 46 minutes for Julian to arrive,” he said. The prison authorities claimed that they had “forgotten” to notify Assange of the visit, “so they had to go and find him and bring him down.” This resulted in the two-hour visit, which Assange is entitled to, being reduced to just one hour. “To travel all the way from Australia to see Julian and to get only an hour, it seems cruel to me,” Shipton said

[**14 June**](https://youtu.be/3M2XkhdZBiE?t=27)**: Jennifer Robinson** (outside cout):

* We are very concerned about his health. He remains in the healthcare ward at Belmarsh. He’s under a huge amount of pressure and in very difficult circumstances.

[**6 Aug 2019**](https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/08/09/jenr-a09.html)**: Jennifer Robinson** (WSWS article)

* “He obviously has no access to the internet and he can’t see what is happening, and has very little access to the media, but yes, I and others always show him pictures of what is happening around the world and the support. It really does make a difference—Julian is heartened by it. The solidarity campaign is not just important in buoying his spirits inside prison but critical in ensuring that he is protected in the long-term for WikiLeaks’s work”
* “I was with Julian in prison last week. He is very isolated. When he was first arrested it took us four days to get our first video conference with him, and it was remarkable to see somebody who’s so tapped into the world, and understands what’s going on all over the place, to be cut off from the internet. He hadn’t seen the reactions to his arrest and he didn’t know that Ola Bini, his friend and colleague, had been arrested in Ecuador.”
* “Julian is really cut off from information but he does know about the support around the world. When I went in to see him, I took him pictures of protests from around the world so that he could see them for himself.”

**06 Aug 2019** **Julian’s brother Gabriel** visited him in Belmarsh and subsequently wrote a letter to Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison.

* The letter was [read ou**t**](https://youtu.be/nfFWp0TBAmU?t=1m30s)by John Shipton on CN News Ep 7 (30 Aug 2019)
* A t[ranscript](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oIJpJOPIY2FlKBH64osSCgdvNbk-s22Y/view) is also available. Gabriel quoted Julian: “This place is hell.”

[**07 Aug 2019**](https://twitter.com/johnpilger/status/1159101209971761152) **John Pilger** on visit to Belmarsh

* [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/johnpilger/status/1159101209971761152)]  
  “Do not forget Julian Assange. Or you will lose him.

I saw him in Belmarsh prison and his health has deteriorated. Treated worse than a murderer, he is isolated, **medicated** and denied the tools to fight the bogus charges of a US extradition. I now fear for him. Do not forget him.”

[**3 Sept 2019**](https://youtu.be/OhjLKzmzmTg?t=2m19s) **John Pilger** (at M.I.A. event) after a weekend visit to Belmarsh

* He’d just been allowed to have his first proper exercise - “pacing up and down in a small, bitumen yard.”
* “At Belmarsh, they have a sense of humour. On the wall facing the ‘exercise yard’ are happy-clappy words about ‘the blades of grass beneath your feet.’ But there’s no grass.”
* Julian is locked up for more than 21hrs, sometimes longer.
* It’s 4mths since he was dragged out of the Ecuadorian embassy … and he is still denied the documents and the basic tools to prepare his case … [re US extradition] and yet is not allowed today to call his US lawyers.
* He is not allowed access to vital documents. He is not allowed access to a computer.
* He is still in the hospital wing, where he is isolated most of the time from other people.
* Julian asked John to say: “Say it’s not just me. It’s much wider. It’s all of us. It’s all journalists and all publishers who do their job, who are in danger.”

[**19 Sept 2019**](https://youtu.be/PoCZaGks3_g) **Vivienne Westwood** (Designer and friend) at Belmarsh

* “I was thrilled to bits to see him. It took me a month to get to see him.”
* “He has lost weight.”
* “He’s innocent until proved guilty, and there he is in solitary confinement.”

[**2 Oct 2019**](https://peoplesdispatch.org/2019/10/02/assange-behind-bars-by-felicity-ruby/)**: Felicity Ruby** (personal friend): “Assange Behind Bars”

* Still on the health ward
* Still hasn’t seen specialists
* Transported in and out of his cell, where he is kept for twenty-two hours a day under so-called ‘controlled moves’, meaning the prison is locked down and hallways are cleared
* The exercise yard is described. No grass - just concrete.
* Two social visits a month; the last one was three-and-a-half weeks earlier (and this one is shared with another friend)
* “Much thinner man than the one I formerly knew”
* He has no access to court documents and legal files in order to help prepare his case
* “... eyes, damaged by so many years of being inside”

[**8 Oct 2019**](https://thepressproject.gr/belmarsh-high-security-prison-is-surrounded-by-greenery/) **Mary Kostakisis** (AU journalist and friend) visited (described i19 Jan 2020):

* “Belmarsh High Security prison is surrounded by greenery. Nothing is green inside – a small internal courtyard is barren & desolate, the sky framed by razorwire.”
* “Though clearly unwell & struggling to focus he prevails, he articulates, and yes he is still there.”

[**12 Oct 2019**](https://youtu.be/jkhAhz3i5TA?t=54)**: M.I.A** (Singer, artist, and personal friend) outside Belmarsh.

* Key points in a [Twitter THREAD](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1183067703881424902)
* Followed up by the 5 Nov 2019 Concert outside the UK Home Office.

[**21 Oct 2019**](https://twitter.com/barnabynerberka/status/1186288971430670337): **Julian Assange** leaving Westminster Magistraté Court (in prison van)

Re [**21 Oct 2019**](https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2019/10/assange-in-court/) **Craig Murray** (Ex UK Ambassador & close friend) Reports on what he saw at the court

[**12 Nov 2019**](https://diem25.org/i-visited-julian-assange-in-prison-what-can-you-do/)**:** **Srecko Horvat** reported on his recent visit to Belmarsh (via a **DIEM** email).

* He closes that email with “So what can you do?””  
  His answers are:
* Don't wait, do whatever you can. And do it now.
* Write him a letter about the "outside" world (with facts about relevant events and how concretely you are helping him),
* force your MPs to take action and
* ask your political parties what they are doing to protect freedom of press and prevent the extradition of Julian Assange,
* organize and join protests;
* write to NGOs and individuals who deal with human rights and press freedom and ask them what they are doing to free Julian;
* [**donate to his defense fund**](https://defend.wikileaks.org/donate/) and
* make sure to [**join DiEM25**](https://internal.diem25.org/users/sign_up/) as we will continue to stand with our member Julian Assange and fight until he is free.

[**21 Nov 2019**](https://spectator.us/free-julian-assange-fate-inextricably-tied/) **Slavoj Zizek** visited Julian in prison (see report in The Spectator - excerpt above)

[**27 Nov 2019**](https://youtu.be/OGQF3uxApQ0?t=27m85s) **John Shipton** visited yesterday (26 Nov). He speaks about that in Berlin.

**28 Nov 2019 John Pilger** visited today just prior before speaking in London.

* “Julian's intellect, resilience, and sense of humour are, I think, protecting him. But for how long, I don't know.” [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/jmcevoy_2/status/1200140380894900224)]
* **Full story**: **John Pilger**: “Visiting Britain’s Political Prisoner” [[ConsortiumNews](https://consortiumnews.com/2019/11/29/john-pilger-visiting-britains-political-prisoner/)]  
  Pilger describes in horrid detail the discomforts and indignities inflicted on the visitors to the prison, so one has to imagine - beyond that - what is inflicted on prisoners.  
    
  **Excerpt**  
  In the adjoining cells are convicted murderers, and further along is a mentally ill man who screams through the night. “This is my *One Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest*,” he said. “Therapy” is an occasional game of Monopoly. His one assured social gathering is the weekly service in the chapel. The priest, a kind man, has become a friend. The other day, a prisoner was attacked in the chapel; a fist smashed his head from behind while hymns were being sung.  
    
  When we greet each other, I can feel his ribs. His arm has no muscle. He has lost perhaps 10 to 15 kilos since April. When I first saw him here in May, what was most shocking was how much older he looked.  
    
  “I think I’m going out of my mind,” he said then.

I said to him, “No you’re not. Look how you frighten them, how powerful you are.” Julian’s intellect, resilience and wicked sense of humor – all unknown to the low life who defame him — are, I believe, protecting him. He is wounded badly, but he is not going out of his mind.

[**7 Dec 2019**](https://www.smh.com.au/national/love-him-or-hate-him-or-simply-don-t-care-julian-assange-s-fight-for-freedom-concerns-us-all-20191202-p53g1q.html) SMH report of **Mary Kostakidis** visiting in October 2019

* **“Mary Kostakidis last saw Julian Assange** in Belmarsh eight weeks ago. It took her an hour and a half to reach him through the prison’s various security stages: when she finally arrived at the visitors’ hall she found him in “this massive room with 50 prisoners, and two or three visitors to each prisoner”  
    
  Assange’s condition, she says, shocked her. “He was just sitting very still, looking straight ahead. He’s not well,” she says steadily. “He can’t focus easily. I could see how he was struggling. It was very difficult to hear. I had to be like this …” – she stands up and puts both hands on the table, leaning her body forward towards me – “… the guard kept asking me to sit down.” She sits down. “I told the guard I’d come a long way to hear him, and then the guard offered to move us to a quieter part of the room, and that was a little better.”  
    
  Kostakidis has a pretty good poker face. But talking about Assange’s condition, her voice falters. “If we allow this to continue, he’ll die, and we won’t know whether he’s been killed, or whether he’s taken his own life. There were moments when his intelligence and passion broke through, but ultimately, if a government is trying to destroy you, and you’re at their mercy, they will succeed.”

[**24 Dec 2019**](https://twitter.com/akenneil/status/1209532057405276161) **Tracy Worcester** (environmental activist) - video

[**3 Jan 2020**](https://getyournewsonwithron.libsyn.com/singer-tries-to-visit-assange-heres-what-happened) **David Rovics**, singer/songwriter, tried to visit Julian in Belmarsh a short while ago. He discusses his efforts here. See also [[Song at Belmarsh](https://youtu.be/ImlA1HFWvB8)] [[Song at Embassy](https://twitter.com/LaFleurDelSur/status/1141754764205670400)]

[**22 Jan 2020**](https://twitter.com/JohnWRees/status/1220054133912358912) **John Rees**:“Saw Julian Assange in Belmarsh yesterday and he’s good spirits and very focussed on preparation for his full extradition hearing next month.“ [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/JohnWRees/status/1220054133912358912)]

[**4 Feb 2020**](https://youtu.be/AqEz3y4cn0Y?t=141) **Jennifer Robinson** passes on message from Julian, who she saw in prison this morning. [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/AqEz3y4cn0Y?t=141)]

[**18 Feb 2020**](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1229726767256100864) **Kristinn Hrafnsson** (at 24:44) “I saw him 10 days ago. He [his health] has improved - thanks to the pressure from his legal team, behind the scenes, and from the general public and, amazingly, from other inmates in Belmarsh prison who have, on three occasions, petitioned the Governor to get him out of isolation. So there is more humanity among the hardened inmates in Belmarsh prison than you find on the outside.  
  
He has now better access to his lawyers - even though it is not sufficient today, [he has] limited telephone service, he still doesn’t have any functioning computer, but those changes only happened about two weeks ago. [,,,] It is only two months since his lawyers could actually leave papers with him. This is absolutely absurd.”  
  
In answer to a question: (29:10) “He has limited access to a telephone, I don’t hink he has access to exercise in a gym or something like that”

**18 Feb 2020 Andrew Wilkie:** [via [Crikey](https://www.crikey.com.au/2020/02/19/my-prison-visit-with-julian-assange-by-andrew-wilkie/)]“Today’s 90 minute visit to Julian Assange in London’s Belmarsh Prison was an alarming experience. The place is everything you’d expect of a supermax jail and the process of entering and departing was security on steroids. Just the place for a supervillain.

##### Once inside we waited. And waited. And waited.

##### Despite the half hour it took us to be processed on entry, and me being ejected temporarily because I had a small hole in the bottom of one of my suit pockets, and the fact that all the other prisoners had already been allowed into the cavernous visitors area, Julian Assange was nowhere to be seen.

##### But then, finally, there he was, the last prisoner to see any visitor.

##### Clearly the special one. No wonder he looked tired, a man under enormous pressure, not just from years of incarceration, but also for the chilling prospect of being sent to a US federal prison for the rest of his life.

##### The injustice in all this is profound.

##### Sure, people have all sorts of views about Julian Assange. But when push comes to shove none of that is relevant. The substantive matter is that Julian Assange publicised US misconduct and presented hard evidence of their war crimes.

##### Because at the end of the day no one should be punished for doing the right thing.”

**20 Feb 2020** UK Shadow Chancellor **John McDonnell** to visit Julian in Belmarsh [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1230271473182482434)]

“Speaking on Assange's prison conditions, Mr McDonnell said that the activist was being detained in a cell for "20 hours a day with limited field of association and exercise" which "clearly takes its toll.  
  
But the pair had found him "extremely strong" despite his upcoming trial, and "absolutely determined that the truth will be out and that he will not be extradited", allowing him to return to his work, McDonnell said.".  
  
“Speaking on Assange's torture at the embassy and in prison, he agreed with UN special rapporteur on torture, Nils Melzer, adding he was "anxious" of the [ill effects on the whistleblower's health](https://sputniknews.com/world/202002191078347738-assanges-father-says-wikileaks-founder-to-die-in-jail-if-extradited-to-us/). Mr McDonnell slammed the treatment of Assange at Belmarsh as "barbaric", in addition to the overall prison system across the UK.” [[Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/uk/202002201078360525-assange-strong-despite-political-extradition-trial-needs-cross-party-support---labour-mp/)]

**23 Feb 2020 Yanis Varoufakis** to visit Julian [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/DiEM_25/status/1229752187267506178)]   
- Report: [[Daily Mail](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8035213/Former-Greek-Finance-Minister-Yanis-Varoufakis-visits-Julian-Assange-Belmarsh-Prison.html)] I  
- Interviewed by Phillip Adams for ABC Radio 2 Mar 2020 [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/greekemmy/status/1235506797760393216)] [[YouTube](https://youtu.be/I181RKgtPs0)] [[ABC](https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/latenightlive/yanis-varoufakis/12017372)]  
  
Julian [told Yanis Varoufakis](https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/latenightlive/yanis-varoufakis/12017372) that he is in a dark place, and that he feels uncertain as to whether he is well enough to judge his own lawyers’ legal strategy. [[ABC](https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/latenightlive/yanis-varoufakis/12017372)]  
  
**1 & 2 March 2020 John Shipton** to visit twice (to catch up) [[AUDIO](https://covertactionmagazine.com/index.php/2020/02/28/what-happened-at-assanges-extradition-trial-eyewitness-reports-from-julians-father-and-others-on-assange-countdown-to-freedom/) at 30:14]

**7 Mar 2020** **Tracy Worcester** (Duchess of Beaufort ) visits Julian in Belmarsh

- [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/TracyWorcester/status/1236398930889449473) video]

## **More RESOURCES in this series. (Please note that Twitter MOMENTS don’t seem to be working right now.)**

* **Key People** in the Assange Campaign [Twitter [MOMENT](https://twitter.com/i/events/1190361528127705089)]
* Team Assange - **Key groups** & **Resources** [Twitter [MOMENT](https://twitter.com/i/events/1191079431365955584)]
* The **Direct Speech of Julian Assange** [[Pinterest](https://www.pinterest.nz/unity4j/speaking/)] [Google [spreadsheet](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tFCifVV7uSS1IbfwxBMnD2Fe0EXZ_jtq-anj4ScPXzs/edit?usp=sharing)]
* 2000+ related **articles** in visual form (linked ) [[Pinterest](https://www.pinterest.nz/unity4j/op-articles-about-julian-wikileaks/)]
* Other Pinterest boards related to Assange [[Pinterest](https://www.pinterest.nz/unity4j/boards/)]
* Journalists / outlets that generally write accurate reports [Google [spreadsheet](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1EV6clxVz-gT1383IipdjLrJx5vzjlj9Sz0rTA4XJsLg/edit?usp=sharing)]

**Some other key Twitter Threads & Moments**

* “Imperialism on Trial” - speeches from all FIVE events [Twitter [MOMENT](https://twitter.com/i/events/1152567140643430400)]
* “Australia's live Q&A - Assange & the Press” (Sept 2019) [Twitter [MOMENT](https://twitter.com/i/events/1176175069858541574)]
* “Mark Davis exposes "lies" about Julian Assange by  
   the Guardian & NYT.” (Aug 2019) [Twitter [MOMENT](https://twitter.com/i/events/1160267582324269057)]
* “Did Julian Assange REALLY say that?” (Aug 2019) [Twitter [MOMENT](https://twitter.com/i/events/1164580416420032512)]
* “Journalism or Propaganda? - Four Corners (AU)   
   on Julian Assange (2019)” (Aug 2019) [Twitter [MOMENT](https://twitter.com/i/events/1163810029159370753)]
* “A Case Study: YouTube "Community Standards" re  
   depicted violence” (the censorship of Collateral Murder) [Twitter [MOMENT](https://twitter.com/i/events/1163540164771287041)]
* **Julian Assange quotes - linked to source media**  
  - Part 1 - 50 quotes [Twitter [MOMENT](https://twitter.com/i/events/1086236252666556416)]  
  - Part 2 - 27 more quotes [Twitter [MOMENT](https://twitter.com/i/events/1091646624122720259)]  
  - **NOTE**: Many of the memes don’t now fit in the Twitter window  
   since Twitter altered their presentation format.  
   Feel free to copy and adapt.
* **Supporter quotes** - **linked to source**  
  - Part 1 - Early supporters (to Jan 2019) [Twitter [MOMENT](https://twitter.com/i/events/1082554810392551424)]  
  - Part 2 - Early supporters (to Mar 2019) [Twitter [MOMENT](https://twitter.com/i/events/1091629652064567296)]  
  - **NOTE**: Many of the memes don’t now fit in the Twitter window  
   since Twitter altered their presentation format.  
   Feel free to copy and adapt.

### END of FILE

DAY template  
  
**26 Feb 2020**  **DAY X** : **US Extradition hearing** (1 wk)   
At Belmarsh Magistrates Court (inside Woolwich Crown Court).  
- Information from Courts for attendees [[WiseUp](https://wiseupaction.info/2019/11/18/what-will-assange-the-press-and-the-public-face-in-february-2020-at-belmarsh-magistrates-court/amp/)]  
- Background material [[Defend Wikileaks](https://defend.wikileaks.org/2020/02/23/usa-v-julian-assange-extradition-hearing/)]  
- Ruptly will be livestreaming all week- [[Tweet](https://twitter.com/barnabynerberka/status/1231550247710707712)]  
- Outline of **PROSECUTION** Case [[IMAGES](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1231915617436999682)] [PDF]  
- Outline of **DEFENCE** Case [[IMAGES](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop/status/1231961848452407297)] [[PDF](https://dontextraditeassange.com/JA_Defence_Opening.pdf)]  
- US-UK **Extradition Treaty** [[PDF](https://fas.org/irp/world/uk/extradite.pdf)]  
- UK **Extradition Act 2003** [[Link](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/41/section/79)]  
  
DAY X **Livestream**: [Ruptly] [Sputnik]  
  
**DAY X - on site reporting**  
- **Overnight**]  
- **Before court**  
- **Inside the court**- **Rebecca Vincent** (RSF) [@rebecca\_vincent](https://twitter.com/rebecca_vincent)  
  
- **Christian Mihr** (RSF) [@cmihr](https://twitter.com/cmihr)  
  
- **Mac William Bishop** [@MacWBishop](https://twitter.com/MacWBishop) THREAD (very long)  
  
- **James Doleman** [@jamesdoleman](https://twitter.com/jamesdoleman) (unthreaded)  
- **DAY X AM Report** from **James Dolman**  
- **DAY X PM Report** from **James Dolman**  
  
- **M.A.E.** [@MElmaazi](https://twitter.com/MElmaazi) [THREAD]  
  
- **Wikileaks** [@wikileaks](https://twitter.com/wikileaks)  
  
- **Patrick Hennigsen** [@21WIRE](https://twitter.com/21WIRE) [THREAD]  
  
- **Kevin Gosztola** [@kgosztola](https://twitter.com/kgosztola)[[THR](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232250011209097216)E[AD](https://twitter.com/kgosztola/status/1232250011209097216)]  
  
- **Julia Hall** (Amnesty International) [@JuliaHall18](https://twitter.com/JuliaHall18) [Tweets unthreaded]  
  
- **Stephania Maurizi** [@SMaurizi](https://twitter.com/SMaurizi)  
  
- **Craig Murray** [@CraigMurrayOrg](https://twitter.com/CraigMurrayOrg)  
-  
  
- **Tareq Haddad** [@Tareq\_Haddad](https://twitter.com/Tareq_Haddad)  
-   
- **DAY X Report** from **Tareq Haddad**  
  
- **Randi Credico** [@CredicoRandy](https://twitter.com/CredicoRandy)

#### - **Carolina Graterol** [@Moncaro](https://twitter.com/Moncaro) - - **Courage Foundation** [@couragefound](https://twitter.com/couragefound) [THREAD] - **Outside the court,** **protesters** **DAY X Updates from KEY PEOPLE** **DAY X other Reporting**: DAY X **Important Comments**: