

Open letter to President Donald Trump regarding Julian Assange

We write to request that you put a defining stamp on your presidential legacy by pardoning Julian Assange or stopping his extradition.

Assange has fought for truth and justice. His work with WikiLeaks has pioneered accountability by the media and exposed corruption, civil liberties violations in the United States and around the world, and the true cost of war. For this work, he has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize every year for the past decade and has been celebrated around the world.

The US prosecution of Assange is unprecedented: he faces 175 years in prison for the same publications for which he has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. This prosecution threatens the constitutional protections that Americans hold dear. By offering a pardon, to put a stop to the prosecution of Assange, your presidency will be remembered for having saved First Amendment protections for all Americans.

Assange has already suffered a great deal and been detained for a decade. He is currently in a high security prison in the United Kingdom where there has been a COVID-19 outbreak, placing his life at risk. He is a son, a brother, a partner and a father to two young children who have only known their father to be in detention. By pardoning Assange, you would allow him to return home to his family for the first time in over a decade.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Wilkie MP Federal Member for Clark

Rebekha Sharkie MP Federal Member for Mayo

Hon Barnaby Joyce MP Federal Member for New England

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson Senator for Tasmania

Maria Vamvakinou MP Federal Member for Calwell

Tony Zappia MP Federal Member for Makin

Adam Bandt MP Federal Member for Melbourne

Senator Larissa Waters Senator for Queensland Senator Nick McKim Senator for Tasmania

Senator Mehreen Faruqi Senator for New South Wales

Senator Jordon Steele-John Senator for Western Australia

Senator Rachel Siewert Senator for Western Australia

Senator Janet Rice Senator for Victoria

Senator Sarah Hanson-Young Senator for South Australia

Senator Lidia Thorpe Senator for Victoria