

Assange: Extradition Suspended, Persecution Continues

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The British High Court granted Julian Assange the opportunity to appeal the extradition decision to the United States on May 20. Although it is a victory in the specific judicial process underway, it is necessary to remember that we are faced with a farce trial that has been going on for 5 years, based on the violation of every rule of due process.

The British High Court was used as an instrument of torture in the political persecution against a journalist who has already served five years in a high-security prison, in solitary confinement, in conditions that have deteriorated his health without any real reason, only because he, an Australian citizen, should answer to the US judicial system that wants to try him for espionage and sentence him to 175 years in prison.

The "crime" committed by this investigative journalist is having discovered and brought to light war crimes committed by the United States of America. His persecution is a warning that the United States and its allies issue to anyone who dares to violate their "rules" by bringing the truth to light. The British High Court continued its action even when evidence emerged of the CIA's attempt to kidnap and murder Assange while he was a political refugee in the Ecuadorian Embassy. The British High Court could have, on May 20, put an end to all this, it could have freed Assange, it could have at least decided to move him from the high-security prison to a place of detention where he could have recovered his physical and psychological health. The Court, instead, only postponed his extradition to the USA, thus prolonging his persecution.

The fact is that at the moment the presidential election campaign is underway in the United States: it would therefore be harmful for all the candidates if a trial were opened against Julian Assange, and his "crimes" would have to be listed, inevitably bringing to the fore US war crimes plan. Furthermore, at this moment, the major US university campuses are

characterized by a strong movement of solidarity with Palestine, which denounces the war crimes committed by Israel with the substantial support of the United States. It would therefore be dangerous for the US establishment to bring Julian Assange before its tribunal, as the campus movement would rally to his defence. The decision of the British High Court to suspend the extradition of Julian Assange to the United States, continuing to detain him in conditions that undermine his physical and mental health, once again corresponds to the will and interests of the United States of America.

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