



# Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, end the illegal torture and imprisonment of Julian Assange or step aside

With 1,200 people employed by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, it is hard to believe that Prime Minister Anthony Albanese is unaware of the facts:

- *Julian Assange*, who has won 23 prestigious media awards for his groundbreaking Wikileaks news service, *has broken no British law*;
- not one of Wikileaks' revelations has ever been shown to be untrue; and
- not one life, whether in the US military or elsewhere, has ever been endangered by any of Wikileaks' reporting.

Yet, since 11 April 2019, four-and-a-half years ago, when Julian Assange was illegally arrested inside the London Ecuadorian Embassy, he has been locked away in solitary confinement for more than 23 hours per day.



## What jury would have locked Assange away even for one day?

No way could a fairly-selected jury or a judge with integrity have kept Assange behind bars even for one night. But Assange was tried before the corrupt judge, Vanessa Barraitser, who was under the direct British government orders. She made Julian Assange, who has never been accused of violence, face court from inside a glass box, from which he could not hear properly, was unable to speak privately with his own barristers, and could be overheard by the prosecution barristers when he tried. Astoundingly, he was not allowed to cross-examine the chief prosecution witness, Sigurdur Thordarsson. Thordarsson later admitted his claims - including that Assange had asked him to commit computer intrusion to illegally record conversations amongst members of parliament and NATO officials - were lies.

Had Assange *even once* been permitted due legal process he would, a long time ago, have been released from prison and have been free to live wherever he chose, with his wife Stella and their two children.

## Albanese fails to uphold his basic duty of care towards Assange

Contrary to his stated concern of November 2022, as Opposition leader, that 'enough is enough', the newly elected Albanese Labor government failed to even once approach the US government on behalf of Assange in its first 6 months of office. Even during the recent Talisman-Sabre joint military exercises from late July on the central Queensland coast, both Albanese and Foreign Minister Wong failed to refute lies put to them about Julian Assange by US Secretary-of-State Antony Blinken. Blinken claimed that Assange's journalism had endangered thousands of US lives, although the US Government had already admitted that this was not true.

Had Julian's lawyer, Jennifer Robinson, been there with Albanese & Wong, as she should have been, since they were supposedly advocating for Assange, Robinson would have shown Blinken for the liar he is, with the evidence that no US servicemen had ever been endangered by Wikileaks' reporting. Blinken could then have been shown, before the whole world, to have had no plausible excuse for his government's monstrous treatment of Assange.

**How you can help:** Attend protests for Julian Assange, the weekly Friday night vigil at 5pm at Flinders Street Station, listen to speakers, make speeches, and hand out leaflets. See Melbourne Supporters for Julian, Australians for Assange, Julian Assange Supporters - International on Facebook and <https://candobetter.net>



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