



The Norwegian Nobel Committee
Henrik Ibsens gate 51
0255 Oslo
Norway

Berlin, 31 January 2022

Dear Members of the Norwegian Nobel Committee,

We nominate Julian Assange for the 2022 Nobel Peace Prize, in honour of his unparalleled contributions to the pursuit of peace, and his immense personal sacrifices to promote peace for all.

For over 1,000 days Julian Assange has been arbitrarily detained and tortured, at risk of death according to the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and over 100 medical doctors, for revealing the extent of harm and illegality behind the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. By pursuing peace and advocating for transparency, Julian Assange has put his life at risk, as the CIA's plans on kidnapping and assassinating him demonstrate. Due to his inhumane detention at the high security Belmarsh Prison in the United Kingdom and after years of being subjected to systematic surveillance, isolation and harassment, Julian Assange's state of health is extremely precarious.

The Collateral Murder video published by Julian Assange and Wikileaks in 2010, honoured the dignity of those slain needlessly in war. It gave names and identities to victims whose humanity had been kept from public view, capturing the last moments of life for a young Reuters photojournalist, Namir Noor-Eldeen. Namir, who was killed in cold blood while on assignment in Baghdad, was described by his colleagues as among "the pre-eminent war photographers in Iraq" with "a tender eye that brought humanity via quiet moments to a vicious war".

For humanising Namir and his driver Saeed Chmagh, a father of four, slain in front of two children who sat strafed with bullets in a van, Julian Assange faces 175 years in a US prison under the 1917 Espionage Act. As well as humanising innocent victims of war, in 2010 Julian Assange and Wikileaks exposed the means by which public abhorrence of killing is overcome, and peace subverted, by psychological manipulation and strategic messaging.

In March 2010 the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) produced a memorandum, subsequently published by Wikileaks, entitled, *Afghanistan: Sustaining West European Support for the NATO-led Mission-Why Counting on Apathy Might Not*



Be Enough. At the time of the memorandum, 80 percent of French and German publics opposed greater troop deployment to Afghanistan. The memo expressed concern that public “indifference might turn into active hostility if spring and summer fighting results in an upsurge in military or Afghan civilian casualties.” To overcome public opposition to the “bloody summer” ahead, the memorandum advised tailoring messages for French audiences that “could tap into acute French concern for civilians and refugees”, given that French “opponents most commonly argued that the mission hurts civilians.” “Appeals by President Obama and Afghan women might gain traction”, the memorandum added.

With respect to the legalities of peace, Julian Assange and Wikileaks have contributed to the historical record on the International Criminal Court (ICC), established in 2002 under the Rome Statute of 1998, to promote the “peace, security and well-being of the world.” The ICC’s mission was to end impunity by prosecuting “the worst atrocities known to mankind”: war crimes, crimes against humanity and the crime of genocide.

When the ICC’s enforcement capabilities were taking shape in the years following its inception, cables published by WikiLeaks exposed bilateral deals between nations under Article 98 of the Rome Statute, in which states placed themselves outside the ICC’s jurisdiction. The Article 98 deals undercut the ICC’s power to prosecute war crimes and other internationally illegal obstacles to a peaceful world order.

These are but a selection of the contributions that Julian Assange has made towards pursuing and defending lasting peace. His actions have exposed the architecture of abuse and war, and fortified the architecture of peace. In return, Julian Assange has been forced to sacrifice his very liberties, rights and human welfare that he worked so hard to defend.

A Nobel Peace Prize for Julian Assange would do more than honour his actions as individuals. It would ennoble the risks and sacrifices that those pursuing peace so often undertake, to secure the peace and freedom for all.

Sincerely,

Sevim Dağdelen
Member of the German Bundestag

Martin Sonneborn
Member of the European Parliament



Appendices

Julian Assange's Prizes and Awards

- The Economist New Media Award (2008)
- The Amnesty New Media Award (2009)
- TIME Magazine Person of the Year, People's Choice (highest global vote) (2010)
- The Sam Adams Award for Integrity (2010)
- The National Union of Journalists Journalist of the Year (Hrafnsson) (2011)
- The Sydney Peace Foundation Gold Medal (2011)
- The Martha Gellhorn Prize for Journalism (2011)
- The Blanquerna Award for Best Communicator (2011)
- The Walkley Award for Most Outstanding Contribution to Journalism (2011)
- The Voltaire Award for Free Speech (2011)
- The International Piero Passetti Journalism Prize of the National Union of Italian Journalists (2011)
- The Jose Couso Press Freedom Award (2011)
- The Privacy International Hero of Privacy (2012)
- The Global Exchange Human Rights People's Choice Award (2013)
- The Yoko Ono Lennon Courage Award for the Arts (2013)
- The Brazillian Press Association Human Rights Award (2013)
- The Kazakstan Union of Journalists Top Prize (2014)
- The Willy Brandt Award for Political Courage (Harrison) (2015)
- The Galizia Prize for Journalists, Whistleblower and Defenders of the Right to Information (2019)
- The Danny Schechter Global Vision Award for Journalism & Activism (2019)
- The Compassion in Care's Gavin McacFadyen Award for Whistleblowers (2019)
- The European United Left-Nordic Green Left Award for Journalists, Whistleblowers and Defenders of the Right to Information (2019)
- The Gary Webb Freedom of the Press Award (2020)
- The Stuttgart Peace Prize (2020)
- Honorary member PEN Centre Germany (2021)



Other Examples of Julian Assange's work

Julian Assange has published over 10 million documents with a perfect verification record. One of his first major releases was the a copy of the Guantanamo Bay prison camp's 2003 Standard Operating Procedures for the US Army.

In 2010, WikiLeaks came to global attention by publishing tens of thousands of classified documents from the United States, including the Afghan War Diaries and the Iraq War Logs, which documented more than 100,000 occupation related civilian killings.

Wikileaks also published "Cablegate" in 2010, the State Department diplomatic cables.

In 2011 Wikileaks published the "Gitmo Files", documents on 767 of the 779 prisoners in Guantanamo Bay.

WikiLeaks has published the "Global Intelligence Files" (5 million emails from intelligence contractor Stratfor), "Spy Files: Russia", two million files from Syrian political elites, the "Saudi Cables" (hundreds of thousands of files from the Saudi Foreign Ministry)

WikiLeaks publications have revealed extensive information on the disastrous war on Libya and proof of US knowledge of Saudi and Qatari government backing of ISIS and Al Nusra in Syria.

One of WikiLeaks recent investigations, in collaboration with major European media, revealed a corrupt arms deal between French state-owned company and the United Arab Emirates.



In the European context, Julian Assange revealed that the US's National Security Agency and the CIA targeted:

- German Chancellor Angela Merkel
- French Presidents Hollande, Sarkozy, and Chirac, as well as French cabinet ministers and the French Ambassador to the United States.
- the French Finance Minister and US orders of the interception of every French company contract or negotiation valued at more than \$200 million
- communications of Foreign Minister Steinmeier, in the context of moves to end extraordinary rendition flights through Germany
- the Swiss phone of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Chief of Staff for long term interception
- a meeting between then French president Nicolas Sarkozy, Merkel and Berlusconi

Julian Assange also published original US intercepts from French senior officials concerning:

- the leadership and future of the European Union
- the relationship between the Hollande administration and the German government of Angela Merkel
- French efforts to determine the make-up of the executive staff of the United Nations
- French officials' communications concerning US spying on France
- French involvement in the conflict in Palestine

Contact:

Sevim Dagdelen | Deutscher Bundestag | Platz der Republik 1 | 11011 Berlin | Germany
E-Mail: sevim.dagdelen@bundestag.de

Martin Sonneborn | European Parliament | Rue Wiertz 60 – ASP 08G354 | 1047
Brussels | Belgium | E-Mail: martin.sonneborn@europarl.europa.eu