

MAIREAD MAGUIRE, NOBEL PEACE LAUREATE, 224 LISBURN ROAD, BELFAST, N. IRELAND

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Nobel Peace Committee,

Chair, Berit Reiss-Andersen,

Den Norske Nobelkomite (postmaster@nobel.no)

Drammensvn 19, N-0255, Oslo Norway.

Dear Berit Reiss-Andersen and Nobel Committee Members,

It is with deep hope and great respect that I, Mairead Maguire, nominate Julian Assange, Editor-in-Chief of Wikileaks, for the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize. Julian Assange and his colleagues in Wikileaks have shown, on numerous occasions, that they are one of the last outlets of true democracy and work for our freedom of speech. Their work for true peace by making public our government actions at home and abroad has enlightened us to their atrocities carried in the name of so-called democracy around the world. This included footage of the inhumanity carried out by NATO/US military, the release of email correspondence revealing the plotting of regime change in oil rich Middle East Countries, and the parts our elected officials played in deceiving the public. This is a huge step in our work for disarmament and nonviolence worldwide.

Julian Assange, fearing deportation to the US to stand trial for treason, sought out asylum in the Ecuadorian Embassy in 2012. Selflessly, he continues his work from here, increasing the risk of his persecution by the American Government in recent months, the US has increased pressure on the Ecuadorian government to take away his last liberties. He is now prevented from having visitors, receiving telephone calls or other electronic communications, hereby removing his basic human rights. This has put a great deal of strain on Julian's mental and physical health. It is our duty as citizens to protect Julian's human rights and freedom of speech as he has fought for ours on a global stage. It is my great fear that Julian will be deported to the US, where he will face unjustified imprisonment. We have seen this happen to Chelsea (Bradley) Manning who allegedly supplied WikiLeaks with sensitive information from the Iraq War and subsequently spent multiple years in solitary confinement in an American prison. If the US succeeds in their plan to arrest Julian Assange this will silence journalists and whistle-blowers around the world for fear of dire repercussions.

Julian Assange meets all criteria for a Nobel Peace Prize. Through his release of hidden information to the public we are no longer naïve to the atrocities of war, we are no longer oblivious to the connection between big business the acquisition resources and spoils of war. As his human rights and freedom are in jeopardy the Nobel Peace Prize would afford Julian Assange much greater protection from government forces.

Over the years there have been controversies over the Nobel Peace Prize and whom it was awarded to. Sadly, I believe it has moved away from its original intentions and meaning. It was Alfred Nobels will that the prize would support and protect individuals at threat from Government forces in their fight for nonviolence and peace, by bringing awareness to their precarious situation. Through

awarding Julian Assange the Nobel Peace Prize, he will receive the protection he and others like him truly deserve. It is my hope that by this we can rediscover the true definition of a Peace Prize.

I also call on all people to bring awareness to Julians situation and support him in his struggle for basic human rights and freedom of speech.

Yours sincerely,

Mairead Maguire, Nobel Peace Laureate (1976) www.peacepeople.com