Merrick B. Garland U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001, USA

## **Julian Assange**

Dear Attorney General,

I am writing regarding the case of **Julian Assange**, who remains detained in a maximum-security prison based on a US extradition request.

On 6 June 2023, the UK High Court rejected Julian Assange's latest appeal against the extradition order. Amnesty International strongly opposes Julian Assange being extradited the USA, as he would be at real risk of serious human rights violations and an unfair trial there.

Julian Assange's publication of disclosed documents as part of his work with Wikileaks should not be punishable under the USA's Espionage Act as his publishing activity mirrors conduct that investigative journalists and publishers undertake regularly in their professional capacity. Prosecuting Julian Assange on these charges will have a chilling effect on the right to freedom of expression and global media freedom, leading journalists to self-censor from fear of prosecution.

I therefore respectfully urge you to drop these charges against Julian Assange that stem solely from his publishing activities with Wikileaks.

Yours sincerely,