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

February 2024

Julian Assange

Dear Attorney General,

I am much concerned about the future fate of Julian Assange, whose extradition from the United Kingdom you are seeking because he has published classified material. Presently, the UK High Court has planned a two-day hearing on 20–21 February 2024 of Julian Assange's appeal against his extradition to the United States.

In fact, Julian Assange's publication of disclosed documents as part of his work with Wikileaks should not be punishable under the USA's Espionage Act, and his prosecution is seen in a critical light word-wide. Whenever investigative journalists discover possible war crimes, it is their ethical duty to report them. Prosecuting Julian Assange could have a negative effect, intimidating journalists instead of encouraging them to make the public aware of war crimes.

Therefore, I urge you to drop the espionage and all other charges against Julian Assange that relate to his work with Wikileaks.

Yours sincerely,