



18 September 2023

**As Australian Parliamentarians, in support of our colleagues' delegation to the United States in September 2023, we are resolutely of the view that the prosecution and incarceration of the Australian citizen Julian Assange must end.**

Together with a large and growing number of Australians we believe it is wrong in principle for Mr Assange to be pursued under the Espionage Act (1917), and that it was a political decision to bring the prosecution in the first place. In any case, this matter has dragged on for over a decade and it is wrong for Mr Assange to be further persecuted and denied his liberty when one considers the duration and circumstances of the detention he has already suffered. It serves no purpose, it is unjust, and we say clearly – as friends should always be honest with friends – that the prolonged pursuit of Mr Assange wears away at the substantial foundation of regard and respect that Australians have for the justice system of the United States of America.

We agree entirely with the position expressed by the Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese who said in the House of Representatives on 22 May 2023 that “enough is enough when it comes to the ongoing incarceration of Julian Assange and that nothing is served from the ongoing incarceration of Julian Assange.” We welcome the recently expressed agreement on this point from the Leader of the Opposition, and we make clear that the bipartisan leadership support for this position is matched by the wide cross-party and independent support within the Australian Parliament itself, which in turn reflects the strongly held views of the Australian community.

Let there be no doubt that if Julian Assange is removed from the United Kingdom to the United States there will a sharp and sustained outcry in Australia.

We note with gratitude the considerable support in the United States for an end to the legal pursuit of Mr Assange from members of Congress, human rights advocates, academics, and civil society, and from within the US media in defence of free speech and independent journalism. On that basis we ask Congresspeople, members of the press, and other relevant civil society stakeholders in the United States to speak up now in supporting an end to the prosecution and detention of Julian Assange.

We believe the right and best course of action would be for the United States' Department of Justice to cease its pursuit and prosecution of Julian Assange. Alternatively, a decision to simply abandon the extradition proceedings would have the sensible, just, and compassionate effect of allowing Mr Assange to go free from a prolonged and harsh period of high-security detention. It is well and truly time for this matter to end, and for Julian Assange to return home.

Yours sincerely,

The co-convenors of the Bring Julian Assange Home Parliamentary Group:

Handwritten signature of Andrew Wilkie in black ink.

**Andrew Wilkie MP**  
Independent Federal  
Member for Clark

Handwritten signature of Josh Wilson in blue ink.

**Josh Wilson MP**  
Labor Federal  
Member of Fremantle

Handwritten signature of Bridget Archer in blue ink.

**Bridget Archer MP**  
Liberal Federal  
Member for Bass

Handwritten signature of David Shoebridge in black ink.

**David Shoebridge**  
Greens Senator for  
New South Wales

The undersigned members of the Australian Parliament:



Dai Le MP  
Member for Fowler



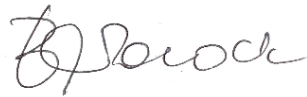
Kylea Tink MP  
Member for North Sydney



Senator Nick McKim  
Senator for Tasmania



Steve Georganas MP  
Member for Adelaide



Senator Barbara Pocock  
Senator for South Australia



Senator Peter Whish-Wilson  
Senator for Tasmania



Dr Mike Freelander MP  
Member for Macarthur



Rebekha Sharkie MP  
Member for Mayo



Senator Jordan Steele-John  
Senator for Western Australia



Julian Hill MP  
Member for Bruce



Colin Boyce MP  
Member for Flynn



Brian Mitchell MP  
Member for Lyons



Senator Alex Antic  
Senator for South Australia



Senator Gerard Rennick  
Senator for Queensland



Senator Ralph Babet  
Senator for Victoria



Dr Sophie Scamps MP  
Member for Mackellar



Dr Helen Haines MP  
Member for Indi



Senator the Hon Matt Canavan  
Senator for Queensland

The Hon Melissa Price MP  
Member for Durack

Zali Steggall OAM MP  
Member for Warringah

Peter Khalil MP  
Member for Wills

Susan Templeman MP  
Member for Macquarie

Allegra Spender MP  
Member for Wentworth

Zaneta Mascarenhas MP  
Member for Swan

Stephen Bates MP  
Member for Brisbane

Zoe Daniel MP  
Member for Goldstein

Elizabeth Watson-Brown MP  
Member for Ryan

Dr Monique Ryan MP  
Member for Kooyong

The Hon Warren Entsch MP  
Member for Leichhardt

Senator Dorinda Cox  
Senator for Western Australia

Kate Chaney MP  
Member for Curtin

Jerome Laxale MP  
Member for Bennelong

Dr Michelle Ananda-Rajah MP  
Member for Higgins

Rick Wilson MP  
Member for O'Connor

Senator Janet Rice  
Senator for Victoria

Senator Larissa Waters  
Senator for Queensland

Louise Miller-Frost MP  
Member for Boothby

Fiona Phillips MP  
Member for Gilmore

Senator Lidia Thorpe  
Senator for Victoria



Adam Bandt MP  
Leader of the Australian Greens  
Member for Melbourne



Senator David Pocock  
Senator for Australian  
Capital Territory



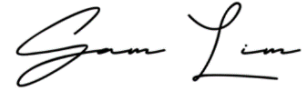
Llew O'Brien MP  
Member for Wide Bay



Maria Vamvakinou MP  
Member for Calwell



Alicia Payne MP  
Member for Canberra



Sam Lim MP  
Member for Tangney



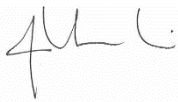
Senator Sarah Hanson-Young  
Senator for South Australia



The Hon Barnaby Joyce MP  
Member for New England



Senator Dr Mehreen Faruqi  
Senator for New South Wales



Senator Jacqui Lambie  
Senator for Tasmania



Senator Penny Allman-Payne  
Senator for Queensland



The Hon Scott Buchholz MP  
Member for Wright



Senator Louise Pratt  
Senator for Western Australia



The Hon Shayne Newman MP  
Member for Blair



Libby Coker MP  
Member for Corangamite



Tony Zappia MP  
Member for Makin



Max Chandler-Mather MP  
Member for Griffith



Senator Malcolm Roberts  
Senator for Queensland



The Hon Luke Howarth MP  
Member for Petrie



Senator Andrew Bragg  
Senator for New South Wales