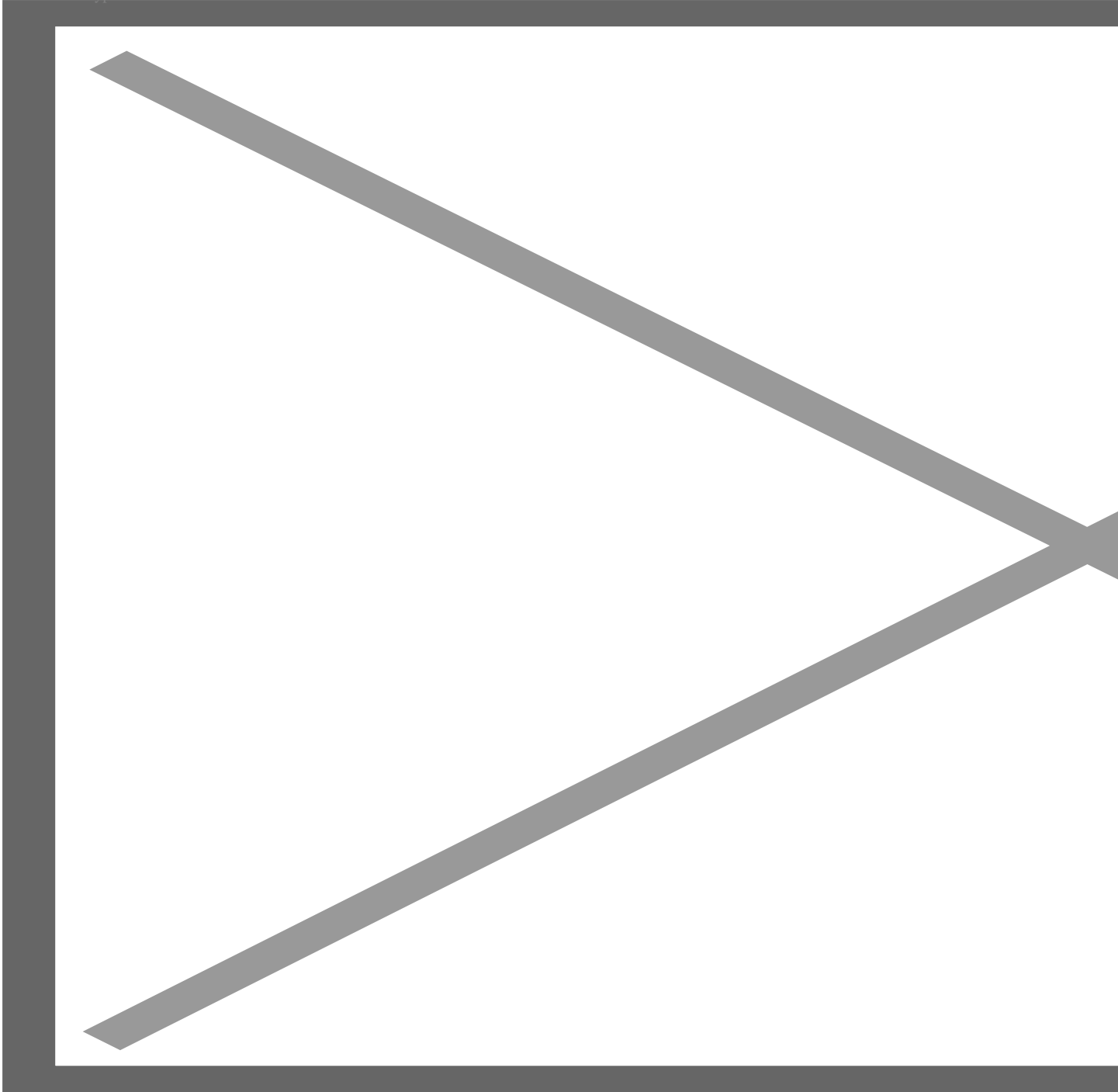


## Free Assange

### Description

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[su\_spoiler title="Official statement by the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention – 03.05.2019? style="fancy" icon="folder-2?"]URL:

[www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24552](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24552)

The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention is deeply concerned about this course of action including the disproportionate sentence imposed on Mr. Assange. The Working Group is of the view that violating bail is a minor violation that, in the United Kingdom, carries a maximum sentence of 12 months in prison, even though the bond related to the bail has been lost in favour of the British Government, and that Mr. Assange was still detained after violating the bail which, in any case should not stand after the Opinion was issued. The Working Group regrets that the Government has not complied with its Opinion and has now furthered the arbitrary deprivation of liberty of Mr. Assange.

It is worth recalling that the detention and the subsequent bail of Mr. Assange in the UK were connected to preliminary investigations initiated in 2010 by a prosecutor in Sweden. It is equally worth noting that that prosecutor did not press any charges against Mr. Assange and that in 2017, after interviewing him in the Ecuadorian embassy in London, she discontinued investigations and brought an end to the case.

The Working Group is further concerned that Mr. Assange has been detained since 11 April 2019 in Belmarsh prison, a high-security prison, as if he were convicted for a serious criminal offence. This treatment appears to contravene the principles of necessity and proportionality envisaged by the human rights standards.

The WGAD reiterates its recommendation to the Government of the United Kingdom, as expressed in its Opinion 54/2015, and its 21 December 2018 statement, that the right of Mr Assange to personal liberty should be restored. [/su\_spoiler] [su\_box title="Free Julian Assange – Sign a petition" style="noise" box\_color="#000000?]

- [www.change.org/p/free-julian-assange-before-it-s-too-late-stop-usa-extradition](http://www.change.org/p/free-julian-assange-before-it-s-too-late-stop-usa-extradition)
- [internal.diem25.org/petitions/1](http://internal.diem25.org/petitions/1)
- [www.openpetition.eu/petition/online/free-julian-assange](http://www.openpetition.eu/petition/online/free-julian-assange)

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2. May 2019

## Author

web45