

# **Assange: The Decisive Moment**

## Interview with Assange's Father John Shipton

By <u>Berenice Galli</u> and <u>Manlio Dinucci</u> Global Research, January 16, 2023 Theme: Law and Justice

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#### Julian Assange's father John Shipton announces from Australia in this interview with Berenice Galli, a novelty that could be decisive for his son's destiny: "I feel that we will prevail and that Julian will be free. I feel it, I see it, I perceive it through the hundreds of contacts I have all over the world".

Decisive — John Shipton underlines — is that "in Australia, we have the Prime Minister, the Council of Ministers, the Labor Party in government, 60 members of Parliament in support of Julian, as well as all the newspapers, trade unions, non-governmental organizations. Since Julian is an Australian citizen, the Australian Government is the only one who can speak for Julian in confrontation with the United States, because he is an Australian citizen. As a result, this global movement has focused on Australia and the Australian Government has raised grievances with the United States. In Australian TV news, international news director John Lyons said he had heard from his sources on his Cabinet that Julian will be unconditionally released within two months.

John declares that he has no faith in British justice, which has subjected Julian Assange to a *"show trial, a political persecution"* and that *"the solution is not found in the law but in politics"*. He then recalls that

"the circumstances have not improved since Professor Niels Melzer, the United Nations rapporteur on torture, presented in 2019 the exhaustive account of the visit he had made to Julian in Belmarsh prison together with two specialist doctors. In his statement, he wrote that Julian was suffering the effects of seven and a half years of psychological torture. Julian is allowed a ten-minute international phone call, and phone calls are granted to him using a certain credit: during the Christmas days we used everything he was allowed to, so I'll have to wait a week or more to be able to talk again".

## On Grandangolo special night show: The crimes Julian Assange

## brought to light

This documentary film shows what Julian Assange's WikiLeaks organization has brought to light. We report, as an example, the revelations made in 2010.

**Afghanistan War Logs**. In 2010 WikiLeaks published a collection of over 90,000 documents relating to the war in Afghanistan. They cover a period from January 2004 to December 2009. These classified documents – which have been released to the Guardian, New York Times, and Der Spiegel – reveal the killing of civilians by US and British troops.

**Iraq War Logs**. Also in 2010, WikiLeaks released a video showing the killing of Iraqi civilians, and two Reuters journalists in an attack carried out by two US Apache helicopters. In the same year, a US Army analyst, Chelsea Manning, was arrested on charges of having disclosed the video and hundreds of thousands of other confidential documents. WikiLeaks released over 300,000 documents revealing abuse, torture, and violence by US forces in Iraq. The documents also revealed the deaths of more than 15,000 civilians in unknown circumstances and numerous cases of torture by the Iraqi military under US command.

**Cablegate.** In the same year, WikiLeaks published hundreds of thousands of confidential documents on Washington's actions around the world. These are documents containing confidential information sent by 274 US embassies to the State Department in Washington. The documents contain assessments, often very negative, of the public and private behavior of European Heads of State and Government, including Italian Prime Minister Berlusconi and Vladimir Putin.

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