

WikiLeaks Founder Julian Assange Appears in London Court

By [RTE](#)

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***Julian Assange** faces extradition to the US after he was arrested and forcibly removed from the Ecuadorian embassy in London almost seven years after he sought refuge there.*

Mr Assange was brought before Westminster Magistrates' Court this afternoon.

He made a thumbs up gesture to the press gallery as he entered the court and could be seen carrying a book.

Police detained the WikiLeaks founder after the Ecuadorian government withdrew his asylum, blaming his "repeated violations" of "international conventions and daily-life protocols".

Scotland Yard said in a statement that Assange was held for failing to appear in court in June 2012 and "further arrested on behalf of the United States authorities, at 10.53am after his arrival at a central London police station".

In a statement, the British Home Office said:

"We can confirm that Julian Assange was arrested in relation to a provisional extradition request from the United States of America.

"He is accused in the United States of America computer related offences."

In a tweet, Mr Assange's lawyer **Jennifer Robinson** also said he had been "arrested not just for breach of bail conditions but also in relation to a US extradition request".

BREAKING: [#Assange](#) removed from embassy - video pic.twitter.com/qsHy7ZVPg5

— Ruptly (@Ruptly) [April 11, 2019](#)

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