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Julian Assange extradition hearing so far



There has been a huge amount happening in and around the Julian Assange extradition hearing that resumed on 7th September at London's Old Bailey. In this special newsletter we try to give you some of the highlights.

The case began with a protest by hundreds of Julian Assange supporters in front of the court. The crowd was addressed by Tim Dawson from the National Union of Journalists, German MP Heike Hansel, Kristinn Hrafnsson editor-in chief of WikiLeaks, journalist John Pilger, Vivienne Westwood, and John Shipton, Assange's father. You can find the daily round up here.

The trial began with the Judge withdrawing video access for 40 NGOs and political observers including Amnesty International. See <u>Amnesty's statement</u>.

Stefan Simanowitz media manager for Amnesty International and Rebecca Vincent Director of International Campaigns from Reporters Without Borders have conveyed their concerns about the difficulties of accessing the extradition hearing regarding the Assange case. You

can also read the coverage by US Assange Defense here.

The Don't Extradite Assange campaign and WikiLeaks spokespeople have been giving daily updates on the progress of the case. Kristinn Hrafnsson <u>speaks</u> about the unfair treatment first day of the hearing, he also speaks about the importance of <u>El-Masri's testimony</u>. And Joseph Farrell, Jenifer Robinson and Kristinn Hrafnsson gave a <u>first week round up</u> of the extradition hearing.

Internationally renowned voices have been making their support for Julian Assange clear. Noam Chomsky and Alice Walker had a magnificent piece in the <u>Independent</u>. Some 160 former Presidents, Prime Ministers, MPs and lawyers issued a <u>comprehensive letter</u> in support of Assange. And Lula, the former President of Brazil, issued this <u>emotional video</u> calling for support for the defence campaign.

Stella Moris, Julain's partner, gave this interview to the BBC's Victoria Derbyshire, and on the eve of the trial this profile appeared in the Sunday Times.

If you want a succinct summary of the issues in the case the DEA's Juan Passerelli's film The War on Journalism, prasied by prize winning director Ken Loach, is essential viewing.

The Crowdfunder by the mother of Julian Assange's children, Stella Moris has <u>issued an appeal</u> to raise funds to cover the legal costs of Julian's extradition hearing in the Magistrates Court in England.

You can read our daily reports here.