

# *Ecuador agrees to give Julian Assange's personal documents to the U.S.*

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Quito, May 13 (RHC)-- The attorney general of Ecuador has agreed to deliver all of Julian Assange's personal materials to the United States, according to a report by a Spanish newspaper which says it had seen the official document detailing the agreement.

The documents, mobile phones, computer files, memory units, and other devices of the WikiLeaks co-founder are in the Ecuadorean embassy in London where Assange had been residing for the past seven years before being arrested on April 11 by British police with the blessing of the Ecuadorean government.

According to El Pais, on May 20, at 9 a.m. U.K. time, Assange's sealed room would be open for police to seize all the materials. The decision had been communicated to his lawyer in Ecuador, Carlos Poveda.

Baltasar Garzon, one of the lawyers of the Australian journalist and activist said that delivering the documents to the U.S. is an "absolute violation of Ecuador's asylum institution."

Under the former President Rafael Correa's administration, Assange was given an asylee status in 2012 and later granted Ecuadorean citizenship in December 2017 in the first months of the government of

President Lenin Moreno.

However, since then Moreno began altering that policy towards one in favor of handing Assange over to the U.K. police and eventually allowed them to come to the embassy of his sovereign state and arrest one of its own citizen.

Washington has been demanding the extradition of Assange to the U.S.. The Department of Justice accuses the activist of "conspiracy" to infiltrate government computers, charges that could result in "a five-year prison sentence."

Nonetheless, Assange's lawyers are worried that recordings, audios, and documents stolen from the journalist and one of his lawyers have been already sent to the U.S. to provide them with the information about his defense.

Aitor Martinez, another lawyer from Assange's team said this initiative by Ecuador is a "radical violation of the right to defense, since those documents and electronic devices are filled with communications with the lawyers and their legal documentation... that will allow the U.S. to build and create new charges for its request for extradition."

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