

Judge in Julian Assange case could present conflicts of interest

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Judge Emma Arbuthnot refuses to recuse herself in show trial of Julian Assange

By Thomas Scripps
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Judge Emma Arbuthnot has refused to recuse herself from WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange's US extradition hearings. This is what "class justice" looks like.

Arbuthnot, Chief Magistrate and Senior District Judge for England and Wales, is flouting fundamental legal principles to ensure that she presides over a show trial against Assange, due to resume at Westminster Magistrates Court on February 25. If extradited, Assange faces charges under the Espionage Act, carrying a 175-year prison sentence. Further charges are pending, which could include the death penalty.



The "Guide to Judicial Conduct" in England and Wales, published in 2018, states that, "Judicial independence is a cornerstone of our system of government in a democratic society and a safeguard of the freedom and rights of the citizen under the rule of law. The judiciary must be seen to be independent of the legislative and executive arms of government both as

Assange judge in UK has conflict of interest. (Photo: Internet)

London, September 5 (RHC)-- An investigation broadcast this Friday in the United Kingdom through local media reported that Judge Emma Arbuthnot, supervisor of the case on the possible extradition of Julian Assange, presented conflicts of interest at the time of deciding on the founder of Wikileaks.

According to reports, the magistrate's husband is a former British Conservative Party politician -- Lord James Arbuthnot -- who has been a senior official in the British Ministry of Defense and currently sits in the House of Lords.

James Arbuthnot also formed part of the Board of Directors of the Henry Jackson Society (HJS), an institution which has made public its attacks against Julian Assange and Wikileaks.

While the British politician and HJS were working together, his wife, Judge Emma Arbuthnot, issued two sentences in February 2018 in which she refused to withdraw the arrest warrant for Assange.

Julian Assange founded the media organization Wikileaks in 2006, which released confidential information about U.S. involvement in the wars of aggression against Afghanistan and Iraq.

Charges against the Australian journalist include computer conspiracy, accusations of hacker recruitment and violation of the U.S. Espionage Act. He is facing extradition to the United States and up to 175 years in U.S. prisons.



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