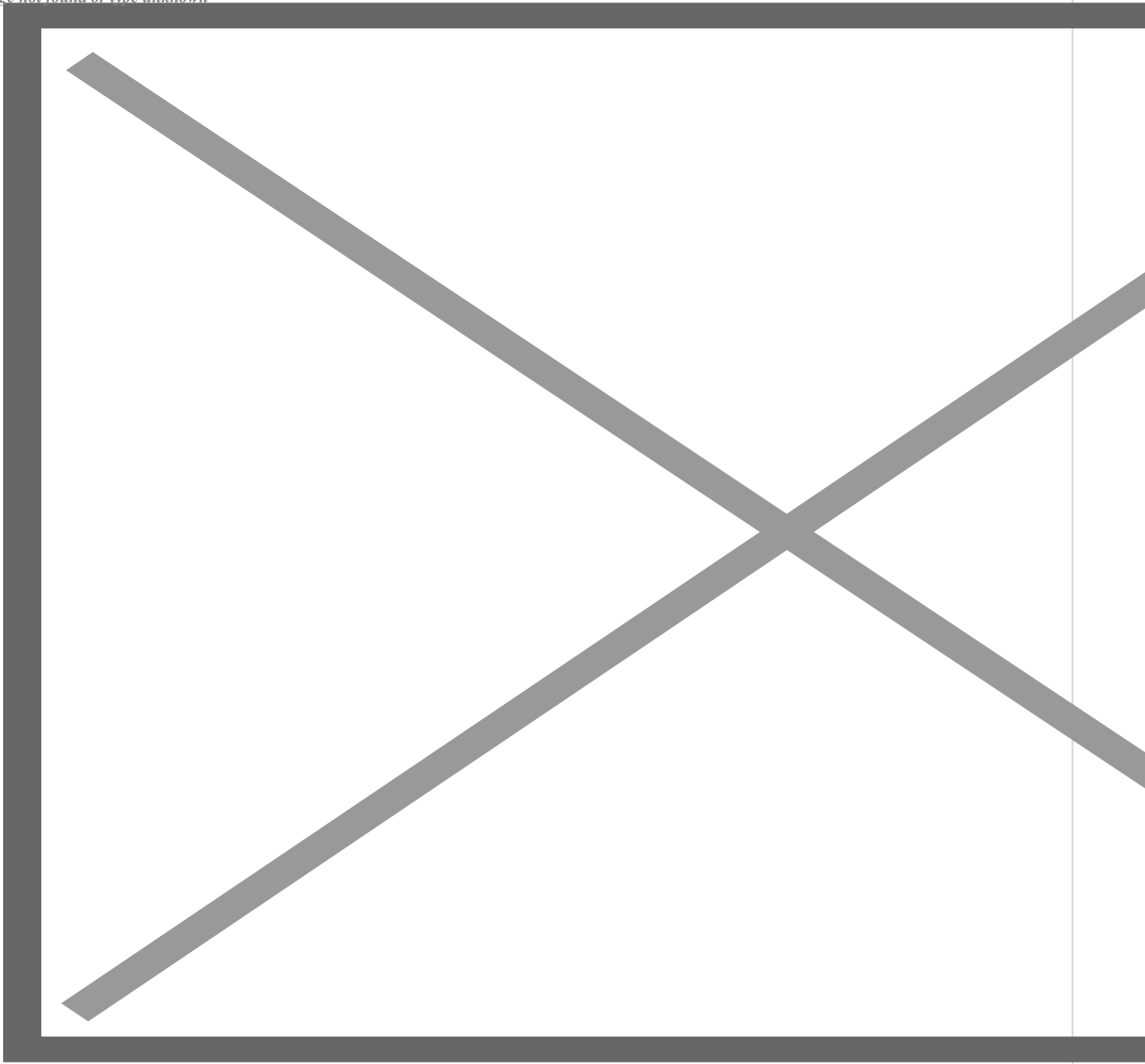


Argentines demand freedom for Julian Assange

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Buenos Aires, August 20 (RHC)-- Intellectuals, politicians and human rights defenders in Argentina delivered on Saturday to the United Kingdom embassy in Buenos Aires two letters demanding the release of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange.

Members of the Libertad Assange Argentina movement, among them Nobel Peace Prize winner Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, arrived at the diplomatic headquarters accompanied by groups such as the Central de Trabajadores (Autónoma).

The letters are addressed to Ambassador Kirsty Hayes and they demand that the cyberactivist not be extradited to the United States. One of them is signed by the American journalist Chris Hedges and the other by figures such as Pérez Esquivel, Vice President Cristina Fernández, the representative of the Argentine League for Human Rights Iris Pereyra, the teacher and trade unionist Marta Maffei, and the Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo, among others.

"The United Kingdom has the sovereign possibility of setting an international precedent in the defense of freedom of the press as a fundamental human right," states an excerpt from the second letter.

This action kicks off a series of initiatives to support Julian Assange, including a film series that will begin on the 26th of this month at the Kirchner Cultural Center.

The Australian journalist remains locked up in the United Kingdom since Ecuador withdrew in 2019 the political asylum granted to him seven years earlier and allowed police to arrest him by forcibly entering its embassy in London.

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