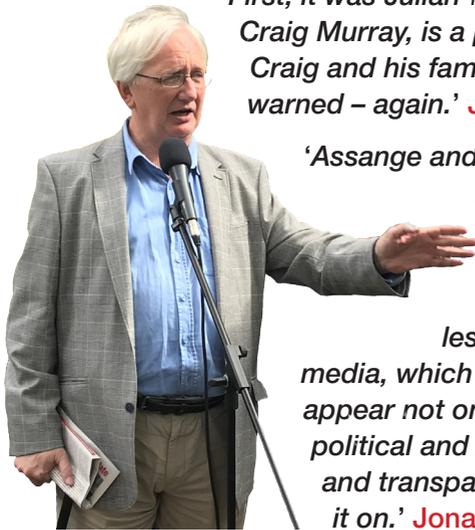


Free Craig Murray!

Statement by the Committee to Defend Julian Assange

'First, it was Julian #Assange, now another truth-teller, Craig Murray, is a political prisoner. All solidarity with Craig and his family and, remember, you have been warned – again.' **John Pilger**



'Assange and Murray are the canaries in the coal mine for the growing crackdown on investigative journalism and on efforts to hold executive power to account. There is, of course, ever less of that being done by the corporate media, which may explain why corporate outlets appear not only relaxed about the mounting political and legal climate against free speech and transparency but have been all but cheering it on.' **Jonathan Cook**

Journalist Craig Murray has now begun his eight months prison sentence – a vengeful, cruel and vindictive sentence which followed a strikingly odd judicial process.

It represents yet another attack on independent journalism. The UK Supreme Court rejected hearing his appeal and he surrendered to custody on Sunday. His defence campaign now reports that he has been sent to Saughton prison. (Details on writing to him at end). This despite his extremely poor state of health which makes prison a very dangerous place indeed for him.

The JADC sends greetings and solidarity to Craig, his wife Nadira and children. We have already met to discuss how to help the campaign for Craig and

offer practical and political support to his struggle. Craig has been a staunch supporter of the fight to prevent political prisoner Julian Assange being extradited to the torture-practising US prison and court system. Most importantly Craig has been one of the few journalists who have fearlessly and honestly reported on the Assange case – himself now into his third year in Belmarsh prison for the crime of exposing imperialist war crimes. Craig's reporting from the extradition hearing became required reading and exposed the injustice of the legal process.

As the Craig Murray Justice campaign has said: *'Craig Murray to be first person incarcerated in the UK over media contempt case in 50 years, setting dangerous*