

14/12/2010

Dear Prime Minister,

I write on behalf of journalists, health professionals, academics and others associated with the Dart Centre for Journalism and Trauma-Australasia (Dart Centre Australasia). The Centre is part of an international network dedicated to improving media coverage and community understanding of violence and trauma-related issues.

We write to encourage you and your Government to provide all appropriate support to Mr. Julian Assange. He is entitled to all of the usual protection and rights afforded to Australian citizens and journalists, whether in this country or overseas.

As an organisation concerned with the safety and wellbeing of journalists and media professionals we are concerned by the incitations to violence against Mr. Assange that have been made by a number of high-profile and influential people. We urge you and your Government to condemn such comments in strong and unequivocal terms, and to take all possible steps to protect Mr Assange's safety.

We call upon you and your Government to defend the democratic principles of the presumption of innocence and freedom of information.

We look forward to hearing a full account of your Government's activities on behalf of Mr Assange.

Signed

Ms. Cait McMahan



**Ms. Cait McMahan,**

Managing Director,  
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Cc. The Hon. Robert McClelland MP