



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 102994A
21 June 2019

JOHN GREENEWALD
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SUITE #1203
CASTAIC CA 91384

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 21 November 2017, for Intellipedia pages on Julian Assange. As stated in our initial response to you dated 22 November 2017, your request was assigned Case Number 102994. For purposes of this request and based on the information you provided, you are considered an "all other" requester. As such, you are allowed 2 hours of search and the duplication of 100 pages at no cost. There are no assessable fees for this request. Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA.

For your information, NSA provides a service of common concern for the Intelligence Community (IC) by serving as the executive agent for Intelink. As such, NSA provides technical services that enable users to access and share information with peers and stakeholders across the IC and DoD. Intellipedia pages are living documents that may be originated by any user organization, and any user organization may contribute to or edit pages after their origination. Intellipedia pages should not be considered the final, coordinated position of the IC on any particular subject. The views and opinions of authors do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Government.

We conducted a search across all three levels of Intellipedia and located documents that are responsive to your request. Some of the documents are enclosed. Certain information, however, has been deleted from the documents.

Some of the withheld information has been found to be currently and properly classified in accordance with Executive Order 13526. The information meets the criteria for classification as set forth in Subparagraph (c) of Section 1.4 and remains classified CONFIDENTIAL as provided in Section 1.2 of Executive Order 13526. The information is classified because its disclosure could reasonably be expected to cause damage to the national security.

Because the information is currently and properly classified, it is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the first exemption of the FOIA (5 U.S.C. Section 552(b)(1)).

This Agency is authorized by statute to protect certain information concerning its activities, in this case internal URLs. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA, which provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statute applicable in this case is Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605). We have determined that such information exists in this record, and we have excised it accordingly.

In addition, personal information regarding individuals has been deleted from the enclosure in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(6). This exemption protects from disclosure information that would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. In balancing the public interest for the information you requested against the privacy interests involved, we have determined that the privacy interests sufficiently satisfy the requirements for the application of the (b)(6) exemption.

Since these deletions may be construed as a partial denial of your request, you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures. You may appeal this decision. If you decide to appeal, you should do so in the manner outlined below.

- The appeal must be in sent via U.S. postal mail, fax, or electronic delivery (e-mail) and addressed to:

NSA FOIA/PA Appeal Authority (P132)
National Security Agency
9800 Savage Road STE 6932
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6932

The facsimile number is (443)479-3612.

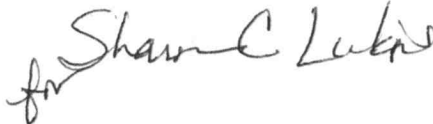
The appropriate email address to submit an appeal is FOIARSC@nsa.gov.

- It must be postmarked or delivered electronically no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Decisions appealed after 90 days will not be addressed.
- Please include the case number provided above.
- Please describe with sufficient detail why you believe the denial was unwarranted.
- NSA will endeavor to respond within 20 working days of receiving your appeal, absent any unusual circumstances.

For further assistance or to discuss your request, you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at foialo@nsa.gov. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. OGIS contact information is Office of Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, MD 20740-6001; e-mail: ogis@nara.gov; main: 202-741-5770; toll free: 1-877-684-6448; or fax: 202-741-5769.

Please be advised that material responsive to your request contains the equities of other government agencies. Because we are unable to determine the releasability of another agency's information, some of the subject documents have been referred to the appropriate agencies for review and direct response to you.

Sincerely,


for 

JOHN R. CHAPMAN
Chief, FOIA/PA Office
NSA Initial Denial Authority

Encls:
a/s

This document is made available through the declassification efforts
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages
released by the U.S. Government & Military.

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(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36



(U) Julian Assange

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From Intellipedia
From Intellipedia

(U) **Julian Assange**; (born 3 July 1971^[1]) is an Australian journalist, programmer and Internet activist, best known for his involvement with the WikiLeaks website. Wanted for questioning in Sweden, he has sought political asylum in Ecuador's embassy in London since 19 June 2012.

(U) **5 February 2016**: A United Nations panel has ruled Wikileaks founder Julian Assange, holed up in the Ecuadorian Embassy in London since June 2012, has been "arbitrarily detained". Assange still faces an outstanding arrest warrant for alleged sex crimes in Sweden, and possible espionage charges in the USA. UK and Swedish officials stated the non-binding UN ruling has no bearing on the pending legal charges; Assange is likely to be arrested upon leaving the Embassy. Meanwhile, Ecuador has stated it would like reimbursement for the costs of housing Assange for over 3 and a half years.^[2]

(U) In **July 2010**, WikiLeaks illegally released thousands of classified U.S. State Department embassy cables and diplomatic documents. In mid-August 2010, while on a lecture tour of Sweden, Assange (allegedly) had non-consensual sex with two Swedish women (separately), in whose homes he was staying. Swedish prosecutors filed rape allegations in early September, ordering Assange to appear for police questioning. Assange moved to London and voluntarily surrendered to British police on 7 December 2010. Placed on house arrest in the UK, Assange waged a lengthy legal battle in British courts for 18 months, fighting extradition to Sweden. With his appeals exhausted, and the European Court of Human Rights unlikely to accept his case, Assange walked into the Ecuadorian Embassy in London on 19 June 2012, requesting political asylum.

Contents

- 1 (U) WikiLeaks
- 2 (U) Biography
- 3 (U) TIMELINE
- 4 (U) 2010 Rape Charge in Sweden
 - 4.1 (U) December 2010 Arrest in London
 - 4.2 (U) UK Extradition Hearings
- 5 (U) Political Asylum in Ecuador Embassy, Summer 2012
 - 5.1 (U) Embassy Impasse Potential Breakthrough, Spring 2015
 - 5.2 (U) UN Non-binding Ruling, February 2016
 - 5.3 (U) Assange Meets with Swedish Officials for Questioning at Embassy, November 2016
 - 5.4 (U) Sweden Drops Investigation, MAY 2017
- 6 (U) 2013 Movie "Fifth Estate" and 2015 BBC SitCom "Asylum"
- 7 (U) IC Links
 - 7.1 (U) eChirp Feed
 - 7.2 (U) Open Source Reporting
- 8 (U) References

(U) WikiLeaks

Main article: WikiLeaks

(U) Assange sits on the nine-member advisory board of Wikileaks, and is a prominent media spokesman on its behalf. He's been described as the site's director^[3] and founder^[4] (although he does not use the latter term for himself^[5]), and has stated he has the final decision in the process of vetting documents submitted to the site.^[6] Like all others working for the site, Assange is an unpaid volunteer.^[5]

(U) Assange won the 2009 Amnesty International Media Award (New Media),^[7] awarded for exposing extrajudicial assassinations in Kenya.^[8]

(U) In accepting Amnesty International's Media Award 2009, Mr. Assange stated:

“ It is a reflection of the courage and strength of Kenyan civil society that this injustice was documented. Through the tremendous work of organizations such as the Oscar foundation, the KNHCR, Mars Group Kenya and others we had the primary support we needed to expose these

Location: [Map](#) | [Coordinates](#) | [About](#)

See the Wikipedia article
Julian Assange

Julian Assange



(U) WikiLeaks Founder Julian Assange. Wired.com reports that Assange voluntarily decided to surrender to British police on 7 December 2010. Assange is likely to be arrested upon leaving the Embassy. Meanwhile, Ecuador has stated it would like reimbursement for the costs of housing Assange for over 3 and a half years.

(U) Photo of Assange from Wired.com

Born	1971
Nationality	Australian
Occupation	Whistleblower, programmer
Known for	WikiLeaks, alleged sex offenses
Country	Australia

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

murders to the world. I know that they will not rest, and we will not rest, until justice is done."^[9]

(U) Assange won the 2008 Economist Index on Censorship Award, in addition to various other media awards.^[10]

(U) Since WikiLeaks began, Assange appeared at news-oriented conferences around Europe, such as New Media Days '09 in Copenhagen^[11] and hacker-oriented conferences, most notably as the 26th Chaos Communication Congresses' special guest speaker.^[12] In spring 2010, he appeared on international news sites such as Al Jazeera English,^[13] CNN,^[14] MSNBC,^[15] Democracy Now,^[16] and RT (TV network).^[17]

(U) Biography

(U) Assange doesn't publish his exact age,^[18] however Interpol's Wanted Notice for Julian Assange lists his DOB as 3 July 1971.^[19]

(U) Assange has said that because his parents ran a touring theatre company, he was enrolled in 37 schools and 6 universities in Australia over the course of his early life.^[20]

(U) Assange helped write 1997's *Underground: Tales of Hacking, Madness and Obsession on the Electronic Frontier*

[redacted] which credits him as researcher.^[21] It draws from his teenage experiences as a member of hacker group "International Subversives", which included a 1991 raid of his Melbourne home by Australian Federal Police.^{[4][22]} *Wired*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, and *The Sunday Times* pointed out there exist similarities between Assange and the person called "Mendax" in the book.^{[23][24][25]} Assange allegedly accessed various computers (belonging to an Australian university, a telecommunications company, and other organizations) via modem^[26] to test their security flaws, and later pleaded guilty to 24 charges of hacking, but was released on bond for good conduct after being fined AU\$2100.^{[4][22][24]}

(U) Afterwards, Assange lived in Melbourne as a programmer and a developer of free software.^[24] He enrolled for some time at Melbourne University, studying mathematics, and has been described as being largely self-taught, widely read in science and mathematics.^[24] On his personal page^[27], Assange describes how he represented his University at the Australian National Physics Competition, where he won a prize.^[28]

(U) In 1995, Assange wrote Strobe. Strobe was the first free and open source port scanner^{[29][30]}. Strobe inspired Gordon Lyon (aka Fyodor) to develop the Nmap^[31] port scanner.

(U) Starting around 1997, Assange co-invented "Rubberhose [redacted] deniable encryption", a cryptographic concept made into a software package for Linux designed to provide plausible deniability against rubber-hose cryptanalysis [redacted]^[32] which he originally intended "as a tool for human rights workers who needed to protect sensitive data in the field".^[33]

(U) Other free software that Assange has authored or co-authored includes the Usenet caching software NNTPCache^[34], the an anagram generator, and Surfray, a command line interface for web-based search engines.

(U) In 2006, the magazine Counter Punch described Assange as "president of a Non-governmental organization and Australia's most infamous former computer hacker".^[35]

(U) In 2010 upon arriving in Australia, his passport was cancelled because it 'looked worn'. He is currently waiting to discover his fate.^[36]

(U) ~~REL TO USA, EMBY~~ In May of 2013, Assange made a request under the Data Protection Act (DPA) [redacted] to GCHQ: after receiving the response, Assange edited the information and released it publicly. GCHQ reminded its staffers that while it is exempt from the UK FOIA Act [redacted] it is not exempt from the DPA, and asked that personnel refrain from inappropriate comments. [redacted]

(U) TIMELINE

(b) (1)
(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

- 5 April 2010: WikiLeaks releases a video showing a 2007 U.S. helicopter attack in Baghdad which killed a dozen people, including two *Reuters* news staff
- 13 April 2010: U.S. Defense Secretary criticizes WikiLeaks, saying it released the video without providing context

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

(U) Interpol's Wanted Notice for Assange

The image shows two screenshots. The top one is Interpol's 'Wanted' notice for Julian Assange, listing his name, aliases, date of birth (3 July 1971), and a photograph. The bottom one is Harry Harrison's OKCupid profile, which includes a self-summary, 'What I'm doing with my life', 'I'm really good at', 'The first things people usually notice about me', 'My favorite books, movies, music, and food', 'The six things I could never do without', 'I spend a lot of time thinking about', 'On a typical Friday night I am', 'The most private thing I'm willing to admit', 'I'm looking for', and 'You should message me if'. The profile also lists other users he is connected to.

- 7 June 2010: The U.S. military announces Army Specialist Bradley Manning has been arrested in connection with the release of the video
- 25 July 2010: The first batch of classified U.S. reports, over 91,000 documents, is released by WikiLeaks
- mid-August 2010: Two Swedish women accuse Assange of non-consensual sex while he stayed in the womens' home(s) on separate days in mid-August 2010.
- **18 November 2010: A Swedish court orders Assange's detention**
- 30 November 2010: Assange's lawyer lodges an appeal against arrest order with Sweden's High Court
- 2 December 2010: Sweden's High Court refuses permission to Assange to appeal
- **7 December 2010: Assange is arrested in UK by British police on a European warrant issued by Sweden**
- 14 December 2010: British judge grants bail of 200,000 Pounds (US \$317,000), but prosecutors appeal Assange's release
- 16 December 2010: London's High Court upholds bail decision and Assange is released to supporter's manor home in the English countryside.
- 11 January 2011: London judge sets date for Assange's appeal hearing
- 7-8 February 2011: Judge holds two-day hearing on the merits of extraditing Assange to Sweden
- 24 February 2011: Judge issues ruling, denying all of Assange's objections, orders his extradition to Sweden
- 25 February 2011: Assange's lawyer has 40 days to file an expected appeal to London's High Court
- 12-13 July 2011: Another two-day hearing in London's High Court on Assange's appeal to avoid extradition to Sweden ends with no ruling from the judge.
- 30 May 2012: British Supreme Court rules against Assange, voting 5-to-2 that Sweden's extradition order was lawful and could go ahead. But his lawyers will appeal, and did so, formally, on 12 June.
- 14 June 2012: British Supreme Court unanimously rejects appeal (7-0), but says extradition proceedings could not begin for two weeks (until 28 June) in order to allow Assange lawyers time to file their case in European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) in Strasbourg. Legal experts believe Assange "stands little chance" in getting ECHR to accept his case. Once the 2-week period is up and if the ECHR rejects case, officials will have 10 days to fly Assange to Sweden in early July 2012.
- **19 June 2012: Assange removes his ankle bracelet locator and flees UK house arrest, fearing imminent extradition to Sweden; enters Embassy of Ecuador in London and requests political asylum** in the country which had offered him residency in 2010.
- 16 August 2012: Ecuadorean foreign minister announces Ecuador will grant political asylum to Assange
- 20 November 2014: Swedish court rejects legal request from Assange to "set aside" its detention order, and Sweden continues to demand to question Assange, in Sweden (not in London at the Embassy of Ecuador)
- **5 February 2016:** A United Nations panel has ruled Wikileaks founder Julian Assange, holed up in the Ecuadorean Embassy in London since June 2012, has been "arbitrarily detained". Assange still faces charges for alleged sex crimes in Sweden and espionage in the USA.^[37]
- **19 May 2017:** Swedish prosecutors dropped their investigation, unable to proceed "because of legal obstacles". The investigation could be reopened if Assange travels to Sweden before **the statute of limitations deadline for the rape allegation in 2020.**

(U) 2010 Rape Charge in Sweden

(U) On 18 August 2010, Assange applied for a residency permit in Sweden. The 39-year old Australian citizen applied for a residence and work permit in order to gain status as the legally responsible publisher of his whistle-blower website, which has a number of computer servers based in Sweden: a move to Sweden would have afforded better protection for WikiLeaks' sources under Sweden's press freedom laws. Two days later a local Swedish prosecutor filed charges of rape and sexual molestation against Assange. Two women (identified only as *Ms. A* and *Ms. W*, are Swedish citizens between the ages of 25 - 35) alleged inappropriate sexual contact earlier that month.^[38] Credible press reports indicate the two women, separately, consented to have sex with Assange if he used a condom, but that he subsequently violated the terms of their consent. Assange is accused of "unlawfully coercing and sexually molesting" one woman in her home on 14 August 2010, and deliberately molesting her again on 18 August. The second woman alleges Assange had sex with her on 17 August while she was asleep at her Stockholm home, and without using a condom.^[39] The lawyer for the two women gave a concise summary of the key allegations: "The two women were molested by Mr. Assange at two different times, independently of each other. One of the two women, who met Assange at a lecture he gave in Stockholm in August, wanted to contact him after the alleged assault because she wanted him to take a test for sexually transmitted infections. She contacted the second woman, who had helped organize the lecture, to see if she could help her find him. When they spoke to each other they realized they had been through something very similar so they went to the police."^[40]

(U) Under Swedish law "rape" has three different degrees, and Assange is alleged to have committed "rape, less serious crime" which is the least serious of the three.^[41] Assange denied the charges, but did acknowledge having met the two women. Assange said his interaction with the two women was "a private matter", but further stated that he had never had sex that was not consensual. On Sunday 22 August, Sweden's *Aftonbladet* newspaper quoted one of the women as saying, "*The accusations against Assange are, of course, not orchestrated by the Pentagon or anybody else. Responsibility for what happened to myself and the other girl lies with a man who has a skewed attitude to women and a problem taking no for an answer.*"^[42]

(U) Assange's application for residency in Sweden was officially rejected (no further details) on 18 October 2010.^[43]

(U) The initial August rape charges were dropped after several days, but were refiled by a second prosecutor on 1 September.^[44] On 18 November the Stockholm District Court ordered an arrest warrant, which was promptly issued by Swedish International Public Prosecution Office in Gothenburg, calling for Assange to be brought to Sweden to face charges of "**suspected rape, sexual molestation and unlawful coercion.**"^{[45][46]} On 2 December 2010, the Swedish Supreme Court denied Assange's appeal to have the charges dismissed.^[47] A "red notice" alert was filed by Interpol on 30 November, which requires participating countries to notify Interpol if Assange attempts to enter any member state.^[48]

(U) Assange's lawyers make the distinction that Interpol's "red notice" is not an arrest warrant, and that states are only required to notify Interpol when and if he attempts to leave or enter a country. He has not been formally charged with a crime in Sweden, only a warrant to appear in person to answer questions related to the Swedish complaint of alleged rape.^[49] While the rape charges in Sweden will impact Assange's movements, it is not expected that these charges will affect WikiLeaks' ability to continue leaking classified documents. As of early December 2010, credible British news sources reported that Assange was staying in southeast England.^[50]

(U) As of Friday 3 December 2010, Sweden's prosecution office said it had sent out a new international arrest warrant for Assange, one that was acceptable to the British police.

(U) December 2010 Arrest in London

(U/~~FOUO~~) **7 December 2010:** Scotland Yard announced that Mr Assange had been arrested on a European Arrest Warrant by appointment at a London police station at 0930 GMT. Mr Assange is accused by the Swedish authorities of one count of unlawful coercion, two counts of sexual molestation and one count of rape, all alleged to have been committed in August 2010. ^[51] Later that day, at City of Westminster Magistrates' Court, Assange stated that he would contest extradition to Sweden. Five people, including journalist John Pilger and socialite Jemima Khan, stood up in court offering to put up sureties, but bail was refused and he was remanded into custody until 14 December 2010. ^[52]

(U/~~FOUO~~) Mr Assange's lawyer, Mark Stephens, said his client was keen to discover the exact nature of the allegations against him so he could clear his name. "It's about time we got to the end of the day and we got some truth, justice and rule of law," he told Newsnight. "Julian Assange has been the one in hot pursuit to vindicate himself, to clear his good name. He has been trying to meet her (the Swedish prosecutor) to find out what the allegations are he has to face and also the evidence against him, which he still hasn't seen. He's not been charged with anything. We are in the process of making arrangements to meet with the police by consent in order to facilitate the taking of that question and answer that is needed."

(U/~~FOUO~~) Traveling to work (on the morning of 7 December), Mr Stephens said: "I haven't even seen the warrant yet. We have got 10 days to do this and a lot of complex schedules to organize. I am sure it will be announced when it happens. I have not yet spoken to the police." Mr Stephens has already said that Mr Assange intends to fight extradition, on the grounds that he could then be handed on to the USA, where senior politicians have called for his execution. ^[53]

(U) At the 14 December hearing the UK judge ordered Assange's release on bail, but upon appeal from prosecutors who argued he was a "flight risk", Assange was held a further two days. At the second hearing on 16 December, after listening to the prosecution's case, the High Court judge ordered Assange's immediate release on bail (said to be approximately 240,000 British Pounds in cash: about US \$374,000/283,000 Euros), until another hearing in January 2011. While on bail, Assange must remain at a supporter's country mansion, Ellingham Hall (a 600-acre estate in eastern England, near Norwich, belonging to Vaughan Smith), wear an electronic ankle bracelet, and report daily to the local police.

(U) UK Extradition Hearings

(U) Assange continued to contest his extradition to Sweden and returned to a British courtroom for a procedural hearing on 11 January 2011. A judge set a two-day hearing on 7 and 8 February 2011, in Westminster Magistrates Courts, for what the judge hoped would be the final British court proceedings to determine - within the 90 days allotted - if Assange should be sent back to Sweden in accordance with the European arrest warrant. Assange's lawyer argued that Assange would not get a fair trial because Swedish rape cases are customarily held without the public or media in the courtroom, to protect the alleged victims. His lawyer said closed-door proceedings would amount to a "secret trail" that would "violate international standards of fairness."

(U) Following the 7-8 February hearing, the judge issued his ruling on Thursday 24 February. The judge denied all of Assange's arguments and - "finding" the arrest warrant to have been legally issued - he approved Assange's extradition to Sweden to face rape and sexual assault allegations. Assange's lawyer is expected to appeal the 24 February ruling. ^[54] The appeals process must begin with 40 days, although London's High Court can extend this period in the "interests of justice". Should the High Court uphold the extradition decision and there is no further appeal, then Assange must be extradited within 10 days. It is possible Assange could then make one final appeal to Britain's Supreme Court, the UK's highest judicial body, but this can only be done on a point of law considered to be of general public interest. ^[55]

(U) **Appeal to Britain's Supreme Court:** On Monday 5 December 2011 the UK's High Court in London gave Assange one more chance to fight extradition to Sweden to face questioning in a sexual-assault investigation, telling him he can ask Britain's Supreme Court for permission to appeal an extradition order (which his lawyers plan to do within 14 days.) Mr. Assange's lawyers argued he should be allowed to appeal to the Supreme Court on two points of law. They said the Swedish prosecutor who issued the warrant for Mr. Assange's arrest shouldn't be considered a proper "judicial authority." They also argued that Sweden hasn't yet decided whether to prosecute Mr. Assange, making its use of an arrest warrant improper. The High Court ruled on 5 December that Mr. Assange should be allowed to request a Supreme Court appeal on the first point. Assange has been living under strict bail conditions at a supporter's home. Earlier this year, a lower court ruled that he should be extradited- a decision the High Court upheld last month (November 2011). ^[56]

(U) Political Asylum in Ecuador Embassy, Summer 2012

(U) On Tuesday 19 June 2012, Julian Assange removed his ankle bracelet locator and fled his (lightly monitored) house arrest at a supporter's country estate near Norwich, in Norfolk County (eastern England). After being driven into downtown London, he walked into the Embassy of Ecuador, located in London's Knightsbridge district. "I can confirm I arrived at the Ecuadorean embassy and sought diplomatic sanctuary and political asylum. This application has been passed to the ministry of foreign affairs in the capital Quito. I am grateful to the Ecuadorean ambassador and the government of Ecuador for considering my application," Assange said in a statement released that same afternoon. Of note, when Assange's legal effort to avoid returning to Sweden in late 2010 first attracted news coverage around the world, Ecuador's deputy foreign minister said in 2010 that Ecuador would offer Assange residency without conditions. Ecuador's foreign minister, **Ricardo Patino**, told the press on 20 June that Ecuador is "processing" the asylum request but that the government does not have a time limit to give an answer.

- (U) According to the *New York Times*, Ecuador's embassy in London is small, consisting of a flat (apartment) in a redbrick building just behind **Harrods** department store in the upscale Knightsbridge neighborhood.
- (U) A spokesperson for London's Metropolitan Police said that by spending the night at the embassy, Assange had breached conditions to stay at his bail address between 10:00PM and 8:00AM and "he is now subject to arrest under the Bail Act for breach of these conditions" if and when he steps outside of the embassy.

(U) Assange had lost his final appeal before Great Britain's Supreme Court on 14 June 2012, but he had been given until 28 June to try to get a hearing at the **European Court of Human Rights** in Strasbourg. Most legal commentators doubted Assange had strong enough grounds for the European court to accept his case, and a rejection by the ECHR would have led to his extradition to Sweden in early July. Assange was (nominally) free, on house arrest, having posted a £240,000 police bail in December 2010: the money was put up by a number of high-profile friends and supporters, who will now forfeit that money if Assange does not surrender himself.

(U) According to a news report in London's *Guardian* newspaper on 20 June 2012, the UK's Ministry of Justice said that responsibility for handling Assange's extradition rested with Britain's **Serious Organised Crime Agency** (SOCA), which deals with European arrest warrant requests.

(U) Ecuador's foreign minister, in Quito, announced on 16 August that **Ecuador will grant political asylum to Assange**. The announcement came one day after Ecuador's ambassador in London revealed that the British government had delivered an official notice to the embassy stating that London was considering all options for ending the standoff, including removing diplomatic accreditation from the embassy - under a UK law known as the Diplomatic and Consular Premises Act of 1987 - in order to allow British police to enter the building and remove Assange. The 1987 Act gives Britain the power to revoke the status of a diplomatic mission if the state in question "ceases to use land for the purposes of its mission or exclusively for the purposes of a consular post." The law was passed after the 1984 siege of the Libyan embassy in London, which was sparked when someone inside the building fatally shot a British police officer. An 11-day standoff ended with Britain severing diplomatic relations with Libya and expelling all its diplomats.

(U) It may be yet some time before Assange is actually able to travel, safely, to an airport and leave the UK for Ecuador. According to Ecuadorian foreign ministry officials, during a 15 August meeting with Britain's charge d'affaires in Quito, the CDA said, "We must be absolutely clear this means that should we (the UK) receive a request for safe passage for Mr Assange, after granting asylum, this would be refused."^[57]

(U) A Swedish court on Thursday 20 November 2014 upheld a four-year-old order for the detention of Julian Assange. His lawyers had sought to have the order withdrawn on the grounds that it could not be enforced while he was in the embassy, and they also contended that it was restricting his civil rights. But the Swedish court rejected the legal argument that it should "set aside the detention solely because Julian Assange is in an embassy and the detention order cannot be enforced at present for that reason," *Reuters News* reported. Sweden has not formally indicted Mr. Assange, but prosecutors in Stockholm want to question him about allegations of sexual misconduct relating to two women he encountered during a visit there in 2010. He denies the allegations. Mr. Assange has expressed a willingness to meet with Swedish prosecutors in London, an offer that the prosecutors have turned down. Assange has said he fears that if extradited to Sweden, the authorities there would send him to the United States.^[58]

(U) Embassy Impasse Potential Breakthrough, Spring 2015

(U) In a reversal of policy, the office of the Swedish prosecutor said on Friday 13 March 2015 that it was willing to travel to London to interview Assange in the Ecuadorean embassy. The prosecutor in charge of the case said she was dropping her opposition to the embassy interview because some of the alleged offences will reach their statute of limitations in August 2015. A lawyer for Assange welcomed the offer and Britain's Foreign Office pledged its help, saying: "As we have made clear previously, we stand ready to assist the Swedish prosecutor, as required." Assange took refuge in Ecuador's embassy in London in June 2012, where British police officers stand guard around the clock, at a cost so far [mid-March 2015] to British taxpayers of almost £10.4 million (14.6 million euros, \$15.4 million), according to WikiLeaks.^[59]

(U) UN Non-binding Ruling, February 2016

(U) On 5 February 2016 a United Nations panel ruled Wikileaks founder Julian Assange, holed up in the Ecuadorian Embassy in London since June 2012, has been "arbitrarily detained". Assange still faces an outstanding arrest warrant for alleged sex crimes in Sweden, and possible espionage charges in the USA. UK and Swedish officials stated the non-binding UN ruling has no bearing on the pending legal charges; Assange is likely to be arrested upon leaving the Embassy. Meanwhile, Ecuador has stated it would like reimbursement for the costs of housing Assange for over 3 and a half years.^[60]

(U) Assange Meets with Swedish Officials for Questioning at Embassy, November 2016

(U) After years of delays, Mr. Assange agreed, in mid-September 2016, to be questioned over the rape allegation at the Ecuadorean Embassy in London, following a deal announced by Sweden and Ecuador on 14 September 2016. He has been living in the embassy since 2012. The questioning was originally scheduled for Monday 17 October, but was then postponed -- at the request of Assange -- to Monday 14 November 2016.

(U) A Swedish appeals court ruled on Friday 16 September 2016 that a request by Swedish prosecutors to detain WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange on suspicion of rape should remain in force, dealing a blow to Mr. Assange's defense team's long-running efforts to get the case against him dropped. In a statement, the Stockholm-based appeals court said it agreed with an earlier ruling by Stockholm's district court that there remained probable cause to suspect Mr. Assange of the crime and that there was a risk he would seek to evade prosecution or penalty in some way if the request to detain him is lifted. Mr. Assange can appeal the new ruling at the Swedish Supreme Court. On Monday 14 November, Assange was questioned, in the embassy, by an Ecuadorian prosecutor (tasked with taking statements), while Swedish representatives for both the Swedish court and Swedish police sat-in. According to a spokesman for the Swedish prosecution service, the questions have been translated to Spanish from Swedish and are expected to be translated into English for Mr. Assange to answer. His answers would then be translated back into Spanish before being sent to Sweden to be translated into Swedish. The spokesman added the prosecution service didn't know how long it might take until the transcript was ready.

(U) Sweden Drops Investigation, MAY 2017

(U) Swedish prosecutors announced Friday 19 May 2017 they had dropped their investigation into the rape allegations. According to *Reuters News*, Swedish Chief Prosecutor said the investigation had not been able to proceed because of legal obstacles: "We are not making a statement about his guilt," adding that the investigation could be reopened if Assange came to Sweden before **the statute of limitations deadline for the rape allegation in 2020**. British police said separately that it was still under obligation to arrest Assange were he to leave the Ecuador embassy: "Westminster Magistrates' Court issued a warrant for the arrest of Julian Assange following him failing to surrender to the court on the 29 June 2012," British police said. "The Metropolitan Police Service is obliged to execute that warrant should he leave the Embassy."^[61]

(U) 2013 Movie "Fifth Estate" and 2015 BBC SitCom "Asylum"

(U) Julian Assange's "story" was turned into a major motion picture, "**The Fifth Estate**" starring acclaimed British actor Benedict Cumberbatch as Assange. The 2-hour movie (rated PG-13) was released into American theaters on 18 October 2013. The movie is being promoted as a "thriller" and was directed by Bill Condon. It traces the early days of the whistleblowing website, WikiLeaks. Cumberbatch confessed that his requests to meet with Assange, in the Ecuadorian Embassy, before filming began were turned down by Assange -- and he (Assange) opposed the making of the film -- however they did have "a very brief e-mail exchange." Assange later wrote a letter to Cumberbatch, asking the actor to drop out of the film. He said the film, which charts the rise of the website and its release of cables leaked by Chelsea Manning, was based on a 'deceitful book by someone who has a vendetta against me and my organisation'. Assange warned Cumberbatch that he would be "used, as a hired gun, to assume the appearance of the truth in order to assassinate it."

(U) British television comedy writers in London developed the premise of a situational comedy (sitcom) in 2014 based on the actions of Julian Assange and Edward Snowden in seeking political asylum to evade legal prosecution. The show, called "**Asylum**", aired in Great Britain on BBC4 in 2015. "Asylum" is being shown as part of the BBC's *Taking Liberties* season, which is an examination of the state of democracy to mark the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta, but everyone involved in the three-part series is keen to continue the show. "Asylum" show was devised by Kayvan Novak and producer Tom Thostrop, and Novak acknowledges that the WikiLeaks founder's situation -- he's been living at the Ecuadorian Embassy in London since 2012 -- was his main inspiration for the three-part series. But he says the initial spark came when American Edward Snowden, who leaked highly sensitive information while working for the National Security Agency in 2013, tried to claim asylum in Russia and spent 39 days at Moscow Airport as a diplomatic wrangle unfolded. "I thought there's a trend of these whistleblowers getting stuck in various situations," Novak says, "and a Julian Assange-like character in an embassy being used as a pawn between America and everyone else could be hilarious. I'd never done anything political or zeitgeisty before -- I'm more a funny-voice and pranking people on the street guy -- but this felt like something that could be current in its subject matter and also make for some classic comedy." Ben Miller plays the Assange-like character Dan (not a white-haired Australian guy), who has been living in the embassy's broom cupboard for a year after revealing CIA torture. Much of the comedy comes from the introduction of Ludo Backslash, who is broadly based on German-Finnish internet entrepreneur Kim Dotcom and is played by Dustin Demri-Burns, one half of sketch duo Cardinal Burns. An irritating young hacker wanted by the authorities for setting up an illegal file-sharing website, he is also claiming asylum at the El Rican Embassy. Much to Dan's consternation and increasing fury, the two men are forced to share his tiny room, now equipped with bunk beds. "Very broadly it's an odd-couple comedy," says Phipps, "but we were keen not to make it like a flat-share sitcom - Dan and Ludo don't argue about doing the washing-up, for example. Ludo is just this annoying upstart who steals Dan's thunder."^[62]

(U) See: *Asylum* (BBC TV series)

(U) IC Links

(b) (3) - P. L. 86-36

(U) eChirp Feed

You can tag Chirps by using #Assange [redacted] in your text.

- [redacted] (U) #Sweden drops charges against #Assange. #wikileaks !pu !news (May 19, 2017 07:24)
- [redacted] (U) #CIA Director Pompeo also called Julian #Assange a 'narcissist' and 'a fraud'. !pu (April 14, 2017 08:17)
- [redacted] (U) It would be amusing to query #Assange about the oversight procedures for #WikiLeaks. (January 06, 2017 09:38)
- [redacted] (U) In #assange -land, "oversight" is this magical thing that creates competence. Except for Julian Assange, his Russian backers, his donors. (January 06, 2017 09:36)
- (b) (6) [redacted] (U) #Assange to Hannity: "Governments are full of incompetent people." Especially the secretive parts because there's "no oversight". #eyeroll (January 06, 2017 09:28)
- [redacted] (U) Certainly no fan, but I thought #Assange was holed up in an embassy somewhere w/ authorities waiting to extradite him. What happened there? (October 04, 2016 07:51)
- [redacted] (U) And something about #Assange's demeanor suggested to me that he seems intent on ruining her. Maybe it was just me. (October 04, 2016 07:50)
- [redacted] (U) I agree, but Bill Maher was going at him asking why he was going after Clinton and #Assange seemed to enjoy watching Bill get mad. (October 04, 2016 07:48)
- [redacted] (U) So #Assange is lying through his teeth. Funny how none of the stuff they release is ever about Russia. (October 04, 2016 07:42)
- [redacted] (U) #Assange seemed to be okay with wrecking Clinton's campaign when he was on Bill Maher. (October 04, 2016 07:41)

(U) Open Source Reporting

Further information: *Information Review Task Force*

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(U) Julian Assange

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Julian Paul Assange (born 3 July 1971) is an Australian editor, activist, political talk show host, computer programmer, publisher and journalist. He is best known as the editor-in-chief and founder of WikiLeaks, a media website which has published information from whistleblowers.

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(U) United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

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The **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization** (French: Organisation des Nations unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture; *UNESCO*; is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN).



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Its purpose is to contribute to peace and security by promoting international collaboration through education, science, and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, the rule of law, and human rights along with fundamental freedom proclaimed in the United Nations Charter.^[1] It is the heir of the League of Nations' International Committee on Intellectual Cooperation.

The flag of UNESCO.

UNESCO has 195 member states^[2] and nine associate members.^{[3][4]}

Most of the field offices are "cluster" offices covering three or more countries; there are also national and regional offices.

UNESCO pursues its objectives through five major programs: education, natural sciences, social and human sciences, culture, and communication and information.

Projects sponsored by UNESCO include literacy, technical, and teacher-training programmes; international science programmes; the promotion of independent media and freedom of the press; regional and cultural history projects; the promotion of cultural diversity; translations of world literature; international cooperation agreements to secure the world cultural and natural heritage (World Heritage Sites) and to preserve human rights, and attempts to bridge the worldwide digital divide. It is also a member of the United Nations Development Group.^[5]

UNESCO's aim is "to contribute to the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information".^[6]

Other priorities of the organization include attaining quality Education For All and lifelong learning, addressing emerging social and ethical challenges, fostering cultural diversity, a culture of peace and building inclusive knowledge societies through information and communication.^[7]

The broad goals and concrete objectives of the international community — as set out in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) — underpin all UNESCO's strategies and activities.

Contents

- 1 History

- 2 Activities
 - 3 Official UNESCO NGOs
 - 4 Institutes and centres
 - 5 Official list of UNESCO prizes
 - 5.1 Inactive prizes
 - 6 International Days observed at UNESCO
 - 7 Member states
 - 8 Governing bodies
 - 8.1 General Conference
 - 9 Offices
 - 9.1 Field offices by region
 - 10 Controversy and reform
 - 10.1 New World Information and Communication order
 - 10.2 Israel
 - 10.3 Palestinian Authority
 - 10.4 Wikileaks
 - 11 Products or services
 - 12 References and notes

History

UNESCO and its mandate for international co-operation can be traced back to the League of Nations resolution on 21 September 1921, to elect a Commission to study the question.^[8] The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation (ICIC) was officially created on 4 January 1922, as a consultative organ composed of individuals elected based on their personal qualifications. The International Institute for Intellectual Cooperation (IIIC) was then created in Paris on 9 August 1925, to act as the executing agency for the ICIC.^[9] On 18 December 1925, the International Bureau of Education (IBE) began work as a non-governmental organization in the service of international educational development.^[10] However, the work of these predecessor organizations was largely interrupted by the onset of World War II.

After the signing of the Atlantic Charter and the Declaration of the United Nations, the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education (CAME) began meetings in London which continued between 16 November 1942 to 5 December 1945. On 30 October 1943, the necessity for an international organization was expressed in the Moscow Declaration, agreed upon by China, the United Kingdom, the United States and the USSR. This was followed by the Dumbarton Oaks Conference proposals of 9 October 1944. Upon the proposal of CAME and in accordance with the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on International Organization (UNCIO), held in San Francisco in April–June 1945, a United Nations Conference for the establishment of an educational and cultural organization (ECO/CONF) was convened in London 1–16 November 1945 with 44 governments represented. A prominent figure in the initiative for UNESCO was Rab Butler, the Minister of Education for the United Kingdom.^[11] At the ECO/CONF, the Constitution of UNESCO was introduced and signed by 37 countries, and a Preparatory Commission was established.^[12] The Preparatory Commission operated between 16 November 1945, and 4 November 1946—the date when UNESCO's Constitution came into force with the deposit of the twentieth ratification by a member state.^[13]

The first General Conference took place from 19 November to 10 December 1946, and elected Dr. Julian Huxley to the post of Director-General.^[14] The Constitution was amended in November 1954 when the General Conference resolved that members of the Executive Board would be representatives of the governments of the States of which they are nationals and would not, as before, act in their personal

Doc ID: 6671635 capacity.^[15] This change in governance distinguished UNESCO from its predecessor, the CICI, in terms of how member states would work together in the organization's fields of competence. As member states worked together over time to realize UNESCO's mandate, political and historical factors have shaped the organization's operations in particular during the Cold War, the decolonization process, and the dissolution of the USSR.

Among the major achievements of the organization is its work against racism, for example through influential statements on race starting with a declaration of anthropologists (among them was Claude Lévi-Strauss) and other scientists in 1950^[16] and concluding with the 1978 Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice.^[17] In 1956, the Republic of South Africa withdrew from UNESCO claiming that some of the organization's publications amounted to "interference" in the country's "racial problems."^[18] South Africa rejoined the organization in 1994 under the leadership of Nelson Mandela.

UNESCO's early work in the field of education included the pilot project on fundamental education in the Marbial Valley, Haiti, started in 1947.^[19] This project was followed by expert missions to other countries, including, for example, a mission to Afghanistan in 1949.^[20] In 1948, UNESCO recommended that Member States should make free primary education compulsory and universal.^[21] In 1990 the World Conference on Education for All, in Jomtien, Thailand, launched a global movement to provide basic education for all children, youths and adults.^[22] Ten years later, the 2000 World Education Forum held in Dakar, Senegal, led member governments to commit to achieving basic education for all by 2015.^[23]

UNESCO's early activities in the field of culture included, for example, the Nubia Campaign, launched in 1960.^[24] The purpose of the campaign was to move the Great Temple of Abu Simbel to keep it from being swamped by the Nile after construction of the Aswan Dam. During the 20-year campaign, 22 monuments and architectural complexes were relocated. This was the first and largest in a series of campaigns including Mohenjo-daro (Pakistan), Fes (Morocco), Kathmandu (Nepal), Borobudur (Indonesia) and the Acropolis (Greece). The organization's work on heritage led to the adoption, in 1972, of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.^[25] The World Heritage Committee was established in 1976 and the first sites inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1978.^[26] Since then important legal instruments on cultural heritage and diversity have been adopted by UNESCO member states in 2003 (Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage^[27]) and 2005 (Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions^[28]).

An intergovernmental meeting of UNESCO in Paris in December 1951 led to the creation of the European Council for Nuclear Research (CERN)^[29] in 1954.

Arid Zone programming, 1948–1966, is another example of an early major UNESCO project in the field of natural sciences.^[30] In 1968, UNESCO organized the first intergovernmental conference aimed at reconciling the environment and development, a problem which continues to be addressed in the field of sustainable development. The main outcome of the 1968 conference was the creation of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme.^[31]

In the field of communication, the free flow of information has been a priority for UNESCO from its beginnings. In the years immediately following World War II, efforts were concentrated on reconstruction and on the identification of needs for means of mass communication around the world. UNESCO started organizing training and education for journalists in the 1950s.^[32] In response to calls for a "New World Information and Communication Order" in the late 1970s, UNESCO established the International Commission for the Study of Communication Problems,^[33] which produced the 1980 MacBride report (named after the Chair of the Commission, the Nobel Peace Prize laureate Seán MacBride).^[34] Following the MacBride report, UNESCO introduced the Information Society for All^[35] programme and Toward Knowledge Societies^[36] programme in the lead up to the World Summit on the Information Society in

In 2011, Palestine became a UNESCO member following a vote in which 107 member states supported and 14 opposed.^{[37][38]} Laws passed in the United States in 1990 and 1994 mean that it cannot contribute financially to any UN organisation that accepts Palestine as a full member. As a result, it withdrew its funding which accounted for about 22% of UNESCO's budget.^[39] Israel also reacted to Palestine's admittance to UNESCO by freezing Israel payments to the UNESCO and imposing sanctions to the Palestinian Authority,^[40] claiming that Palestine's admittance would be detrimental "to potential peace talks".^[41] Two years after they stopped paying their dues to UNESCO, US and Israel lost UNESCO voting rights in 2013.^[42]

Activities

UNESCO implements its activities through the five programme areas of Education, Natural Sciences, Social and Human Sciences, Culture, and Communication and Information.

- Education: UNESCO supports research in comparative education; and provides expertise and fosters partnerships to strengthen national educational leadership and the capacity of countries to offer quality education for all. This includes the
 - UNESCO Chairs, an international network of 644 UNESCO Chairs, involving over 770 institutions in 126 countries.
 - Environmental Conservation Organisation
 - Convention against Discrimination in Education adopted in 1960
 - Organization of the International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA) in an interval of 12 years
 - Publication of the Education for All Global Monitoring Report
 - UNESCO ASPNet, an international network of 8,000 schools in 170 countries

UNESCO does not accredit institutions of higher learning.^[43]

- UNESCO also issues public 'statements' to educate the public:
 - Seville Statement on Violence: A statement adopted by UNESCO in 1989 to refute the notion that humans are biologically predisposed to organised violence.
- Designating projects and places of cultural and scientific significance, such as:
 - International Network of Geoparks
 - Biosphere reserves, through the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB), since 1971
 - City of Literature; in 2007, the first city to be given this title was Edinburgh, the site of Scotland's first circulating library.^[44] In 2008, Iowa City, Iowa became the City of Literature.
 - Endangered languages and linguistic diversity projects
 - Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity
 - Memory of the World International Register, since 1997
 - Water resources management, through the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), since 1965
 - World Heritage Sites
- Encouraging the "free flow of ideas by images and words" by:
 - Promoting freedom of expression, Freedom of the press and Freedom of information legislation, through the International Programme for the Development of Communication and the Communication and Information Programme
 - Promoting universal access to ICTs, through the Information for All Programme
 - Promoting Pluralism and cultural diversity in the media
- Promoting events, such as:

- International Decade for the Promotion of a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World: 2001–2010, proclaimed by the UN in 1998
- World Press Freedom Day, 3 May each year, to promote freedom of expression and freedom of the press as a basic human right and as crucial components of any healthy, democratic and free society.
- Criança Esperança in Brazil, in partnership with Rede Globo, to raise funds for community-based projects that foster social integration and violence prevention.
- International Literacy Day
- International Year for the Culture of Peace
- Founding and funding projects, such as:
 - Migration Museums Initiative: Promoting the establishment of museums for cultural dialogue with migrant populations.^[45]
 - UNESCO-CEPES, the European Centre for Higher Education: established in 1972 in Bucharest, Romania, as a de-centralized office to promote international co-operation in higher education in Europe as well as Canada, USA and Israel. *Higher Education in Europe* is its official journal.
 - Free Software Directory: since 1998 UNESCO and the Free Software Foundation have jointly funded this project cataloguing free software.
 - FRESH Focussing Resources on Effective School Health.^[46]
 - OANA, Organization of Asia-Pacific News Agencies
 - International Council of Science
 - UNESCO Goodwill Ambassadors
 - ASOMPS, *Asian Symposium on Medicinal Plants and Spices*, a series of scientific conferences held in Asia
 - Botany 2000, a programme supporting taxonomy, and biological and cultural diversity of medicinal and ornamental plants, and their protection against environmental pollution
 - The UNESCO Collection of Representative Works, translating works of world literature both to and from multiple languages, from 1948 to 2005

Official UNESCO NGOs

UNESCO enjoys official relations with 322 international non-governmental organizations (NGOs).^[47] Most of these are what UNESCO calls "operational", a select few are "formal".^[48] The highest form of affiliation to UNESCO is "formal associate", and the 22 NGOs^[49] with *formal associate* (ASC) relations occupying offices at UNESCO are:

1. International Baccalaureate (IB)
2. Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS)
3. Education International (EI)
4. International Association of Universities (IAU)
5. International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication (IFTCA)
6. International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies (ICPHS) which publishes *Diogenes*
7. International Council for Science (ICSU)
8. International Council of Museums (ICOM)
9. International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE)
10. International Council on Archives (ICA)
11. International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)
12. International Federation of Journalists (IFJ)
13. International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)
14. International Federation of Poetry Associations (IFPA)

- Doc ID: 6671635
15. International Music Council (IMC)
 16. International Police Association (IPA)
 17. International Scientific Council for Island Development (INSULA)
 18. International Social Science Council (ISSC)
 19. International Theatre Institute (ITI)
 20. International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN)
 21. International Union of Technical Associations and Organizations
 22. Union of International Associations (UIA)
 23. World Association of Newspapers (WAN)
 24. World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO)
 25. World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA)

Institutes and centres

The institutes are specialized departments of the organization that support UNESCO's programme, providing specialized support for cluster and national offices.

- International Bureau of Education (IBE) in Geneva^[50]
- UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) in Hamburg^[51]
- UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) in Paris (headquarters) and Buenos Aires (regional office)^[52]
- UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE) in Moscow^[53]
- UNESCO International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa (IICBA) in Addis Ababa^[54]
- UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (IESALC) in Caracas^[55]
- UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training in Bonn^[56]
- UNESCO European Centre for Higher Education (CEPES) in Bucharest^[57]
- UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (UNESCO-IHE) in Delft^[58]
- International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste^[59]
- UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) in Montreal^[60]

Official list of UNESCO prizes

UNESCO currently awards 22 prizes^[61] in education, science, culture and peace:

- Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize
- L'Oréal-UNESCO Awards for Women in Science
- UNESCO/King Sejong Literacy Prize
- UNESCO/Confucius Prize for Literacy
- UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize to promote Quality Education for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities
- UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Education
- UNESCO/Hamdan Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers
- UNESCO/Kalinga Prize for the Popularization of Science
- UNESCO/Institut Pasteur Medal for an outstanding contribution to the development of scientific knowledge that has a beneficial impact on human health

- UNESCO/Sultan Qaboos Prize for Environmental Preservation
- Great Man-Made River International Water Prize for Water Resources in Arid Zones presented by UNESCO (title to be reconsidered)
- Michel Batisse Award for Biosphere Reserve Management
- UNESCO/Bilbao Prize for the Promotion of a Culture of Human Rights
- UNESCO Prize for Peace Education
- UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence
- UNESCO/International José Martí Prize
- UNESCO/Avicenna Prize for Ethics in Science
- UNESCO/Juan Bosch Prize for the Promotion of Social Science Research in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Sharjah Prize for Arab Culture
- Melina Mercouri International Prize for the Safeguarding and Management of Cultural Landscapes (UNESCO-Greece)
- IPDC-UNESCO Prize for Rural Communication
- UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize
- UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize

Inactive prizes

- Carlos J. Finlay Prize for Microbiology (inactive since 2005)
- International Simón Bolívar Prize (inactive since 2004)
- UNESCO Prize for Human Rights Education
- UNESCO/Obiang Nguema Mbasogo International Prize for Research in the Life Sciences (inactive since 2010)
- UNESCO Prize for the Promotion of the Arts

International Days observed at UNESCO

- 27 January: International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust
- 13 February: World Radio Day
- 21 February: International Mother Language Day
- 8 March: International Women's Day
- 21 March: International Day of Nowruz
- 21 March: World Poetry Day
- 21 March: International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- 22 March: World Day for Water
- 20 March: International Francophonie Day
- 23 April: World Book and Copyright Day
- 30 April : International Jazz Day
- 3 May: World Press Freedom Day
- 21 May: World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development
- 22 May: International Day for Biological Diversity
- 25 May: Africa Day / Africa Week
- 5 June: World Environment Day
- 8 June: World Oceans Day
- 9 August: International Day of the World's Indigenous People
- 12 August: International Youth Day
- 23 August: International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition
- 8 September: International Literacy Day

- Doc ID: 6671635
- 15 September : International Day of Democracy
 - 21 September: International Day of Peace
 - 5 October : World Teachers' Day
 - Second Wednesday in October: International Day for Disaster Reduction
 - 17 October: International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
 - 20 October: World Statistics Day
 - 27 October: World Day for Audiovisual Heritage
 - 10 November: World Science Day for Peace and Development
 - Third Thursday in November: World Philosophy Day
 - 16 November: International Day for Tolerance
 - 19 November: International Men's Day
 - 25 November: International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
 - 29 November: International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People
 - 1 December: World AIDS Day
 - 10 December: Human Rights Day
 - 18 December: International Migrants Day

[62]

Member states

Main article: Member states of UNESCO

As of October 2011, UNESCO counts 196 member states and 8 associate members.^[63] Some members are not independent states and some members have additional National Organizing Committees from some of their dependent territories.^[64] UNESCO state parties are most of the United Nations member states (except Liechtenstein), Cook Islands, Niue, and the State of Palestine.^{[65][66]}

Governing bodies

General Conference

This is the list of the sessions of UNESCO General Conference held since 1946:^[67] Template:Colbegin

- 1st session (Paris, 1946) – chaired by Léon Blum (France)
- 2nd session (Mexico City, 1947) – chaired by Manuel Gual Vidal (Mexico)
- 3rd session (Beirut, 1948) – chaired by Hamid Bey Frangie (Lebanon)
- 1st extraordinary session (Paris, 1948)
- 4th session (Paris, 1949) – chaired by Ronald Walker (Australia)
- 5th session (Florence, 1950) – chaired by Count Stefano Jacini (Italy)
- 6th session (Paris, 1951) – chaired by Howland Sargeant (United States)
- 7th session (Paris, 1952) – chaired by Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (India)
- 2nd extraordinary session (Paris, 1953)
- 8th session (Montevideo, 1954) – chaired by Justino Zavala Muñiz (Uruguay)
- 9th session (New Delhi, 1956) – chaired by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (India)
- 10th session (Paris, 1958) – chaired by Jean Berthoin (France)
- 11th session (Paris, 1960) – chaired by Akale-Work Abte-Wold (Ethiopia)
- 12th session (Paris, 1962) – chaired by Paulo de Berrêdo Carneiro (Brazil)
- 13th session (Paris, 1964) – chaired by Norair Sissakian (Soviet Union)
- 14th session (Paris, 1966) – chaired by Bedrettin Tuncel (Turkey)

- Doc ID: 6671635
- 15th session (Paris, 1968) – chaired by Willian Eteki-Mboumoua (Cameroon)
 - 16th session (Paris, 1970) – chaired by Atilio Dell'Oro Maini (Argentina)
 - 17th session (Paris, 1972) – chaired by Toru Haguiwara (Japan)
 - 3rd extraordinary session (Paris, 1973)
 - 18th session (Paris, 1974) – chaired by Magda Jóború (Hungary)
 - 19th session (Nairobi, 1976) – chaired by Taaita Toweett (Kenya)
 - 20th session (Paris, 1978) – chaired by Napoléon LeBlanc (Canada)
 - 21st session (Belgrade, 1980) – chaired by Ivo Margan (Yugoslavia)
 - 4th extraordinary session (Paris, 1982)
 - 22nd session (Paris, 1983) – chaired by Saïd Tell (Jordan)
 - 23rd session (Sofia, 1985) - chaired by Nikolaï Todorov (Bulgaria)
 - 24th session (Paris, 1987) – chaired by Guillermo Putzeys Alvarez (Guatemala)
 - 25th session (Paris, 1989) – chaired by Anwar Ibrahim (Malaysia)
 - 26th session (Paris, 1991) – chaired by Bethwell Allan Ogot (Kenya)
 - 27th session (Paris, 1993) – chaired by Ahmed Saleh Sayyad (Yemen)
 - 28th session (Paris, 1995) – chaired by Torben Krogh (Denmark)
 - 29th session (Paris, 1997) – chaired by Eduardo Portella (Brazil)
 - 30th session (Paris, 1999) – chaired by Jaroslava Moserova (Czech Republic)
 - 31st session (Paris, 2001) – chaired by Ahmad Jalali (Iran)
 - 32nd session (Paris, 2003) – chaired by Michael Omolewa (Nigeria)
 - 33rd session (Paris, 2005) – chaired by Musa bin Jaafar bin Hassan (Oman)
 - 34th session (Paris, 2007) – chaired by George N. Anastassopoulos (Greece)
 - 35th session (Paris, 2009) – chaired by Davidson Hepburn (Bahamas)
 - 36th session (Paris, 2011) – chaired by Katalin Bogyay (Hungary)
 - 37th session (Paris, 2013) - chaired by Hao Ping (China)

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Offices

UNESCO has offices in many locations across the globe; its headquarters are located at Place de Fontenoy in Paris, France, now called the World Heritage Centre.^[68]

UNESCO's field offices are categorized into four primary office types based upon their function and geographic coverage: cluster offices, national offices, regional bureaux and liaison offices.

Field offices by region

The following list of all UNESCO Field Offices is organized geographically by UNESCO Region and identifies the members states and associate members of UNESCO which are served by each office.^[69]

Africa

- Abuja – National Office to Nigeria
- Accra – Cluster Office for Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo
- Addis Ababa – Liaison Office with the African Union and with the Economic Commission for Africa
- Bamako – Cluster Office for Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali and Niger
- Brazzaville – National Office to the Republic of the Congo
- Bujumbura – National Office to Burundi
- Dakar – Regional Bureau for Education in Africa and Cluster Office for Cape Verde, Gambia,

Guinea-Bissau, and Senegal

- Dar es Salaam – Cluster Office for Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Tanzania
- Harare – Cluster Office for Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe
- Kinshasa – National Office to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Libreville – Cluster Office for the Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Sao Tome and Principe
- Maputo – National Office to Mozambique
- Nairobi – Regional Bureau for Sciences in Africa and Cluster Office for Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda
- Windhoek – National Office to Namibia
- Yaoundé – Cluster Office to Cameroon, Central African Republic and Chad

Arab States

- Iraq – National Office for Iraq (currently located in Amman, Jordan)
- Amman – National Office to Jordan
- Beirut – Regional Bureau for Education in the Arab States and Cluster Office to Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Palestine
- Cairo – Regional Bureau for Sciences in the Arab States and Cluster Office for Egypt, Libya and Sudan
- Doha – Cluster Office to Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen
- Khartoum – National Office to Sudan
- Rabat – Cluster Office to Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia

Asia and Pacific

See also: UNESCO Asia Pacific Heritage Awards

- Almaty – Cluster Office to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
- Apia – Cluster Office to Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Tokelau (Associate Member)
- Bangkok – Regional Bureau for Education in Asia and the Pacific and Cluster Office to Thailand, Burma, Laos, Singapore, Vietnam and Cambodia
- Beijing – Cluster Office to North Korea, Japan, Mongolia, the People's Republic of China and South Korea
- Dhaka – National Office to Bangladesh
- Hanoi – National Office to Vietnam
- Islamabad – National Office to Pakistan
- Jakarta – Regional Bureau for Sciences in Asia and the Pacific and Cluster Office to Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and East Timor
- Kabul – National Office to Afghanistan
- Kathmandu – National Office to Nepal
- New Delhi – Cluster Office to Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka
- Phnom Penh – National Office to Cambodia
- Tashkent – National Office to Uzbekistan
- Tehran – Cluster Office to Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Turkmenistan

Europe and North America

- Brussels – Liaison Office to the European Union and its subsidiary bodies in Brussels
- Geneva – Liaison Office to the United Nations in Geneva
- New York City – Liaison Office to the United Nations in New York
- Moscow – Cluster Office to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Moldova and Russia
- Venice – Regional Bureau for Sciences and Culture in Europe and North America

Latin America and the Caribbean

- Brasilia – National Office to Brazil
- Guatemala City – National Office to Guatemala
- Havana – Regional Bureau for Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean and Cluster Office to Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti and Aruba
- Kingston – Cluster Office to Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago as well as the associate member states of British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curaçao and Sint Maarten
- Lima – National Office to Peru
- Mexico City – National Office to Mexico
- Montevideo – Regional Bureau for Sciences in Latin America and the Caribbean and Cluster Office to Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay
- Port-au-Prince – National Office to Haiti
- Quito – Cluster Office to Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela
- San José – Cluster Office to Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama
- Santiago de Chile – Regional Bureau for Education in Latin America and the Caribbean and National Office to Chile

Controversy and reform

New World Information and Communication order

UNESCO has been the centre of controversy in the past, particularly in its relationships with the United States, the United Kingdom, Singapore and the former Soviet Union. During the 1970s and 1980s, UNESCO's support for a "New World Information and Communication Order" and its MacBride report calling for democratization of the media and more egalitarian access to information was condemned in these countries as attempts to curb freedom of the press. UNESCO was perceived by some^[70] as a platform for communists and Third World dictators to attack the West, a stark contrast to accusations made by the USSR in the late 1940s and early 1950s.^[71] In 1984, the United States withheld its contributions and withdrew from the organization in protest, followed by the United Kingdom in 1985. Singapore took the opportunity to withdraw also at the end of 1985, citing rising membership fees.^[72] Following a change of government in 1997, the UK rejoined. The United States rejoined in 2003, followed by Singapore on 8 October 2007.

Israel

Israel was admitted to UNESCO in 1949, one year after its creation. In 1974, UNESCO stripped Israel of its membership on the grounds of alleged damage being done by Israel's archaeological excavations on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. UNESCO defended this decision with two statements in 1974 and 1975, but

renewed Israel's membership in 1977, after the United States threatened to withhold \$40 million of funding from the organization.^[73]

In 2010, Israel designated the Cave of the Patriarchs, Hebron and Rachel's Tomb, Bethlehem as National Heritage Sites and announced restoration work, prompting criticism from the United States and protests from Palestinians.^[74] In October 2010, UNESCO's Executive Board voted to declare the sites as "al-Haram al-Ibrahimi/Tomb of the Patriarchs" and "Bilal bin Rabah Mosque/Rachel's Tomb" and stated that they were "an integral part of the occupied Palestinian Territories" and any unilateral Israeli action was a violation of international law.^[75] UNESCO described the sites as significant to "people of the Muslim, Christian and Jewish traditions", and accused Israel of highlighting only the Jewish character of the sites.^[76] Israel in turn accused UNESCO of "detach[ing] the Nation of Israel from its heritage", and accused it of being politically motivated.^[77] The Rabbi of the Western Wall claimed that Rachel's tomb had not previously been declared a holy Muslim site.^[78] Israel partially suspended ties with UNESCO. Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Danny Ayalon declared that the resolution was a "part of Palestinian escalation". Zevulun Orlev, chairman of the Knesset Education and Culture Committee, referred to the resolutions as an attempt to undermine the mission of UNESCO as a scientific and cultural organization that promotes cooperation throughout the world.^{[79][80]}

On 28 June 2011, UNESCO's World Heritage Committee, at Jordan's insistence, censured Israel's decision to demolish and rebuild the Mughrabi Gate Bridge in Jerusalem for safety reasons. Israel stated that Jordan had signed an agreement with Israel stipulating that the existing bridge must be razed for safety reasons; Jordan disputed the agreement, saying it was only signed under U.S. pressure. Israel was also unable to address the UNESCO committee over objections from Egypt.^[81]

In January 2014, days before it was scheduled to open, UNESCO Director-General, Irina Bokova, "indefinitely postponed" and effectively cancelled an exhibit created by the Simon Wiesenthal Center entitled, "The People, The Book, the Land: The 3,500-year relationship between the Jewish people and the land of Israel." The event was scheduled to run from January 21 through January 30 in Paris. Bokova cancelled the event after representatives of Arab states at UNESCO argued that its display would "harm the peace process".^[82] The author of the exhibition, Professor Robert Wistrich of the Hebrew University's Vidal Sassoon International Center for the Study of Anti-Semitism, called the cancellation an "appalling act," and characterized Bukova's decision as "an arbitrary act of total cynicism and, really, contempt for the Jewish people and its history."^[83]

Palestinian Authority

Palestinian Youth Magazine controversy

In February 2011, an article was published in a Palestinian youth magazine in which a teenage girl described one of her four role-models as Adolf Hitler. In December 2011, UNESCO, which partly funded the magazine, condemned the material and subsequently withdrew support.^[84]

Islamic University of Gaza controversy

In 2012, UNESCO decided to establish a chair at the Islamic University of Gaza in the field of astronomy, astrophysics, and space sciences,^[85] fueling much controversy and criticism. Israel's foreign ministry expressed shock and criticized the move, and stated that the university supports Hamas (which Israel and other countries designate as a terrorist organization) and houses bomb laboratories for Hamas. The ministry called the university "a known greenhouse and breeding ground for Hamas terrorist".^[86]

The university has been linked to Hamas in the past. However, the university head, Kamalain Shaath,

Doc ID: 6671635
defended UNESCO, stating that "the Islamic University is a purely academic university that is interested only in education and its development".^{[87][88][89]} Israeli ambassador to UNESCO Nimrod Barkan planned to submit a letter of protest with information about the university's ties to Hamas, especially angry that this was the first Palestinian university that UNESCO chose to cooperate with. A senior foreign ministry official stated: "Before UNESCO gave a chair to the Technion and the Interdisciplinary Center [institutions in Haifa and Herzliya, respectively] they checked things with a magnifying glass. In Gaza no one checked."^[90] The Jewish organization B'nai B'rith criticized the move as well. B'nai B'rith international president Allan Jacobs said: "To so strongly associate an organization meant to promote peaceful goals with a terrorist organization is yet another contributor to the world body's tarnished reputation in the international community."^[91]

Wikileaks

On February 16 and 17 of 2012 UNESCO held a conference entitled, "The Media World after WikiLeaks and News of the World."^[92] Despite all six panels being focused on WikiLeaks, no member of WikiLeaks staff were invited to speak. After receiving a complaint from WikiLeaks spokesman Kristinn Hrafnsson, UNESCO invited him to attend, but did not offer a place on any panels.^[93] The offer also came only a week before the conference, which was held in Paris, France. Many of the speakers featured, including David Leigh and Heather Brooke, had spoken out openly against WikiLeaks and its founder Julian Assange in the past.^{[94][95]} WikiLeaks released a press statement on February 15, 2012 denouncing UNESCO which stated, "UNESCO has made itself an international human rights joke. To use "freedom of expression" to censor WikiLeaks from a conference about WikiLeaks is an Orwellian absurdity beyond words. This is an intolerable abuse of UNESCO's Constitution. It's time to occupy UNESCO."^[96] Included in the statement were the emails sent between WikiLeaks spokesman Kristinn Hrafnsson and organizers of the UNESCO conference.

Products or services

- IDAMS – proprietary software package for processing and analysing numerical data developed, maintained and disseminated by UNESCO.

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