

Luxemburger Wort

Hackers' appeal to government

Should Luxembourg offer asylum to Snowden & Assange?

Published on Wednesday, 20 August, 2014 at 07:39



Julian Assange (left) and Edward Snowden (right)

Photo: LW archive

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A Luxembourg computer hacking group has called on the Luxembourg government to offer asylum to WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange and whistleblower Edward Snowden.

In an open letter, the Chaos Computer Club (C3L) said that such an invitation would be a “long overdue” political action.

“Both (Assange and Snowden) have taken significant risks and consequences around the world to expose the intentions of power-hungry institutions and demonstrate their activities. Threats, lawsuits and denunciations were the responses of the States concerned; and only very little attention from those who could provide political and institutional changes.”

The letter referred to C3L's "Freedom Not Fear" initiative, on which a round table discussion was held with all Luxembourg political party representatives, excluding the ADR and PID.

Fugitives

Edward Snowden became a fugitive after he leaked thousands of classified documents to the press while working as an NSA contractor, later described as the most significant leak in US history.

He was granted one-year asylum in Russia, which has been extended for three year.

Julian Assange sought refuge at the Embassy of Ecuador in London in 2012 after facing extradition to Sweden following allegations of sexual offences, which he denies.

He fears extradition to Sweden could lead to him being transferred to the US to face trial over WikiLeaks' publication of classified US military and diplomatic documents.

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