IWOSI Project: OSI (6)

"WIKILEAKS" OPEN SOURCES INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Group 5
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IWOSI: Information Warfare, Cyber Warfare and Open Sources Intelligence: An Interdisciplinary Approach

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Management Summary

This report details the IWOSI open sources intelligence project conducted by an international team of analysts during a timespan of three days. Its goal was to verify whether Wikileaks is "real" (read: independent and trustworthy) as well as to glean a detailed biography of its founder Julian Assange.

The investigation grounded on three pillars: a general approach investigating the organization, its stakeholders (supporters and enemies alike) and its publications and consequences thereof.

A total of 21 source clusters (researched topics) were pieced together in order to answer the sub-questions listed below, detailing relationships, past and current political issues and the inner workings of Wikileaks.

While the main question was successfully answered, another question ultimately arose: Has Wikleaks become a new battleground in today's cyberwar?

Requirements

Customer Requirements

The customer requests an answer to the question: "Is Wikileaks real?" – as well as a verified biography of its figurehead Julian Assange.

Project milestones:
- Apr. 24, 2012: Project start
- Apr. 27, 2012: Deadline for report completion
- Apr. 28, 2012: Dissemination and end of project

Requirements Analysis

The primary goal is to shed some light on Wikileaks' background and determine whether or not its information and motivation can be trusted. The long version of the customer's question could be:

"Is Wikileaks an independent and objective media outlet for sensitive information or is there some ulterior motive or unknown party involved in its activities?"

This in mind, the customer's main question can be split into several parts:
- What is Wikileaks and how does it operate?
    - What has been published so far?
    - How is Wikieaks organized and structured?
- Who are the people behind Wikileaks?
    - Who is Julian Assange?
    - Who are Wikileaks' partners, supporters and enemies?
- What does Wikileaks hope to achieve by releasing the information it frequently publishes?
    - Is there a certain political direction or alignment?
    - What were the consequences of some of the releases?
- Is Wikileaks an independent organization or does a second party pull its strings?
    - See: people behind Wikileaks, political alignment → requires data findings analysis
- Is the released information real or has it been manipulated to achieve certain ends?

o External verification for some of the releases
o Is Wikileaks being used by "shadow" sources; i.e. is it deliberately used as outlet for potentially harmful information?

The following approaches to achieving the objectives have been identified:
- **Organization approach**: OSINT sources will be utilized to find information about the Wikileaks organization itself by focusing on media reports and literature and classic web searches. This approach is likely to be the least complex one; several potentially trustworthy sources might have researched Wikileaks before.
- **Stakeholder approach**: Since Wikileaks, like every NGO or company, is comprised of people (employees), this approach focuses on the people behind the organization. All available OSINT sources will be used to acquire information about the people operating the whistleblower site. Their background should offer insight into the organization's background.
  - **Assange Approach**: Wikileaks' figurehead, Julian Assange, is a key player in the organization's operations and can be considered its leader. While his strong media presence might be an intended distraction, his background is still very relevant to answering the key question. Additionally, his biography has to be retrieved one way or another.
  - **External Factors Approach**: Partners, collaborators as well as enemies of Wikileaks can provide insight into the organization and may answer the question whether it is influenced by a second party or tries to achieve some specific political goals.
- **Publication approach**: Wikileaks defines itself through the anonymized publication of sensitive information. If several major releases can be identified as valid and accurate, it would be a strong indication that the organization itself is real. It is not feasible to attempt to determine the original submitter through analysis of the documents itself; verifying the accuracy of the information is, though.
  - **Alignment Analysis**: The nature of the publications could give us insight into the organization's political alignment and bias, which might be indicative of ties to other organizations potentially pulling Wikileaks' strings.

The following **open sources** will be used (OSINT information sources in general):
- Internet searches
  - Common search engines: e.g. google.com, bing.com
- Literature and directories (examples)
  - Open Directory: http://www.dmoz.org/
  - BUBL catalogue of internet resources: http://bubl.ac.uk/link/
  - WWW Virtual library: http://vlib.org/
  - Digital Librarian: http://digital-librarian.com/
  - EiNET: http://www.einet.net/
- Scientific publications
  - Scientific search engines (such as Google Scholar): http://scholar.google.com, as well as others listed here:

> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_academic_databases_and_search_engines

- Speeches, interviews, briefings
  - News outlets, blogs

External research and commercial services will not be utilized for financial reasons – this OSINT project does not have any monetary funds at its disposal.

Source verification will be achieved through cross-referencing all findings in order to find at least three other sources that corroborate the specific source.

Data Collection

Collection Management

For each relevant finding, the **navigation path** will be stored in a text file. This includes the search text and any link that might have been used before accessing the specific piece of information. For **validation**, the URLs of alternative sources will be stored as well – once three sources have been found, the source can be considered verified.

Since the intelligence topic does not directly involve current research or overly time sensitive material, the age (date) of a source will not be considered as exclusion criterion.

Source **credibility** is an internal measure of how much our analysts trust a source – for example, an anonymous blog will score lower than a scientific paper. Credibility levels are:

- High (e.g. scientific paper, literature)
- Medium (e.g. national news outlets, Wikipedia)
- Low (various (internet) sources, Wikileaks itself)

Prime sources are sources with at least medium creditability, an author (not anonymous; Wikipedia excepted) as well as full verification through other sources.

All relevant sources will be stored in the following format:

Source no.	<unique number>
Source name	Unique identifier of source topic
Source address	http://www.source.src
Credibility	Credibility level as explained above
Author	Author, if applicable
Navigation path	• sites navigated before locating the source
Validation thru	Sources verifying the original information
Prime source	Yes/No
Contents	Description of source contents and further information

Next to the sources, we aim to identify **experts** of the Wikileaks topic: here, name and contact information will be collected. If time permits, additional information will be requested from these experts.

Sources and Validation

The following relevant sources (also compound sources about specific topics) have been identified (keep in mind that this is merely a topical overview list; the final information gleaned from these sources will be disseminated in the next section).

Organization Approach

Source no.	**1**
Source name	**WikiLeaks: Advisory Board**
Source address	http://wikileaks.org/wiki/WikiLeaks:Advisory_Board
Credibility	Medium
Author	Wikieaks
Navigation path	• www.google.com, search: "Wikileaks advısory board" • target site
Validation thru	http://www.zoominfo.com/#!search/profile/person?personId=1197013 728&targetid=profile\ http://www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?aid=22437&context=va http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/wikileaks-advisory-board-pretty-clearly-window-dressing/story-e6frg6nf-1225967895242 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wang_Dan http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben_Laurie http://www.lamentiraoficial.comze.com/?p=584 http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tashi_Namgyal_Khamsitsang http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chico_Whitaker http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wang_Youcai http://wakeupcallfortruthseekers.wordpress.com/2010/12/27/who%E 2%80%99s-who-at-wikileaks/ http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/wikileaks-advisory-board-pretty-clearly-window-dressing/story-e6frg6nf-1225967895242 http://noticias.r7.com/blogs/andre-forastieri/2010/12/17/wikileaks-chico-whitaker-fala/
Additional sources	http://5election.com/2010/01/18/wikileaks-cerca-seicentomila-dollari-con-urgenza/ http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2010/04/wikileaks-julian-assange-iraq-video?page=2 (Ben Laurie – denies membership) http://noticias.r7.com/blogs/andre-forastieri/2010/12/17/wikileaks-chico-whitaker-fala/ (Chico Whitacker – denies membership)
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Advisory board of Wikileaks: validating and contradicting information

Source no.	2
Source name	**Wikileaks part of U.S. Cyberwar?** CIA, Mossad and Soros behind Wikileaks (Pakistan Daily)
Source address	http://www.daily.pk/cia-mossad-and-soros-behind-wikileaks-19280/
Credibility	Med
Author	W. Madsen, Pakistan Daily

Navigation path	• Via Google;
	• News Agencies:
	   o Pakistan Daily
	   o Fars News Agency (Iran)
	   o The Telegraph
	       ▪ *"No wonder Iran thinks it's a plot; I wonder if other countries agree. I wouldn't be surprised."*
	   o WeeklyIntercept

Validation thru	http://english.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=8909091183 http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/richardspencer/100065816/is-wikileaks-a-front-for-the-cia-or-mossad/ http://weeklyintercept.blogspot.com/2010/07/cia-mossad-and-soros-behind-wikileaks.html
Additional sources	
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Concluding: There are a lot of conspiracy theories going around in the Middle-East, including China. Their official news agencies report/claim that Wikileaks is part of the cyberwar lead by the CIA against the East. Since these statements mentioned above are only confirmed by the East, it's still the question if it really is part of the U.S. Cyberwarfare program.

Source no.	3
Source name	**Julian Assange: Biography**
Source address	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julian_Assange
Credibility	Medium
Author	Wikipedia/anonymous
Navigation path	• www.google.com, search: "Julian Assange biography" • target site
Validation thru	http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,2006496,00.html http://www.infoplease.com/biography/var/julianassange.html http://www.biography.com/people/julian-assange-20688499 http://www.themonthly.com.au/julian-assange-cypherpunk-revolutionary-robert-manne-3081 http://www.goldcoast.com.au/article/2010/12/01/274161_gold-coast-news.html http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/LawCite?cit=%5b1997%5d%202%20VR%20247 http://cryptome.org/0003/assange-manne.htm http://persona.rin.ru/eng/view/f/0/37883/julian-assange Book "Julian Assange: WikiLeaks Founder" by Melissa Higgins (ISBN 9781617876639), 2012
Additional sources	http://www.alternet.org/world/151655/julian_assange's_proud_father%3A_my_son_has_'immense_desire_for_justice_in_the_world'/ http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2011/09/22/julian-assange-the-unauthorized-version-speed-read.html http://www.theage.com.au/world/the-truth-leaks-out-20100409-ryqo.html?skin=text-only http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/wikileaks/9150013/WikiLeaks-founder-Julian-Assange-to-run-for-Australian-Senate.html
Prime source	Yes
Contents	General biography of Julian Assange (see "Analysis") or parts thereof. Complete biography was assembled through these sources.

Stakeholder Approach: External Factors

Source no.	4
Source name	**WikiLeaks Enemies / Peter King**
Source address	http://news.cnet.com/8301-13578_3-20023941-38.html
Credibility	Medium
Author	Declan McCullagh
Navigation path	• www.google.com, search: "wikileaks enemies" • subsequent searches for "person name" + "wikileaks" • target sites
Validation thru	http://articles.nydailynews.com/2010-11-28/news/27082693_1_air-strikes-arab-leaders-wikileaks http://www.observer.com/2010/11/peter-king-on-why-wikileaks-should-be-declared-a-terrorist-organization-video/ http://www.cbsnews.com/2100-250_162-7098919.html http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lWTX-KXutG0
Additional sources	
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Peter King, U.S. Congressman (vocal about Wikileaks, demanding to brand Assange a terrorist)

Source no.	5
Source name	**WikiLeaks Enemies / Corporate**
Source address	http://www.nytimes.com/2010/12/09/world/09wiki.html
Credibility	Medium
Author	John F. Burns
Navigation path	• www.google.com, search: "wikileaks enemies" • subsequent searches for "person name" + "wikileaks" • target sites
Validation thru	http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/wikileaks/8190972/WikiLeaks-enemies-targeted-by-hackers.html http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2010/12/08/wikileaks-supporters-launch-hack-attacks/ http://www.infowars.com/shadowy-hacker-group-targets-enemies-of-wikileaks/ http://www.kavkazcenter.com/eng/content/2010/12/09/13111.shtml
Additional sources	
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Several organizations that can be considered enemies; some have later been hacked: Mastercard, Visa, PayPal, PostFinance, Aklagare, Amazon, EveryDNS, Twitter, Facebook

Source no.	6
Source name	**WikiLeaks Enemies / Newspapers**
Source address	http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2011/09/22/julian-assange-the-unauthorized-version-speed-read.html
Credibility	Medium
Author	Mike Giglio
Navigation path	• www.google.com, search: "wikileaks enemies" • subsequent searches for "person name" + "wikileaks" • target sites
Validation thru	http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/29/AR2010112905421.html 3a. http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/24/world/24assange.html?_r=1
Additional sources	Book (Inside WikiLeaks: my time with Julian Assange at the world's most dangerous website), ISBN: 9781921844058
Prime source	Yes
Contents	The Guardian (Nick Davies), New York Times (Bill Keller) (former publishing partners, NYT later spurned by Wikileaks after hard-hitting article (3a) but Guardian leaked it to them)

Source no.	7
Source name	**WikiLeaks Enemies / Sarah Palin**
Source address	http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/wikileaks/8171269/Sarah-Palin-hunt-WikiLeaks-founder-like-al-Qaeda-and-Taliban-leaders.html
Credibility	Medium
Author	Martin Beckford
Navigation path	• www.google.com, search: "wikileaks enemies" • subsequent searches for "person name" + "wikileaks" • target sites
Validation thru	http://www.golem.de/1012/79848.html http://derstandard.at/1291454702490/Operation-Payback-Sarah-Palin-verglich-Wikileaks-Gruender-mit-Taliban-Fuehrer http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1334341/WikiLeaks-Sarah-Palin-demands-Julian-Assange-hunted-like-Al-Qaeda-terrorist.html http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/7624809.stm
Additional sources	
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Sarah Palin, Governor of Alaska (bearing a grudge, since her e-mail account was hacked)

Source no.	8
Source name	**WikiLeaks Enemies / Daniel Domscheit-Berg**
Source address	http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,719619,00.html
Credibility	Medium
Author	Marcel Rosenbach (interviewer)
Navigation path	• www.google.com, search: "wikileaks enemies" • subsequent searches for "person name" + "wikileaks" • target sites
Validation thru	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daniel_Domscheit-Berg http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,719619,00.html http://www.aolnews.com/2010/12/10/former-wikileaks-employee-to-publish-tell-all-book/ http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/world/wikileaks-defector-daniel-domscheit-berg-reveals-julian-assanges-siege-mentality/story-e6frg6so-1225930625424
Additional sources	
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Daniel Domscheit-Berg (former Wikileaks spokesperson, founder of OpenLeaks; in dispute over book "Inside WikiLeaks: my time with Julian Assange at the world's most dangerous website")

Source no.	9
Source name	**WikiLeaks Enemies / Geof Morrell**
Source address	http://www.salon.com/2011/03/04/morrell/
Credibility	Medium
Author	Glenn Greenwald
Navigation path	• www.google.com, search: "wikileaks enemies" • subsequent searches for "person name" + "wikileaks" • target sites
Validation thru	http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/aug/06/wikileaks-pressure-pentagon-military-files http://www.mediaite.com/online/pentagon-spokesman-sarcastically-thanks-wikileaks-for-ruining-his-easter-weekend/ http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y8xMD2xP63Y http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geoff_S._Morrell
Additional sources	
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Pentagon through spokesperson Geoff Morrell (Pressure on Wikileaks and dissuasion of whistleblowers)

Additional information concerning the State Department's response:
http://bizcloudnetwork.com/state-department-warns-students-not-to-discuss-wikileaks-on-social-networks

U.S. Department of State (see "additional sources") can be considered one of the most vocal opponents of Wikileaks - we can also conclude that all "victims" of leaks can be considered enemies of the organization.

Source no.	10
Source name	George Soros funding Wikileaks?
Source address	http://video.foxnews.com/v/4417299/beck-exposes-george-soros-puppet-show
Credibility	Low - Med
Author	Glenn Beck, Fox News
Navigation path	• Via Google; • News Agencies (FOX)
Validation thru	http://sorosfiles.com/soros/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Trevor-Loudon-Assange.pdf http://articles.businessinsider.com/2010-12-02/entertainment/30020303_1_george-soros-wikileaks-open-society http://sorosfiles.com/soros/2012/02/media-partners-in-crime-with-wikileaks.html
Prime source	No
Contents	Concluding: There are several reports suggesting that George Soros is funding Wikileaks, but none of them has be confirmed yet according to 'Validation thru'- sources. Glenn Beck from Fox News is trying to find out relations between George Soros and Wikileaks. He claims: *"Soros knows what the Wikileaks Operation is."* But so far, no Soros' part in Wikileaks has not been confirmed yet.

Source no.	11
Source name	**WikiLeaks supporters - Anonymous**
Source address	http://mashable.com/2012/02/27/wikileaks-anonymous/
Credibility	Med
Author	Alex Fitzpatrick
Navigation path	• Google; 'wikileaks + anonymous'
Validation thru	• http://sorosfiles.com/soros/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Trevor-Loudon-Assange.pdf http://sorosfiles.com/soros/2012/02/media-partners-in-crime-with-wikileaks.html • http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2012/02/wikileaks-anonymous-partners/ • http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-11935539
Additional sources	•
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Concluding: There are several reports suggesting Anonymous is supporting WikiLeaks and give them sensitive data that the obtained by hacking.

Source no.	12
Source name	**WikiLeaks supporters - Le Monde, El Pais, The Guardian, The Times and Der Spiegel**
Source address	
Credibility	Med
Author	Alex Fitzpatrick
Navigation path	• Google; 'wikileaks + partners'
Validation thru	• http://sorosfiles.com/soros/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Trevor-Loudon-Assange.pdf http://www.nytimes.com/opensecrets/ • http://www.todayszaman.com/newsDetail_getNewsById.action?load=detay&newsId=228687&link=228687 • http://www.thestar.com/news/world/article/901051--release-of-cables-shows-collaboration-between-wikileaks-media • http://www.imediaethics.org/index.php?option=com_news&task=detail&id=1112
Additional sources	•
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Concluding: several sources that WikiLeaks exchanges files with some big newspapers. We don't very know if it's a temporally 'connection' or it has been there already a log time

Source no.	13
Source name	**WikiLeaks supporters - Daniel Ellsberg**
Source address	http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/07/30/AR2010073002673.html
Credibility	Med
Author	outlook (washpost)
Navigation path	• Google; wikileaks supporter
Validation thru	• http://sorosfiles.com/soros/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Trevor-Loudon-Assange.pdf •
Additional sources	• http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/07/30/AR2010073002673.html • http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/video/daniel-ellsberg-pentagon-papers-9820179 • http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/24/world/24london.html • http://www.forbes.com/sites/andygreenberg/2010/12/03/daniel-ellsberg-calls-for-leaks-from-amazon-on-wikileaks-snub/
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Daniel Ellsberg is a good supporter of Wikileaks, he is the one who gave them the Pentagon Files

George Soros biography sources:

1. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Soros
2. http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/2003-11-23/news/0311220187_1_george-soros-oust-bush-democratic-party
3. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_Society_Institute
4. http://www.georgesoros.com/faqs/entry/georgesorosinvolvementinpolitics
5. Waldemar A. Nielsen *Inside American Philanthropy: The Dramas of Donorship*, University of Oklahoma Press, 1996, p.77

Source no.	14
Source name	**List of Wikileaks releases and people/parties involved**
Source address	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information_published_by_WikiLeaks
Credibility	Medium
Author	Wikipedia/anonymous
Navigation path	• www.google.com, search: "list of wikileaks releases" • target site
Validation thru	www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-11914040 → individual web searches about each release; full list not included for space and time reasons (it can be considered verified)
Prime source	Yes
Contents	List of all Wikileaks releases since its founding in 2006: See list in next section.

Source no.	15
Source name	**Global Intelligence Files Wikileaks release**
Source address	wikileaks.org/the-gifiles.html
Credibility	Low
Author	Wikileaks
Navigation path	• Via Google; • Wikipedia list of Wikileaks releases • Wikileaks
Validation thru	• http://www.forbes.com/sites/andygreenberg/2012/02/27/leak-check-stratfors-ceo-hasnt-resigned-after-wikileaks-release/
Additional sources	• wikileaks.org/gifiles/releases.html
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Contains information about the releases on the Global Intelligence Files, which consists of 5 million emails e-mails from Stratfor intelligence agency, showing their "modus operandi", targets and government clients. Since this is a relatively recent release, few consequences were evidenced.

Source no.	16
Source name	**Diplomatic cables release**
Source address	1-www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-11914040
Credibility	Medium
Author	1 – BBC News
Navigation path	Via Google; Wikipedia list of Wikileaks releases Diplomatic cables release www.google.com, search: "Diplomatic cables release" www.google.com, search: "Diplomatic cables release Consequences"
Validation thru	1http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/21/world/middleeast/after-disclosures-by-wikileaks-al-jazeera-replaces-its-top-news-director.html 2- www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-11918573 3- www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-11914040 4-www.cpj.org/2011/09/ethiopian-journalist-idd-in-wikileaks-cable-flees.php
Additional sources	1-http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2011/01/25/whispering_at_autocrats?page=0,0 2-www.guardian.co.uk/media/2011/feb/02/wikileaks-exclusive-book-extract
Prime source	No
Contents	Contains information about the releases on the Diplomatic cables release, which consists of key revelations and quotes from Wikileaks' release of thousands of US embassy cables and the respective consequences.

Source no.	17
Source name	**Kaupthing Bank**
Source address	http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/financialcrisis/5973630/SFO-intensifies-Icelandic-banking-inquiry-after-Kaupthing-leak.html
Credibility	Medium
Author	Rowena Mason
Navigation path	Via Google; Wikipedia list of Wikileaks releases Kaupthing Bank www.google.com, search: "Kaupthing Bank" www.google.com, search: "Kaupthing Bank Consequences"
Validation thru	1- news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/8665880.stm 2-wikileaks.org/wiki/Kaupthing_Leaks_Expose_Unusual_Lending_Practices 3- wlstorage.net/file/kaupthing-wikileaks-threat1-2009.txt
Prime source	No
Contents	Contains information about the releases on the Kaupthing Bank, and its unusual lending practices, which we believed that led to bankruptcy. The Wikileaks releases were prior to the Iceland Financial collapse.

Source no.	**18**
Source name	**Daniel arap Moi family corruption**
Source address	www.guardian.co.uk/world/2007/aug/31/kenya.topstories3
Credibility	Medium
Author	Xan Rice
Navigation path	Via Google; Wikipedia list of Wikileaks releases • www.google.com, search:"Kenya elections" • www.google.com, search:"Kenya elections consequences"
Validation thru	1- http://habarizanyumbani.jambonewspot.com/2010/07/26/wikileaks-founder-on-kenya-corruption-and-more/ 2- allafrica.com/stories/201012060050.html 3- allafrica.com/stories/201103020440.html
Prime source	No
Contents	Contains information about the releases on the Daniel arap Moi family corruption in Kenya, the leaks were released before the elections, and due to the releases, the TV discussed the report for almost twenty consecutive day, which actually led to a change in the polls. Actually Wikileaks claims that they changed the result.

Source no.	**19**
Source name	**Wikileaks releases approved by Department of State and censored by media**
Source address	http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y6isk_4xsC8
Credibility	Low
Author	Dave Koss (http://www.kossome.com/) for unknown party
Navigation path	• www.google.com, search: "how wikileaks works" • www.youtube.com • target site
Validation thru	http://www.pakalertpress.com/2010/12/04/shocker-us-state-department-%E2%80%98cleared%E2%80%99-the-release-of-wikileaks-documents-published-so-far/ http://www.whale.to/b/wikileaks_conspiracy.html →(insufficient trusted verification sources)
Prime source	No
Contents	Independence of Wikileaks put into question by information stating that its releases have been or have to be approved by the US State Department (unconfirmed)

Source no.	20
Source name	**Attempted post-release censorship of diplomatic cables by State Department**
Source address	http://dissenter.firedoglake.com/2011/12/08/state-department-releases-11-wikileaks-cables%E2%80%94with-redactions/
Credibility	Medium
Author	Dave Koss (http://www.kossome.com/) for unknown party
Navigation path	• www.google.com, search: "how wikileaks works" • www.youtube.com • target site
Validation thru	http://www.ufppc.org/us-a-world-news-mainmenu-35/10734-news-absurdly-us-releases-redacted-versions-of-publicly-available-cables.html http://www.aclu.org/blog/national-security/secrecy-without-sense-state-department-censors-cables-already-published http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-14765837 http://www.schneier.com/blog/archives/2012/03/state_departmen_1.html
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Censorship attempts after full disclosure (confirmed)

Source no.	21
Source name	**Wikileaks offering to accept censorship/redaction before release**
Source address	http://www.indexoncensorship.org/2010/11/wikileaks-and-state-department-correspondence/ (3 Mails)
Credibility	Medium
Author	Dave Koss (http://www.kossome.com/) for unknown party
Navigation path	• www.google.com, search: "how wikileaks works" • www.youtube.com • target site
Validation thru	http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704700204575642870263106444.html http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GY2h1GMrEi8 http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2010/11/28/state_department_refuses_to_negotiate_with_wikileaks http://web.cs.wpi.edu/~hofri/Readings/NYTonWikiLeaks.pdf http://nymag.com/daily/intel/2011/01/bill_keller_colluding_with_wik.html http://techcrunch.com/2011/01/30/bill-keller-vs-wikileaks-goodnight-julian-assange-and-bad-luck/
Prime source	Yes
Contents	Wikileaks offer to accept certain censorship/redactions for source safety's sake (confirmed)

The following **experts** on the Wikileaks topic have been identified:

Name/Photo	Suelette Dreyfus
	Technology journalist and researcher, University of Melbourne Wikileaks advisory board
Contact info	suelette@unimelb.edu.au Phone: +61 38 8344 1539
Relevance	Author of "Underground: Hacking, Madness and Obsession on the Electronic Frontier", which Assange contributed to Friend of Julian Assange, acquaintance from his earlier hacking days Specialist in online sabotage

Name/Photo	Michael Ratner
	Attourney, President Emeritus of the Center of Constitutional Rights
Contact info	via Center of Constitutional Rights: http://ccrjustice.org/contact
Relevance	Questioning Wikileaks' independence: "In the recent disclosure, Wikileaks has only posted cables that were reviewed by the news organisations and in some cases redacted. The news organisations showed them to the Pentagon and agreed to some of the government's suggested redactions."

Name/Photo	Bill Keller
	Columnist and former executive editor, New York Times
Contact info	http://twitter.com/#!/nytkeller via http://topics.nytimes.com/top/opinion/editorialsandoped/oped/columnists/billkeller/index.html (Mail link)
Relevance	Former media partner of Julian Assange, together The Guardian and Der Spiegel and later vocal enemy of the organization. Author of "Dealing With Assange and the WikiLeaks Secrets" (2011) found at: http://web.cs.wpi.edu/~hofri/Readings/NYTonWikiLeaks.pdf

Additional include Scott Shane (New York Times) and several former insiders.

Analysis and Findings

This section contains the analysis of all validated information as well as the intelligence team's attempt to answer the posed questions. It is structured by the approaches listed in the Requirements Analysis chapter.

Wikileaks at a Glance

WikiLeaks is an Open Source Intelligence (OSI) website that leaks thousands of files that are rated classified/secret. The documents are always anonymously obtained and verified before they are released to the public. Wikileaks was founded in 2006 by the Australian journalist Julian Assange, who is considered a hero by many, and a severe threat by others (the U.S. government being most vocal about it). Some people even demand him being dubbed a terrorist. Assange allegedly started WikiLeaks because he wanted "total freedom of information", granting every citizen the right to know the truth about wide variety of topics.

Despite ongoing financial trouble, the website still exists but is in permanent conflict with the authorities.

Julian Assange

Biography

By using the information of source no. 1, Julian Assange's biography has been successfully assembled. Find the key information below:

- July 3, 1971: Born (Townsville, Queensland, AU) to Christine Ann Hawkins and John Shipton (later stepfather: Brett Assange)
- 1979-1983: Goolmangar Primary School
- Several relocations (30+ in total)
- 1987: Start of hacking career under the alias "Mendax", as part of the group "International Subversives" together with two other hackers
- 1988/1989: Marriage to Teresa, son Daniel
- 1991: Discovered hacking "Nortel"; followed by surveillance and home raid by Austrialian Police, split-up with wife, child custody struggle until 1999.
- 1993: Founding of ISP "Suburbia Public Access Network"
- 1994: Hacking cases brought to court (31 cases total) → 25 guilty/6 dropped: resulting in a 2.100AU$ fine. See LawCite files from 1996 (see source listing)
- 2002-2005: University of Melbourne, physics, mathematics and briefly philosophy and neuroscience (did not graduate)
- 2006: Founding of Wikileaks
- 2007: Moved residence to Kenya
- 2009: Media award from Amnesty International for Kenya-related releases; official recognition as journalist
- 2010: Moved to Iceland (brief stays in several countries in between)
- 2011: Release of autobiography, moved to an undisclosed location
- 2012: Announcement of candidacy for Australian Senate in upcoming elections

Organization Approach

The Wikileaks organization is not organized hierarchically, although Julian Assange can be considered its leader (officially, he is only another member of the Advisory Board) who, in the end, has the most influence on the group's direction.

Organization Chart
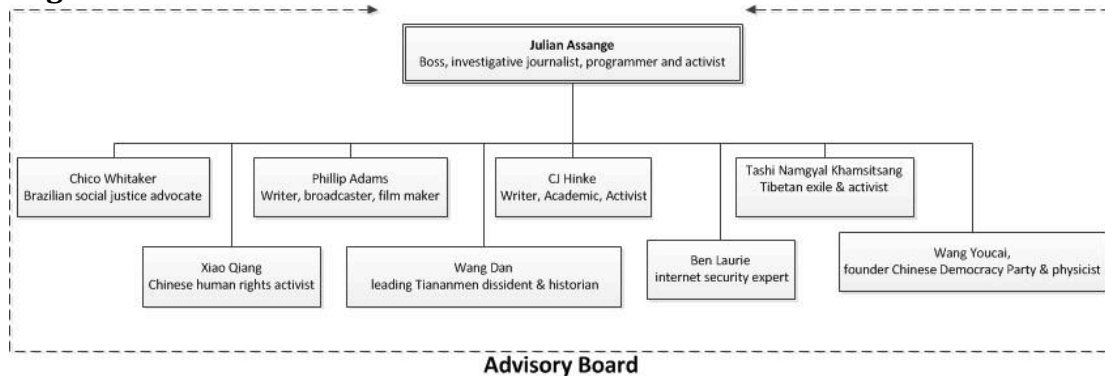
Listing:
  • Phillip Adams
  • Julian Assange
  • Wang Dan
  • CJ Hinke
  • Ben Laurie (unconfirmed)
  • Tashi Namgyal Khamsitsang
  • Xiao Qiang
  • Chico Whitacker
  • Wang Youcai
Unlisted:
  • Noam Chomsky (unconfirmed)

With the exception of Ben Laurie and Chico Whitacker (who deny that such a board actually exists or that they are a member of it), the members were verified through external sources. Still, this organization chart should be viewed with suspicion – few of the people listed actually confirmed their position within Wikileaks (Noam Chomsky, who is listed as "administrator" also denies his position). Assange himself called the board "informal".

Stakeholder Approach

Our analysis of allies, supporters as well as vocal enemies can be summed up by the chart below; interestingly, several former supporters and partners are no longer on friendly terms with Wikileaks, most of them blaming the souring relationship to Julian Assange personally.

George Soros should be mentioned separately, even though his financing of Wikileaks could not be completely confirmed. Sever sources suggest that he is related to the organization, though. Soros and Assange also have their lawyer in common.

The next subsections further detail Wikileaks' external environment and its stakeholders in general. Please keep in mind that all sources should be considered – the summary below should be viewed as short conclusion.

Wikileaks Finance

It's hard to find out who actually supports Wikileaks, where they get their money from and how they manage their sources. Although you can find many things about them on the Internet, it's really hard to decide whether the information you find is real or not. Wikileaks is a closed organization and such organizations make people think the weirdest things – a lot of rumors have sprung up about Wikileaks over the years: it's right up the alley of rumors about the CIA or FBI, which are all similarly secretive organizations.

Many reports <u>suggest</u> that George Soros is the money behind Wikileaks, but they all state that this <u>hasn't been confirmed yet</u>. Glenn Beck (from Fox News) tries to link Soros to Wikileaks, but with no success so far. If he in fact supports Wikileaks, what does it mean for society? It means that the billionaire who donates his money to civil right movements, encourages democracy all over the world, supports Barack Obama by donating money and much more is also giving money to Wikileaks who are lately reporting less favorable things about the United States of America. While supporting the Freedom of Speech, it creates controversy for citizens who used to believe in their own country.

George Soros - Biography

- Born in Hungary.
    - August 12, 1930
- One of the richest persons in the world
- Philanthropist
- Gives a lot of money to human rights movements
- Chairman of Open Society Institute
    - = a private operating and grant making foundation started by George Soros, aimed to shape public policy to promote democratic governance, human rights, and economic, legal, and social reform.
- Politically involved all over the world
    - Donated money to get rid of George W. Bush (*see 1 & 2*)
    - Supports democratic parties in Eastern Europe (*see 5*)
        - Wants to 'Open up the once-closed communistic countries'
- Rumors have it that he has supported Obama (*see 4*)

Foreign Perception

Wikileaks brought a whole cyberspace war with them; they raised political questions through statements that have never been considered before. Some of the releases have once more driven a wedge between East and West: The East strongly believes that <u>Wikileaks is just part of the U.S. Cyberwarfare program</u>; according to their sources, the CIA is behind Wikileaks. They say it's a way to weaken the East and reacted by releasing several conspiracy theories about the USA.

Is the CIA really behind Wikileaks? Which news agencies or OSINT sources can actually be trusted? Our own from the West, or the ones from the East? They are all practicing journalism in their own way – validating each other's statements through reports released by other regional outlets.

Global Influence

Wikileaks has the power to really influence the world in all kind of ways: That alone confirms that Wikileaks is very real indeed, independent of what may its real objective – Wikileaks releases information and the world reacts. It is there, you can't bypass it and it has shaped our society to what it looks like today – always demanding to know more. Freedom of speech is good, but some things should undoubtedly remain secret in order to support efficient and secure national governance.

Supporters

Although WikiLeaks has many enemies (see sources), they also have many supporters/ partners. Those supporters are mostly newspapers. The newspapers don't like to be called partners; they see it more like a temporarily supporting, mostly because they can use the leaks to make good stories and, by extension, retain their readers.

In an unverified source we discovered that all the documents from Wikileaks will actually be given to journalists of newspapers first, where their accuracy and importance are checked. Next, the information is relayed to the Department of State before it is finally posted by Wikileaks itself. While we couldn't prove this, it is still possible that this kind of system really exists, giving a whole new meaning to "Open Intelligence".

What we can confirm is that there is frequent document exchange ongoing between Wikileaks and newspapers like Le Monde, The Times, The Guardian. As discussed above, few of the more influential papers like to openly confirm close cooperation with Wikileaks.

Interestingly, Wikileaks offered to accept redaction/censorship by the State Department before releasing the diplomatic cables, an offer that was ultimately refused.

Another interesting investigation path is the support by the hackers group Anonymous. Around November-December 2011, the hacktivists stole thousands of emails from the intelligence company Stratfor. A few months later, these documents were leaked through the Wikileaks webpage. It remains to be seen if this informal cooperation is still going on and whether new information will be leaked. Both organizations claim that they're acting in the interest of freedom of speech but their ties have not been confirmed by either spokespeople. It's most likely that more documents acquired by Anonymous will show up on Wikileaks in the future.

A third very important person is Daniel Ellsberg. He is the man behind the about forty-years-old leaked pentagon files (the United States Department of Defense history of the United States' political-military involvement in Vietnam from 1945 to 1967).

The lit of supporters does not end here but given the limited amount of time no further research has been conducted. We advice that a separate intelligence projected be stared to determine the number and identities of said supporters (including celebrities declaring sympathy for Wikileaks and its deeds).

See Sources list for a full list about Wikileaks enemies and opposition in general. Especially U.S. politicians are very vocal about condemning Wikileaks actions – foremost the congressman Peter King and Sarah Palin, whose private emails were published by the whistleblower platform. The U.S. Department of State as well as the Pentagon can be considered opponents of Wikileaks by default – additionally, it can easily be verified that neither party approves of its actions. That alone raises the question about how many of the conspiracy theories of the East (mentioned above) are actually true. We conclude that Wikileaks is, in fact, not a (knowing) partner of the U.S. intelligence community.

Following a dispute spawned by a less favorable article by the New York Times, the relationship between Wikileaks and the paper eventually soured. As The Guardian continued supplying the NYT with Wikileaks material, that cooperation also came to an end eventually.

Not enemies per se but, following the heavy criticism by U.S. authorities, several organizations refused to continue working with Wikileaks – including financial organizations and internet providers.

There is also a trend of former Wikileaks members becoming critics of the organization after clashing with Assange's leadership and decisions: Daniel Domscheit-Berg, former Wikileaks spokesperson, should be explicitly mentioned here.