



Menu

World | Africa | Asia | Australia | Europe | Latin America | Middle East | US & Canada

Andrew Tate charged with rape and human trafficking

🕒 21 June



EPA

| Andrew Tate, left, and his brother Tristan were first arrested at their Bucharest home in December

By Lucy Williamson & George Wright

BBC News in Bucharest and London

Controversial influencer Andrew Tate has been charged in Romania with rape, human trafficking and forming an organised crime group to sexually exploit women.

His brother Tristan and two associates also face charges. All have denied the allegations.

The Tate brothers appeared in court for the first time on Wednesday.

As he left court Andrew Tate said: "I love this country... and I look forward to being found innocent."

The brothers were first arrested at their Bucharest home in December before being moved to house arrest in March.

The indictment deposited with the Bucharest court says that the four defendants formed an organised criminal group in 2021 to commit human trafficking in Romania, but also in other countries including the US and the UK.

It names seven alleged victims who it says were recruited by the Tate brothers through false promises of love and marriage.

- **Andrew Tate: The self-proclaimed misogynist**

The alleged victims were later taken to buildings in Ilfov county in Romania where they were intimidated, placed under constant surveillance and control and forced into debt, according to a statement from Romanian prosecutors.

The defendants allegedly then forced the women to take part in pornography which was later shared on social media.

One defendant is accused of raping a woman twice in March 2022, the statement adds.

The trial will not start immediately and is expected to take several years.

A Romanian judge now has 60 days to inspect the case files before it can be sent to trial.

The media team for the Tate brothers said: "While this news is undoubtedly predictable, we embrace the opportunity it presents to demonstrate their innocence and vindicate their reputation."

It added that the indictment "allows us to present a comprehensive body of evidence, diligently collected and prepared over time, which will undoubtedly substantiate the brothers' claims of innocence".

There are also separate charges still under investigation which could lead to a separate indictment, including money laundering and trafficking of minors.

In 2016, Andrew Tate, a British-American former kickboxer, was removed from British TV show Big Brother over a video which appeared to show him attacking a woman.

He went on to gain notoriety online, with Twitter banning him for saying women should "bear some responsibility" for being sexually assaulted. He has since been reinstated.

Despite social media bans, he gained popularity, particularly among young men, by promoting what he presented as a hyper-masculine, ultra-luxurious lifestyle.



| Watch: Andrew Tate challenged on misogyny in combative BBC interview

News Daily

The latest news straight to your inbox



[Sign up for our UK morning newsletter](#) and get BBC News in your inbox.

Related Topics

[Andrew Tate](#)

[Romania](#)

More on this story

