

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-6906
judiciary.house.gov

April 3, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Rubio:

On President Trump's first day in office, he announced that his Administration would take bold action to "Make America Safe Again," including by securing our border, protecting American communities, and generally cracking down on crime.¹ Yet on February 27, 2025, self-described misogynist Andrew Tate and his brother, Tristan Tate, traveled to Florida despite facing charges in Romania for rape and human trafficking and having active arrest warrants in the United Kingdom for similar charges. Specifically, I understand that Trump Administration officials lobbied the Romanian government on behalf of the Tate brothers to lift the travel restrictions imposed on them as part of their criminal case.² Alarming, news recently broke that Andrew Tate's girlfriend filed a police report alleging that Mr. Tate sexually assaulted her on March 11 in Los Angeles—less than two weeks after the Tate brothers returned to the United States.³

Andrew Tate, a dual U.S. and U.K. citizen, first rose to fame on a British reality television show, and later became a social media influencer, calling himself the "king of toxic masculinity."⁴ He was reportedly removed from the show after only six days, after a video

¹ *President Trump's America First Priorities*, THE WHITE HOUSE (Jan. 20, 2025), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2025/01/president-trumps-america-first-priorities/>.

² Stephen McGrath, Andreea Alexandru & Daniel Kozin, *Influencer Brothers, Who Face Human Trafficking Charges in Romania, Arrive in the U.S.*, ASSOCIATED PRESS (Feb. 27, 2025), <https://apnews.com/article/romania-andrew-tate-us-04749679b90fad821c2b945955f5b145>.

³ David Propper, *Andrew Tate's Girlfriend Bri Stern Says Accused Sex Trafficker Choked Her Unconscious During Violent Sexual Encounter: Report*, N.Y. POST (Mar. 26, 2025), <https://nypost.com/2025/03/26/us-news/andrew-tates-girlfriend-bri-stern-says-accused-sex-trafficker-nearly-choked-her-unconscious-during-violent-sexual-encounter-report/>.

⁴ Jennifer Gerson, *The 19th Explains: Andrew Tate, the 'king of toxic masculinity,' and his return to the U.S.*, THE 19TH (Feb. 27, 2025), <https://19thnews.org/2025/02/andrew-tate-brothers-toxic-masculinity-trump/>.

surfaced appearing to show him attacking a woman and the show’s producers learned of an ongoing investigation into an alleged rape.⁵ He subsequently founded “Hustlers University,” which targets young men and promises to teach them how to become wealthy outside of traditional employment opportunities.⁶ The subscription-based, online platform was shut down after facing multiple credible accusations that it was a pyramid scheme; however, it appears to have relaunched.⁷ Following the original collapse of the so-called “university,” Mr. Tate faced accusations of grooming women into sex work through a course offered on the platform called the “Pimpin’ Hoes Degree.”⁸

Mr. Tate and his brother, Tristan Tate, moved from the United Kingdom to Romania in 2017.⁹ At the time, Andrew openly discussed how he would be less likely to face rape charges in Romania because the country has stricter evidentiary standards.¹⁰ In 2022, Romanian police raided the Tates’ property and arrested both brothers on charges of rape, human trafficking, and forming an organized crime group. In August 2024, the scope of the investigation was expanded to include criminal allegations from 35 women, including allegations of trafficking minors, sexual intercourse with a minor, and money laundering. The Tates had been on house arrest in Romania since their initial arrest in 2022.¹¹ Yet, U.S. officials reportedly pressured the Romanian government to lift these travel restrictions, over the strenuous objections of Andrew Tate’s alleged victims.¹² On February 27, 2025, the Tate brothers boarded a private jet and flew back to the United States, landing in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and appear to be allowed to travel freely between the two countries.¹³

The news of the brothers’ return to the U.S. broke while the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance was holding a hearing titled, “Protecting Victims of Human Trafficking and Online Exploitation.”¹⁴ During that hearing, members discussed the devastating consequences of the Trump Administration’s numerous attempts to restrict federal funding, terminate contracts, and fire or reassign federal employees—actions that are upending critical anti-trafficking efforts, both in the United States and abroad.¹⁵ Many Republicans have expressed outrage over the lifting of the travel restrictions, including Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, who said, “Florida is not a place where you’re welcome with

⁵ See *id.* (noting that the case was ultimately closed in 2019, with no charges filed against Mr. Tate).

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Id.*; Hustlers University, <https://hustlers-university.ca/> (last accessed Mar. 27, 2025).

⁸ See Gerson, *supra* note 4.

⁹ Rachel Treisman, *Andrew Tate, Facing Rape and Trafficking Charges in Romania, is Back in the U.S.*, NPR (Feb. 27, 2025), <https://www.npr.org/2025/02/27/nx-s1-5311621/andrew-tate-brothers-romania-florida>.

¹⁰ Jennnifer Gerson, *The 19th Explains: Andrew Tate, the ‘king of toxic masculinity,’ and his return to the U.S.*, THE 19TH (Feb. 27, 2025), <https://19thnews.org/2025/02/andrew-tate-brothers-toxic-masculinity-trump/>.

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² Ian Aikman, *Why did Andrew and Tristan Tate get to the U.S.?*, BBC (Feb. 27, 2025), <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cg4kkv3e1v9o>.

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ *Protecting Victims of Human Trafficking and Online Exploitation*, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance, 119th Cong. (2025).

¹⁵ *Id.*

that type of conduct in the air.”¹⁶ Conservative pundit Ben Shapiro said, “America does not need more self-proclaimed pimps and terror supporters with outstanding criminal allegations of sex trafficking and a history of pornographic distribution.”¹⁷ Less than a week after the Tate brothers landed back on U.S. soil, Florida Attorney General James Uthmeier announced that his office has opened a criminal investigation into the men.¹⁸ Then, as noted above, less than two weeks after the Tate brothers landed in the U.S., Andrew Tate allegedly assaulted his girlfriend Bri Stern in Los Angeles.¹⁹ Recent text messages reportedly between Ms. Stern and Mr. Tate also revealed that Mr. Tate repeatedly told Ms. Stern he wanted to hit and beat her, saying Ms. Stern deserved it.²⁰

The Tate brothers have long expressed support for President Trump. On February 12, 2025, Andrew Tate posted: “The Tates will be free, Trump is the president. The good old days are back. And they will be better than ever.”²¹ Joseph McBride, the brothers’ lawyer in the United States, said in a statement that the men “feel secure in America for several reasons, the primary one being that Donald Trump is the president.”²² Although President Trump has denied knowing anything about the Tate brothers’ return to the United States, Romanian officials said that their U.S. counterparts brought up the brothers’ case earlier in February, and that Special Envoy Richard Grenell raised the issue with Romanian officials during the Munich Security Conference.²³ It is notable that one of the Tate brothers’ former lawyers, Paul Ingrassia, now serves as the White House Liaison for the Department of Justice.²⁴

The Trump Administration’s willingness to pressure a foreign government to help the Tate brothers travel freely while facing serious criminal charges on violent crimes fits a pattern of placing those willing to pledge loyalty to the President—including members of extremist militias and violent street gangs who beat police officers on January 6th, corrupt politicians, and dark web traffickers—above the law.²⁵ In order to fully understand the Administration’s involvement in the lifting of Romania’s travel restrictions on the Tate brothers, we request that

¹⁶ Sara Dorn, *Conservatives—From DeSantis To Ben Shapiro—Blast Arrival Of Andrew Tate, Allegedly Helped By Trump*, FORBES (Feb. 28, 2025), <https://www.forbes.com/sites/saradorn/2025/02/28/conservatives-from-desantis-to-ben-shapiro-blast-arrival-of-andrew-tate-allegedly-helped-by-trump/>.

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ Claire Moses, *Florida Attorney General Opens Criminal Investigation Into Tate Brothers*, N.Y. TIMES (Mar. 4, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/03/04/us/andrew-tate-brothers-florida.html>.

¹⁹ Propper, *supra* note 3.

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ Andrew Tate (@cobratate), X, (Feb. 12, 2025, 5:01 a.m.), <https://x.com/Cobratate/status/1889615811154747426>.

²² Mike Wendling and Kayla Epstein, *Did the White House Help End the Tate Brothers Travel Ban*, BBC (Feb. 28, 2025), <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cly22wdedqeo.amp>.

²³ *Id.*

²⁴ Ali Breland, *Another Edgelord Comes to Power*, THE ATLANTIC (Feb. 8, 2025), <https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2025/02/trump-ingrassia-online-reactionary/681608/>.

²⁵ Annette Choi, Alex Leeds Matthews & Marshall Cohen, *Trump Gave Broad Clemency to All Jan. 6 Rioters. See Their Cases in 3 Charts*, CNN (Jan. 26, 2025), <https://www.cnn.com/2025/01/26/politics/january-6-rioters-charges-convictions-dg/index.html>; Nia Prater, *The Adams Quid Pro Quo Is Unlike Anything Since Watergate*, N.Y. MAGAZINE (Feb. 15, 2025), <https://nymag.com/intelligencer/article/the-echoes-of-watergate-in-the-adams-quid-pro-quo.html>.

you provide answers to the following questions as soon as possible, but not later than 5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2025:

1. What was the extent of the U.S. government's involvement in Romanian officials' decision to lift the travel restrictions on Andrew Tate and Tristan Tate?
2. Which U.S. officials communicated with Romanian officials regarding the Tate brothers, whether verbally or in writing, other than U.S. special envoy Richard Grenell? To that end, please provide an accounting of all meetings between U.S. officials and Romanian officials in which the Tate brothers were discussed.
3. What was the basis for the U.S. government's involvement in encouraging Romania to lift the travel restrictions on Andrew Tate and Tristan Tate?
4. Did the Tate brothers' support of President Trump play a role in the decision to expend the Administration's resources to secure lifting of the travel restrictions?
5. We understand that a Romanian court agreed to extradite Andrew Tate and Tristan Tate to the United Kingdom at the end of the legal proceedings in Romania.²⁶ Will the Administration comply with any extradition requests received from the U.K. or Romania for Andrew Tate and Tristan Tate?
6. We understand that the Tates recently returned to Romania for a court appearance on March 24.²⁷ In light of new sexual assault allegations against Andrew Tate in the U.S., will the Administration ensure Mr. Tate continues to appear in the relevant jurisdictions to answer to charges?

In addition, we request that you provide the following documents, covering the period from January 20, 2025, to present, as soon as possible, but not later than 5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2025:

1. Any documents, including memorandums and communications, regarding the U.S. government's engagement with Romanian officials regarding the Tate brothers.
2. Any documents, including memorandums and communications, regarding the U.S. government's engagement with U.K. officials regarding the Tate brothers.
3. Any documents, including memorandums and communications, regarding the U.S. government's engagement with attorneys for the Tate brothers.

²⁶ Isabella Kwai, *What to Know About the Accusations Against Andrew Tate*, N.Y. TIMES (Feb. 27, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/article/andrew-tate-arrests-explained.html>.

²⁷ *Influencer Brothers Andrew and Tristan Tate Return to Romania After Weeks in U.S.*, CBS NEWS (Mar. 22, 2025), <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/andrew-tate-tristan-leave-united-states-return-to-romania/>.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable Pamela Bondi, Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice

The Honorable Richard Grenell
Special Presidential Envoy for Special Missions of United States

The Honorable Jim Jordan, Chairman