



Peter Mandelson has been detained by police on suspicion of misconduct in public office.

The Metropolitan Police confirmed that a 72-year-old man was taken into custody on Monday at a property in Camden, north London. He was subsequently transported to



a police station for questioning and released on bail Tuesday morning.

According to a police statement, officers also executed search warrants at two separate properties in Camden and Wiltshire as part of the ongoing inquiry.

The investigation was launched earlier this month following claims that, during his time as a government minister, Lord Mandelson allegedly shared confidential, market-sensitive government information with the late financier and convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

Although Lord Mandelson has not spoken publicly in recent weeks regarding the so-called Epstein files, sources indicate he maintains that he has committed no criminal offence and denies any suggestion that financial incentives played a role in his actions.

On Monday afternoon, plain-clothed officers were seen escorting him from his London residence and placing him into an unmarked vehicle. The BBC understands that detectives from the Met’s Central Specialist Crime division carried out the arrest. Discussions between police and the Crown Prosecution Service are continuing.

The allegations gained renewed attention after the US Department of Justice released a collection of documents last month, including email correspondence between Lord Mandelson and Epstein.

One email from 2009 appears to indicate that Lord Mandelson relayed an internal policy assessment prepared for then-prime minister Gordon Brown, referencing proposed measures such as an “asset sales plan.” Other exchanges suggest he discussed a potential levy on bankers’ bonuses and referred to a forthcoming euro-zone bailout

package the day before it was formally announced in 2010.

Lord Mandelson was appointed British ambassador to the United States in February 2025 but was dismissed in September after Downing Street stated that further details had come to light concerning the extent of his association with Epstein.

The government has said it intends to publish the first batch of documents related to his appointment in early March. However, officials are continuing discussions with police to determine what material can be made public, particularly in light of the arrest.

Ministers remain keen to release documentation they believe will support Prime Minister Keir Starmer’s assertion that Lord Mandelson provided inaccurate information during the vetting process.

On Monday, Darren Jones, chief secretary to the prime minister, informed MPs that records outlining

follow-up questions raised by No 10 during due diligence would not be included in the initial release, citing police interest in those documents.

Meanwhile, Conservative leader Kemi Badenoch described the arrest as a pivotal episode in Sir Keir’s time in office. Accusing the prime minister of weakness, she said the sight of a senior diplomatic appointee being taken into police custody would leave a lasting impression.

Separately, US lawmakers have urged Lord Mandelson to cooperate with congressional inquiries into Epstein.

Lord Mandelson began his political career with the Labour Party in the 1980s and was a central figure in the New Labour project, contributing significantly to Tony Blair’s landslide election victory in 1997.

based on a [bbc article](#)

BBC to splash out money £175m on pensions

The BBC has experienced a steady drop in the number of households paying the licence fee.

New analysis indicates that the corporation is set to face a £175 million pensions bill next year, despite having pledged to deliver £600 million in savings. The broadcaster had already committed to cutting £150 million by 2028. However, last week director-general Tim Davie unveiled further plans to reduce the BBC’s £6 billion annual budget by an additional 10 per cent over the next three years.

At the same time, employees in the organisation’s defined benefit (DB) pension scheme are due to receive as much as £50 million in contributions during 2026–27. The BBC may also have to pay a further £125

million as part of a £1.14 billion deficit recovery plan for the scheme.

Maxwell Marlow of the Adam Smith Institute criticised the broadcaster, accusing it of mishandling licence fee income. He argued that, rather than prioritising high-quality programming, the BBC was channelling significant sums into defined benefit pension schemes that he described as unrealistic, unsustainable and out of step with the wider economy.

His comments come as the annual licence fee has risen by £5.50 to £180, amid declining revenues and an ongoing lawsuit brought by US President Donald Trump. Over the past year, around 300,000 additional households cancelled their licences.

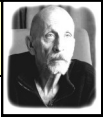
Marlow said defined benefit schemes had largely disappeared from the private sector years ago and questioned why they remained so prominent at the BBC. He called on the corporation to close its remaining DB schemes and move employees to defined contribution arrangements, which he described as fairer and more sustainable.

The BBC pension scheme — one of the largest in the UK — consists of four separate defined benefit plans. All were closed to new entrants more than a decade ago. Some members are entitled to retire at 60 with uncapped final-salary pensions, while others receive payments based on average earnings from age 65. This year, pensions are set to increase by up to 4.2 per cent.

Employer contributions to the scheme have previously reached as high as 42 per cent due to rising costs. From April 2026, they will stand at 15.9 per cent — still more than five times the statutory minimum 3 per cent contribution typically seen in the private sector.



Efforts to reform the scheme in 2010 led to industrial action, and in 2022 the BBC lost a High Court challenge aimed at reducing pension generosity.



New employees are instead enrolled in a defined contribution scheme, with employer contributions of up to 10 per cent. Combined annual contributions from the BBC and its staff total around £110 million.

The £125 million payment forms part of a deficit recovery programme that has already cost £1.14 billion since 2010, when the scheme was deemed unable to sustain its pension commitments.

Separately, the BBC is facing legal action from Donald Trump over a Panorama documentary that edited a speech he delivered before supporters stormed the US Capitol.

A BBC spokesperson said the defined benefit scheme has been closed to new members since 2010, meaning active membership continues to decline. They added that the scheme's funding position has improved and that the organisation remains committed to providing pension arrangements that are financially sustainable, fair and consistent for all staff.

Do people still believe there is a Devil?

Belief in the devil varies significantly across countries, denominations, and cultural contexts. Survey data suggests that in some regions, a slim majority of people express belief in the devil, while in others belief has declined markedly.

Current Levels of Belief

In the United States, around 55–56% of adults say they believe in the devil. Belief in related concepts is often slightly higher: approximately 58% believe in hell, and around 69% believe in angels and heaven.

In contrast, belief levels are lower in the United Kingdom. Among Church of England attendees, only 29% say they believe in the devil — despite roughly a third of the population identifying as churchgoers. This reflects a broader decline in literal belief in supernatural evil within parts of Western Europe.

Region Percentage Believing in the Devil

United States	~55%
United Kingdom (Church of England attendees)	29%

Overall, these figures suggest that belief in the devil remains significant in some societies, particularly in the United States, but is weaker in others, especially in more secular contexts.

Historical Development of Belief in the Devil

Belief in the devil has not remained static. It has evolved over centuries, shaped by religious, cultural, political, and artistic influences.

1. From Polytheism to Monotheism

In many early polytheistic religions, evil was represented by multiple deities or spirits. As monotheistic religions developed, particularly Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, these dispersed representations of evil were gradually consolidated into a single adversarial figure.

Cultural exchange played a major role. For example, during the Persian period, Jewish theology was influenced by Zoroastrian ideas about cosmic conflict between forces of good and evil. Over time, the concept of “Satan” shifted from meaning simply an adversary to representing a distinct supernatural being.

2. Religious Texts and Interpretation

In the Hebrew Bible, “Satan” often refers to an accuser or adversary rather than a singular embodiment of evil. In Christian theology, however, the devil becomes more clearly personified — appearing as tempter, deceiver, and opponent of God in both



Genesis and the New Testament.

Later literary works significantly shaped popular imagination. Dante's *Inferno* and Milton's *Paradise Lost* portrayed the devil as a dramatic and psychologically complex character. These artistic interpretations have arguably influenced modern perceptions more than scripture alone.

3. Social and Political Context

Depictions of the devil have often intensified during periods of crisis. During the Black Death and other medieval upheavals, portrayals became more grotesque, reflecting fear and moral anxiety. The witch hunts of the early modern period further reinforced associations between the devil, heresy, and moral corruption.

Throughout history, the devil has also been used rhetorically in political and religious propaganda. Labelling opponents as aligned with satanic forces helped frame conflicts as cosmic struggles between good and evil.

4. Artistic Representation

Visual portrayals of the devil have evolved alongside cultural attitudes. Medieval art often depicted monstrous, animalistic figures symbolising chaos and terror. In later periods, artists increasingly humanised the devil, reflecting more nuanced understandings of evil as temptation, pride,

or rebellion rather than brute monstrosity.

Conclusion

Belief in the devil remains widespread in some regions but has declined in others, particularly in more secular societies. Historically, the concept has developed through theological evolution, cultural exchange, social crisis, and artistic interpretation. Rather than being fixed, the idea of the devil has continually adapted to reflect changing human concerns about morality, suffering, and the nature of evil.

based on a TASR article

Fire-fighters worked through the debris following a Russian strike in Kyiv.

Ukraine's energy infrastructure came under renewed attack overnight as Russian drones and missiles targeted several regions of the country on Sunday (22 February). According to Ukrainian officials and the military, energy facilities were once again among the primary targets. One person was killed and several others injured in the Kyiv region, according to reports from AP and Reuters.

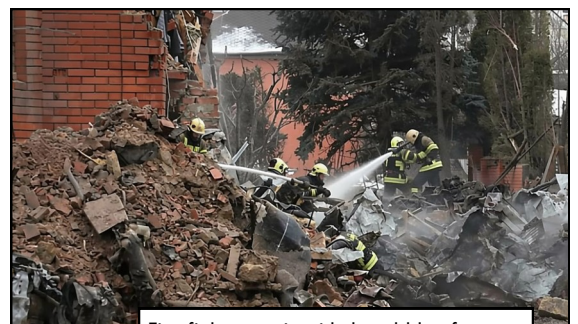
The strikes hit the capital, Kyiv, as well as surrounding areas, the southern port city of Odesa, and parts of central Ukraine.

Explosions were heard across Kyiv in the early hours after authorities warned of a potential ballistic missile attack and urged residents to seek shelter immediately.

Mykola Kalashnyk, head of the Kyiv regional military administration, said on Telegram that at least one person was injured in the region and dozens of homes sustained damage.

Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko reported that emergency crews transported a woman and a child to hospital. He also confirmed that falling debris had caused damage in residential areas of the capital.

Ukraine's emergency services said eight people, including a child, were rescued from the rubble of a destroyed building in the village of Putrivka in the Kyiv region. One person later died while being taken to



Fire-fighters extinguish the rubble after a Russian attack in Kiev. A.I. representation of a Photo: TASR/AP Photo/Sergei Grits

hospital, and five others were admitted for treatment.

In the Odesa region, Governor Oleh Kiper said a nighttime drone strike on energy infrastructure sparked several fires, which have since been extinguished.

Attacks were also reported in the Zaporizhzhia region. Regional military



administration head Ivan Fedorov stated that transport infrastructure was damaged, though no injuries were reported.

According to Reuters, Russia has been carrying out near-daily strikes on Ukraine's energy system, targeting thermal power plants and electrical substations. Air attacks have intensified this winter, disrupting electricity, heating and water supplies for many Ukrainians during freezing conditions.

based on a report by **TASR SLOVAKIA**

Drones attack key Druzhba oil pipeline station, fire hits Russian energy system node. No casualties reported.

Unidentified drones targeted the Kaleikino pumping station in Russia's Republic of Tatarstan on Monday night (23 February). The facility is a critical hub in the operation of the Druzhba oil pipeline.



Representation only

Initial reports of the attack appeared on Telegram channels run by military bloggers and were later cited by Russian media and the Ukrainian newspaper *Ukrainska Pravda*. Videos circulating online show a large blaze at the site.

Local authorities confirmed that an industrial facility had been struck. They described the incident as a "minor fire" caused by falling drone debris and said there were no casualties. Emergency services were dispatched and were reported to have the situation under control.

According to *Ukrainska Pravda*, the Kaleikino station is the largest pumping facility of its kind and serves as one of the main logistical centres of Russia's energy network. Oil from several regions — including Western Siberia and the Volga area — is blended there before being transported onward.

The station plays a key role in maintaining pressure and ensuring the continuous flow of crude through the Druzhba pipeline, which supplies European markets. It also provides oil to refineries within Tatarstan.

Any serious damage to the facility could have broader economic implications. Oil and gas revenues account for roughly one-third of Russia's federal budget, which helps finance its war in Ukraine.

The incident follows a recent attack on Druzhba pipeline infrastructure in Brody, in Ukraine's Lviv region. That strike reportedly caused significant damage to technical equipment and temporarily halted oil deliveries to Hungary and Slovakia.

Croatia has since stated that it will not transport Russian oil to Hungary and

Slovakia beyond what is permitted under European Union laws and sanctions.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán and Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico have accused Kyiv of political "blackmail" over the supply disruption. The Slovak government declared a state of oil emergency on 18 February and warned it could take retaliatory measures if transit is not restored.

Meanwhile, Russia's Defence Ministry said on Monday that its air defence systems shot down 152 Ukrainian drones overnight, including three over Tatarstan, which lies in the European part of the Russian Federation.

based on a report by **Jeremy Bowen**
International Editor, BBC, Reporting from **Kyiv**

A defiant Ukraine

Talks mediated by envoys linked to Donald Trump — including his son-in-law, Jared Kushner, and businessman Steve Witkoff — are continuing, with another meeting expected in Geneva after the anniversary of Russia's invasion. Witkoff struck an optimistic tone following the latest round, but officials on both the Russian and Ukrainian sides described the atmosphere as tense and difficult.

For now, the prospects of a ceasefire appear slim. It is hard to imagine any breakthrough unless either Vladimir Putin or Volodymyr Zelensky shifts his core position. At present, both sides seem convinced they can continue fighting in pursuit of some form of victory, making compromise unlikely. The negotiations increasingly resemble an effort to demonstrate engagement — particularly to avoid blame from Trump should they collapse. The US president has often directed criticism at Kyiv. In the past, he has falsely claimed that Zelensky is a dictator who started the war — an assertion Zelensky dismissed with laughter when asked about it. Ahead of the most recent round of talks, Trump told reporters that "Ukraine better come to the table, fast."

Meanwhile, Trump has halted nearly all direct US military aid to Ukraine. Even so, Kyiv remains dependent on American intelligence support. European countries continue to purchase US-made weapons — particularly air defence interceptor missiles — for delivery to Ukraine.

Despite these pressures, Ukraine shows little outward sign of capitulation. During my recent visit, the country did not feel close to defeat.

Major cities continue to function, even after sustained Russian strikes on power and heating infrastructure during one of the coldest winters in years. In Kyiv, traffic clogs the streets, shops are stocked, and



anti-drone nets along a main highway

restaurants and cafés are busy.

Yet daily life remains overshadowed by war. Air-raid sirens frequently sound in the early hours. Civilians continue to be killed in their homes by Russian drones and ballistic missiles. At the same time, Ukraine is rebuilding parts of its Soviet-era military-industrial base, focusing in particular on developing longer-range strike capabilities against targets inside Russia.

Russia has systematically targeted Ukraine's energy grid, striking power plants and district heating facilities that supply hot water and warmth to entire neighbourhoods. With spring approaching but winter temperatures still lingering well below freezing, the strain has been immense.

At one heavily damaged power station — its location undisclosed at the request of Ukrainian officials — workers sifted through twisted metal, salvaging what they could. The facility had been repeatedly hit by missiles and drones. Repairs were impossible; it would have to be rebuilt from the ground up.

Standing in sub-zero temperatures, his breath visible in the icy air, a foreman offered a blunt explanation when asked why Russia was attacking such infrastructure.

"They want to make us kneel. They want to bring Ukraine to its knees."



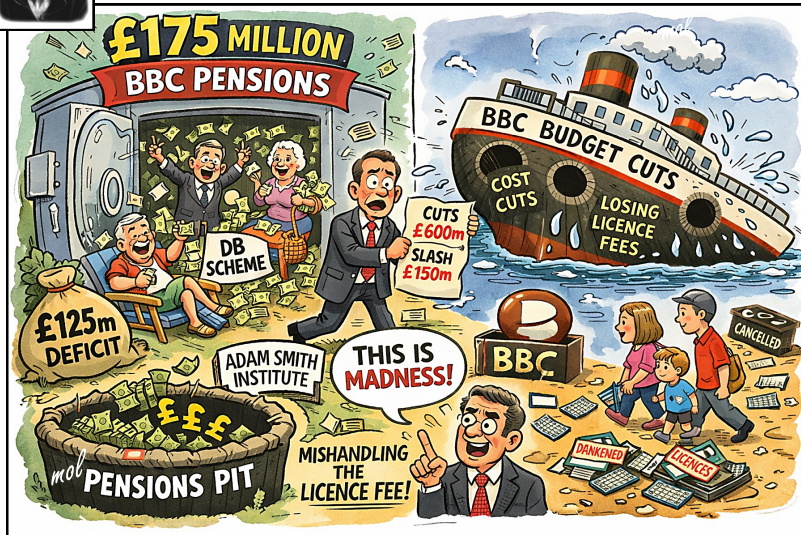
Putting up anti-drone nets

That sentiment captures the prevailing mood. Russia's strategy is clear — but so too is Ukraine's determination to resist. It is that resolve, as much as anything else, that ensures the war goes on.

Yesterday's chess solution
white mates in two moves.
<http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/dhtml-chess-current/demo/website-template5.html>



The truth is here, not out there!



WHITE MATES IN 3 MOVES



Solution at- <http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/dhtml-chess-current/demo/website-template5.html>

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU GO UNDER?

An in-depth article...

Why anaesthesia isn't the same as sleep

At first glance, anaesthesia and sleep look similar — eyes closed, no response, still body.

But inside the brain, they're very different states.

Brain Activity Is Different

Natural Sleep

Sleep follows a predictable cycle:

Light sleep

Deep (slow-wave) sleep

REM (dream sleep)

Brain waves change in organized patterns.

The brain is still actively coordinating itself.

During sleep

You can be awakened.

The brain still processes some sounds.

Dreams happen (especially in REM).

General Anaesthesia

Under anaesthesia:

Brain communication becomes globally suppressed.

Large-scale brain networks disconnect.

EEG patterns look different from normal sleep.

You usually cannot be awakened by normal stimulation.

The brain is not cycling — it's in a controlled, drug-induced shutdown of awareness.

Different Brain Circuits Are Involved

Sleep is controlled by natural brain centres like:

The hypothalamus

Brainstem sleep-wake circuits

Anaesthesia drugs act more directly on:

GABA receptors (inhibition)

NMDA receptors (excitation blockade)

Thalamocortical communication networks

Anaesthesia essentially forces the brain into a state it does not naturally enter.

Responsiveness Is Different

In sleep:

A loud noise can wake you.

Pain definitely wakes you. The brain stays responsive to important stimuli.

In anaesthesia:

Pain signals don't reach conscious awareness.

Even strong stimulation may not wake the person.

Memory formation is blocked.

Recovery Is Different

Sleep:

You wake feeling restored.

It's biologically necessary for survival.

Anaesthesia:

You wake because the drug wears off.

It doesn't replace sleep.

It can leave grogginess or nausea.

Core Difference

Sleep = a natural, reversible brain cycle

Anaesthesia = a drug-induced disruption of consciousness networks

Sleep preserves structured brain communication.

Anaesthesia breaks the communication required for awareness.

Roger Penrose suggests a different reason:

His alternative theory of consciousness is that he suggests something very different from the standard neuroscience understanding of consciousness.

The Mainstream View (Quick Reminder)

Modern neuroscience says anaesthesia works because it:

Enhances inhibition (GABA)

Reduces excitation (glutamate)

Disrupts large-scale brain networks

Consciousness fades when neural communication becomes too disorganized.

Penrose's Different Idea

Penrose argues that consciousness is not fully explained by classical neural signalling alone. With anaesthesiologist Stuart Hameroff, he proposed the: Orchestrated

Objective Reduction (Orch-OR) theory

This suggests:

Consciousness arises from quantum processes specifically inside structures called microtubules. Microtubules exist inside neurons

What Are Microtubules?

Microtubules are:

Structural components of cells

Made of tubulin proteins

Part of the cell's internal skeleton

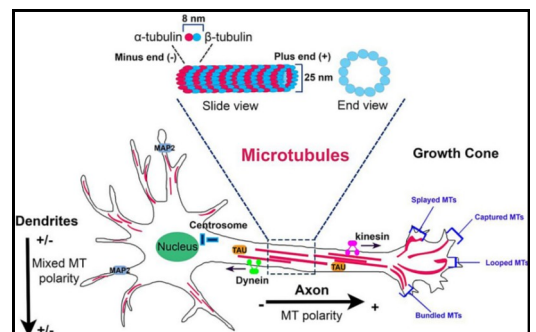


Image from: <https://www.mdpi.com/1422-0067/21/19/7354>

Penrose and Hameroff argue these may support:

Quantum coherence

Tiny quantum computations

A deeper level of brain processing

How Anaesthesia Fits Into This Here's where it gets interesting:

Hameroff studied anaesthesia directly. He noticed:

Anesthetic gases:

Bind to hydrophobic pockets in proteins

Especially in microtubules

Even at very low concentrations

Their claim:

Anaesthetics disrupt quantum coherence in microtubules. If consciousness depends on quantum coherence, and anaesthesia disrupts it, then consciousness collapses. This is very different from the standard "network

disconnection" explanation.

Why Penrose Thinks Classical Neuroscience Is Incomplete:

Penrose argues:

Human understanding (especially mathematics) may not be computable.

If the brain were just classical computation, it couldn't explain certain aspects of insight.

Therefore, consciousness might require non-classical (quantum) physics.

Scientific Status

Important distinction:

Mainstream neuroscience:

Does not require quantum effects

Explains anaesthesia via synaptic mechanisms

Has strong experimental support

Orch-OR:

Highly controversial

Some experimental hints

No broad consensus

Criticized for quantum decoherence problems

in warm brains

Most neuroscientists currently favour the classical explanation.

Big Philosophical Difference

Standard view:

Consciousness = emergent property of neural networks.

Penrose's view:

Consciousness = tied to fundamental physics of space-time.

That's a massive shift in interpretation.

If you'd like, we can go deeper into:

The quantum coherence objection

Whether recent experiments support Orch-OR

Or how this relates to AI and whether machines can be conscious

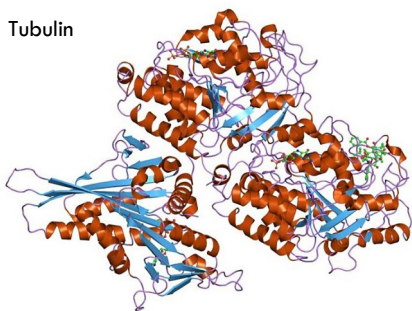
More...

Suggestions of Supporting Evidence

Microtubules and Anaesthetics

Some recent work interprets findings showing that volatile anaesthetics interact with microtubules — the very structures Orch-OR identifies as possible quantum substrates — as consistent with the theory's predictions. These studies point out that anaesthetics can affect microtubule dynamics and quantum excitations in tubulin, which Orch-OR proposes are part of the consciousness mechanism.

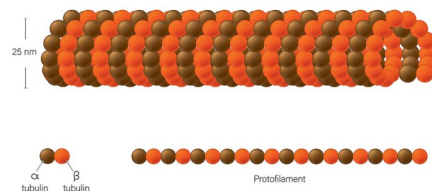
Tubulin



Quantum Effects in Warm Biological Systems

There is broader research (outside Orch-OR specifically) finding quantum phenomena in biological systems at physiological temperatures (e.g., in photosynthesis). Some

Microtubule



proponents cite these as indirect support for the possibility of quantum coherence in neurons.

Recent Reviews and Modelling

A few very recent reviews suggest experiments showing room-temperature quantum effects in microtubules and linking microtubule resonances to membrane activity, and claim these could form a substrate for quantum consciousness. These papers also argue that anaesthetics target these microtubule states in ways Orch-OR predicts.

But There's Not Yet Firm, Direct Evidence

Critical Scientific Challenges

Mainstream physicists point out that quantum coherence is extremely fragile, especially at the warm, noisy scales of the brain — so maintaining it long enough to play a functional role in consciousness is highly uncertain.

Debate Over Whether Findings Truly Support Orch-OR

Many results that proponents claim support Orch-OR are indirect or controversial:

Some experiments use artificial conditions that may not reflect real neuronal environments.

Some results showing delayed unconsciousness with microtubule-affecting drugs are preliminary and require replication.

More Work Needed for Strong Confirmation.

There has not yet been a clear demonstration of:

long-lived quantum coherence directly inside living brain microtubules, or quantum computations affecting perceptual or conscious states in a way that can't be explained classically. These are essential predictions of Orch-OR.

IMAGE LEFT:

Description: Cartoon representation of the molecular structure of protein registered with 1ia0 code.

Source: https://www.ebi.ac.uk/pdbe/static/entry/1ia0_deposited_chain_front_image-800x800.png, displayed on

<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/pdbe/entry/pdb/1ia0>

Author: Jawahar Swaminathan and MSD staff at the European Bioinformatics Institute

How the Scientific Community Views This

Some researchers are intrigued and think quantum models of consciousness deserve more study.

Others — including many neuroscientists and physicists — remain highly sceptical and think the evidence is too weak or ambiguous.

In short:

There are hints that relate to Orch-OR's ideas, but no definitive experimental proof that the theory's core mechanisms actually occur in the living brain.

[Find out more here](#)

WARNING-DISTURBING!

based on an article from

<https://www.independent.co.uk/>

Men who repeatedly punched and kicked sheep before blowing it up with fireworks jailed

-Leighton Ashby and Oakley Hollands had taken the sheep's ear tag as a 'token'

-Agricultural students jailed for "sadistic" sheep attack involving fireworks

Two agricultural college students who carried out a prolonged and brutal assault on a sheep — culminating in fireworks being placed inside the animal — have been sentenced to prison.

Leighton Ashby, 22, and Oakley Hollands, 20, admitted causing unnecessary suffering to a protected animal. The pair recorded the 30-minute attack on a mobile phone and later kept the sheep's ear tag as a "souvenir". The tag was subsequently concealed inside a Monster energy drink can and later found in a communal toilet.

Ashby has been jailed for two years. Hollands was handed a 20-month custodial term to be served in a young offender institution. Both were students at Plumpton Agricultural College at the time and have since been expelled.

Hove Trial Centre heard that on the evening of 2 November 2023, the two men invited fellow students to view what they claimed was a "dead badger". Hollands reportedly told the group he had been drinking alcohol while driving them.

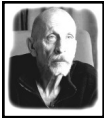
After arriving at a field near Ditchling Beacon and walking along a public footpath, Ashby and Hollands began chasing a sheep before eventually forcing it to the ground. The court heard that Ashby swung the animal from side to side and kicked it repeatedly to the head and body.

When two witnesses expressed a desire to leave and requested the car keys, Hollands refused. Instead, he began filming the assault on his phone. At one stage the sheep appeared unable to stand following the blows, while Hollands could be heard laughing and shouting encouragement to kill it.

The attack escalated further when fireworks were placed into the animal's mouth and anus, causing catastrophic injuries that proved fatal. After returning to the college, Ashby was heard telling Hollands they should "wait a couple of weeks before we do that again". The incident came to light after a female witness asked Hollands to send her the video footage. The matter was subsequently reported to both police and college authorities.

Examination of the defendants' phones uncovered additional disturbing material, including footage of a fox being dismembered and a badger being kicked on Hollands' device.

Prosecutor Jordan Franks described the case as demonstrating a troubling pattern of animal mutilation. He told the court the Crown's position was that the violence went



The truth is here, not out there!



beyond impulsive behaviour, arguing there were clear indications the defendants derived enjoyment from the suffering inflicted. He referenced Hollands' laughter, the encouragement heard on the recording, and the decision to keep the ear tag as evidence of that mindset.

Animal rights campaigners gathered outside court, with some holding banners calling for imprisonment. The sheep was referred to by protesters as "Eunice". A community impact statement presented to the court said members of the public had expressed widespread revulsion at the attack.

The court was told both men had previously good character. Hollands has been diagnosed with ADHD, while Ashby has autism and learning difficulties. Both come

Idealised illustration



from agricultural backgrounds. Passing sentence, Judge Jeremy Gold KC said it was difficult to comprehend what satisfaction the pair could have taken from chasing and beating a defenceless animal to death. He described the video footage as graphically depicting the lamb's ordeal and said the subsequent use of fireworks to cause further injury was particularly shocking. He added that their farming backgrounds and agricultural studies made the behaviour even more disturbing.

Editor's comment: *it's a travesty to call these young men, human. They exhibit no sign of human compassion, empathy, and kindness that real humans possess.*

based on a news item from: from: <https://www.kyivpost.com/post/70693>

Medvedev Says Russia Could Resort to Tactical Nuclear Weapons Over Alleged Nuclear Technology Transfer to Ukraine

Former Russian President and current Deputy Chairman of Russia's Security Council, Dmitry Medvedev, has warned that Moscow could deploy tactical nuclear weapons if Britain or France were to transfer nuclear technology to Ukraine.

against targets in Ukraine deemed a threat to Russian security. He added that countries facilitating such a transfer could also become legitimate targets, describing this as a "symmetrical response" within Russia's rights.

He further claimed that transferring nuclear technology to Kyiv could push the world closer to a global conflict. Since the launch of Russia's full-scale invasion, Medvedev has repeatedly issued nuclear warnings. In early 2024, he cautioned Ukraine against striking



missile launch sites inside Russia with Western-supplied long-range weapons, saying such actions would provide grounds for nuclear retaliation.

Russian President Vladimir Putin also addressed nuclear concerns in June 2025, warning of severe and potentially "catastrophic" consequences if Ukraine attempted to deploy a so-called "dirty bomb."

Medvedev followed those remarks by emphasizing Russia's stockpile of tactical nuclear weapons and hinting at devastating environmental and long-term consequences. Other senior Russian officials weighed in as well. State Duma Speaker Vyacheslav Volodin said the Russian parliament would review the situation and potentially appeal to the legislatures of the United Kingdom and France. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov described the alleged transfer plan as a serious breach of international law and said Moscow would factor the information into future negotiations on Ukraine. Meanwhile, Ukrainian sources have dismissed the claims as political manoeuvring aimed at complicating negotiations and straining relations between Western allies. Observers have also pointed out practical

In a statement posted on Telegram, Medvedev claimed that reports suggesting Paris and London intend to provide Kyiv with nuclear-related technology would fundamentally alter the security situation. He argued that such a move would go beyond concerns about the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and instead represent direct involvement in an escalating conflict. Medvedev again referred to Ukraine's leadership as a "Nazi regime," echoing the Kremlin's longstanding narrative used to justify Russia's 2022 invasion under the banner of "denazification." He asserted that supplying nuclear technology to a country actively engaged in warfare would amount to effectively handing over nuclear weapons.

According to Medvedev, Russia would be compelled to respond using "any available means," including non-strategic nuclear arms,

obstacles. The United Kingdom's nuclear deterrent relies on Trident II D5 missiles deployed aboard Vanguard-class submarines rather than standalone nuclear bombs. France's arsenal includes submarine-launched M51 missiles and air-launched ASMPA cruise missiles carried by Rafale fighter aircraft. Ukraine does not operate the long-range strategic bombers typically required to deploy such systems.

Russia's Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR) alleged that London and Paris might attempt to conceal any transfer by presenting it as a domestic Ukrainian development, potentially involving covert European components. Russian media mentioned the TN75 warhead, used in France's M51.1 submarine-launched missile, as a possible example. Moscow also claimed Germany declined participation in the alleged plan. Russia's Federation Council has called on the UN Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency to examine the matter. Putin previously stated in 2024 that Russia would prevent Ukraine from acquiring nuclear weapons "by all available means." Debate over Ukraine's nuclear status resurfaced later that year following a New York Times report suggesting unnamed U.S. officials had floated the idea of returning nuclear weapons that Ukraine gave up under the 1994 Budapest Memorandum.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has argued that if NATO membership remains out of reach, Ukraine may need alternative security guarantees — including the possibility of nuclear capability — a suggestion sharply rejected by Moscow. Similar comments were previously made by Polish Member of the European Parliament Radosław Sikorski, who said the West could arguably have grounds to provide Ukraine with nuclear warheads after Russia violated the Budapest Memorandum. Russian officials strongly condemned that idea, warning it could trigger a broader nuclear confrontation in Europe.

"TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT US!"