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U.K. Steps Up Free Speech Crackdown as Armed Police Arrest Comedy Writer Graham Linehan at Heathrow Airport

By Ben Kew Sep. 2, 2025 4:45 pm 246 Comments





Graham Linehan / The Joe Rogan Experience

The Irish comedy writer Graham Linehan, best known for creating Father Ted and The IT Crowd, was arrested at Heathrow Airport over social media posts criticizing transgender ideology.

Linehan was [**met by five armed officers on arrival in London**](#) and detained in connection with three posts made on Elon Musk's X platform.

The Metropolitan Police confirmed the arrest was carried out by its Aviation Unit, whose officers routinely carry firearms at airports. A spokeswoman said the weapons were not drawn or used at any stage.

The posts under investigation included one in which Linehan wrote that men entering female-only spaces were committing abusive acts and should be challenged, with police called if necessary.

In another post, he said: "Make a scene, call the cops, and if all else fails, punch him in the balls."

A third stated: "I hate them. Misogynists and homophobes. F*** 'em."

Linehan said he was taken into custody, locked in a cell, and later taken to the hospital because of stress. He added that the condition for his release was that he stop posting on X.

"I was arrested at an airport like a terrorist, locked in a cell like a criminal, taken to hospital because the stress nearly killed me, and banned from speaking online – all because I made jokes that upset some psychotic crossdressers," he wrote on his Substack.

Neil O'Brien

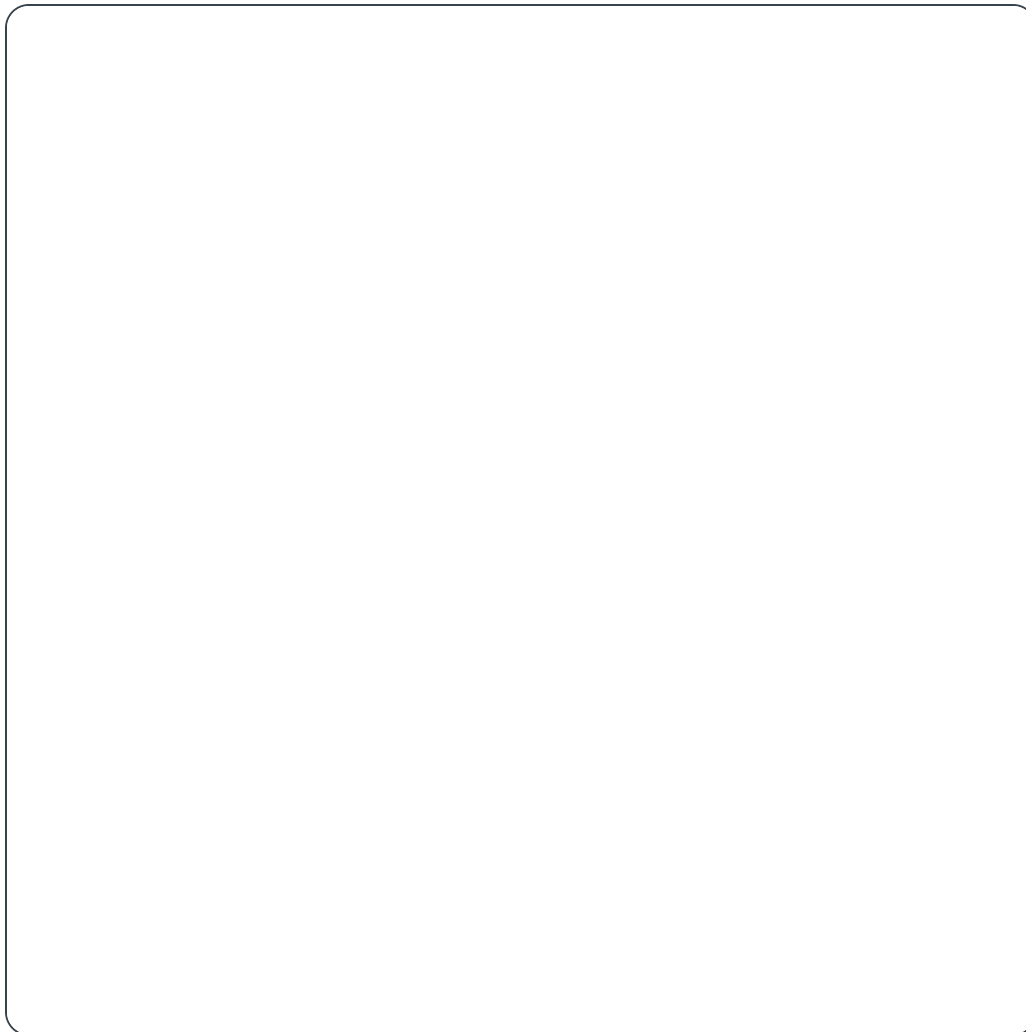


@NeilDotObrien · Follow



Britain is now a total laughing stock - a country where we arrest the authors of light comedies and interrogate them about their tweets. It would be laughable if it wasn't so serious.

- Graham Linehan on his arrest today 🙅



5:35 AM · Sep 2, 2025



19.6K



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He also mocked the sheer scale of the police operation.

“In a country where paedophiles escape sentencing, where knife crime is out of control, where women are assaulted and harassed every time they gather to speak, the state had mobilised five armed officers to arrest a comedy writer for this tweet (and no, I promise you, I am not making this up).”

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Linehan, who recently appeared on *The Joe Rogan Experience*, has become one of the most outspoken critics of transgender ideology in Britain and Ireland.

Joe Rogan Experience #2361 - Graham Linehan



The arrest was widely condemned across social media by the likes of J.K. Rowling, Elon Musk and prominent politicians.

J.K. Rowling@jk_rowling · [Follow](#)

What the fuck has the UK become? This is totalitarianism. Utterly deplorable.

The Free Speech Union @SpeechUnion

When @Glinner landed at Heathrow, he was met by five armed police officers, and immediately arrested.

His 'crime'? Three gender-critical tweets.

As Graham says in his Substack:

"In a country where paedophiles escape sentencing, where knife crime is out of control, where women

7:56 AM · Sep 2, 2025

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Elon Musk

@elonmusk · Follow

Riley Gaines

@Riley_Gaines_

The UK is a police state that prioritizes abusers, pedophiles, minorities, and migrants at the expense of everyone else. And you can't call it out because free speech is gone, free expression is punished, and comedy is effectively illegal.

Did I get that right?

12:32 PM · Sep 2, 2025

75.4K

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Bev Turner on free speech and the arrest of Graham Linehan:

'Elon Musk says we're living in a police state. JD Vance is worried about the UK. I'll be raising this at the White House, it's clear free speech is one issue where Britain and America are worlds apart.'

[Watch on X](#)

2:39 PM · Sep 2, 2025



9.4K



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Ben Kew

Ben Kew is a writer and editor. Originally from the UK, he moved to the U.S. to cover Congress for Breitbart News and has since gone on to editorial roles at Human Events, Townhall Media, and Americano Media. He has also written for The Epoch Times, The Western Journal, and The Spectator.

You can [email Ben Kew here](#), and [read more of Ben Kew's articles here](#).



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CLINTON JUDGE STOPS TRUMP: Blocks National Guard in LA | Elijah Schaffer's Top Stories (VIDEO)



Rheumatologist: I Beg You! Don't Eat This If You Have Arthritis!

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- 3** WATCH: VP JD Vance Shuts Down 'Reporter' with a No-Nonsense Reply After She Questions Why Trump Admin. Blew Up Drug Trafficking Boat Carrying 11 Foreign Terrorists
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- 5** Epstein Victims and Survivors Speak Out for the FIRST TIME – Announce They Will RELEASE Their OWN Client List to Expose the Elite Pedophile Ring Cover-Up

This Week's Top Posts

- 1** 133.2K VIEWS: Exclusive: Letitia James Caught Harboring Fugitive! — Jailbird Niece is Hiding Out in Letitia's "Primary Residence" Mortgage Fraud Home in Virginia
- 2** 132.3K VIEWS: Sen. Rand Paul SHUTS DOWN Ex-CDC Official Trashing RFK Jr. With a Single Statement

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126.6K VIEWS: **Cause of Death Officially Revealed for Biden-Appointed US Attorney Found Dead in Her Home – Had Led High-Profile Investigations Into CIA Leaks and Russian Fraud Cases**

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124.9K VIEWS: **BREAKING: Rudy Giuliani Severely Injured in Car Accident**

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