Ghislaine Maxwell is under arrest and charged

British socialite Ghislaine Maxwell, an ex-girlfriend of convicted paedophile Jeffrey Epstein, has been charged in the US after being arrested by the FBI.

# Ghislaine Maxwell charges

Ghislaine Maxwell is accused of assisting Epstein’s abuse of minors by helping to recruit and groom underage victims.

After being arrested, they brought her to court and remanded in custody.

She previously denied any involvement in or knowledge of Epstein’s alleged sexual misconduct.

Furthermore, five of the six charges brought against her each carry a sentence of five years with the sixth punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

Four of the charges relate to the years 1994-97 when Ms Maxwell was among Epstein's closest associates and also in an "intimate relationship" with him. The other two charges are allegations of perjury in 2016.

Ghislaine Makwell is charged with conspiracies to entice minors to travel to engage in illegal sex acts and transport minors with intent to engage in criminal sexual activity. Additionally, she is charged with the actual activities of above listed.

Moreover, she allegedly attempted to befriend them and then she and Epstein built the friendships by taking minor victims to the cinema or shopping.

Having built a rapport, Ms Maxwell would try to normalise sexual abuse for a minor victim by discussing sexual topics, undressing in front of the victim. Apart from that she was present when a minor victim was undressed, and was present for sex acts involving the minor victim and Epstein.

# History of the case

Allegations against Epstein had dated back years before the parents of a 14-year-old girl said he had molested her in 2005.

Some of Epstein's alleged victims have accused Ms Maxwell of bringing them into his circle to be sexually abused by him and his friends.

Ghislaine Maxwell has denied any wrongdoing

Anyhow, Epstein died in prison on 10 August as he awaited, without the chance of bail, his trial on sex trafficking charges.

He was arrested last year in New York following allegations that he was running a network of underage girls. They determined his death as suicide.

Numerous victims in civil and criminal cases had identified Ghislaine Maxwell as the lead person who groomed them and delivered to Epstein.

Legal experts say as a charged co-conspirator, Ms Maxwell is just as liable for Epstein's crimes and faces the same potential punishment. Prosecutors probably have numerous witnesses ready to testify.