



Dear Simon,

To what extent Cameron's declared intention to lobby in favour of Remain is severely damaged by his Panama Lies?

The Panama Papers have been a big story here in the UK, both for the scale of the revelations and for the way that they have forced David Cameron into a very awkward position. While Cameron has done nothing illegal (based on what we know so far), his inability or unwillingness to give a straight answer when first asked about the allegations have meant this story has become more and more dangerous for him.

As far as the EU referendum is concerned, this all happens at a difficult stage in the debate, when the official campaign is about to begin and the Remain camp need to make the most of their advantages. Cameron is a key part in this, bringing the authority of his office and his extensive campaigning on the ground, so anything that calls into question his legitimacy is problematic.

At the same time, the extent to which this is actually damaging to Cameron or to Remain is very unclear. Public interest in the referendum is only slowly building, there is no obvious link between Panama and the EU, and the people most likely to think the worst of Cameron on this issue already had a negative opinion of him.

Best Wishes, Simon.