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Trends. Causal Attributions and the Subversion of Time: Would an Indictment of the Israeli Foreign

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The Israeli Foreign Minister may be indicted by the Israeli State Attorney on charges of fraud, bribery, and witness tampering. This possibility stems from investigating the suspicion that the Minister may have bribed a businessman to give false testimony on his behalf in a libel trial.

Parameters of time seem to be significantly influencing the probability of indictment. First, the alleged bribe was a trip to Russia with the Minister before the libel trial. During the trip, the businessman allegedly engaged in negotiations for a natural gas deal. Second, the businessman allegedly made a statement years before the trial that supports the contentions of those whom the Minister claimed engaged in libel. These comments seem to have been both disavowed and reinterpreted by the businessman after the trip and during the trial. Third, the Minister's lawyer claims that the businessman was not identified to be a witness in the trial until the Minister and the businessman were already in Russia. And the lawyer stated that he (the lawyer) resisted bringing the businessman to trial—proof (says the lawyer) that the businessman was not bribed for otherwise he (the lawyer) would have pressed for his (the businessman's) testimony.


(Keywords: Bribery, Corruption, Israel.)