Qatar offered to give $1 million to Bill Clinton's charity for his birthday

In a move that critics have slammed as a "pay for play" manoeuvre, officials from the small Persian Gulf nation requested to meet Mr. Clinton in order to present him with the cheque. According to emails released by WikiLeaks, the government of Qatar offered to donate one million dollars to Bill Clinton's charitable foundation in celebration of the former president's birthday. Critics have slammed the move as a "pay for play" manoeuvre, with officials from the small Persian Gulf nation requesting to meet Mr. Clinton to present him with the cheque.
Qatar offered to give $1 million to Bill Clinton's charity for his birthday

'(Qatar) Would like to see WJC "for five minutes" in NYC, to present $1 million check that Qatar promised for WJC's birthday in 2011,' Ami Desai, director of foreign policy for the Clinton Foundation wrote in an email, using the acronym for William Jefferson Clinton, the former president's full name.

The email, sent in 2012 and addressed to top operatives at the Clinton Foundation and key aides, also said Qatar was spending $20 million in Haiti, and that it would welcome "suggestions for investments" in the country from the Clinton Foundation.

Mr Desai's email is one of thousands of leaked from the account of John Podesta, the chairman of Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign.

The revelations come amid doubts over whether Mrs Clinton stayed true to her pledge to keep the Foundation divorced from her work as secretary of state between 2009 and 2013.

The concern was that governments may see the Clinton's charity as a way to gain favour with America's top diplomat.

Leaked emails released this summer by Judicial Watch, a conservative campaign group, show Doug Band, who helped to found the Clinton Global Initiative, tried and often succeeded in setting up meetings between donors and state department officials.

The emails from Mr Podesta's account also provide revealing foreign policy details. In one memo, Mrs Clinton, states that Saudi Arabia and Qatar, ostensibly two US allies, are providing "clandestine" "financial and logistic" help to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

Mr Podesta said earlier this week that he believed his account had been hacked by Russian intelligence officials intent on swaying the election in favour of Donald Trump. It is an allegation that Russia denies.

"This definitely is the first campaign that I've been involved with in which I've had to tangle with Russian intelligence agencies," Mr Podesta said, "who seem to be doing everything that they can on behalf of our opponent."

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