

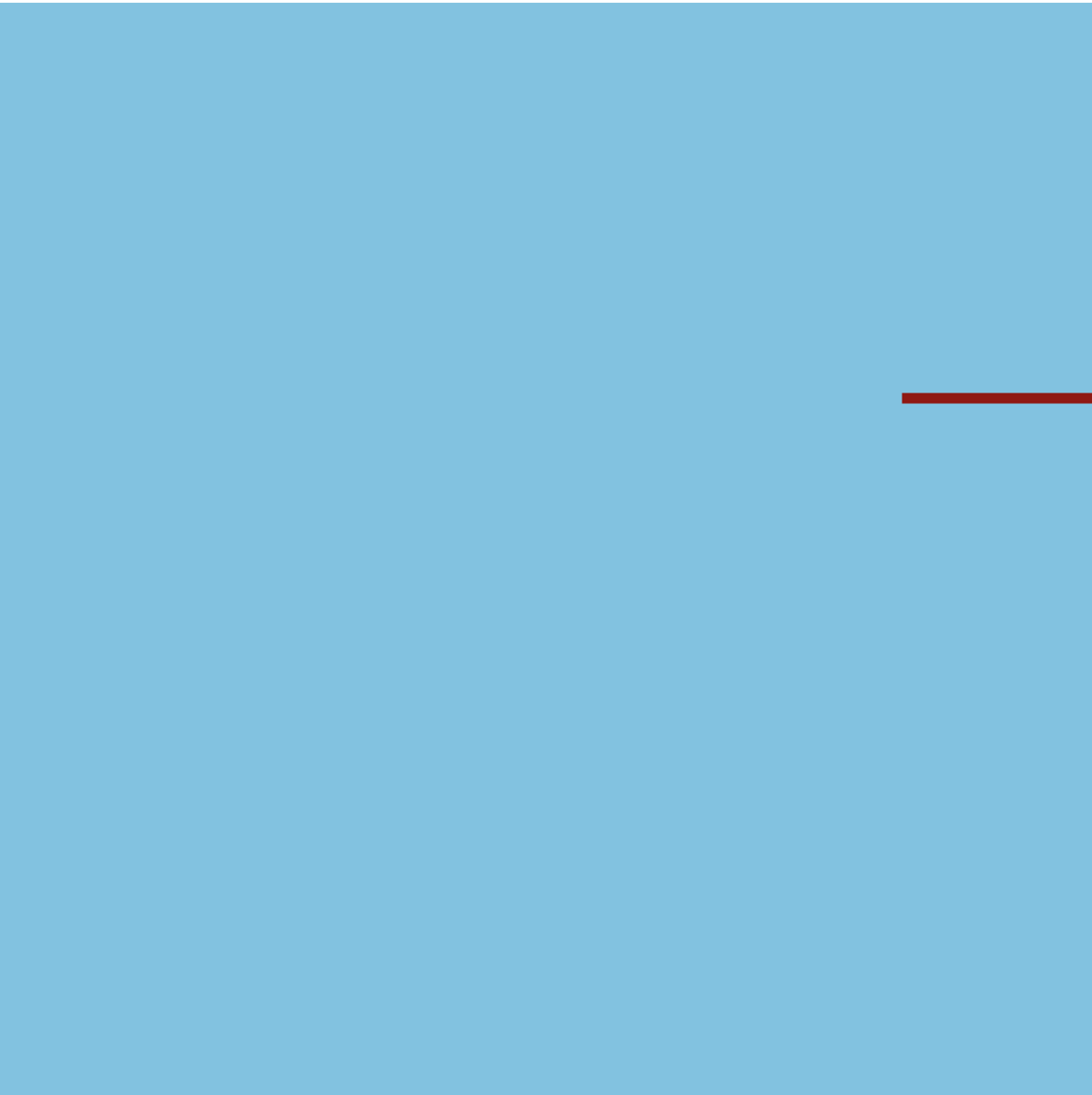
# ISLAS MALVINAS

**Facts & Fictions**



**50 years of Argentina's Action  
at the United Nations**

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In September 1964, José María Ruda, Argentina's Permanent Representative to the United Nations addressed the UN Sub-Committee III on the subject of the Malvinas Islands; this later became known as the "Ruda Statement" or "Alegato Ruda", in Spanish.

The Ruda Statement led to the adoption of Resolution 2065 (XX) by the UN General Assembly that confirmed Argentina's arguments that the Malvinas Islands belong to Argentina and that they are subject of British occupation. At the same time, it acknowledged that there is a sovereignty dispute between the two states over the Islands.

Ruda's 8000-word speech was celebrated by the international community, which endorsed Argentina's position. Ambassador Ruda gave a detailed account of the historical facts before and after the occupation of part of the Argentine territory and revealed that the British position is only based on force and a systematic colonization plan that it seeks to present today as relating to a "right" that the UK only describes as a "principle": that of the self-determination of peoples under colonial subjugation.

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# Fiction

“Britain claimed the Malvinas Islands in 1765, establishing a settlement at Port Egmont on Saunders Island, prior to any Spanish claim to the Islands. In January 1833, following the reassertion of British administration of the Islands, José María Pinedo, commander of the schooner Sarandí, an Argentine warship, prepared a report which shows that only the 26-man garrison were ordered to leave the Malvinas Islands, along with 11 women and 8 children who had accompanied them. The garrison itself had been established for less than three months.”

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“...those inhabitants who freely wished it should remain”

-- Alleged report by Pinedo

“Pinedo’s report details how Captain Onslow of HMS Clio ordered ‘...those inhabitants who freely wished it should remain’ and indeed many did so. Argentine residents who remained in the Islands included Antonina Roxa (a renowned gaucho and businesswoman who died in the Falklands in 1869) and Antonio Rivero.”

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# Fact

In 1520, the Malvinas Islands were discovered by the Magellan's expedition. All the Southern part of the Americas, coastline, seas and islands remained under Spanish sovereignty pursuant to several treaties signed during the historical period, such as the 1670 American Treaty between Spain and England. In 1764, France established the Port Louis settlement on Soledad Island. Spain protested and France withdrew in 1767, in a recognition of Spain's better title. England had already recognized Spain sovereignty over Malvinas when it declined to carry out an expedition in 1749 due to Spain's demands.

In 1820, the United Provinces of the River Plate sent Colonel David Jewett to take possession of the islands, as reflected in international newspapers of that time. The Argentine government took several actions in support of its sovereignty over the Islands, including the appointment of governors, enactment of legislation on fisheries and granting of international concessions. In 1825, Great Britain recognized Argentina as sovereign State, and made no reservations regarding Argentina's exercise of sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, which was public and peaceful.

On 3 January 1833, the Clio Corvette of the British Royal Navy invaded the Malvinas on behalf of the Crown, and took over Puerto Soledad by force. On January 15, the Government of Argentina protested to the British Charge d'Affairs in Buenos Aires, who replied *he lacked instructions*. On 24 April 1833, the Argentine Representative in London presented a note of protest to His Majesty's Government, which he reiterated on June 17, in a lengthy and documented memorandum. **Since then, Argentina has repeated its protests against the act of force and illegal occupation.**



LONDON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 1841.  
**THE CAPTURE OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.**  
[FROM THE BOARD OF THE NEW ENGLAND COASTWARDERS, AUGUST 2.]  
 Captain Oniz, who arrived here on Thursday last from the Falkland Islands, has furnished us with the following account:—  
**CIRCULAR.**  
 "We have the honor to inform you as we arrived at this port, to take possession of these islands in the name of the His Majesty's Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain. The capture was publicly performed on the 31st day of November, and the command was issued to the fleet, under a salute from the Flag-Ship. It is my desire to see towards all vessels that with the most distinguished justice and hospitality, that I will give my orders to all and make such as may require them, to assist refreshments with all such civilities and respect as possible. I have to beg of you to communicate this intelligence to any other vessel of your country whom you may encounter."  
 I am, Sir, &c. &c. JEWETT,  
 Colonel of the Marine of the United Provinces of South America, Commandant of the Ship *Atrevida*."



Documentos de protesta de 1833 en el nombre del Representante Argentino en Londres, en respuesta a la ocupación de las Islas Malvinas por el Reino Unido.

# Fiction

"In the 1840s, British families did begin to settle in the Islands of their own free will. Descendants of those families are now ninth generation of those living in the Islands. However, it was not just British workers who arrived in the Islands in search of a new life."

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"Llamosa's son, Pedro was born in the Islands and went on to farm on West Falkland in his own right. 50 years after Ruda described Islanders as British implants, the sixth generation of Llamosa's descendants were born in the Malvinas Islands."

"Other notable settlers arrived from Scandinavia (the Larsens), Gibraltar (the Pitalugas) and Canada (the Aldridges). As of 2012 Census, 61 separate nationalities resided in the Malvinas Islands."

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# Fact

The act of force of 1833 was part of the imperialist policies of the European powers in the Americas, Africa and Asia during the XIX century. The invasion of the Malvinas as well as the two British attempts to invade Buenos Aires in 1806 and 1807 must be understood in this context, i.e. the British pursuit of a strategic point in the South Atlantic. Argentina was expelled from the islands in 1833 when Great Britain invaded the islands. The Argentine authorities settled there were forced to leave by the British fleet. Most of the settlers in Puerto Soledad had had to leave for Montevideo after the American attack of 1832.

After the invasion, the British Government designed the composition of the population of the islands by importing settlers of British origin as part of a colonization plan which persists to this day. As the British Secretary of Foreign Affairs recognized in his letter of 5 March 1842: *"Her Majesty having in the exercise of the Sovereign Rights, directed a permanent system of British Colonization to be established in those Islands."* As a result of this colonization plan and strict immigration control, Argentines from the mainland are not allowed to reside or own property in the islands thus preserving the fabricated "Britishness" of the place.



Contrary to what the UK describes as "free will" immigration not restricted to British nationals, the plan to colonize the islands with settlers of British origin was expressly designed by the Commissioners of the Crown Lands and Emigration as early as 1840; non British were only allowed to stay and work in farming as but not as "settlers", a condition only reserved for British nationals entitled to reside and own land.

The unbound booklet by the illegal government of the Islands posts photos of families who settled in Malvinas last century. Argentines were not allowed to reside or buy land after the invasion.

# Fiction

"In November 1849, the 'Convention of Peace' was signed between Felipe Arana (on behalf of the Argentine Confederation) and Henry Southern (on behalf of the United Kingdom)."

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**"The Convention of Peace was ratified on 15th May 1850 in Buenos Aires and resolved all the outstanding issues between Argentina and the United Kingdom, restoring 'perfect friendship' between the two nations. This includes the dispute over the Malvinas Islands."**

"Between 1850 and the 1940s the Argentine Congress did not raise the issue of the Malvinas Islands once. For almost one century after the Convention of Peace was signed, with the exception of an exchange of diplomatic letters between Britain and Argentina disputing a proposed new map of Argentina created by the Government of Argentina (the so-called 'Affair of the Map' between 1884 and 1888)."

"There was no formal protest from the Government of Argentina until a brief mention of the Argentine claim in the ceremonial message opening Congress in 1941."

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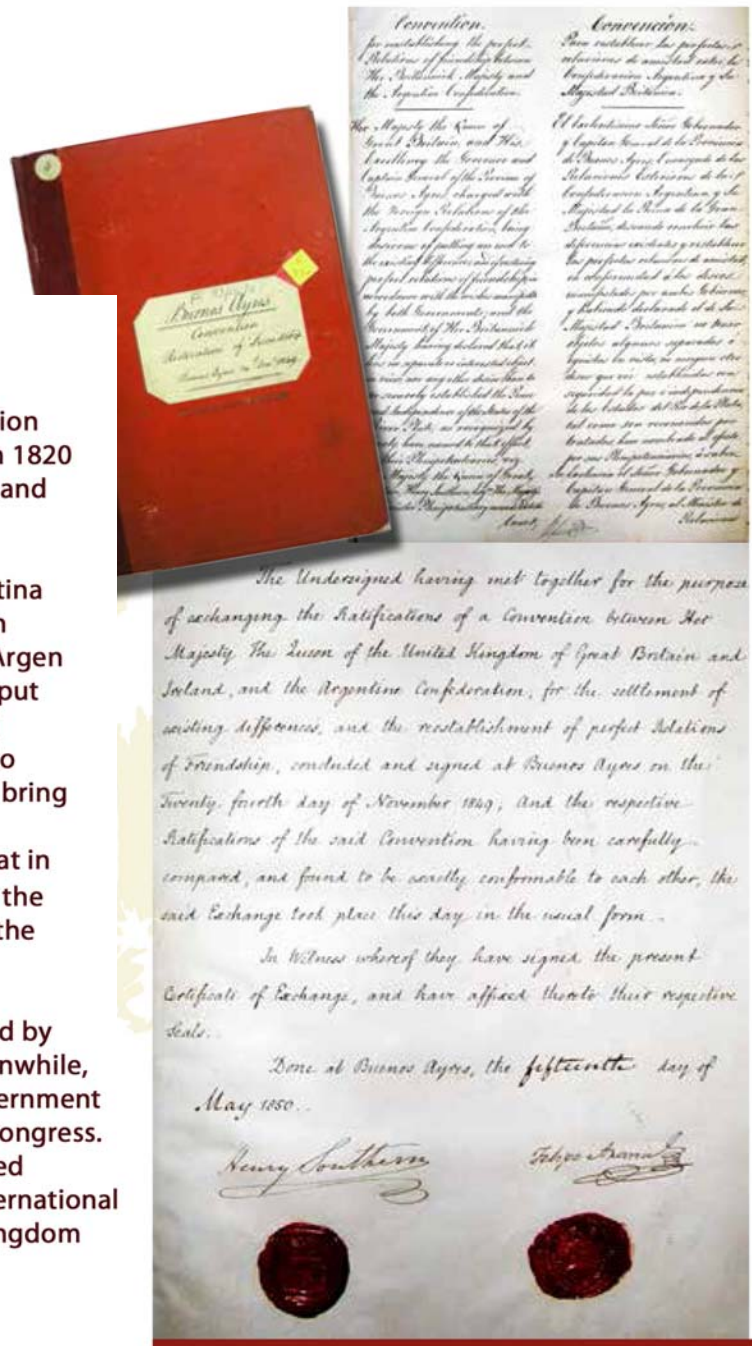
# Fact

At no time did England object to the Argentine settlement of the Malvinas, despite the fact that extremely important legal acts had taken place between the two countries, such as the signing of the Treaty of Friendship, Trade and Navigation of February 1825.

This instrument does not contain any British reservation whatsoever on Malvinas Islands despite the action in 1820 and other acts that the Government had carried out and authorized regarding the Islands.

In forcing any argument to seek to justify that Argentina did what it never did - i.e. drop the claim - the UK even distorts the scope of the 1850 Convention between Argentina and Great Britain. This agreement was meant to put an end to the naval blockade imposed by the UK and France in the River Plate and all its provisions relate to the need to solve the situation in the River Plate and bring back trade and political stability. It has no relation whatsoever with the Malvinas Islands. So much so that in 1849, **after** signing the Convention, Rosas referred to the sovereignty claim over the islands in his message to the Legislative house.

The issue remained unsettled and this was recognised by the British Foreign Secretary in 1849. Argentina, meanwhile, continued to raise the issue at different levels of government and it became a subject of debate in the Argentine Congress. In 1884, in view of the lack of response to the repeated protests, Argentina proposed to take the issue to international arbitration, which was also rejected by the United Kingdom without any reasons provided.

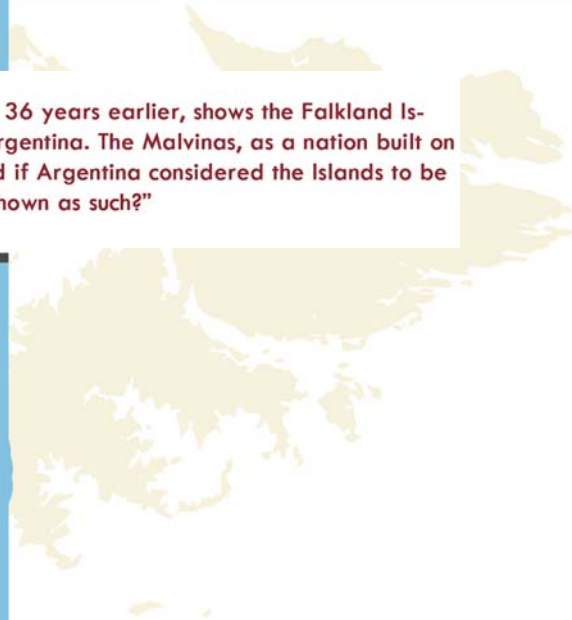


# Fiction

"In 1882, 42 years after the Convention of Peace, the Director of the Office for National Statistics of Argentina, Dr Franciso Latzina produced a map of Argentina, funded by the Argentine Treasury. This map, produced in Spanish, showed Argentine territory in a dark rusty colour and non-Argentine territory (such as Uruguay and Chile) in a paler beige. In this map, the Falkland Islands are shown in the pale beige."

"An alleged map, as with the Latzina Map 36 years earlier, shows the Falkland Islands in a different colour to continental Argentina. The Malvinas, as a nation built on sheep farming, are clearly agricultural and if Argentina considered the Islands to be part of Argentina, why then are they not shown as such?"

"Finally, there is no established international law or principle that relates proximity to sovereignty – if there was, the world would likely look very different: the Channel Islands might be part of France, and St Pierre and Miquelon would be Canadian."



# Fact

In 1790, with the signing of the Treaty of San Lorenzo del Escorial, Great Britain undertook not to establish any settlements on either the eastern or the western coasts of South America or on the adjacent islands already occupied by Spain, which was the case with the Malvinas Islands. Spain appointed a succession of 32 governors until 1811, when the garrison at Puerto Soledad was required from Montevideo to defend the monarchy at the beginning of the War of Independence. The first autonomous government of the United Provinces of the River Plate referred to the Malvinas Islands in various administrative acts. Malvinas were integral part of their territory, inherited from Spain by succession of States under the *uti possidetis juris* principle of 1810.



Officer Jewett took possession of the Malvinas Islands on behalf of the United Provinces of the River Plate at the public ceremony in Puerto Soledad, which was attended by sealers and whalers of different nationalities. There was no official comment from Great Britain, as Argentina's possession was public, effective and peaceful.

In 1829, the Duke of Wellington stated: *"I have perused the enclosed papers respecting the Falkland Islands. It is not clear to me that we have ever possessed the sovereignty of all those islands. The Convention certainly goes no further than to restore to us Port Gumont, which we abandoned nearly sixty years ago."*

In reality, Great Britain never possessed the totality of the archipelago.

Argentina's officials had never had any doubt that the Islands belong to Argentina. During the XIX century Argentina's maps reflected Argentina's sovereignty over the islands. Among others, the 1882 Lutzina Map depicts the islands as "Islas Malvinas" and part of Argentina. The islands are coloured in the same pale beige used for Buenos Aires (the map depicts different opportunities for immigrants; regions apt for farming in whole Argentine territory are depicted with different shades of colour). In 1886, Argentina's Geographical Institute published a map depicting Tierra del Fuego Governance which included Malvinas. In 1918, the islands are presented as "Islas Malvinas" and hence part of Argentina on a map issued by the Agricultural Ministry that depicted the whole Argentine territory in different shades and colours according to degree of agricultural development and availability of railroad networks.

# Fiction

**“The Falklands Islands Constitution reflects the democratic processes undertaken by the people of the Falkland Islands to devolve from the United Kingdom to the Government of the Falkland Islands. The Falkland Islands are internally self-governing economically self-sufficient and are the Overseas Territory of the United Nations.”**

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**“Our democratic way of life was further demonstrated in March 2013 when in an internationally-observed referendum, we went to the polls, with 99.8% of those who voted choosing to remain a British Overseas Territory. Our relationship with the United Kingdom is one based on mutual respect.”**

**“Self-determination: Falkland Islanders, who can trace heritage back nine generations in the Islands from Europe and Latin America, have the right to freely determine their own future and political allegiance. The Falkland Islanders have the right to self-determination by virtue of being on the UN list of Non Self Governing Territories; there is no exception to this. The Secretary General has confirmed that the UK is not in breach of any UN resolution on the Falkland Islands.”**

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# Fact

The Malvinas Islands are in a different situation from that of the classical colonial case. *De facto and de jure*, they belonged to the Argentine Republic in 1833 and were governed by Argentine authorities and inhabited by Argentine settlers. These authorities were ejected by violence and not allowed to remain in the territory. Most of them had been forced to leave after the 1832 attack. On the contrary, they were replaced, during those years of usurpation, by a colonial administration and a population of British origin.

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Thus there is no “people subjected to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation”, as required by UNGA Resolution 1415 (XV). Instead, there is a temporary population made up of British settlers that occupies the land and one that cannot be used by the colonial power in order to claim the right to apply the principle of self-determination. The basic principle of self-determination should not be used in order to transform an illegal possession into full sovereignty under the mantle of protection which would be given by the United Nations. To allow the British settlers on the Islands to decide on a sovereignty dispute to which their country is a party would distort the very noble spirit of self-determination of people suffering colonialism.

The inhabitants of the islands are British subjects who have stayed on the islands under the protection of a strict migratory policy that has discriminated systematically against mainland Argentines. The unilateral act that only the UK describes as a “referendum” and was held by for the inhabitants that the UK settled in the Malvinas Islands was intended to ask them about questions that gloss over the true legal status of the Islands. The predictable result confirmed that the subjects in question are British, does not modify the colonial nature of the issue and cannot bring an end to the dispute. Contrary to what the UK claims there were no “international observers” **but eight individuals acting in their exclusively personal capacity**. Neither the UN nor any other international organization recognized this illegal move. The UN and several international bodies have continued to call both Argentina and the UK to solve the dispute pursuant to UN resolutions.

**Regional organizations, such as Mercosur, Unasur and Alba rejected the “referendum” and reiterated their support for the legitimate rights of the Argentina in the sovereignty dispute.**

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**As well as the top five facts you have just read, in recent years, the UK increased its rhetoric about other topics relating to the Malvinas Islands.**

**The Intercept has revealed how UK spied on Argentina government officials and how it decided to carry out a plan to shape public opinion in Latin America, by creating institutions, programs and plans funded by the UK government and through social media.**

**The illegal government has authorized illegal hydrocarbon activities and granted an outstanding number of illegal licenses for fishing.**

**Finally, the UK has increased drastically the military presence.**

**The consequences of the British unilateral acts are not limited to the present, since they will continue to have an impact in the future generations.**

**The peaceful recovery of the Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands and the Surrounding Maritime Areas is a permanent and unrelinquished objective of the Argentine people.**





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for  
Friends and family of those  
who seek the Truth**