

**Forum:** Historical Security Council (HSC)

**Issue:** (202) The Question of The Conflict over the Ownership of the Falklands

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**Position:** President

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## Introduction

“We have to see that the spirit of the South Atlantic—the real spirit of Britain—is kindled not only by war but can now be fired by peace. We have the first prerequisite. We know that we can do it—we haven't lost the ability. That is the Falklands Factor,” says Margaret Thatcher, British Conservative stateswoman and later Prime Minister, on July 3rd, 1982.

The Falklands Conflict, often referred to as the Falklands War, was a territorial dispute of the islands' sovereignty between Great Britain and Argentina, with the Falklands known as Islas Malvinas in Argentina. The Falklands was an overseas territory of Britain that is located in the South Atlantic, over 8,000 miles away from its host country, and its sovereignty has been challenged by Argentina since 1833. Despite the dissatisfaction of Falkland citizens and their opposition to the Argentine government and its claims, in 1982, Argentina President Leopoldo Galtieri took control of the island by force. This action soon came to the British government's attention; in return, they launched all of the British troops with the purpose of regaining ownership over the Falklands. Military engagements between Britain and Argentina soon escalated, and many islanders were incarcerated or deported by the Argentine forces.

Finally, the conflict ended when Argentina's forces surrendered on June 14th of the same year. A total of 907 lives were lost after the 74-day conflict, with 649 Argentine soldiers, 255 British soldiers, and 3 Falkland Islanders. Peace and security have been deeply threatened in the Falklands region, causing inevitable consequences to the area's history. Even though the area is now protected by British Forces of the South Atlantic Islands, the territorial dispute remains unsolved and requires immediate attention to settle this historical conflict.

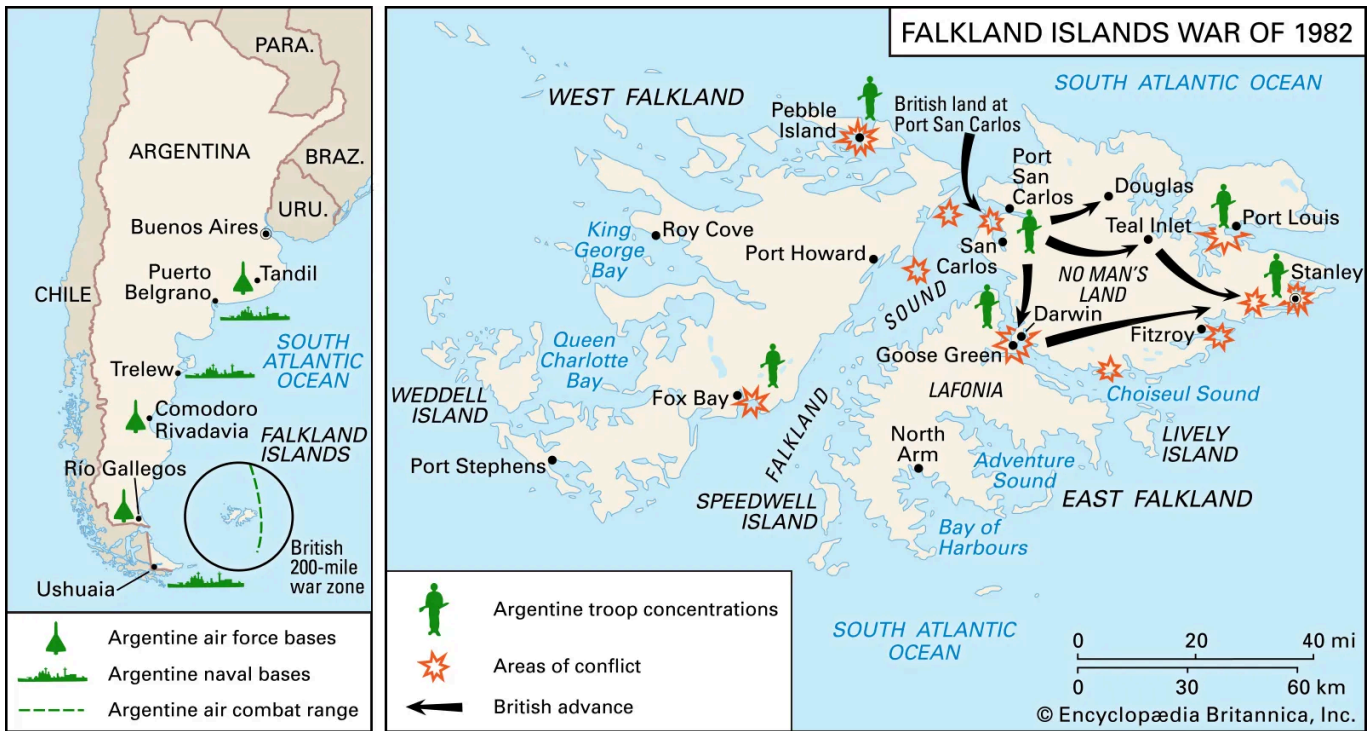


Figure 1. Diagram of the Falklands Conflict, with the left showing the war zone, and the right showing routes of the British forces.

As this is a Historical Security Council, the Chairs would like to ask delegates to refrain from using information after 2009 regarding the territorial disputes of the Falklands and confine themselves in the time frame of this event. Delegates may still research the resolutions of the Falklands conflict, but the event should be treated as if it hasn't been resolved yet. The chairs encourage all delegates to introduce innovative solutions to this dispute, and to "rewrite history."

## Definition of Key Terms

### Sovereignty -

Sovereignty is the authority of a state's own governance without having to rely on another state to control and oversee the country itself. The dispute between Britain and Argentina consists of a conflict between who has sovereignty over the Falklands, with both parties claiming rightful ownership over the area. However, this dispute is temporarily resolved with the British regaining its sovereignty over the Falklands despite the effort Argentina made to claim sovereignty over the territory.

### Overseas Territories -

Overseas territories are territories of the same country that are separated by sea bodies, and usually far away from said country's mainland. This will often lead to false territorial claims by nearby nations, generating unnecessary tension between nations, and potentially causing military engagements to arise between both countries. As the Falklands is an overseas territory of Britain, Britain still has sovereignty over the area, but this sovereignty and territory has been challenged by Argentina, in which their President decided to invade the area by force.

### *Isla Malvinas -*

Isla Malvinas is the phrase that the Argentine government uses to refer to the Falklands Island, named by early French settlers when they once conquered this island. Historically, the Island has been claimed by several different host countries in the order of France, Spain, Britain, and Argentina. As the Falklands were unoccupied before, the first settlers were the English people, with the first reported sighting being an English navigator named Captain John Davis in 1592. The sovereignty dispute has long been debated upon, with the most significant being the conflict with Argentina.

### *Territorial Dispute -*

A territorial dispute is a conflict between multiple states on the sovereignty or the ownership of an area that has never been claimed or a rightful region of another nation. In this case, the Falklands conflict is a territorial dispute between Britain and Argentina on Isla Malvinas, later known as the Falklands. Territorial disputes can often lead to armed war when countries are unable to come to a consensus on addressing the ownership on a piece of land, thus involving casualties of indigenous people that occupied the islands long ago, which is also seen in the Falklands conflict with indigenous Falklands people injured because of the armed dispute between Britain and Argentina.

### *Margaret Thatcher -*

Margaret Thatcher, then British prime minister during 1979 to 1990 and politician of the Conservative Party, was significant in British politics and history, serving as the first-ever prime minister of any country in Europe. Her efforts in the Falklands War was noteworthy, as she sent a task force to respond to the Argentine invasion of the Falklands, officially starting the Falklands War. This action contributed to enhancing her international relationships with great world leaders of the same era, most notably, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States during 1981 to 1989.

### *Task Force -*

A task force is an armed force or an unit sent to a particular area during a military crisis. In this case, it is the military force that the British army issued to the Falklands to regain their territory. On May 2 1982, the British task force reached the Falklands and launched an attack on Port Stanley, one of the most significant ports located in its capital. This attack was later known as the Black Buck Raids. This task force consists of 127 ships with several units from the British army, including a reinforced troop from the Blues and Royals of the British army.



Figure 2. Diagram of the British task force route

### *Operation Corporate -*

Operation Corporate is the code name for the first attack that then British Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, initiated on the Falklands occupied by the Argentine forces. This operation was also known as the very first military advance since World War II that deployed all branches of the British army simultaneously. Consisting of 127 ships, including war ships, submarines, and other vessels, this Operation carried over 8,000 troops, aircraft, and equipment to the Falklands to mitigate the territorial dispute.

### *Operation Rosario -*

Operation Rosario is the codename for Argentina's invasion of the Falklands, launched on April 2 1982, under the claims of the Argentine government that Falklands is their territory. Approximately 600 Argentine troops were deployed for this mission; after immediate landings in the Falklands, the defending British forces that were ten times less in size surrendered the same day, leaving the local government in Stanley to be occupied by the Argentine forces. After the Argentine government claimed the Falklands as their own with this military advance, the British government soon took a swift response to counter their attack and to initiate Operation Corporate to regain ownership over the Falklands.

## History

The history of the Falklands dates back to the 19th century, when Argentina had claimed sovereignty over the area. However, after Britain seized control of the Falklands forcefully and drove out the remaining Argentine occupants, the Falklands was then declared British territory. After this incident, the British have consistently declined Argentina's claim over the region. During this period, the Argentine government called for negotiations between the two countries to settle the territorial dispute and address the sovereignty of the Falklands, but all attempts failed miserably. In early 1982, the then Argentine military junta gave up on negotiations and launched an invasion on the Falklands. Reasons behind this sudden invasion was political motivations, as the junta was criticized for their economic mismanagement and human right abuse during that time; therefore, they believed regaining control over the Falklands can reunite the Argentine civilians and ignite patriotism within the country. This invasion was supposed to be a secret operation, but its invasion was called for prior to the scheduled date, as there was another territorial dispute on the Georgia Islands between Britain and Argentina on March 19 1982.

Finally, the Argentine forces invaded the Falklands on April 2nd, leading to the surrender of British on-island troops, and soon gained control over the capital, Stanley, and its port, Port Stanley. By late April, over 10,000 Argentine troops were stationed all over Falklands, although most of them were undertrained soldiers without supply of adequate clothing, food, and shelter. Fortunately, this invasion successfully reignited Argentine civilians' support of the military junta, fulfilling the initial goal of Argentina's invasion. In response to the invasion,

the British forces were commanded by Margaret Thatcher, then Prime Minister, who assembled a naval force consisting of aircrafts and cruise ships. Even though most European countries voiced support for Britain's actions and retracted their troops from Argentine bases; conversely, most Latin American countries were in favor of Argentina's invasion.

Two other major countries that were involved in the conflict were Chile and the United States of America (USA). Chile was one of the Latin American countries that supported Britain instead of Argentina, due to another territorial dispute over the Beagle Channel with Argentina. As Argentina were mitigating another territorial dispute during the period of British operations, this led to them keeping their elite troops in mainland Argentina, instead of in the Falklands where they would participate in military engagement with Britain. The USA, originally predicted to be neutral by the Argentine government, actually offered full support to the UK, providing NATO allies the use of communication equipment and cooperating with military intelligence.

The first military engagement between Britain and Argentina was on May 2nd 1982, when an Argentine ship was found sunk by a British submarine. This led to the cautious approach of keeping ships in port, and increasing dependence on air forces along with newly made German submarines. Therefore, the main conflict was between British naval forces and Argentine air forces. The Argentine aircrafts were not as advanced when compared to British equipment, and was fully reliant on the skills and techniques of pilots to prove the efficiency of such weaponry. In contrast, the British ships remain away from Argentine aircrafts' combat radius, except when they're closing in to attack the Argentine aircrafts. However, the British also encountered problems with their heavy reliance on aircraft carriers that are subject to attacks from Argentine aircrafts, and losing one of them would have promised immediate withdrawal, increasing the vulnerability of British ships.

On May 21, with military engagement between Argentine aircrafts and British ships still happening, one party of the British troops landed on Falklands. After defeating the Argentine defenders from Port San Carlos that they landed on, they had to advance southward, but were faced with extreme weather conditions. Eventually, the British overcame this issue and regained full control of Stanley, cutting off all supplies in an attempt to starve the Argentine forces. Thus, the Argentine government surrendered on June 14.

After this conflict, approximately 11,140 Argentine troops were captured and released afterwards. Both parties lost over 200 to 600 soldiers in this operation, and highlighted the importance of air superiority and surveillance, which the British were unable to achieve. Argentina's military junta was strongly criticized after their failed attempt to seize the Falklands, restoring civilian rule in the following year. On the other hand, the Prime Minister of the UK received widespread support from the civilians, securing her victory in the upcoming Parliamentary election in 1983.



## Key Issues

Since 1833, the Falklands have experienced colonialism, with the British taking control over the Argentine land. This has led to Argentina's claims over the Falklands, and since then seeing British occupation as a form of colonialism instead of rightful ownership. This leads to one of the major issues of the Falklands conflict, **the ambiguity of rightful ownership**. Historically, ownership was established by the first conqueror of the land, but can then be taken by other countries upon the original nation's defeat. In the case of the Falklands, the rightful owner to the Falklands would then be France, if considered in this perspective, as they are the very first permanent settlers of this area. After several ownership transitions, this conflict is now a repeated territorial dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom on the rightful ownership of the Falklands, with both parties believing that they are and should be the rightful owners of the Falklands. Even though multiple states such as Spain and France have also exerted control over the land, they have been able to peacefully transfer its ownership to the succeeding settler. This highlights the ambiguity of rightful ownership of the Falklands, as Argentina and the United Kingdom cannot come to an agreement on who is more legitimate in acquiring ownership over the land.

Furthermore, the Falklands War was also greatly influenced by **national pride and civilian interests**, as the loss of the Falklands served as a historical grievance to Argentina with their values and identity associated with the Falklands. Deeply resonating with the Argentines, this national belief has later led to the support to invade Falklands and regain its control over the land by defeating the British, serving as a major motivation to the start of the Falklands War. As the Falklands War carried on, Argentina was defeated, and the UK reasserted its control over the islands. This has increased the UK's commitment to enhance sovereignty over the region, **increasing the division of the two countries**, hindering later efforts to reconnect both nations and initiate negotiations. Additionally, Argentina continues to claim sovereignty over the Falklands region despite their defeat back in 1982, arguing that decolonization efforts should have included the Falklands territories too, but when respecting the sovereignty of the islanders, with most of them being of British descent, they all wish to remain under British rule. Even though the UN has made efforts to facilitate negotiations between both parties, the **lack of enforcement of resolutions** serves as a major issue regarding the status of the islands. Without international consensus, and with the ongoing conflict between Argentina and the UK, it is difficult to enhance any actions without a clear resolution to this pressing issue.

Regarding the motivations behind this ongoing conflict, **economic interests such as natural resources, fishing, and oil exploration** serve as important factors that increase the willingness of both nations to acquire this land. Falklands is home to many fish and oil reserves, enhancing a nation's fishing industry and economic interests by strengthening their access to natural resources. As both countries have interests in these resources, therefore increasing the difficulty of achieving consensus and complicating negotiations in face of significant economic benefits. Last but not least, **international division** serves as another major factor of this issue. The international

community is divided into two parties: one supporting Argentina and the other supporting the UK. Argentina, supported by most Latin American nations, continue to believe UK's occupation over the Falklands is an act of colonialism, and see this dispute as an effort of anti-colonialism to return their rightful land to Argentina. Conversely, the UK strengthens its military presence in the South Atlantic to deter any future claims by Argentina, and is supported by Western European and North American countries such as the USA, who provided military assistance and participated in intelligence sharing. These issues enhance the territorial dispute of the Falklands, complicating negotiations, and increasing the difficulty for consensus to be met by both parties.

## Major Parties Involved and Their Views

### *Argentina -*

Argentina, one of the major actors in the Falklands Conflict, initiated its attack on the Falklands on April 2nd, 1982, sparking one of the largest conflicts in scale since the end of World War II. Argentina has long claimed its ownership of the Falklands after the French retreat from the Falklands since the 19th century, but the area has been seized by the British by 1833.

With the island located 300 miles away from Argentina, the Argentine government, out of a combination of political and economic factors, decided to regain its control over the Falklands. During that period, the military junta is meeting issues of domestic unrest due to economic mismanagement and cases of human rights abuses, leading to the belief that regaining control over the Falklands turns the public focus away from internal issues. Deploying over 100,000 troops to the Falklands, the Argentine forces rapidly occupied Stanley, the capital of the Falklands. Despite their success, the insufficient gears to bear through the long winter led to the surrender of Argentina after British military engagement on June 14, 1982. However, tension remains between Argentina and UK, with Argentine leaders trying to regain control of the Falklands, and value their sense of territorial integrity.

### *United Kingdom (UK) -*

Faced with the Argentine invasion of the Falklands, then Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher condemned the actions of Argentina, and declared an area of war zone around the Falklands. The British then assembled a naval force with 127 ships, known as Operation Corporate, marking one of the largest military operations after World War II. On April 5, 1982, the operation officially set sail, accompanied by several aircraft and support vessels carrying troops and equipment. On April 30, 1982, the British established a 200-mile war zone around the Falklands to deter Argentine naval and air forces. After an extensive conflict between the Argentine and British forces, British forces landed at San Carlos, East Falkland, on May 21, leading to the regaining of Port Stanley on June 14.



Due to the success of this conflict, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher enhanced her popularity within the UK and secured her position in the Conservative Party, serving as a major milestone for the success of the Conservative Party in the UK elections held in 1983. This war influenced the public deeply by increasing public sentiment and fostering a sense of national pride and unity in the UK. Nowadays, the Falklands still remain British overseas territory, but the ongoing claims of the Falklands are still unresolved.

### *United States of America (USA) -*

The USA repeatedly voiced support for a peaceful resolution instead of immediate military confrontation regarding the sovereignty of the Falklands, and have stayed neutral in the start of this conflict. This is due to their wish to preserve both the relationships with Argentina and UK, along with asserting political influence in South America, where the Falklands is located. However, as the conflict escalated, the USA shifted its support to the UK, with the government providing support such as intelligence sharing and military supplies to British forces. US navy ships were also seen transporting supplies and goods to the South Atlantic Ocean, and American bases are used for British aircraft refuels, and assisted in monitoring Argentine movements for the UK.

Nevertheless, the US has received requests from both Argentina and UK for LANDSAT imagery (satellite images) under existing agreements, reflecting the challenges and complicated relationships with both parties. After the conflict, the relationship between the UK and US strengthened, while the relationship between the US and Argentina worsened, leading to resentment in the Latin American region, viewing US actions as favoring colonialism over rightful sovereignty.

### *Chile -*

During the 1980s, Chile has had questionable ties with Argentina under the dictatorship of General Augusto Pinochet, with constant territorial disputes in the Beagle Channel. This rivalry established Chile's efforts in going against Argentine ambitions, along with their invasion of the Falklands. As the conflict unfolds, Chile voiced support over British forces, becoming the first country in South America to support the UK over Argentina. They exchanged critical intelligence and information to the British forces, monitored and decrypted Argentine communication, while supporting the British Air Force through having the Chilean Air Force fly alongside British aircrafts. Apart from these support, they also took active action towards Argentina, including utilizing radio waves to disrupt Argentine communication, broadcasting offensive messages that aim to demoralize Argentine troops, and displaying forces on the border with Argentina to distract their forces. The result of this conflict led to increased diplomatic support from the UK, while lifting arms restrictions in Chile, and promised future military cooperation and arms sales.

### *France -*

Before the war was initiated, France sold Argentina five missiles that would later be put into combat against the UK in the Falklands Conflict, effective in sinking British ships and causing significant casualties. However, as the war progressed, France leaned towards support from the UK despite their initial assistance to Argentina. This included having an embargo on arm sales with Argentina, allowing French ports situated in West Africa to be opened for British naval vessels, and providing information to the British on the missiles given prior the war along with possible means to counteract them. Despite the ultimate support given, the French were undergoing an internal disagreement on this conflict. Several French officials criticized Britain’s actions while highlighting the possibility of colonialism, directly contradicting the policy decisions made by the French government. Additionally, reports have shown France leaving a technical team in Argentina during the conflict, leading to the public questioning the loyalty of French forces.

*United Nations Security Council (UNSC) -*

On April 3, 1982, the UNSC adopted Resolution 502, officially condemning the invasion of Argentine forces on the Falklands. The resolution called for immediate withdrawal of Argentine forces from the Falklands, and is significant for representing formal international response to the issue, exercising the power of the Security Council. Although facing abstentions from some Permanent 5 countries (China and Russian Federation), this attempt is notable as it directly addresses the armed conflict.

**Timeline of Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events**

Date	Event
1764	<b>French Occupation in Falklands</b> - The French marked the first occupation of the Falklands in 1764, when French navigator Louis Antoine de Bougainville settled at Port Louis on the East Falklands. This marked the start of European colonization of the area, and named the islands Îles Malouines.
1765 - 1770	<b>First British Settlement</b> - British established settlement at Port Egmont on West Falklands. However, this settlement was challenged by Spain, and expelled the British from the islands in 1770.
1771 - 1774	<b>British Return</b> - British returned its settlement by 1771, but withdrew again by 1774 when Spain arrived on the Falklands.
1774 - 1811	<b>Spain Settlement</b> - Spain settled in the Falklands during this time period, but withdrew in 1811 when there were conflicts related to Argentine independence.
1820 - 1833	<b>Argentine Occupation</b> - After declaring their independence from Spain in 1816, Argentina decided to occupy the Falklands. During that period, the island was largely unoccupied by permanent settlers after the Spanish withdrawal.

1833 - 1945	<b>Second British Settlement</b> - British forces expelled Argentine forces in 1833, and regained control over the Falklands, although facing protests from Argentine forces. Population grew significantly after British settlement.
1945	<b>Argentina's Renewed Claims</b> - Argentina constantly claimed ownership over the Falklands, while the UN encouraged negotiations between both parties. Various diplomatic talks happened prior to the Falklands War, but there was no consensus reached.
December 16, 1965	<b>UN Resolution 2065</b> - This resolution was adopted by the General Assembly, calling for negotiations between Argentina and UK to resolve the issue peacefully, marking the beginning of international attention and recognition of the issue.
April 2, 1982	<b>Start of the Falklands War</b> - Argentina invaded the Falklands, officially starting the Falklands Conflict. This action was initiated by the Argentine military junta to regain civilian support and strengthen economic control.
April 3, 1982	<b>UN Resolution 502</b> - This resolution is an official formal response from the Security Council to the Falklands Conflict, condemning Argentine invasion, and calling for withdrawal of Argentine forces in Falklands.
April 5, 1982	<b>British Dispatchment of Naval Task Force</b> - This task force, also known as Operation Corporate, has the goal of retaking the islands and deploying significant military resources.
June 14, 1982	<b>Surrender of Argentine Forces</b> - The conflict ended when Argentine forces surrendered on June 14, 1982, and the islands were occupied by Britain again.
March 28, 1983	<b>Falkland Islands Government Act 1983</b> - This framework called for self-governance of the region, and to grant British citizenship to residents of the Falklands.

## Evaluation of Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

### *United Nations Involvement in 1965 -*

The United Nations has exercised its influence over the Falklands by introducing several resolutions regarding the issue, aiming to resolve the issue prior to the conflict and also after the Argentine invasion. Two significant resolutions are Resolution 2065 adopted by the General Assembly and Resolution 502 adopted by the Security Council, with the former introducing peaceful resolutions prior to the Falklands War and the latter calling for immediate actions to cease after the Argentine invasion. Adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 16th, 1965, Resolution 2065 is known for its efforts to call for a peaceful resolution to the sovereignty dispute between Argentina and UK on the Falklands. This was considered the first ever international recognition of the issue, and official UN interference to the Falklands dispute, while recognizing the importance for both parties

to engage in peaceful negotiations before further interference from the UN or other related parties are introduced. Resolution 502, on the other hand, was adopted by the Security Council on April 3rd, 1982, after Argentina invaded the Falklands. This resolution calls for withdrawal of Argentine forces from the Falklands, immediate ceasefire, and urges both governments to seek diplomatic solutions to the issue. The results of this resolution grants UK diplomatic advantage to exercise its right of self defense according to Article 51 of the UN Charter, but is fully dependent on whether Argentina complies with the resolution or not.

Both resolutions are significant milestones to resolving the issue, as they are symbolic to international recognition and official formal responses to the conflict. However, the United Nations General Assembly does not have the power to force nations into complying with its passed resolutions, and thus can only promote or enhance the actions called for in the resolutions. In the context of the Security Council, although Resolution 502 has the power to force nations into complying with its clauses, the resolution is still ineffective, as Argentina did not leave the Falklands upon the passing of this resolution. Therefore, both resolutions were ineffective in keeping peace and security between the two parties, and failed to stop the conflict from escalating.

### *British Proposal of Leaseback Scheme -*

In the 1970s, the British government's preferred solution to the Falklands Conflict was to have a leaseback scheme, which is a diplomatic approach to the already intense conflict. A leaseback scheme is based on a timely basis, meaning that the Falklands sovereignty is only given in a specific time frame, and needs to be returned after that specific time frame. During this period, periodic exchange must be carried out to ensure the benefits of both parties can be met. This solution aims to concede sovereignty to Argentina, with the condition of promised British administration on behalf of the settlers. However, when this plan was presented, it was rejected by the Falklands people and opposed by many British officials. The Falklands people viewed the plan as a betrayal of their rights, and wanted to maintain British sovereignty in order to protect their identity, leading to their inability to accept Argentine control over the region. Furthermore, the lack of support internally led to the abandonment of the plan, as many British officials viewed this decision as a concession to the Argentine government. Additionally, the Argentina and British had different preferences for the time frame of the lease, with the British proposal envisioning a long-term lease of over 99 years, while Argentina sought a short-term lease of approximately 30 years. This has since challenged them to find common ground with a fundamental disagreement on the proposal, serving as another factor that led to the abandonment of this plan. Overall, the leaseback scheme was unfeasible for both nations due to a combination of diplomatic complexities, complicating the relationship between both parties on the issue of sovereignty.

### *Communications Agreements -*

Communication was present prior and post the Falklands War, but the issue of miscommunication and inability to reach a consensus between both parties is also one of the main factors that led to the start of the Falklands War. The first-ever Communications Agreement was initiated in 1971, with the agreement establishing direct communication and connection between Falklands and UK, including the access to aircraft that enabled travel and trade between the two regions. Not only has this agreement improved the communication and flow of information between the two areas, but also introduced several benefits to ensure safety and coordination of the Falklands islanders to be informed and prepared. Furthermore, this agreement also facilitated exchange for technical information, including maritime and aviation responses to any potential threats, improving their ability to self-defense. Another joint statement was introduced on February 15, 1990, calling for the establishment of direct military communication between the British forces stationed in the Falklands and the Argentine forces with the goal of reducing misunderstandings, introducing rules of mutual exchange of benefits for naval and air forces operating closely, agreeing on establishing a mechanism for search and rescue operations in the South Atlantic region to enhance maritime security, and committing to notifying each other of any military activities occurring within specific distances of the regions to improve transparency. Although this statement aims to reduce tension between the two regions, enhance safety, and facilitate cooperation, tensions are still present between the two parties on the issue of sovereignty. These solutions are often viewed as temporary solutions to the issue rather than permanent measures, and with the uncertainty of future political transitions and changes within both nations, the commitment to these communication frameworks can be greatly influenced. However, these agreements are still symbolic for their continued effort of dialogue and ensuring public safety.

## Possible Solutions

One of the possible solutions to the Falklands Conflict is to have a **joint sovereignty agreement** between Argentina and British, which is based off the previous attempt of having a lease scheme, but failed due to a multitude of reasons. This solution calls for joint governance between the two countries, with the details on how they could be coordinated discussed further during debate or in future negotiations. Additionally, the joint sovereignty agreement is effective as it directly solves the territorial disputes regarding sovereignty, and instead, aims for a peaceful resolution to the issue that finds common ground between the interests of both countries. However, compared to the British lease scheme, without periodic exchange of goods between the two nations, there is a possibility that both countries cannot come to a consensus on how economic benefits should be distributed between the two regions, and the lack of cooperation and compatibility between them are also significant obstacles to the issue. Furthermore, the pride of both countries to uphold their rightful status in holding sovereignty for the Falklands are unlikely to be neglected, and therefore decrease the likelihood of this potential agreement being signed.

Another solution is to **encourage the maintenance of the current status quo**. Instead of advocating for a new solution, the most effective solution would be to maintain the current status quo, which is the situation where the British government has sovereignty over the Falklands. This solution enables the stability of the Falklands to continue to be maintained, as all civilians are still living under British rule and without fear of external pressure. Furthermore, this solution is one that values the opinions of the Falklands islanders, since they have repeatedly stated and identified themselves as British citizens. Apart from the current status of sovereignty, the military presence of the UK in the Falklands now is also a crucial part to the national security of the region, and prepares the Falklands in responding rapidly to any foreign threats. The UK has also gained support for its efforts in upholding the sovereignty of the Falklands, and have since strengthened diplomatic ties with those in favor of this act, gaining significant international support to the development of the UK. The current situation also promotes a stable economy and potential economic growth for the Falklands, including pre-existing fishing and tourism industries that continue to bring significant development to the Falklands' economy. However, these benefits do not outweigh significant issues such as the neglect of a partial population that favors autonomy over British influence, and does not directly solve the Falklands Conflict or the complicated relations up with Argentina. Therefore, these issues can lead to potential political isolation in the future when the tensions with Argentina continue to be left unresolved, sparking a second Falklands War if not resolved properly, and can only be considered a short-term response to the conflict.

Last but not least, **granting Falklands full independence** and retreating all stationed British troops and officials. This aligns with the interests of a partial population of the Falklands, who wished for other government structures or increased autonomy of the country. By achieving independence, the Falklands would be able to free themselves from all forms of external influence, and resolve the Falklands Conflict as both parties would not gain sovereignty over the area. However, significant challenges remain, such as the lack of representation for Falkland civilians, the difficulties in search for identity and cultural customs, and the inability to ensure no further territorial conflicts would arise despite independence. As most Falklands citizens identify themselves as British citizens, and many of their customs and traditions are linked with British culture, it would be difficult to completely eradicate British influence in the region, and thus force civilians in practicing their own customs out of no origin. Furthermore, it is highly possible that as a still immature political system, nations such as Argentina and UK would want to regain territorial control over the Falklands, and could easily achieve so by overthrowing their newly formed government.

These solutions are potential resolutions to the Falklands Conflict; however, since all UNSC resolutions are legally binding, the Chair would like to remind delegates that **all actions should be built upon existing situations**, especially within the context of a Historical SC. Delegates should conduct external research thoroughly, both on their country stances and on the presented issue, to ensure that all resolutions drafted fully comply with the interests of the represented countries.



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## Appendix or Appendices

- I. History of the Falklands Conflict:  
[www.britannica.com/event/Falkland-Islands-War/The-course-of-the-conflict](http://www.britannica.com/event/Falkland-Islands-War/The-course-of-the-conflict)
- II. Insight on the cause of the Falklands Conflict:  
[www.iwm.org.uk/history/why-the-falklands-conflict-happened-episode-1](http://www.iwm.org.uk/history/why-the-falklands-conflict-happened-episode-1)
- III. After the Falklands War:  
<https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/sovereignty-since-the-ceasefire-the-falklands-40-years-on/>