

Country/entity	Argentina United Kingdom
Region	Americas Europe and Eurasia
Agreement name	Joint Declaration on Cooperation over Offshore Activities in the South West Atlantic
Date	27 Sep 1995
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Interstate/interstate conflict

Falklands War (1982)

The Falklands War was a manifestation of the Falklands Islands sovereignty dispute going back to the 16th Century. The Islands have been a British Crown Colony since 1841. The 10-week war began when Argentina seized the South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands eventually taking the Falklands on April 2. The British hastily sent a taskforce in response and defeated the Argentine military on June 14. Neither side officially declared war during the incident, but both accepted that the area was in a 'state of war'. The Argentine surrender spurred popular demonstrations against the military junta there. Casualties included 255 British soldiers, 649 Argentine soldiers and 3 civilians. Argentina continues to claim sovereignty over the islands, although the majority of Falkland Islanders – the descendants of British settlers from the 19th Century – are overwhelmingly, at 99.8% in a 2013 referendum, in support of continued status of remaining a British Overseas Territory.

Close
Falklands War (1982)

Stage	Framework/substantive - comprehensive
Conflict nature	Territory
Peace process	Argentina-UK: Falklands process
Parties	[Signed by The Right Honourable Malcolm Rifkind MP for Britain and His Excellency Dr. Guido Di Tella for the Argentine Republic]
Third parties	-
Description	Joint declaration regarding cooperation between the two governments in order to encourage offshore activities; side letters by the British Government, the Argentine Government and the Falkland Islands Government.

Agreement document [AR UK_950927_ Joint Declaration on Cooperation Over Offshore Activities in the South West Atlantic_.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth No specific mention.

Disabled persons No specific mention.

Elderly/age No specific mention.

Migrant workers No specific mention.

**Racial/ethnic/
national group** No specific mention.

Religious groups No specific mention.

Indigenous people No specific mention.

Other groups No specific mention.

**Refugees/displaced
persons** No specific mention.

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

**Women, girls and
gender** No specific mention.

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general)

Page 1, 1: (1) Nothing in the content of the present Joint Declaration or of any similar subsequent Joint Statements and meetings shall be interpreted as:

(a) a change in the position of the United Kingdom with regard to sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas.

(b) a change in the position of the Argentine Republic with regard to sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas.

(c) recognition of or support for the position of the United Kingdom or the Argentine Republic with regard to sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas.

(2) No act or activity carried out by the United Kingdom, the Argentine Republic or third parties as a consequence and in implementation of anything agreed to in the present Joint Declaration or in any similar subsequent Joint Statements and meetings shall constitute a basis for affirming, supporting, or denying the position of the United Kingdom or the Argentine Republic regarding the sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas. The areas subject to the controversy on sovereignty and jurisdiction will not be extended in any way as a consequence of this Joint Declaration or its implementation.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

**Independence/
secession** No specific mention.

**Accession/
unification** No specific mention.

Border delimitation Page 3, Special Area

The Area is bounded by line of the type described in Column 2 joining the points defined to the nearest minute of arc by coordinates of latitude and longitude on WGS 72 Datum specified in Column 1.

Column 1 Coordinates of Latitude and Longitude, Column 2
Line Type

1. 52° 00'S, 63° 36'W 1 - 2 meridian
2. 53° 10'S, 63° 36'W 2 - 3 parallel of latitude
3. 53° 10'S, 62° 48'W 3 - 4 meridian
4. 53° 25'S, 62° 48'W 4 - 5 parallel of latitude
5. 53° 25'S, 61° 48'W 5 - 6 meridian
6. 53° 40'S, 61° 48'W 6 - 7 parallel of latitude
7. 53° 40'S, 61° 00'W 7 - 8 meridian
8. 53° 00'S, 61° 00'W 8 - 9 parallel of latitude
9. 53° 00'S, 62° 00'W 9 - 10 meridian
10. 52° 30'S, 62° 00'W 10 - 11 parallel of latitude
11. 52° 30'S, 62° 36'W 11 - 12 meridian
12. 52° 00'S, 62° 36'W 12 - 13 parallel
13. 52° 00'S, 63° 36'W

Cross-border provision

No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures Rights related issues→Protection measures→Other
Page 2,
4. The Commission will have the following functions: (a) to submit to both Government recommendations and proposed standards for the protection of the marine environment of the South West Atlantic, taking into account relevant international conventions and recommendations of competent international organisations.

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources Page 1, 2: The two Governments agreed to cooperate in order to encourage offshore activities in the South West Atlantic in accordance with the provisions contained herein. Exploration for and exploitation of hydrocarbons by the offshore oil and gas industry will be carried out in accordance with sound commercial principles and good oil field practice, drawing on the Governments' experience both in the South West Atlantic and in the North Sea. Cooperation will be furthered:

- (a) by means of the establishment of a Joint Commission, composed of delegations from both sides;
- (b) by means of coordinated activities in up to 6 tranches, each of 3,500 square kilometres, the first ones to be situated within the sedimentary structure as identified in the Annex.

Page 2-3, 4: The Commission will have the following functions:

- (a) to submit to both Government recommendations and proposed standards for the protection of the marine environment of the South West Atlantic, taking into account relevant international conventions and recommendations of competent international organisations.

- (b) to coordinate activities in the tranches referred to in paragraph 2(b) above, as areas for special cooperation. This will be done by the establishment of a subcommittee which shall meet regularly, subordinate to the Commission, charged with:

- (i) encouraging commercial activities in each tranche by means such as joint ventures and consortia from the two sides;

- (ii) seeking nominations from companies for each tranche, to be offered upon terms appropriate for a challenging environment;

- (iii) making recommendations on proposals made to the two Governments by companies for development projects in each tranche, including the limits of the tranches;

- (iv) seeking close coordination in regard to all aspects of future operations, including the overall level of fees, royalties, charges and taxes, the harmonisation of timing, commercial terms and conditions, and compliance with the recommended standards;

- (v) recommending on the basis of geological data known to both sides, additional tranches either within the sedimentary structure referred to in the Annex or in a further area to be agreed by the Governments on the recommendation of the Commission;

- (c) to promote the exploration for and exploitation of hydrocarbons in maritime areas of the South West Atlantic subject to a controversy on sovereignty and jurisdiction, and to this end:

- (i) to promote cooperation between industry on both sides, including the formation of joint ventures and the elaboration of joint projects for exploration, production and use of infrastructure;

- (ii) to receive from both sides and from operating companies the available information on scientific research, development of activities and commercial operations relating to the seabed, whilst respecting commercial confidentiality;

- (iii) to propose to both Governments coordinated research work by commercial undertakings;

- (iv) to submit to both Governments recommendations for standards for offshore activities in safety, health and monitoring;

Both Governments will take the appropriate measures in order to ensure that the companies will keep the Commission informed on the development of their activities;

- (d) on the basis of geological data known to both sides, to propose to the two Governments at the appropriate time further areas of special cooperation, on terms similar to those contained in paragraph 4(b) above;

- (e) to consider and submit recommendations to the two Governments on any related matter which may arise in the future, including the possible need to agree on the unitisation of any discoveries in accordance with good oil field practice, on pipeline operations and on the efficient use of infrastructure.

International funds No specific mention.

Business

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 - (iv) seeking close coordination in regard to all aspects of future operations, including the overall level of fees, royalties, charges and taxes, the harmonisation of timing, commercial terms and conditions, and compliance with the recommended standards;
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Taxation	Socio-economic reconstruction→Taxation→Reform of taxation Page 2, 4 (b): [...] (iv) seeking close coordination in regard to all aspects of future operations, including the overall level of fees, royalties, charges and taxes, the harmonisation of timing, commercial terms and conditions, and compliance with the recommended standards; [...]
Banks	No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/
nomadism rights** No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment Page 1, 4: The Commission will have the following functions:
(a) to submit to both Government recommendations and proposed standards for the protection of the marine environment of the South West Atlantic, taking into account relevant international conventions and recommendations of competent international organisations.

**Water or riparian
rights or access** No specific mention.

Security sector

**Security
Guarantees** No specific mention.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR No specific mention.

**Intelligence
services** No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces No specific mention.

Withdrawal of foreign forces No specific mention.

Corruption No specific mention.

Crime/organised crime No specific mention.

Drugs No specific mention.

Terrorism No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon No specific mention.

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release No specific mention.

Vetting No specific mention.

Victims No specific mention.

Missing persons No specific mention.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source Falkland Islands Association:
<http://fiassociation.com/>
