

BOLIVARIAN ALLIANCE OF THE PEOPLES OF OUR AMERICA (ALBA)

SPECIAL COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE BOLIVARIAN ALLIANCE OF THE PEOPLES OF OUR AMERICA (ALBA-TCP) REJECTING REFERENDUM ORGANIZED BY UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ON THE MALVINAS ISLANDS, SOUTH GEORGIA AND SOUTH SANDWICH AND SURROUNDING MARITIME AREAS

We, the member countries of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA-TCP), communicate our firm rejection to the international community in the face of the referendum that the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland carry out in order to define the destiny of the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich and Surrounding Maritime Areas, ignoring the historical right of the Republic of Argentina on those territories.

This claim is the continuity of the Imperial Colonial policy that the United Kingdom has deployed over these territories, which began with its occupation by British settlers. Such claim has been carried on through disregard for the resolutions of the Decolonization Committee of the United Nations and military occupation in 1982 that killed more than 700 Argentine soldiers.

In this new chapter of colonial aggression, the UK invoked the right to self-determination for the organization of the aforementioned referendum, in clear violation of the rules of International Law, given that this principle applies to incorporated Nations and not in cases of disputed territories, such is the case of the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich and Surrounding Maritime Areas.

We alert the Nations of the World of the illegitimacy of this referendum and of the fact that its results will have no binding effect on the claim that Argentina maintains on these territories.

The United Nations should rule on this illegal act of the UK because it would be a dangerous precedent for the resolution of anti-colonial claims that still persist in the international community.

The UK should abide by UN resolutions and sit down with Argentina to discuss civilly upon the fact the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich and Surrounding Maritime Areas are inalienable part of the territory of our sister Republic of Argentina.

We, the Nations comprising ALBA-TCP, call upon all the regional integration mechanisms to speak out against this new neocolonial claim of the UK, thus showing our solidarity with Argentina.

The Malvinas Islands are Argentine! No to Colonialism and Neocolonialism!

Caracas, 10 March 2013