

Do you wish the Falkland Islands to retain their current political status as an Overseas Territory of the United Kingdom

*Penguin News examines in simple terms the consequences of a **yes** or **no** vote in the March 10/11 referendum on the political future of the Falkland Islands*

What happens if the result is

YES



●The Falkland Islands Government will tell the British Government we wish for the Falkland Islands to remain a British Overseas Territory

●At any point in the future the Falklands can review its status. The yes vote still allows full independence or any other status that we choose to be an option for the future

●If the yes vote wins but is not overwhelming it will be noted that a proportion of us are unhappy with the status quo; this will lend support to Argentine arguments to the United Nations

What happens if the result is

NO



●Islanders will have made it clear they do not wish to remain a British Overseas Territory

●The Falkland Islands Government will be obliged to consult us about what other options we might favour

●After a short time these other options will be the subject of another referendum

●A substantial no vote would encourage the Argentine Government's sovereignty claim

●This means a large no vote would weaken our chances of attaining more independence some day

The relationship between the UK and the Falkland Islands, as with all its Overseas Territories, is based on the principles of self determination and autonomy while recognising mutual responsibility and a pledge of UK support when needed. Where independence is the wish of the people, the UK Government will meet its obligation to help the Overseas Territory achieve this aim.

The UK Government's position on the Falkland Islands



The Argentine Constitution is clear that the Argentine Government claims full sovereignty over the Falkland Islands. 'The recovery of said territories and the full exercise of sovereignty, respectful of the way of life of their inhabitants and according to the principles of international law, are a permanent and unrelinquished goal of the Argentine people.'

The Argentine Government's position on the Falkland Islands

