The South Atlantic Medal Association (1982)

RELATIONSHIPS WITH ARGENTINE

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POLICY CONTEXT & REQUIREMENT

This policy has been developed to protect the organisation, employees, trustees, membership and volunteers by ensuring a clear basis of conduct for relationships with Argentine Veterans, members of their armed forces and civilians.

Version Control				
Version	Author	Status	Date	Change Detail
2.0	Andrew Lockett	Implemented	28/10/2024	N/A
2.1	Alan Dodsworth	Implemented	19/08/2026	New Front Page, Policy Lead & Version Control

1. Relationships with Argentine Veterans

1.1 This statement sets out the basis for the conduct of relationships with Argentine veterans, members of the Argentine armed forces or Argentine civilians by members or supporters of the Association or veterans of the 1982 conflict.

1.2 The Association fully supports the right of the Falkland Islanders to enjoy the governance of their democratic choice and to be appropriately defended from aggression from any source.

1.3 The Association fully supports the British governance of other transiently inhabited islands or uninhabited islands under British sovereignty that are recognised as such under international law and for those islands to be defended from aggression from any source.

1.4 The Association encourages individual members and supporters to develop positive relationships with Argentine veterans, friends and relatives, where there is opportunity, and it does not provide a political forum or support for the hostile Argentine policy over the Falkland Islands.

1.5 The Association recognises that for some veterans the hurt of their experience during the 1982 conflict was such that they could never, or for a long time, come to terms with such relationships.

1.6 The Association recognises that relationships with Argentine veterans and armed forces personnel and civilians:

1.6.1 thrived before, during and after the conflict,

1.6.2 developed during the conflict,

1.6.3 have been fostered after the conflict.

1.7 The Association recognises the benefit of reconciliation between veterans of both sides particularly where, within the conflict, participants acted humanely and with compassion towards participants of opposing sides, including civilians.

1.8 It is the policy of the Association that the Secretary be informed of any developing or ongoing relationship with Argentine veterans, armed services personnel or civilians and of any attempt within such a relationship to foster support or make political gain for Argentine policy on the Falkland Islands.

1.9 Until The Argentine Government and their people cease to be aggressive and hostile to the Falkland Islanders, the British control of the islands and the scientific and economic activities carried out in the associated sea areas, it will not be possible for the Association to enter into conciliatory discussions of mutual interest to veterans.