

EXCLUSIVE: ‘Formal transfer of sovereignty this week,’ says Mauritian Sunday paper

Tomorrow Labour and LibDem Peers will start sealing the fate of Chagossians, and of UK security

Last appeal to Lords to stop worst-ever error in UK security and to show humanity for Chagossian people

“The formal transfer of Mauritian sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago, scheduled for early next week, marks a new and decisive stage in the decolonization process.”

– ‘Le Mauricien’, the leading newspaper of Mauritius, Sun 02 Nov 2025

The Mauritian newspaper, with close contacts in its government, was referring to the events tomorrow in Westminster. Tomorrow (Tues 04 Nov 2025), Labour and LibDem Peers will play one of their final, ignominious parts in one of the most shameful episodes in British history.



View of the Chagos Archipelago – [click to enlarge](#)
[Source(s) : [Wikimedia Commons](#)]

A surrender of sovereignty, a massive threat to British security, and an abandonment of the Chagossians

As things stand, the Peers will approve a Bill which surrenders sovereignty of vital strategic British territory to a country which has no connection with that territory, and which instead is allied with, or has strong ties with, China, India, Russia and Iran. The territory in question is BIOT, the British Indian Ocean Territory – the Chagos Archipelago.

Furthermore, in approving this Bill for the Committee and Report stages, the Peers will ignore the rights of the people of the Chagos islands. There is still an opportunity to turn this around. It will not be until the third reading that the Lords will give their final approval. Today, CIBUK and our

colleagues at Brexit Facts4EU and Stand for Our Sovereignty publish a letter to Members of the House of Lords which we strongly recommend to readers. It is factual, moving, and we can only hope it is read by its recipients.

This letter to the Members of the House of Lords makes compelling reading

“Is our ethnic group not worthy? Is it because we are a small, Black, Christian community with no wealth and no power? Are we not equally entitled to self-determination as other British Overseas Territories?” asks Misley Mandarin, a Chagossian and British Citizen, and a veteran of the British Armed Forces.



For the attention of all Members of the House of Lords

My Lords,

2nd November 2025

My name is Misley Mandarin. I am a Chagossian and a British citizen, proud to have served in the British Armed Forces. I write to you with humility, but also with deep urgency, to appeal for your conscience, compassion, and help ahead of the debate on Tuesday concerning the Chagos Islands.

For more than half a century, my people have lived in exile. We were born British, but we were exiled by Britain. Between 1968 and 1973, our parents and grandparents were forcibly removed from our homeland in the Chagos Archipelago to make way for a foreign military base. We were sent to Mauritius and the Seychelles, where generations of our families have lived in poverty and discrimination. We have been treated as outsiders - "Black, Christian Chagossians" - in societies that neither welcomed us nor recognised us as our own people.

We thought we had won the right to be consulted about our homeland when a marine reservation was put in place, but now the Government says it does not recognise us and does not have to consult us.

This Treaty with Mauritius does not guarantee British Chagossians any right of return to our islands. It hands that power to Mauritius, a state that does not value or even recognise Chagossians as a distinct people. There are already talks and rumours of Mauritius giving further islands to China. This deal also ends our British Overseas Territories citizenship, the very status Parliament granted us in 2022 to right a historic wrong. The Bill cuts off Chagossian descendants from British nationality rights, something not required by the Treaty.

The so-called trust fund included in the deal is no comfort. It is for Mauritius, not for British Chagossians. Once again, others will speak for us, spend for us, and decide for us.

This is not justice. This is colonialism under a new name, a deal made between governments that denies the people whose lives it will shape any say in their destiny.

There has been no referendum, no consultation, no consent. When Gibraltar and the Falkland Islands faced decisions about their sovereignty, their people were given a voice. Why do we not deserve the same rights to self-determination and consultation?

Is our ethnic group not worthy? Is it because we are a small, Black, Christian community with no wealth and no power? Are we not equally entitled to self-determination as the people of other British Overseas Territories?

The Government has justified this handover by citing an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice. But the ICJ's opinion is not binding law. It cannot and should not override the right of a people to determine their own future.

Please do not just take my word for it. In 2023, Human Rights Watch reported:

"The BIOT authorities forced Chagossians to go to Seychelles or Mauritius. There, many lived in extreme poverty and experienced difficulty finding sufficient and adequate food, work, and housing. Chagossians said that some of those displaced, including children, died from the economic hardship and, they believe, from the emotional devastation (which they call sagren) of being torn from their homeland. They experienced discrimination in their new communities, and many have said they still experience severe economic hardship. After the UK government granted some Chagossians citizenship in 2002, many came to live in the UK, where they also described not being accepted, not having housing or work on arrival, and experiencing discrimination."

The Government is breaking its promises to us. In 2012, the UK Government published its policy concerning the British Overseas Territories, which included this statement of approach:

"The UK is committed to defend the Territories and protect their peoples from external threats, ensuring their right of self-determination." (p. 8)

Why are we ignored again now? Please, My Lords, stop this shameful treatment and speak up on the Bill.



Self-determination is a fundamental principle of justice, and it must apply to us as much as it applies to anyone else.

The House of Lords now faces a moral choice. You can accept this Bill and repeat history, or you can reject it and demand a fair, humane alternative.

Article 18 of the Treaty itself makes it clear that it has not entered into force, and will not do so unless and until both the UK and Mauritius have completed their internal legal processes. Paragraph 7 of the Bill's Explanatory Notes confirms that this Bill is the UK's internal requirement. In plain terms, if this Bill does not become law, the Treaty cannot come into force. It is not inevitable, despite what ministers may claim. If the Lords reject the Bill as a whole, you will have prevented the Government from compounding the original injustice of the forced removal of the Chagossians with the new injustice of denying us our right to self-determination.

A vote for the Bill is, in truth, a vote against self-determination. Rejecting the Bill is the only way to stop this. Ping-pong applies only to amendments, which the Commons can overturn. But if the Lords reject the Bill in its entirety, the Parliament Act would have to be invoked, and the Government would be forced to abandon its plan or try again in the next session.

I urge you to use that power, your constitutional right, to defend justice and protect a people who have no other voice.

Reject this Bill. Stop the Treaty. Revisit the 2015 BIOT resettlement plan under British sovereignty, which recognised the right of return and offered a fair and viable path for Chagossians to rebuild their lives in their homeland.

I ask you to show compassion, justice, and courage. Help us to return home, as is our right. Help us to be recognised not as an inconvenient footnote of empire, but as a British community who have served, suffered, and remained loyal despite everything.

We have been exiled long enough.

For members of the Lords Spiritual, I make a special plea: we are a Christian people cast out of our homeland. I ask you to stand with us in fellowship, as you would with any displaced and persecuted community, and to call for compassion, truth, and moral leadership.

The Great British PAC, which has championed our legal challenge heard in the High Court last week, has fought tirelessly for our cause. The judge will decide this week whether our case can proceed to a full hearing. But the greater judgment now lies with you. You have the power to stop this injustice before it becomes law.

My Lords, please do not let Britain erase the Chagossians again.

Stand with us, not against us. Let justice, not politics, decide our future.

Yours faithfully,

Misley Mandarin
Chagossian, British citizen, and veteran of the British Armed Forces

What readers can do to help

We ask readers to do one thing to help in this penultimate opportunity to stop this egregious Bill from becoming law. Firstly, aside from all the other reasons this Bill must not pass, we will re-state one.

The moment it is passed, the Act hands power to one of Sir Keir Starmer's Ministers to act in whatever way he or she wants, using the invidious **"Henry VIII"** powers, more formally known as the Crown prerogative, or 'Orders in Council'. Parliament will have no say and no debate in whatever the Government chooses to do.

You can use your voice and write to Peers by using Parliament's link here

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In order to hit as many as possible, we suggest you select a party and then click search. Then, assuming you only have time to email a few, use your birthday to select a page. For example, if you were born on the 5th of the month, click on page five. This maximises the chances of enough peers being covered. **Please note:** Multiple identical emails are automatically deleted. Please try to vary the subject text in your email, at least.

You could base your email around what Mисley Mandarin wrote, or you could refer to the strong defence reasons for retaining the islands, or the fact the Government has never been able to provide any legal justification whatsoever for handing sovereignty to Mauritius.

**Who would alert the public so early to these things
(see below)**

We rely wholly on patriotic members of the public to survive.
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Please donate today

You can make a difference

Don't leave this to someone else. You are that 'someone else'.

The fight for Chagos – CIBUK was in the vanguard

To the best of our knowledge, Brexit Facts4EU was the first organisation of its kind to fight against this appalling act by Sir Keir Starmer and David Lammy. We first published with our colleagues at Facts4EU in February of this year, with a devastating two-parter, which was then picked up by GB News. Click the image below for the first two-parter.



[Click to enlarge](#)

Sir Keir's Chagos negotiating partner arrested

At the weekend, the former British colony of Mauritius was rocked by the news that its former Prime Minister – with whom Sir Keir Starmer and Foreign Secretary David Lammy agreed the original deal to surrender the Chagos Islands only a matter of months ago – has been arrested on charges associated with corruption and money-laundering.



[Click to enlarge](#)

A Brexit Facts4EU.Org Series

A definitive Chagos two-parter from Facts4EU

Part I (this report) - Ex-Mauritian PM's arrest poses questions over where UK taxpayers' billions would have gone

Part II - UK had no legal obligation to do anything about Chagos – Final proof and the full costs from Mauritius revealed

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We showed how Starmer and Lammy started negotiating with the Mauritian PM and Leader of the 'Militant Socialist Movement', Pravind Jugnauth. Visiting Mauritius, they agreed the deal with him. Unfortunately, very shortly **after Messrs Starmer and Lammy had agreed to hand billions to his government, Mr Jugnauth was indicted on counts of corruption and money-laundering.**

Observations

Following Facts4EU's initial reports, the cause was then taken up by our colleagues at Stand for Our Sovereignty (SOS – SovereignUK.Org) and The Campaign for an Independent Britain (CIBUK.Org) and we published many more reports.

The cause of the Chagossians in particular has been assisted quite superbly by the Great British PAC. There is also an excellent article on Conservative Post and Reformer about the defence implications, [here](#).

We have made our views on this iniquitous act by Sir Keir Starmer and his colleagues very clear on many occasions. This comes from their ideological obsession. It has no basis in facts, as we have proved time and again. The Government has never been able to rebut our accusations and its statements have remained vague and, in most cases, thoroughly misleading.

The Chagossians, like the British, are a Christian people – only these days, it must be said, rather more so. We wonder, if they had been of a certain other religion, whether Labour MPs and Peers might have been a great deal more sympathetic to their plight...

We will end by saying that is disappointing that the mainstream media, with the exception of GB News and the Express, has not led with this story on more occasions. We can only hope that this changes today, because we truly are going into 'the last chance saloon'.

Please, please help us to carry on our vital work in defence of independence, sovereignty, democracy and freedom by donating today. Thank you.

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