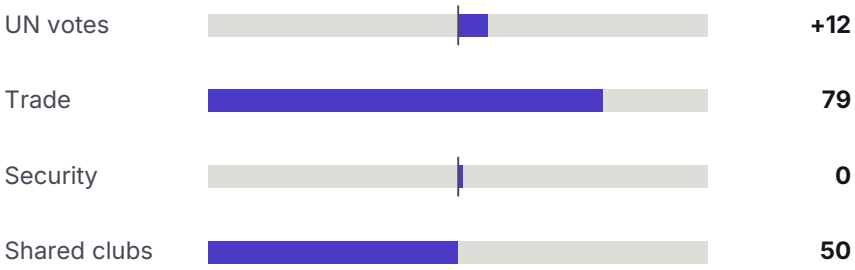
Iraq & Syria

+28

Close

Relationship index, −100 to +100. Votes and security run from −100 to +100; trade and shared clubs from 0 to 100.

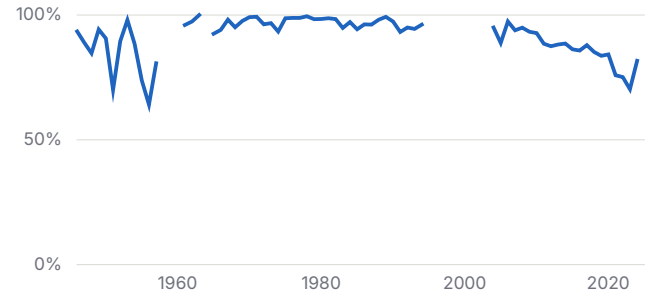


IN SHORT

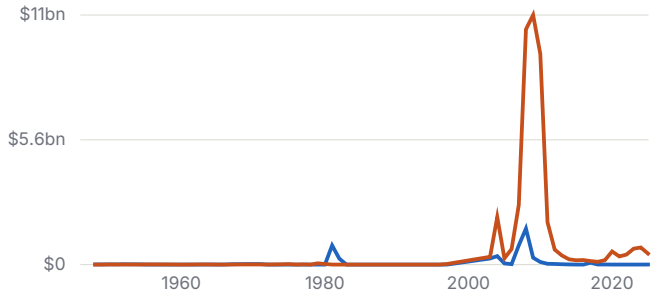
- Armed conflict: UCDP records them on opposite sides of the conflict in Iraq, Kuwait, with Syria supporting another party, in 1991.
- At the UN their vote agreement is 76% (2022–2024), about average for both of them.
- Trade in goods ($661 million a year) is important for Syria, much less so for Iraq.
- In its UN General Debate speeches, Syria names Iraq more often than the reverse (122 sentences against 63).
- 258,000 people born in Syria live in Iraq (UN DESA counts place of birth, however long ago they moved). A separate count, by UNHCR: 308,000 refugees and asylum seekers from Syria in Iraq; the two counts measure different things and are not added up.

OVER TIME

Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way

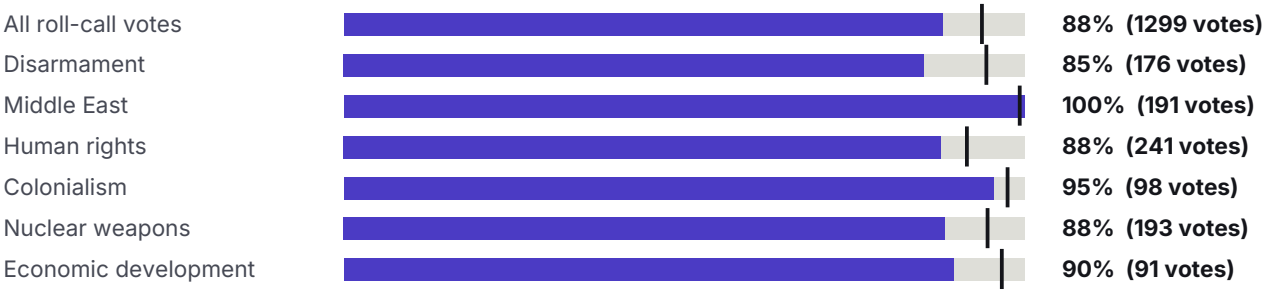


Goods exports each way (US dollars)



Iraq sells to Syria Syria sells to Iraq

VOTES TOPIC BY TOPIC (SINCE 2010)



Bar: since 2010. Mark: all years. Share of roll-call votes on whole texts cast the same way, counted vote by vote; an abstention against a yes counts as a difference. Disarmament, colonialism and economic development count votes up to 2018.

THE FACTS

UN votes	At the UN, the vote agreement of Iraq and Syria was 76% in 2022–2024. For Iraq, Syria is the 61st most distant voting partner out of 191; for Syria, Iraq is the 39th closest partner.
Trade	Trade in goods between them averaged $661 million a year in 2023–2025: 0.4% of all Iraq's trade and 7.8% of Syria's.
Words	Since 1946, Iraq has named Syria in 63 sentences of its General Debate speeches; Syria has named Iraq in 122.
Security	The Uppsala Conflict Data Program records them on opposite sides of armed conflict, one of them supporting another party (Iraq, Kuwait, 1991).
People	209,000 people born in Iraq live in Syria and 258,000 born in Syria live in Iraq (2024, UN DESA).
People	Their national football teams have met 31 times.

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**High**	245 shared votes on whole texts in 2022–2024, the years the headline share covers. With that many, a share is good to about ±6 points.
Trade	**High**	Goods trade is reported in 3 of the 3 years 2023–2025. Goods only, from customs data (IMF); services and energy pipelines are not in it.
Security	**High**	The Uppsala Conflict Data Program covers every state up to 2025. It counts only conflicts with at least 25 battle deaths a year.
Shared clubs	**High**	The list of tracked groups is fixed; membership is checked by hand.
Index	**High**	As sure as the weaker of its two required parts, votes and trade. Security and shared clubs add to it but never make it surer.

SOURCES AND HOW TO CITE

UN votes, speeches, mentions and trade: Nations on Record (UN General Assembly voting data, UN General Debate Corpus, IMF International Trade in Goods). Armed conflict: Uppsala Conflict Data Program, version 26.1. Migration: UN DESA International Migrant Stock 2024. Refugees: UNHCR. Football: international results archive (CC0). Every score follows fixed rules written out on /method; AI never sets a score. Independent and non-commercial; not affiliated with the United Nations.

Cite as
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