South Korea & Maldives

−4

Distant

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

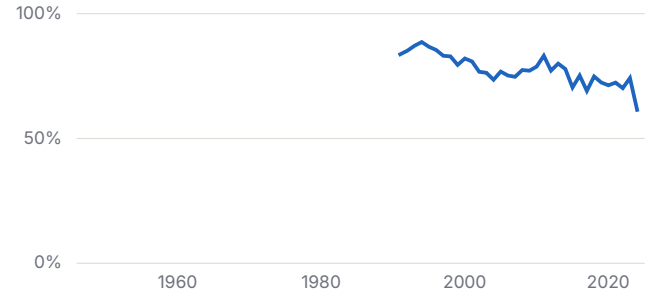
UN votes	−34
Trade	20
Security	0
Shared clubs	25

IN SHORT

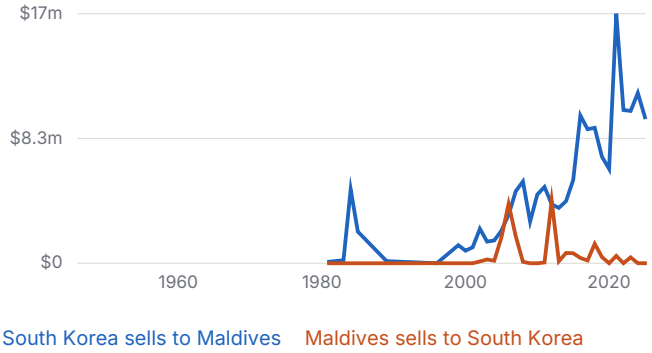
- At the UN their vote agreement is 69% (2022–2024), lower than either of them has with most countries.
- Trade in goods ($10 million a year) is a very small part of either country's trade, under 0.5%.
- In its UN General Debate speeches, the Maldives names South Korea far more often than the reverse (7 sentences against 0).

OVER TIME

Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way



Goods exports each way (US dollars)



VOTES TOPIC BY TOPIC (SINCE 2010)

Most alike on Middle East (89% of votes the same), furthest apart on nuclear weapons (50%), against 72% on all votes since 2010.

All roll-call votes	72% (1439 votes)
Disarmament	65% (176 votes)
Middle East	89% (183 votes)
Human rights	57% (244 votes)
Colonialism	80% (96 votes)
Nuclear weapons	50% (198 votes)
Economic development	75% (92 votes)

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 South Korea and the Maldives was 69% in 2022–2024. For South Korea, the Maldives is the 96th most distant voting partner out of 191; for the Maldives, South Korea is the 31st most distant partner.
Trade	Trade in goods between them averaged $10 million a year in 2023–2025: less than 0.1% of all South Korea's trade and 0.3% of the Maldives'.
Words	Since 1946, South Korea has named the Maldives in 0 sentences of its General Debate speeches; the Maldives has named South Korea in 7.
Security	No armed conflict between the two governments is recorded since 1946 (UCDP, data to 2025).
People	Their national football teams have met twice.

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**High**	269 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.

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