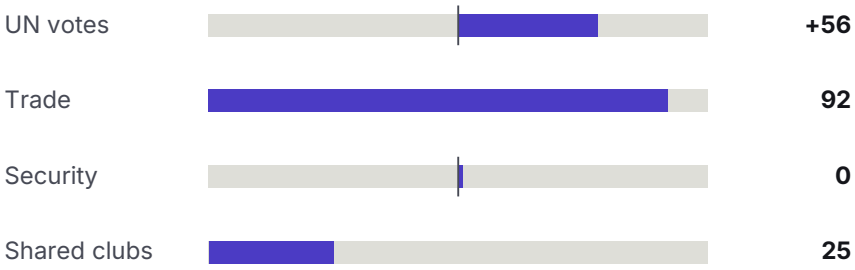
South Korea & United States

+42

Close

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

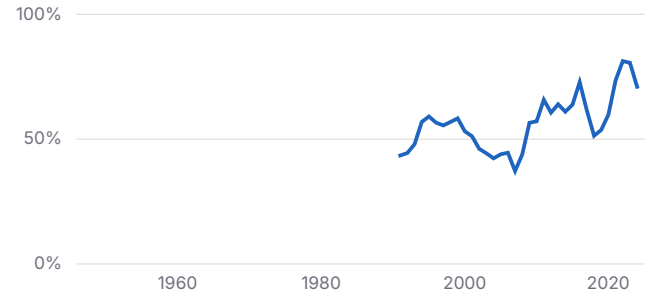


IN SHORT

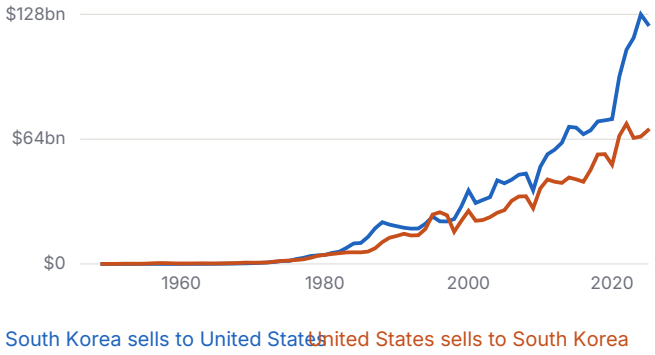
- At the UN their vote agreement is 78% (2022–2024), higher than either of them has with most countries.
- Trade in goods ($189 billion a year) is very important for South Korea, much less so for the United States.
- At the UN they name each other about equally often (37 and 40 sentences).
- 1.1 million people born in South Korea live in the United States (UN DESA counts place of birth, however long ago they moved).

OVER TIME

Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way

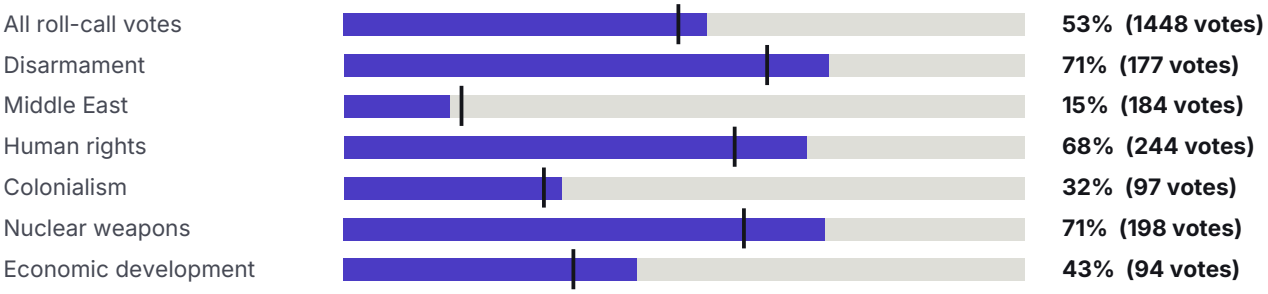


Goods exports each way (US dollars)



VOTES TOPIC BY TOPIC (SINCE 2010)

Most alike on disarmament (71% of votes the same), furthest apart on Middle East (15%), against 53% on all votes 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 South Korea and the United States was 78% in 2022–2024. For South Korea, the United States is the 53rd closest voting partner out of 191; for the United States, South Korea is the 33rd closest partner.
Trade	Trade in goods between them averaged $189 billion a year in 2023–2025: 16.2% of all South Korea's trade and 3.7% of the United States'. The United States is South Korea's 2nd largest trading partner.
Words	Since 1946, South Korea has named the United States in 37 sentences of its General Debate speeches; the United States has named South Korea in 40.
Security	No armed conflict between the two governments is recorded since 1946 (UCDP, data to 2025).
People	1.1 million people born in South Korea live in the United States and 53,000 born in the United States live in South Korea (2024, UN DESA).
People	Their national football teams have met 10 times.

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**High**	271 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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