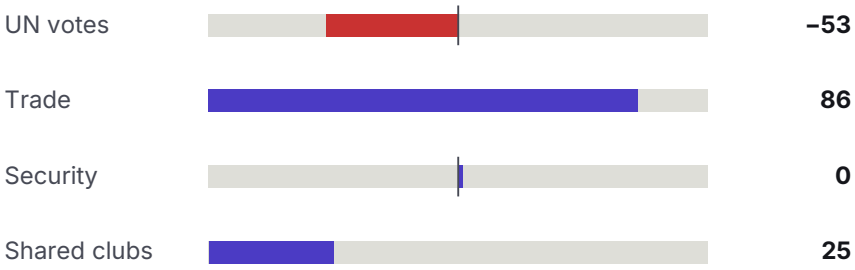
South Korea & Viet Nam

+2

Neutral

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



IN SHORT

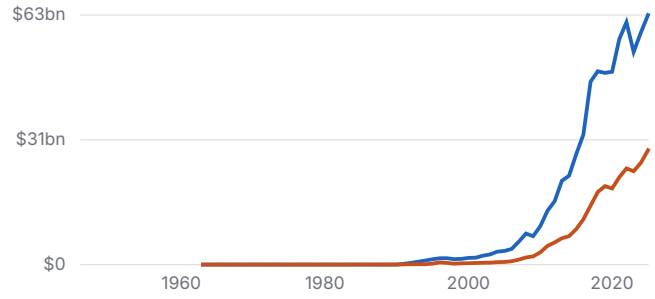
- Armed conflict: UCDP records them on opposite sides of the conflict in South Vietnam, Viet Nam, with South Korea supporting another party, most recently in 1973.
- At the UN their vote agreement is 64% (2022–2024), lower than either of them has with most countries.
- Trade in goods ($84 billion a year) is very important for Viet Nam, less so for South Korea.
- In its UN General Debate speeches, Viet Nam names South Korea far more often than the reverse (18 sentences against 1).
- 261,000 people born in Viet Nam live in South Korea (UN DESA counts place of birth, however long ago they moved).

OVER TIME

Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way



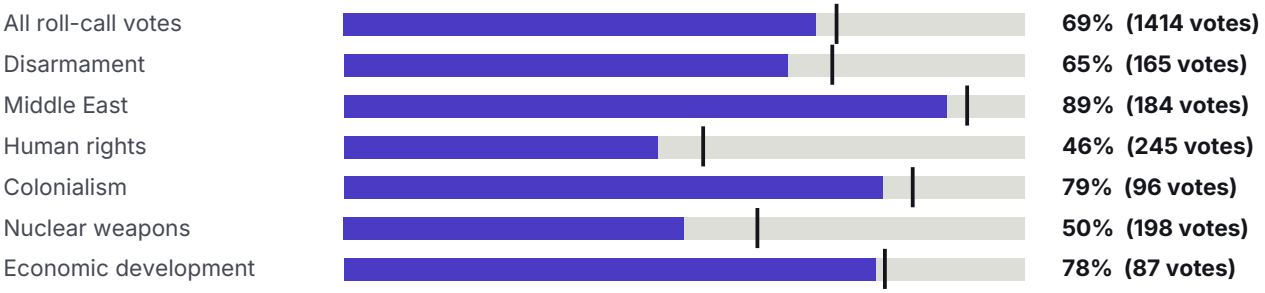
Goods exports each way (US dollars)



South Korea sells to Viet Nam Viet Nam sells to South Korea

VOTES TOPIC BY TOPIC (SINCE 2010)

Most alike on Middle East (89% of votes the same), furthest apart on human rights (46%), against 69% 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 Viet Nam was 64% in 2022–2024. For South Korea, Viet Nam is the 56th most distant voting partner out of 191; for Viet Nam, South Korea is the 35th most distant partner.
Trade	Trade in goods between them averaged $84 billion a year in 2023–2025: 7.2% of all South Korea's trade and 11.3% of Viet Nam's. Viet Nam is South Korea's 3rd largest trading partner.
Words	Since 1946, South Korea has named Viet Nam in 1 sentences of its General Debate speeches; Viet Nam has named South Korea in 18.
Security	The Uppsala Conflict Data Program records them on opposite sides of armed conflict, one of them supporting another party (South Vietnam, Viet Nam, 1965–1973).
People	49,000 people born in South Korea live in Viet Nam and 261,000 born in Viet Nam live in South Korea (2024, UN DESA).
People	Their national football teams have met 8 times.

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**High**	262 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

NationsRelations. (2026). South Korea & Viet Nam [scoring rules 0.4 (14 Nov 2026), scores built 2026-11-14]. https://nationsrelations.org/p/kor-vnm

Scan to open the live page