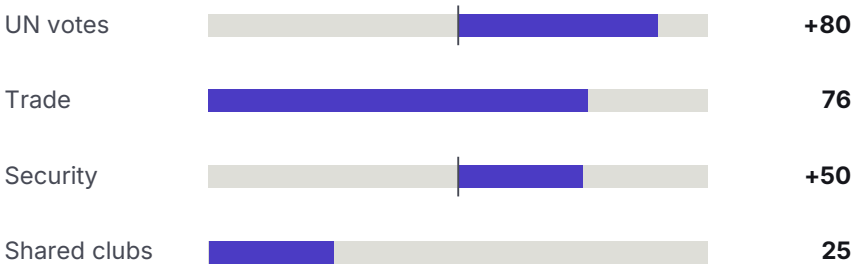
North Macedonia & Bulgaria

+62

Very close

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



IN SHORT

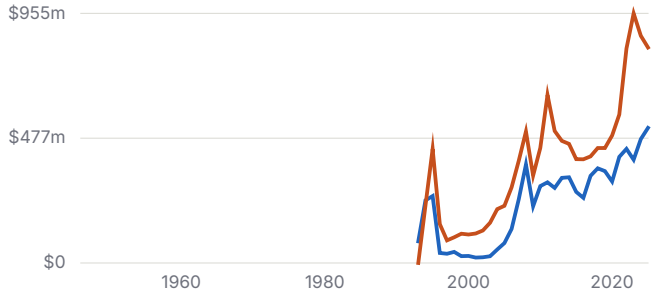
- They are military allies in NATO, and no armed conflict between them is recorded.
- At the UN their vote agreement is 97% (2022–2024), among the highest either of them has with any country.
- Trade in goods ($1.3 billion a year) is important for North Macedonia, much less so for Bulgaria.
- At the UN they name each other about equally often (8 and 10 sentences).
- 6,300 people born in North Macedonia live in Bulgaria (UN DESA counts place of birth, however long ago they moved).

OVER TIME

Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way

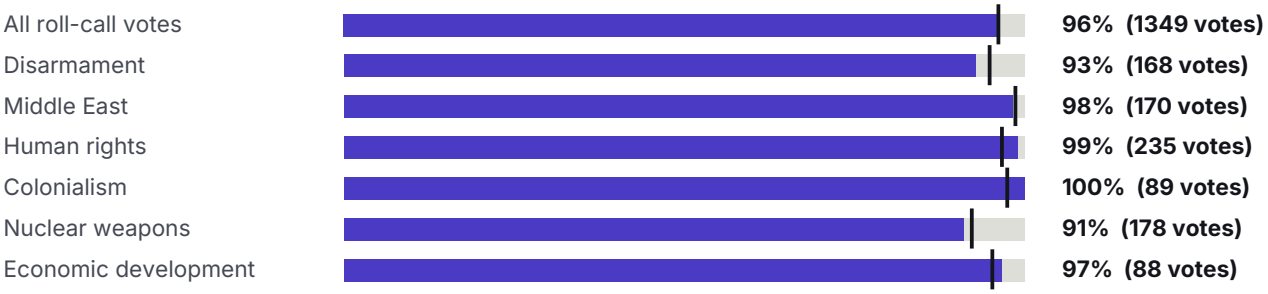


Goods exports each way (US dollars)



North Macedonia sells to Bulgaria Bulgaria sells to North Macedonia

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 North Macedonia and Bulgaria was 97% in 2022–2024. For North Macedonia, Bulgaria is the 18th closest voting partner out of 191; for Bulgaria, North Macedonia is the 22nd closest partner.
Trade	Trade in goods between them averaged $1.3 billion a year in 2023–2025: 6.6% of all North Macedonia's trade and 1.3% of Bulgaria's. Bulgaria is North Macedonia's 5th largest trading partner.
Words	Since 1946, North Macedonia has named Bulgaria in 8 sentences of its General Debate speeches; Bulgaria has named North Macedonia in 10.
Security	Both are NATO members, and no armed conflict between them is recorded.
People	6,300 people born in North Macedonia live in Bulgaria and 1,100 born in Bulgaria live in North Macedonia (2024, UN DESA).
People	Their national football teams have met 9 times.

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**High**	220 shared votes on whole texts in 2022–2024, the years the headline share covers. With that many, a share is good to about ±7 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). North Macedonia & Bulgaria [scoring rules 0.4 (14 Nov 2026), scores built 2026-11-14]. https://nationsrelations.org/p/bgr-mkd

Scan to open the live page