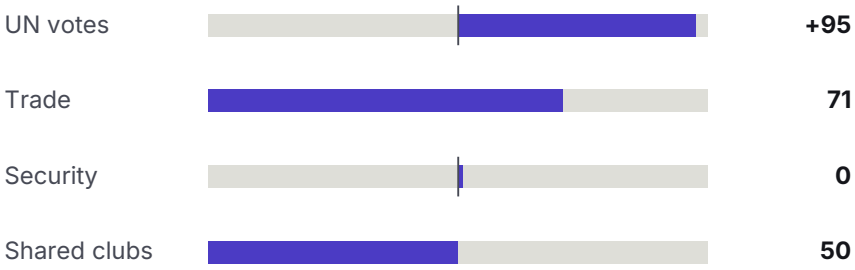
Malaysia & Indonesia

+55

Very close

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

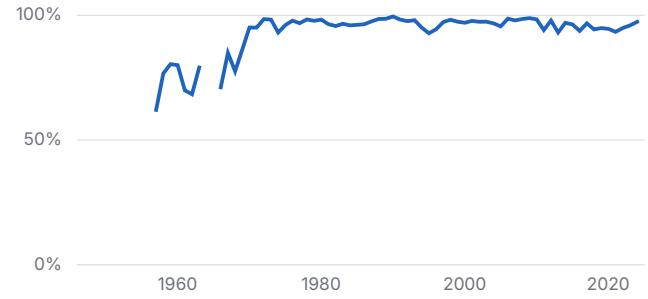


IN SHORT

- Armed conflict: UCDP records them on opposite sides, as main parties, most recently in 1966.
- At the UN their vote agreement is 96% (2022–2024), among the highest either of them has with any country.
- Trade in goods ($24 billion a year) is important for Indonesia, and about as important for Malaysia.
- In its UN General Debate speeches, Malaysia names Indonesia more often than the reverse (92 sentences against 36).
- 1.8 million people born in Indonesia live in Malaysia (UN DESA counts place of birth, however long ago they moved).

OVER TIME

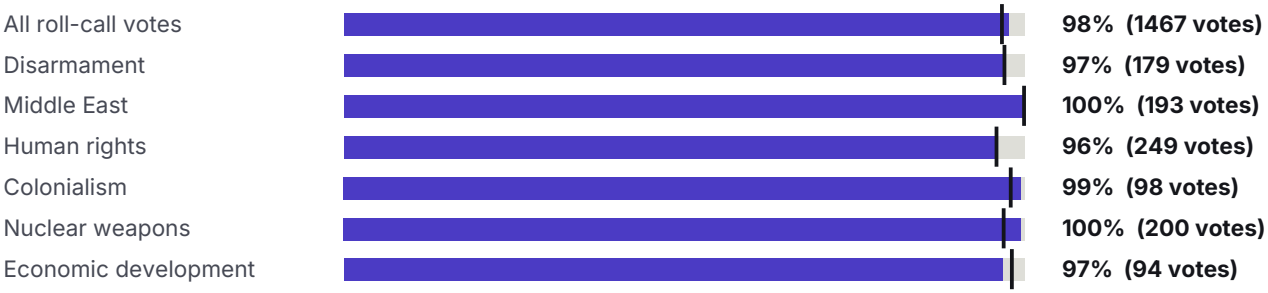
Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way



Goods exports each way (US dollars)



VOTES TOPIC BY TOPIC (SINCE 2010)



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 Malaysia and Indonesia was 96% in 2022–2024. For Malaysia, Indonesia is the 9th closest voting partner out of 191; for Indonesia, Malaysia is the 3rd closest partner.
Trade	Trade in goods between them averaged $24 billion a year in 2023–2025: 4.0% of all Malaysia's trade and 5.0% of Indonesia's. Indonesia is Malaysia's 6th largest trading partner.
Words	Since 1946, Malaysia has named Indonesia in 92 sentences of its General Debate speeches; Indonesia has named Malaysia in 36.
Security	The Uppsala Conflict Data Program records them on opposite sides of armed conflict (Indonesia, Malaysia, 1963–1966).
People	161,000 people born in Malaysia live in Indonesia and 1.8 million born in Indonesia live in Malaysia (2024, UN DESA).
People	Their national football teams have met 74 times.

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**High**	272 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). Malaysia & Indonesia [scoring rules 0.4 (14 Nov 2026), scores built 2026-11-14]. https://nationsrelations.org/p/idn-mys

Scan to open the live page