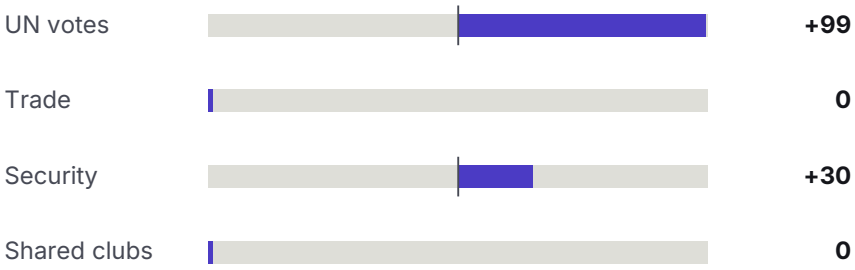
North Korea & Russia

+44

Close

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



IN SHORT

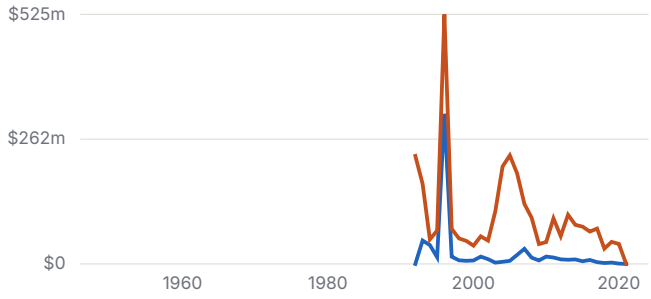
- At the UN their vote agreement is 88% (2022–2024), among the highest either of them has with any country.
- They have no recorded trade in goods.
- In its UN General Debate speeches, Russia names North Korea far more often than the reverse (32 sentences against 5).
- 172 people born in North Korea live in Russia (UN DESA counts place of birth, however long ago they moved).

OVER TIME

Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way



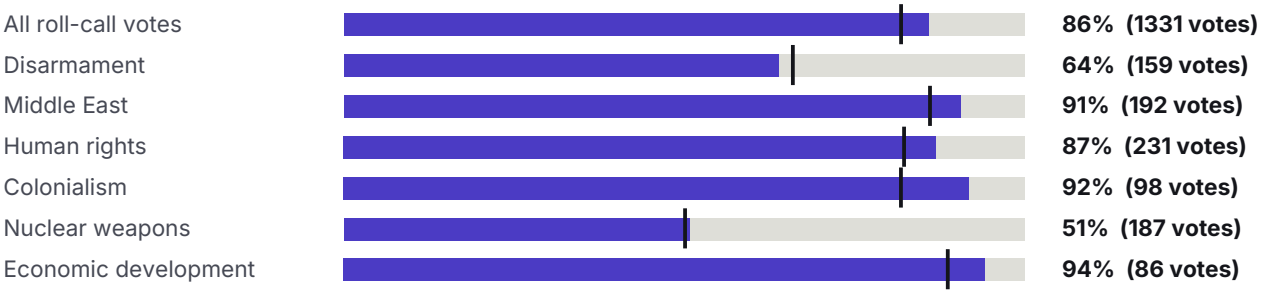
Goods exports each way (US dollars)



North Korea sells to Russia Russia sells to North Korea

VOTES TOPIC BY TOPIC (SINCE 2010)

Most alike on economic development (94% of votes the same), furthest apart on nuclear weapons (51%), against 86% 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 North Korea and Russia was 88% in 2022–2024. For North Korea, Russia is the 2nd closest voting partner out of 191; for Russia, North Korea is the closest partner.
Trade	No trade in goods between them is recorded for 2023–2025.
Words	Since 1946, North Korea has named Russia in 5 sentences of its General Debate speeches; Russia has named North Korea in 32.
Security	No armed conflict between the two governments is recorded since 1946 (UCDP, data to 2025).
People	172 people born in North Korea live in Russia and 149 born in Russia live in North Korea (2024, UN DESA).
People	Their national football teams have met twice.

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**High**	244 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	**Low**	No goods trade is reported for 2023–2025, so the score is 0. The data cannot tell zero trade from trade that was not reported.
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	**Low**	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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