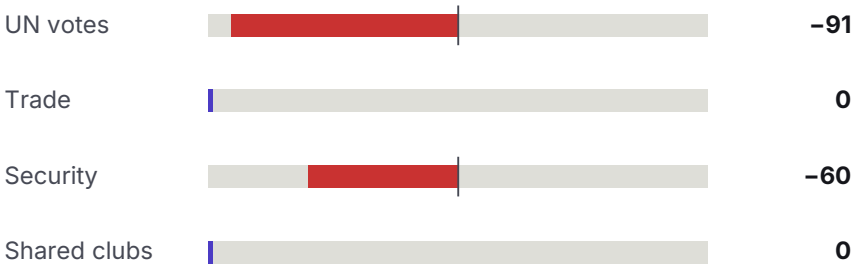
North Korea & Ukraine

−50

Opposed

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



IN SHORT

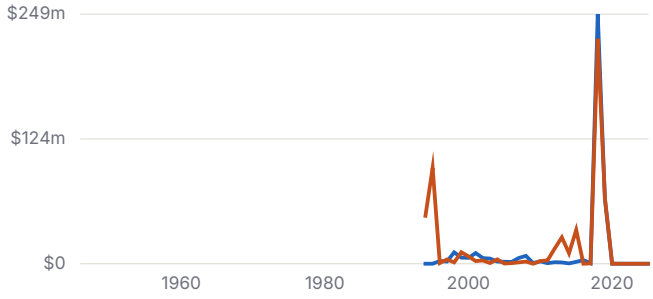
- Armed conflict: UCDP records them on opposite sides of the conflict in Russia, Ukraine, with North Korea supporting another party, most recently in 2025.
- At the UN their vote agreement is 37% (2022–2024), among the lowest either of them has with any country.
- Only part of their trade in goods is on record ($21 thousand a year): the IMF data have no exports from Ukraine to North Korea in these years, which may mean there were none or that they were not reported.
- In its UN General Debate speeches, Ukraine names North Korea far more often than the reverse (16 sentences against 2).

OVER TIME

Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way



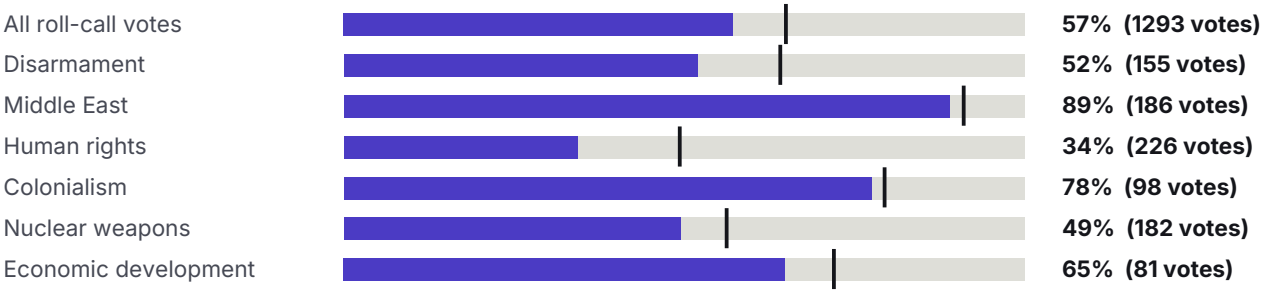
Goods exports each way (US dollars)



North Korea sells to Ukraine Ukraine sells to North Korea

VOTES TOPIC BY TOPIC (SINCE 2010)

Most alike on Middle East (89% of votes the same), furthest apart on human rights (34%), against 57% 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 Ukraine was 37% in 2022–2024. For North Korea, Ukraine is the 17th most distant voting partner out of 191; for Ukraine, North Korea is the 2nd most distant partner.
Trade	Trade in goods between them averaged $21 thousand a year in 2023–2025: less than 0.1% of all North Korea's trade and less than 0.1% of Ukraine's.
Words	Since 1946, North Korea has named Ukraine in 2 sentences of its General Debate speeches; Ukraine has named North Korea in 16.
Security	The Uppsala Conflict Data Program records them on opposite sides of armed conflict, one of them supporting another party (Russia, Ukraine, 2024–2025).

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**High**	237 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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