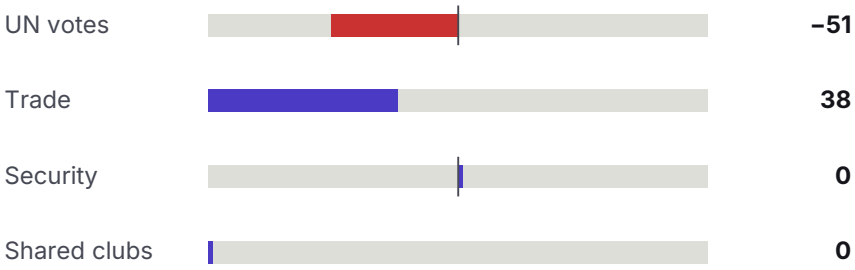
Russia & Afghanistan

−10

Distant

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

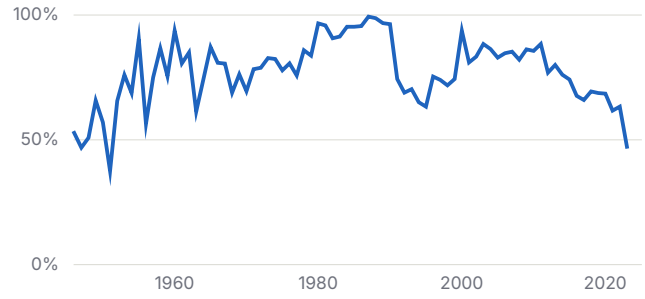


IN SHORT

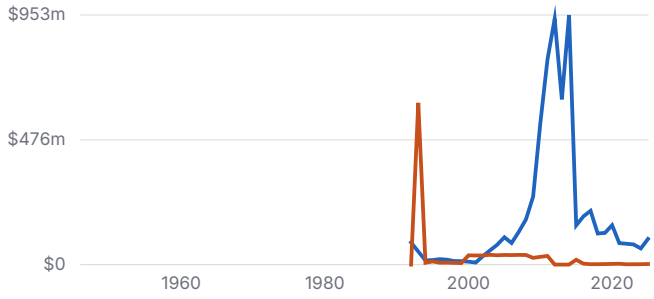
- Armed conflict: UCDP records them on opposite sides, as main parties, in 1979. (Russia was then part of the Soviet Union.)
- At the UN their vote agreement is 55% (2022–2024), lower than either of them has with most countries.
- Trade in goods ($80 million a year) is modest for Afghanistan, much less so for Russia.
- At the UN they name each other about equally often (88 and 111 sentences).
- 2,900 people born in Afghanistan live in Russia (UN DESA counts place of birth, however long ago they moved). A separate count, by UNHCR: 1,000 refugees and asylum seekers from Afghanistan in Russia; the two counts measure different things and are not added up.

OVER TIME

Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way



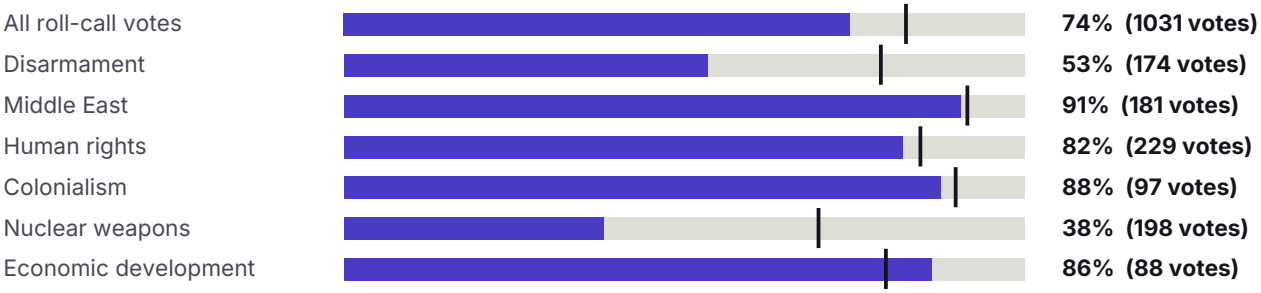
Goods exports each way (US dollars)



Russia sells to Afghanistan Afghanistan sells to Russia

VOTES TOPIC BY TOPIC (SINCE 2010)

Most alike on Middle East (91% of votes the same), furthest apart on nuclear weapons (38%), against 74% 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 Russia and Afghanistan was 55% in 2022–2024. For Russia, Afghanistan is the 93rd most distant voting partner out of 191; for Afghanistan, Russia is the 3rd most distant partner.
Trade	Trade in goods between them averaged $80 million a year in 2023–2025: less than 0.1% of all Russia's trade and 0.8% of Afghanistan's.
Words	Since 1946, Russia has named Afghanistan in 88 sentences of its General Debate speeches; Afghanistan has named Russia in 111.
Security	The Uppsala Conflict Data Program records them on opposite sides of armed conflict (Afghanistan, Russia, 1979).
People	2,900 born in Afghanistan live in Russia (2024, UN DESA).

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**Medium**	113 shared votes on whole texts in 2022–2024, the years the headline share covers. With that many, a share is good to about ±9 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	**Medium**	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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