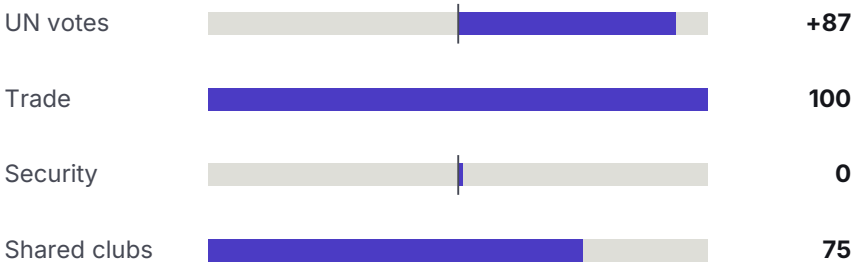
Russia & China

From border clashes to a 'no limits' partnership.

+62

Very close

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

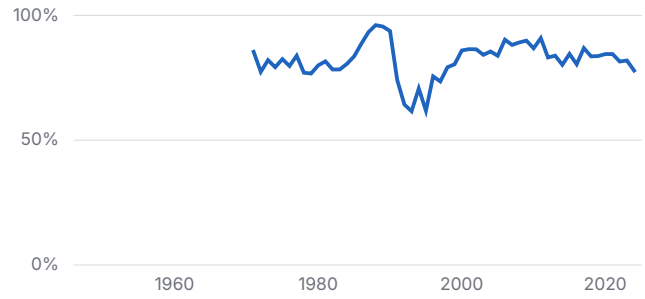


IN SHORT

- Armed conflict: UCDP records them on opposite sides, as main parties, in 1969. (Russia was then part of the Soviet Union.)
- At the UN their vote agreement is 80% (2022–2024), among the highest either of them has with any country.
- Trade in goods ($221 billion a year) is very important for Russia, much less so for China.
- In its UN General Debate speeches, China names Russia more often than the reverse (490 sentences against 255).
- 21,000 people born in Russia live in China (UN DESA counts place of birth, however long ago they moved).

OVER TIME

Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way

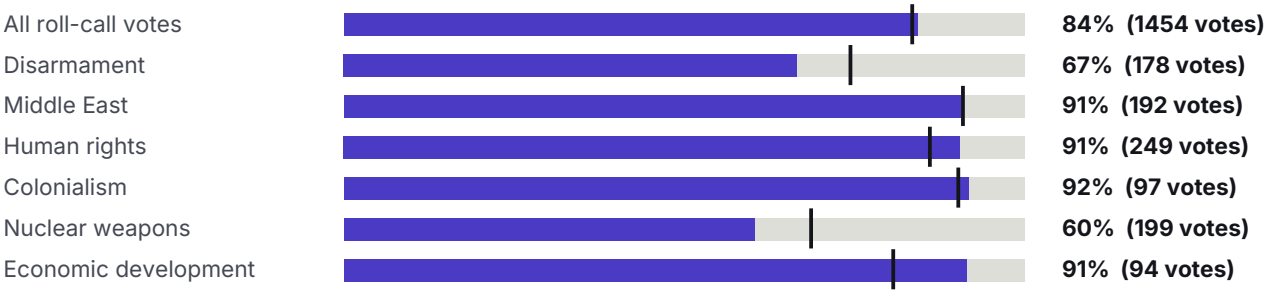


Goods exports each way (US dollars)



VOTES TOPIC BY TOPIC (SINCE 2010)

Most alike on colonialism (92% of votes the same), furthest apart on nuclear weapons (60%), against 84% 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 China was 80% in 2022–2024. For Russia, China is the 4th closest voting partner out of 191; for China, Russia is the 23rd closest partner.
Trade	Trade in goods between them averaged $221 billion a year in 2023–2025: 33.6% of all Russia's trade and 4.5% of China's. China is Russia's largest trading partner.
Words	Since 1946, Russia has named China in 255 sentences of its General Debate speeches; China has named Russia in 490.
Security	The Uppsala Conflict Data Program records them on opposite sides of armed conflict (China, Russia, 1969).
People	21,000 people born in Russia live in China and 14,000 born in China live in Russia (2024, UN DESA).
People	Their national football teams have met twice.

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**High**	269 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.

MOMENTS (EDITORIAL CONTEXT, NEVER PART OF A SCORE)

1969	Border clashes on the Ussuri River
2001	Treaty of Good-Neighbourliness
2022	Joint statement: a friendship with 'no limits'

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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