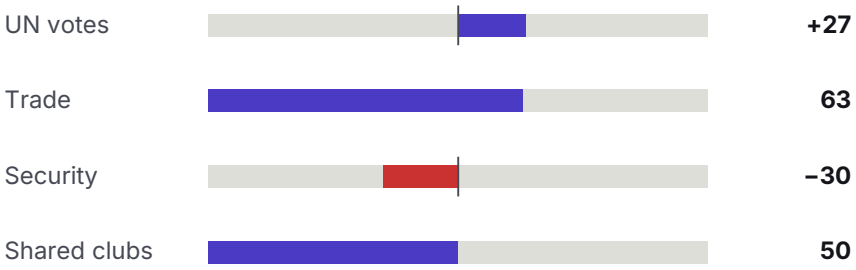
Rwanda & Burundi

+21

Neutral

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

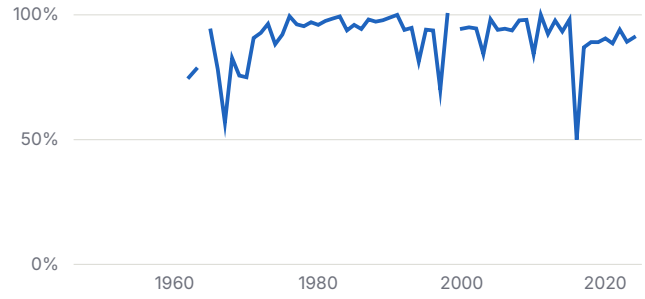


IN SHORT

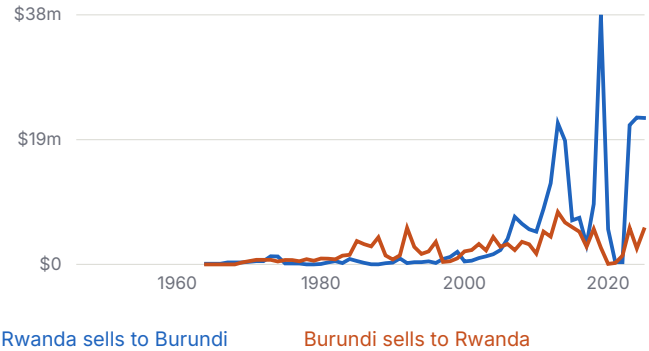
- Armed conflict: UCDP records them on opposite sides of the war in DR Congo, each supporting a side, most recently in 2025.
- At the UN their vote agreement is 91% (2022–2024), higher than either of them has with most countries.
- Trade in goods ($27 million a year) is important for Burundi, much less so for Rwanda.
- In its UN General Debate speeches, Burundi names Rwanda far more often than the reverse (85 sentences against 22).
- 131,000 people born in Burundi live in Rwanda (UN DESA counts place of birth, however long ago they moved). A separate count, by UNHCR: 51,000 refugees and asylum seekers from Burundi in Rwanda; the two counts measure different things and are not added up.

OVER TIME

Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way

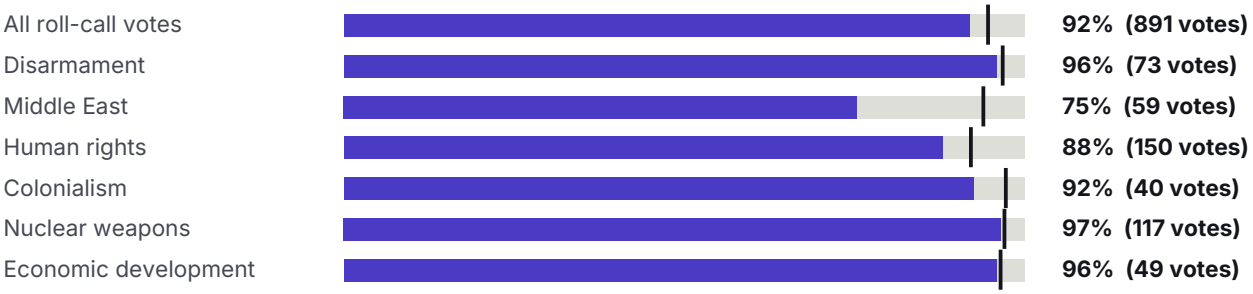


Goods exports each way (US dollars)



VOTES TOPIC BY TOPIC (SINCE 2010)

Most alike on nuclear weapons (97% of votes the same), furthest apart on Middle East (75%), against 92% 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 Rwanda and Burundi was 91% in 2022–2024. For Rwanda, Burundi is the 86th closest voting partner out of 191; for Burundi, Rwanda is the 54th closest partner.
Trade	Trade in goods between them averaged $27 million a year in 2023–2025: 0.6% of all Rwanda's trade and 3.3% of Burundi's.
Words	Since 1946, Rwanda has named Burundi in 22 sentences of its General Debate speeches; Burundi has named Rwanda in 85.
Security	The Uppsala Conflict Data Program records them supporting opposite sides of a third party's armed conflict (DR Congo, 2022–2025).
People	86,000 people born in Rwanda live in Burundi and 131,000 born in Burundi live in Rwanda (2024, UN DESA).
People	Their national football teams have met 10 times.

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**High**	208 shared votes on whole texts in 2022–2024, the years the headline share covers. With that many, a share is good to about ±7 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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