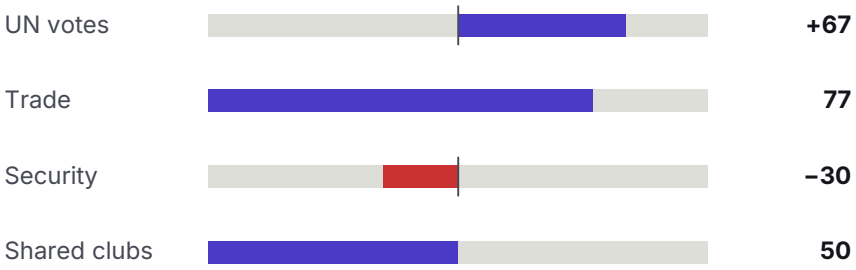
Rwanda & Kenya

+37

Close

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

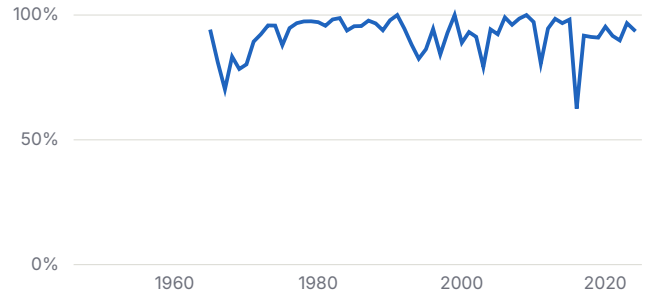


IN SHORT

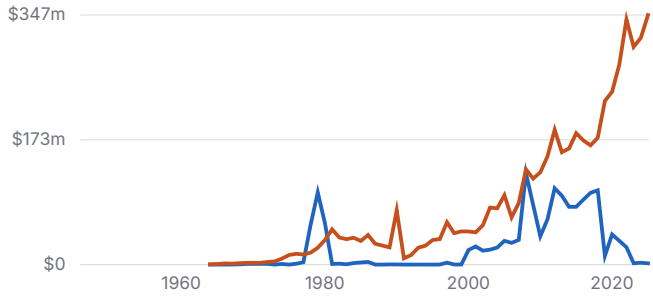
- Armed conflict: UCDP records them on opposite sides of the war in DR Congo, each supporting a side, most recently in 2025.
- At the UN their vote agreement is 94% (2022–2024), among the highest either of them has with any country.
- Trade in goods ($323 million a year) is important for Rwanda, much less so for Kenya.
- At the UN they name each other about equally often (8 and 10 sentences).
- 5,200 people born in Rwanda live in Kenya (UN DESA counts place of birth, however long ago they moved). A separate count, by UNHCR: 3,100 refugees and asylum seekers from Rwanda in Kenya; the two counts measure different things and are not added up.

OVER TIME

Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way



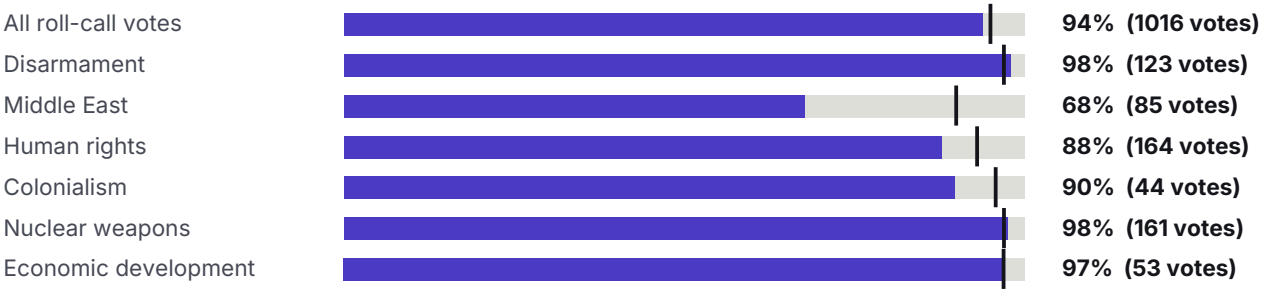
Goods exports each way (US dollars)



Rwanda sells to Kenya Kenya sells to Rwanda

VOTES TOPIC BY TOPIC (SINCE 2010)

Most alike on disarmament (98% of votes the same), furthest apart on Middle East (68%), against 94% 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 Kenya was 94% in 2022–2024. For Rwanda, Kenya is the 32nd closest voting partner out of 191; for Kenya, Rwanda is the 32nd closest partner.
Trade	Trade in goods between them averaged $323 million a year in 2023–2025: 7.0% of all Rwanda's trade and 0.9% of Kenya's. Kenya is Rwanda's 6th largest trading partner.
Words	Since 1946, Rwanda has named Kenya in 8 sentences of its General Debate speeches; Kenya has named Rwanda in 10.
Security	The Uppsala Conflict Data Program records them supporting opposite sides of a third party's armed conflict (DR Congo, 2021–2025).
People	5,200 people born in Rwanda live in Kenya and 2,600 born in Kenya live in Rwanda (2024, UN DESA).
People	Their national football teams have met 18 times.

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**High**	221 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

NationsRelations. (2026). Rwanda & Kenya [scoring rules 0.4 (14 Nov 2026), scores built 2026-11-14]. https://nationsrelations.org/p/ken-rwa

Scan to open the live page