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Level 3 – 30th April 2026

Global military spending hits record \$2.9 trillion

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

Spending on weapons reached a record high in 2025. New data on military spending has been published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). It writes a report every year called "Trends in World Military Expenditure". SIPRI stated that global defence spending was nearly \$2.9 trillion last year. This was a three per cent rise compared to 2024. Spending on armed forces has now risen for eleven years in a row. Europe's defence spending shot up by 14 per cent, to \$864 billion. The Asia-Oceania region increased its spending by 8.1 per cent, to \$681 billion. The USA remained the biggest spender on defence. It spent \$954 billion on its military last year.

There are several reasons for the record levels of spending in Europe. One reason is that all NATO members met their target to spend two per cent of their GDP on defence. Last year, NATO members agreed to a new target of five per cent by 2035. Another reason is the war between Russia and Ukraine. This conflict is now in its fifth year. Russia spent around \$190 billion on defence. This was 7.5 per cent of its GDP. Ukraine spent an unbelievable 40 per cent of its GDP on the war. SIPRI said that the increased spending "really speaks to countries' reactions to ongoing wars, tensions and geopolitical uncertainty". It added: "This trend will probably continue through 2026 and beyond."

Sources: <https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2026/04/27/global-military-spending-surges-and-reaches-record-high/>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2026/04/27/world/world-military-spending-report-sipri-intl-hnk-ml>
<https://www.dw.com/en/sipri-record-arms-spending-again/a-76901397>

WARM-UPS

1. MILITARY SPENDING: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about military spending. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

weapons / record / data / peace / trends / armed forces / world / defence / last year / Europe / NATO / target / war / conflict / Russia / Ukraine / GDP / tensions / 2026

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. DECREASE: Students A **strongly** believe all countries should decrease their military spending; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. CONFLICTS: What do you know about these conflict zones? Why is there fighting? How will it end? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	Why There's Fighting	How It Will End
Iran			
Lebanon			
Sudan			
Ukraine			
Myanmar			
Congo			

5. PEACE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "peace". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. SPENDING: Rank these with your partner. Put the most important things to spend money on at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- The military
- Health
- Police
- Education
- Technology
- Business
- Sport
- The aged

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. weapons | a. Look at two or more things to see how they are different or the same. |
| 2. high (noun) | b. The army, navy, and air force of a country. |
| 3. military | c. A time when something is at its highest level. |
| 4. trend (noun) | d. Stayed the same or did not change. |
| 5. compared to | e. Things used to fight or hurt people (guns, knives, tanks, missiles, etc.). |
| 6. in a row | f. A general direction or fashion in which something is changing. |
| 7. remained | g. Happening one after another without a break. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 8. several | h. Reached a goal or did what was needed. |
| 9. met | i. The system a country uses to protect itself from attack. |
| 10. GDP | j. A feeling of not knowing what will happen. |
| 11. conflict | k. Gross Domestic Product - The total value of goods and services a country makes. |
| 12. defence (British Eng.) | l. Feelings of worry or possible trouble between people or countries. |
| 13. tensions | m. A situation where people or groups fight or disagree strongly. |
| 14. uncertainty | n. More than a few but not many. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. Countries spent record amounts of money on tanks in 2025. **T / F**
2. The research is from an international conflict research institute. **T / F**
3. In 2025, spending on the military increased by 3% from the year before. **T / F**
4. Europe's defence spending went up by 14 per cent. **T / F**
5. All but two NATO members met their spending targets in 2025. **T / F**
6. NATO countries will spend 5% of the GDP on defence by 2035. **T / F**
7. In 2025, Ukraine spent 40% of its GDP on defence. **T / F**
8. A peace institute said 2026 would be a more peaceful year. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. high | a. consecutively |
| 2. global | b. incredible |
| 3. risen | c. stayed |
| 4. in a row | d. a number of |
| 5. remained | e. goal |
| 6. several | f. worldwide |
| 7. target | g. further |
| 8. conflict | h. record level |
| 9. unbelievable | i. war |
| 10. beyond | j. increased |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Spending on weapons reached | a. to 2024 |
| 2. This was a three per cent rise compared | b. spender on defence |
| 3. risen for eleven years | c. uncertainty |
| 4. Europe's defence spending shot | d. in a row |
| 5. The USA remained the biggest | e. target |
| 6. There are several reasons | f. a record high |
| 7. all NATO members met their | g. its fifth year |
| 8. This conflict is now in | h. 40 per cent of its GDP |
| 9. Ukraine spent an unbelievable | i. up by 14 per cent |
| 10. tensions and geopolitical | j. for the record levels |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

Spending on weapons reached a (1) _____ high in 2025. New data on military spending has been (2) _____ by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). It writes a report every year (3) _____ "Trends in World Military Expenditure". SIPRI stated that global defence spending was nearly \$2.9 trillion last year. This was a three per cent rise (4) _____ to 2024. Spending on (5) _____ forces has now risen for eleven years in a row. Europe's defence spending (6) _____ up by 14 per cent, to \$864 billion. The Asia-Oceania region increased its spending by 8.1 per cent, to \$681 billion. The USA (7) _____ the biggest spender on defence. It spent \$954 billion on its (8) _____ last year.

remained
published
military
compared
record
shot
called
armed

There are (9) _____ reasons for the record levels of spending in Europe. One reason is that all NATO members (10) _____ their target to spend two per cent of their GDP on defence. Last year, NATO (11) _____ agreed to a new target of five per cent by 2035. Another reason is the (12) _____ between Russia and Ukraine. This conflict is now in its fifth year. Russia spent (13) _____ \$190 billion on defence. This was 7.5 per cent of its GDP. Ukraine spent an (14) _____ 40 per cent of its GDP on the war. SIPRI said that the increased spending "really speaks to countries' (15) _____ to ongoing wars, tensions and geopolitical uncertainty". It added: "This trend will probably continue through 2026 and (16) _____."

members
around
reactions
met
beyond
war
several
unbelievable

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

- 1) Spending on weapons reached a record _____
 - a. high on 2025
 - b. highs in 2025
 - c. high in 2025
 - d. high at 2025
- 2) New data on military spending _____
 - a. has been published
 - b. has been publish
 - c. has being published
 - d. has bin published
- 3) Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). It writes a _____
 - a. report ever year
 - b. reports every year
 - c. report every years
 - d. report every year
- 4) Spending on armed forces has now risen for eleven years _____
 - a. inner row
 - b. inner a row
 - c. in a row
 - d. in arrow
- 5) It spent \$954 billion on its _____
 - a. militarily last year
 - b. military last year
 - c. military past year
 - d. military last years
- 6) There are several reasons for _____
 - a. a record levels
 - b. the record levels
 - c. the record levels
 - d. the record rebels
- 7) One reason is that all NATO members _____
 - a. met there target
 - b. met they're target
 - c. met they target
 - d. met their target
- 8) This conflict is now in _____
 - a. its fifth year
 - b. its five year
 - c. its fifth years
 - d. it's fifth year
- 9) the increased spending really speaks to countries' reactions _____
 - a. to ongoing wars
 - b. to on gong wars
 - c. to oncoming wars
 - d. two ongoing wars
- 10) This trend will probably continue through _____
 - a. 2026 and yonder
 - b. 2026 and beneath
 - c. 2026 and beyond
 - d. 2026 and behind

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

Spending on weapons (1) _____ high in 2025. New data on military spending has (2) _____ the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). It writes a report every year called "Trends in World Military Expenditure". SIPRI stated that global defence (3) _____ \$2.9 trillion last year. This was a three per cent rise compared to 2024. Spending on armed forces has now risen for eleven years (4) _____. Europe's defence spending shot up by 14 per cent, to \$864 billion. The Asia-Oceania (5) _____ spending by 8.1 per cent, to \$681 billion. The USA remained (6) _____ on defence. It spent \$954 billion on its military last year.

There are (7) _____ the record levels of spending in Europe. One reason is that all NATO members (8) _____ to spend two per cent of their GDP on defence. Last year, NATO members agreed to a new target of five per cent by 2035. Another reason is the war between Russia and Ukraine. This (9) _____ in its fifth year. Russia spent around \$190 billion on defence. This was 7.5 per cent of its GDP. Ukraine spent an unbelievable 40 per cent of its GDP (10) _____. SIPRI said that the increased spending "really speaks to countries' reactions (11) _____, tensions and geopolitical uncertainty". It added: "This (12) _____ continue through 2026 and beyond."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

1. In which city is the International Peace Research Institute?
2. What is the International Peace Research Institute's report called?
3. For how many years in a row has defence spending risen?
4. By how much did the Asia-Oceania region increase its spending in 2025?
5. Which country spent the most on defence in 2025?
6. How many reasons are for the record spending levels?
7. Who met their defence spending targets in 2025?
8. How much of their GDP will NATO countries spend on defence by 2035?
9. How much of its GDP did Ukraine spend on defence in 2025?
10. What did SIPRI say would continue through 2026 and beyond?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

- 1) In which city is the International Peace Research Institute?
 - a) Oslo
 - b) Helsinki
 - c) Stockholm
 - d) Copenhagen
- 2) What is the International Peace Research Institute's report called?
 - a) Trends in World Military Expenditure
 - b) Blends in World Military Expenditure
 - c) Friends in World Military Expenditure
 - d) Wars and World Military Expenditure
- 3) For how many years in a row has defence spending risen?
 - a) 11
 - b) 12
 - c) 13
 - d) 14
- 4) By how much did the Asia-Oceania region increase its spending in 2025?
 - a) 8%
 - b) 8.1%
 - c) 8.2%
 - d) 8.8%
- 5) Which country spent the most on defence in 2025?
 - a) Russia
 - b) India
 - c) China
 - d) the USA
- 6) How many reasons are for the record spending levels?
 - a) numerous
 - b) several
 - c) dozens
 - d) lots
- 7) Who met their defence spending targets in 2025?
 - a) NATO countries
 - b) the USA
 - c) Eastern European countries
 - d) the Gulf countries
- 8) How much of their GDP will NATO countries spend on defence by 2035?
 - a) 3%
 - b) 4%
 - c) 5%
 - d) 6%
- 9) How much of its GDP did Ukraine spend on defence in 2025?
 - a) 10%
 - b) 20%
 - c) 30%
 - d) 40%
- 10) What did SIPRI say would continue through 2026 and beyond?
 - a) a trend
 - b) trendiness
 - c) research
 - d) peace

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

Role A – The Military

You think the military is the most important thing to spend money on. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): healthcare, transport or the aged.

Role B – Healthcare

You think healthcare is the most important thing to spend money on. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): the military, transport or the aged.

Role C – Transport

You think transport is the most important thing to spend money on. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): healthcare, the military or the aged.

Role D – The Aged

You think the aged are the most important thing to spend money on. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): healthcare, transport or the military.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'military' and 'weapon'.

military	weapon
-----------------	---------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• reached• published• report• compared• armed• shot	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• several• members• another• unbelievable• ongoing• continue
--	---

MILITARY SPENDING SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

Write five GOOD questions about military spending in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

MILITARY SPENDING DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'military'?
3. What do you think of your country's military?
4. What do you think of nearly \$2.9 trillion being spent on defence?
5. What do you know about your country's military history?
6. Should we spend money on education instead of weapons?
7. How worried are you about future wars?
8. Would you fight for your country?
9. How worried are you about cyber-wars?
10. Who do you think is the most dangerous country?

Global military spending hits record \$2.9 trillion – 30th April 2026
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MILITARY SPENDING DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'weapons'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How important is it for a country to have a strong military?
15. How can we end today's wars?
16. What will wars be like in the future?
17. What do you know about NATO?
18. When and how will the Ukraine War end?
19. What 'geopolitical uncertainty' is in the world?
20. What questions would you like to ask a general?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

Spending on weapons (1) _____ a record high in 2025. New data on military spending has been published (2) _____ the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). It writes a report every year called "Trends in World Military Expenditure". SIPRI (3) _____ that global defence spending was nearly \$2.9 trillion last year. This was a three per cent rise (4) _____ to 2024. Spending on armed forces has now risen for eleven years in a row. Europe's defence spending shot (5) _____ by 14 per cent, to \$864 billion. The Asia-Oceania region increased its spending by 8.1 per cent, to \$681 billion. The USA (6) _____ the biggest spender on defence. It spent \$954 billion on its military last year.

There are several reasons (7) _____ the record levels of spending in Europe. One reason is that all NATO members met their (8) _____ to spend two per cent of their GDP on defence. Last year, NATO members agreed to a new target of five per cent by 2035. Another reason (9) _____ the war between Russia and Ukraine. This conflict is now in its fifth year. Russia spent around \$190 billion on defence. This was 7.5 per cent of its GDP. Ukraine spent an unbelievable 40 per cent of its GDP on the war. SIPRI said that the increased spending "(10) _____ speaks to countries' reactions to (11) _____ wars, tensions and geopolitical uncertainty". It added: "This trend will probably continue through 2026 and (12) _____."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. | (a) reaching | (b) reach | (c) reached | (d) reaches |
| 2. | (a) by | (b) of | (c) up | (d) to |
| 3. | (a) stated | (b) slated | (c) started | (d) sated |
| 4. | (a) compared | (b) compare | (c) comparison | (d) comparatively |
| 5. | (a) down | (b) up | (c) in | (d) out |
| 6. | (a) remaining | (b) remains | (c) remainder | (d) remained |
| 7. | (a) at | (b) on | (c) for | (d) by |
| 8. | (a) fire | (b) bullet | (c) arrow | (d) target |
| 9. | (a) is | (b) be | (c) of | (d) at |
| 10. | (a) really | (b) reality | (c) real | (d) realism |
| 11. | (a) incoming | (b) ongoing | (c) outgoing | (d) upcoming |
| 12. | (a) because | (b) beneath | (c) beyond | (d) behind |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

Paragraph 1

1. data on military spending has been bpudelsih
2. trends in world military pueneexitrd
3. global fne dece spending
4. a three per cent rise mpdceoar to 2024
5. armed fcsore
6. the Asia-Oceania nrioge

Paragraph 2

7. there are sraevle reasons
8. members met their ttegra
9. this tlnocfic is now in its fifth year
10. rocaiesnt to ongoing wars
11. otsinsen and geopolitical uncertainty
12. continue through 2026 and bdeony

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () \$2.9 trillion last year. This was a three per cent rise compared to 2024. Spending on armed forces has now risen for
- () agreed to a new target of five per cent by 2035. Another reason is the war between
- () eleven years in a row. Europe's defence spending shot up by 14 per cent, to \$864 billion. The Asia-Oceania
- () members met their target to spend two per cent of their GDP on defence. Last year, NATO members
- () of its GDP on the war. SIPRI said that the increased spending "really speaks to countries' reactions to ongoing
- () on defence. This was 7.5 per cent of its GDP. Ukraine spent an unbelievable 40 per cent
- () published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). It writes a report every
- () region increased its spending by 8.1 per cent, to \$681 billion. The USA remained the biggest
- () Russia and Ukraine. This conflict is now in its fifth year. Russia spent around \$190 billion
- () spender on defence. It spent \$954 billion on its military last year.
- (**1**) Spending on weapons reached a record high in 2025. New data on military spending has been
- () There are several reasons for the record levels of spending in Europe. One reason is that all NATO
- () wars, tensions and geopolitical uncertainty". It added: "This trend will probably continue through 2026 and beyond."
- () year called "Trends in World Military Expenditure". SIPRI stated that global defence spending was nearly

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

1. a high on reached record Spending weapons .
2. been data has military New on published spending .
3. \$2.9 trillion defence Global last nearly spending was year .
4. 2024 3% a compared rise This to was .
5. \$954 billion It its last military on spent year .
6. are for levels reasons record several the There .
7. 2% All members met NATO target their .
8. conflict fifth in is its now This year .
9. 40% an GDP its of spent Ukraine unbelievable .
10. 2026 continue probably This through trend will .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

Spending *on / in* weapons reached a record high in 2025. New data on military spending has *being / been* published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). It writes a report *all / every* year called "Trends in World Military Expenditure". SIPRI *started / stated* that global defence spending was *nearly / nearby* \$2.9 trillion last year. This was a three per cent rise *comparison / compared* to 2024. Spending on armed forces has now *rising / risen* for eleven years in a row. Europe's defence spending shot *high / up* by 14 per cent, to \$864 billion. The Asia-Oceania *region / legion* increased its spending by 8.1 per cent, to \$681 billion. The USA remained the biggest *spends / spender* on defence. It spent \$954 billion on its military last year.

There are *sever / several* reasons for the record levels of spending in Europe. One reason is that *every / all* NATO members met their target to spend two per cent of their GDP *on / in* defence. Last year, NATO members agreed to a new *target / targets* of five per cent by 2035. Another reason is the war *between / among* Russia and Ukraine. This conflict is now in its *five / fifth* year. Russia spent around \$190 billion on defence. This was 7.5 per cent of its GDP. Ukraine spent an *unbelievably / unbelievable* 40 per cent of its GDP on the war. SIPRI said that the increased spending "really *speaks / sparks* to countries' reactions to ongoing wars, tensions and geopolitical *certainty / uncertainty*". It added: "This trend will probably continue through 2026 and *beyond / behind*."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

Spending in weapons reached a record high in 2025. New data on military spending has been published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). It writes to report very much called "Trends in World Military Expenditure". SIPRI stated that global defence spending was nearly \$2.9 trillion last year. This was a three per cent rise compared to 2024. Spending on armaments has now risen for eleven years in a row. The report's defence spending shot up by 14 per cent, to \$864 billion. This is a record rise in spending by 8.1 per cent, to \$681 billion. The SIPRI found that biggest spender in defence. It spent \$954 billion on its military last year.

There are several reasons for the record levels of spending in the report. One reason is that all NATO members met their target to spend two per cent of their GDP in defence. Last year, NATO members agreed to a new target of five per cent by 2035. Another reason is the war between Russia and Ukraine. This conflict is now in its fifth year. Russia spent around \$190 billion in defence. This was 7.5 per cent of its GDP. Ukraine spent an unbelievable 40 per cent of its GDP in the war. SIPRI said that the record spending "really speaks to countries' reactions to ongoing wars, tensions and geopolitical uncertainty". It added: "This trend will probably continue through 2026 and beyond."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

spending on weapons reached a record high in 2025 new data on military spending has been published by the stockholm international peace research institute sipri it writes a report every year called trends in world military expenditure sipri stated that global defence spending was nearly 29 trillion last year this was a three per cent rise compared to 2024 spending on armed forces has now risen for eleven years in a row europes defence spending shot up by 14 per cent to 864 billion the asia oceania region increased its spending by 81 per cent to 681 billion the usa remained the biggest spender on defence it spent 954 billion on its military last year

there are several reasons for the record levels of spending in europe one reason is that all nato members met their target to spend two per cent of their gdp on defence last year nato members agreed to a new target of five per cent by 2035 another reason is the war between russia and ukraine this conflict is now in its fifth year russia spent around 190 billion on defence this was 75 per cent of its gdp ukraine spent an unbelievable 40 per cent of its gdp on the war sipri said that the increased spending really speaks to countries reactions to ongoing wars tensions and geopolitical uncertainty it added this trend will probably continue through 2026 and beyond

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260430-global-military-spending.html>

Spending on weapons reached a record high in 2025. New data on military spending has been published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). It writes a report every year called "Trends in World Military Expenditure". SIPRI stated that global defence spending was nearly \$2.9 trillion last year. This was a three per cent rise compared to 2024. Spending on armed forces has now risen for eleven years in a row. Europe's defence spending shot up by 14 per cent, to \$864 billion. The Asia-Oceania region increased its spending by 8.1 per cent, to \$681 billion. The USA remained the biggest spender on defence. It spent \$954 billion on its military last year. There are several reasons for the record levels of spending in Europe. One reason is that all NATO members met their target to spend two per cent of their GDP on defence. Last year, NATO members agreed to a new target of five per cent by 2035. Another reason is the war between Russia and Ukraine. This conflict is now in its fifth year. Russia spent around \$190 billion on defence. This was 7.5 per cent of its GDP. Ukraine spent an unbelievable 40 per cent of its GDP on the war. SIPRI said that the increased spending "really speaks to countries' reactions to ongoing wars, tensions and geopolitical uncertainty". It added: "This trend will probably continue through 2026 and beyond."

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. NATO: Make a poster about NATO. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. MILITARY SPENDING: Write a magazine article about spending less on the military. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on military spending. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on military spending. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e 2. c 3. b 4. f 5. a 6. g 7. d
8. n 9. h 10. k 11. m 12. i 13. l 14. j

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 F 3 T 4 T 5 F 6 T 7 T 8 F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. f	3. j	4. a	5. c
6. d	7. e	8. i	9. b	10. g

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Stockholm
2. Trends in World Military Expenditure
3. Eleven
4. 8.1%
5. The USA
6. Several
7. NATO countries
8. Five per cent
9. 40%
10. A trend

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. Spending on weapons reached a record high.
2. New data on military spending has been published.
3. Global defence spending was nearly \$2.9 trillion last year.
4. This was a 3% rise compared to 2024.
5. It spent \$954 billion on its military last year.
6. There are several reasons for the record levels.
7. All NATO members met their 2% target.
8. This conflict is now in its fifth year.
9. Ukraine spent an unbelievable 40% of its GDP.
10. This trend will probably continue through 2026.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. d 6. b 7. a 8. c 9. d 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)