

Row over EU budget hike

Britain and 10 other nations are opposing a 6% rise to the EU's \square 123 billion budget. The 11 leaders say anything more than 2.91% is "unacceptable" at a time when nations face large budget deficits*

Nations opposing proposed rise

Budget deficits as % of GDP (2009)

Britain	<i>GDP: £158.09bn</i>	11.4%
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France	7.5%	\square 143.83bn
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Slovenia	5.8%	\square 2.06bn
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Czech Rep.	5.8%	CZK210.27bn
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Netherlands	5.4%	\square 30.91bn
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3.5%	Austria	\square 9.60bn
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3.0%	Germany	\square 72.91bn
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2.7%	Denmark	DKK45.35bn
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2.5%	Finland	\square 4.26bn
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1.7%	Estonia	EEK3.75bn
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0.9%	Sweden	SEK28.60bn
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*Under EU rules, members must keep their budget deficits below 3% of GDP

Source: Eurostat

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