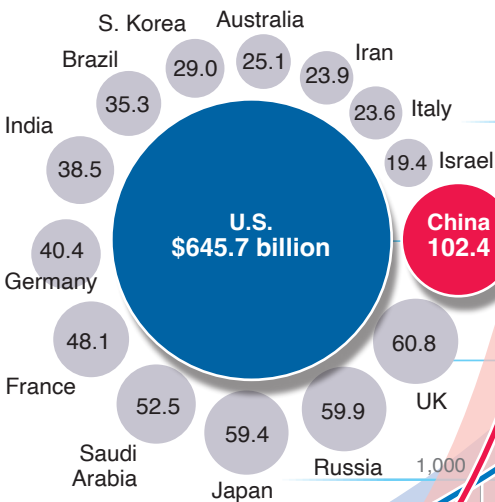


# China defence spending to outstrip U.S.

U.S. military spending in 2012 exceeded that of the next 14 countries combined, but China could overtake the Americans within 20 years if it continues to expand at its current rate. Budget crises in the West have already seen Asian defence spending as a whole overtake that of Europe

DEFENCE SPENDING 2012 (\$ billions)



UNTIL 2050

Official PLA\* Obama's 2013 budget

