

Global military spending grows

Global military spending rose in 2015 to nearly \$1.7 trillion, the first increase since 2011, driven by Middle East conflicts including the battle against Islamic State, the Saudi-led war in Yemen and fears about Iran

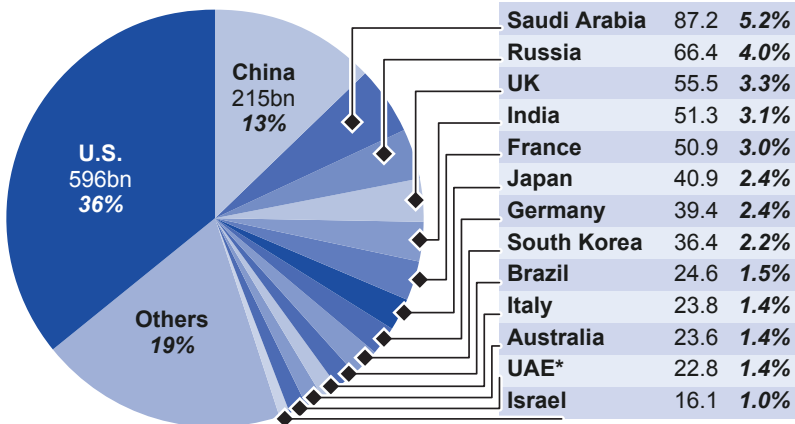
MILITARY EXPENDITURE (\$ billion)

Chinese expansion in South China Sea and Russia's annexation of Crimea and support of Ukrainian separatists also contributed to increase

**2015: \$1,680bn (1.68tn)
– up 1% from 2014**



TOP SPENDERS IN 2015 Spending (\$bn) World share (%)



*2014 figure

Picture: Getty Images

Source: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)

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