

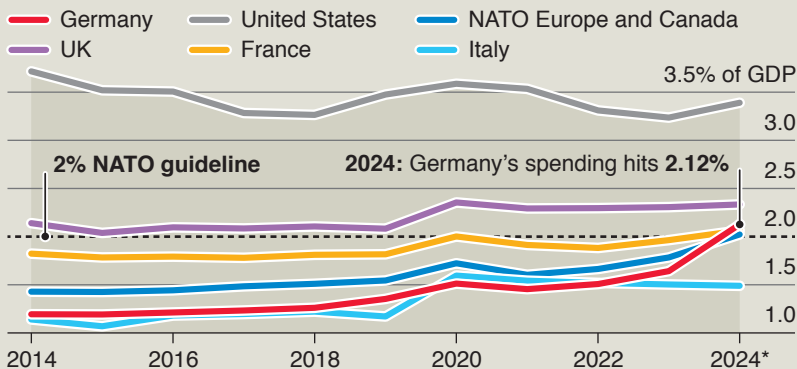
# Germany votes for historic boost to defence

German lawmakers have voted to allow a huge increase in defence and infrastructure spending – a seismic shift for the country that could reshape European security



New legislation, championed by chancellor-in-waiting **Friedrich Merz**, will exempt defence spending from Germany's strict debt rules and create €500 billion (\$547 billion) infrastructure fund

## DEFENCE SPENDING COMPARED (selected NATO countries)



\*2024 figures are estimates