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Trump: NATO Nations Not Meeting Obligations Will Be ‘Dealt With’

Speaking with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, President Trump railed against NATO member [nations who are not living up to the US demands for them to greatly increase military spending](#). He argued many nations aren't paying what they're "supposed to be paying," and that they'll "be dealt with" for it.



Jens Stoltenberg and President Trump

The US has long demanded all NATO nations spend a minimum of 2% of their GDP annually on the military. Many nations don't meet this level, and many have said they have no intention of doing so. Since the alliance controls most of their neighbors, they really don't have a need for a big military.

Trump singled out Germany in particular, saying the country "has not contributed what it should be contributing" to military spending. [German officials have made clear](#) they have no intention of spending 2% of their GDP on military, and argue that funds for foreign aid should count just as much.

Many European NATO nations say they really don't have the infrastructure to realistically spend that much on their militaries anyhow, and don't have arms industries to support such large forces. It has been speculated that the US interest in forcing these increases is, at least in part, about selling more US weapons across the alliance.