# NATO Allies Reach Record Military Spending Amid Russia-Ukraine Conflict



**Record NATO Military Spending Amid Russia-Ukraine War**

June 17, 2024, Washington – President Joe Biden and NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg announced that a record number of NATO allies are meeting their military spending commitments. This announcement comes as the alliance prepares for its annual summit in Washington next month, where further security assistance and training for Ukraine will be key discussion points.

Stoltenberg noted a significant increase in military spending, with more than 20 out of 32 NATO members now committing to spend at least 2% of their GDP on defense, a marked rise from only three members in 2014. This increase is aimed at reducing the burden on the United States and bolstering support for Ukraine amid ongoing conflict with Russia.

President Biden emphasized the importance of NATO in deterring Russian aggression, while Stoltenberg highlighted the need for sustained support to ensure Ukraine’s security. The recent delay in military aid to Ukraine, caused by congressional gridlock, had allowed Russian advances on the front lines, underscoring the importance of timely assistance.

The upcoming NATO summit will build on measures from the recent G7 summit, including a $50 billion loan to Ukraine and a new 10-year security pact signed by Biden and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. These efforts aim to make clear that NATO will provide robust, long-term support to Ukraine.

Former President Donald Trump’s stance on reducing NATO support and encouraging Russia has raised concerns about the future of the alliance, particularly if he returns to office. This uncertainty is compounded by over 40 House Republicans recently voting to defund NATO.

Biden and Stoltenberg’s reassurances come as Putin strengthens ties with North Korea, signaling deeper cooperation amid the ongoing conflict. This geopolitical shift highlights the importance of NATO’s united front and continued support for Ukraine to ensure regional stability and deter further aggression.