

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Rishi Sunak Signals UK Could Take Part In Further Strikes Against Houthi Rebels](#)

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Tweet: [Grant Shapps, the British defence secretary, argues that the world has moved into a "prewar" phase, noting that "In five years' time, we could be looking at multiple theatres \[of conflict\] involving Russia, China, Iran, \[and\] North Korea."](#)

Summary: Grant Shapps, the UK's defence secretary warned that the world had moved to a "prewar" phase as he called on allies to lift defence spending to meet the rising threat. "The era of peace dividend is over...In five years' time, we could be looking at multiple theatres [of conflict] involving Russia, China, Iran, North Korea. Looking at today's conflicts across the world, is it more likely that the number grows or reduces? I suspect we all know the answer — it's likely to grow." Shapps said Britain was spending more than £50bn a year — or just over 2% of GDP — on defence, and had increased funds to modernise the UK's nuclear deterrent and replenish stockpiles of weapons supplied as military aid to Ukraine. However, he made no calls for extra UK spending on defence, other than to reiterate that it was the government's "aspiration" to spend 2.5% of GDP on defence as economic conditions allowed.

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