

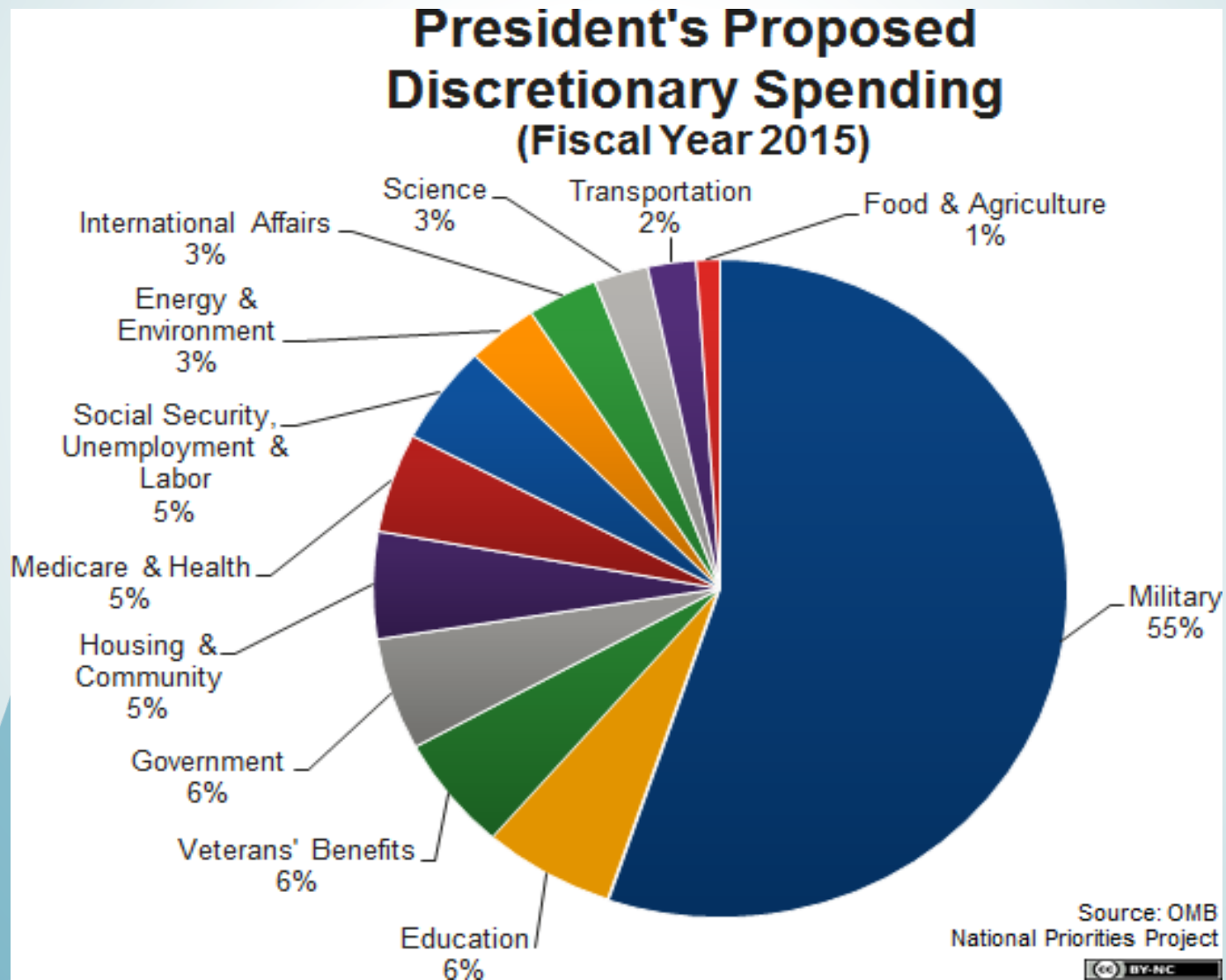
Budget Violence

Ways to Challenge
Institutionalized Violence Created
by Our Spending Choices



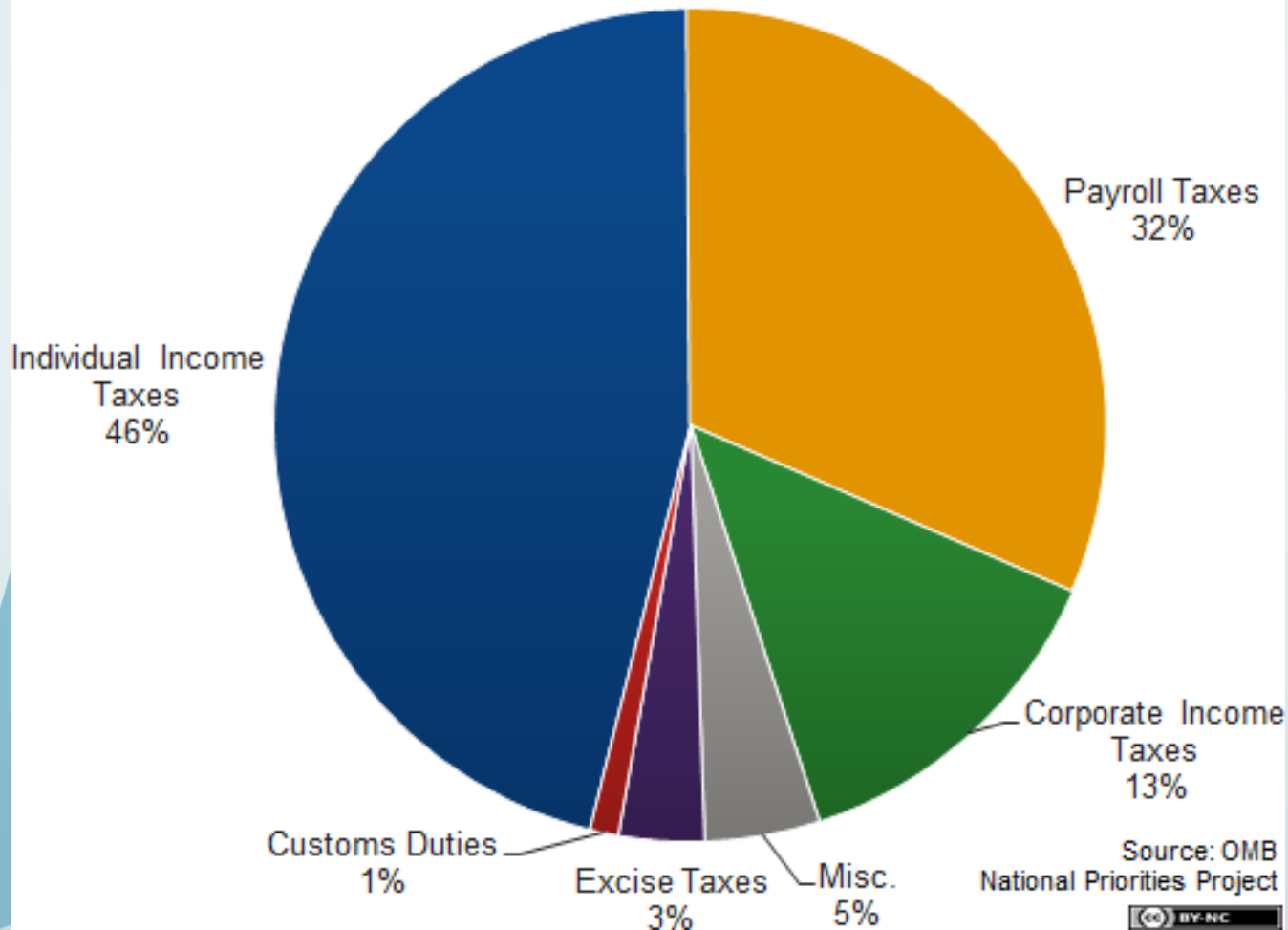
Leslie Woods
Representative for Domestic Poverty and Environmental Issues
PC(USA) Office of Public Witness

President's FY15 Discretionary Spending



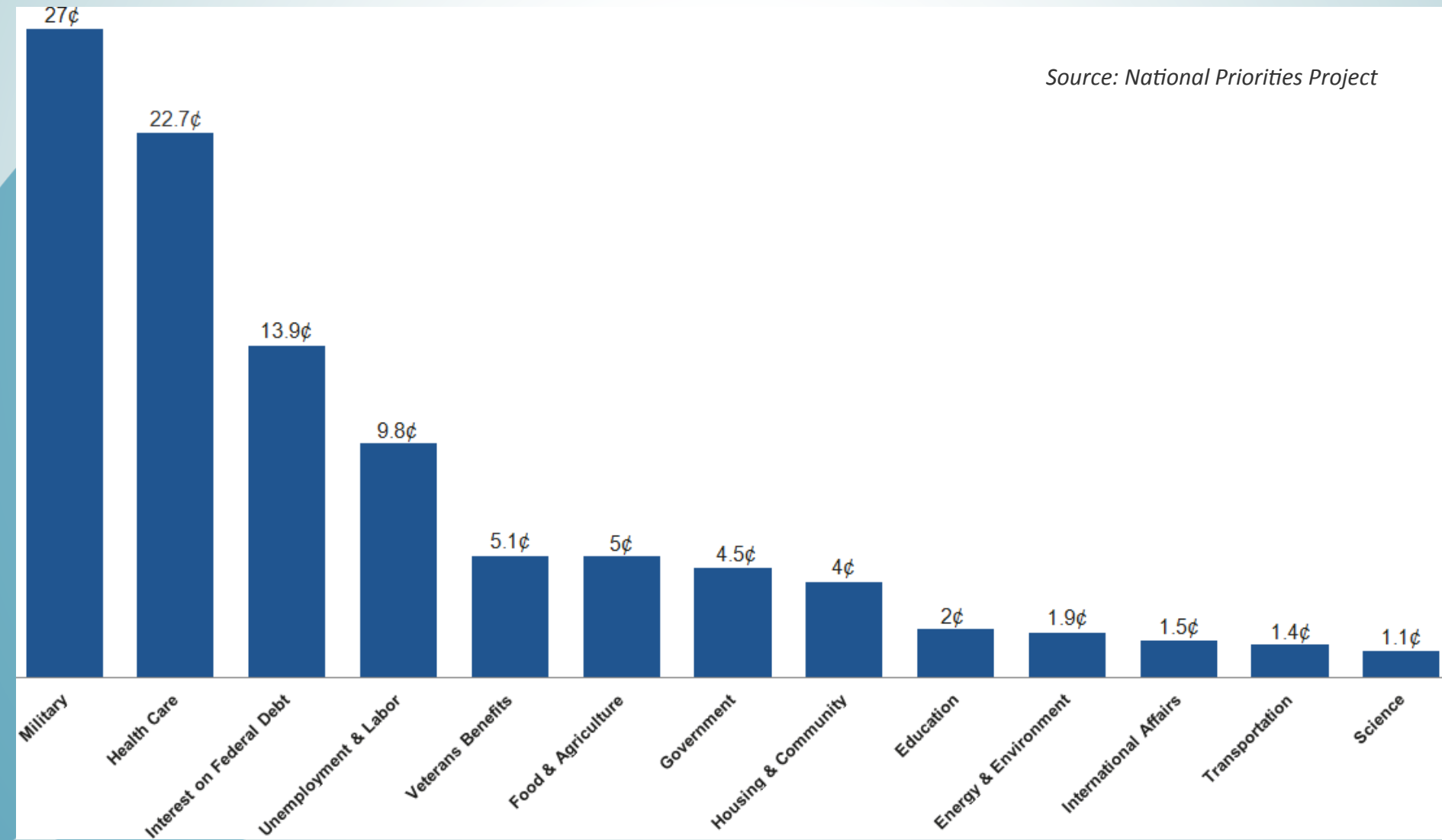
President's FY15 Revenue

Projected Tax Revenue (Fiscal Year 2015)

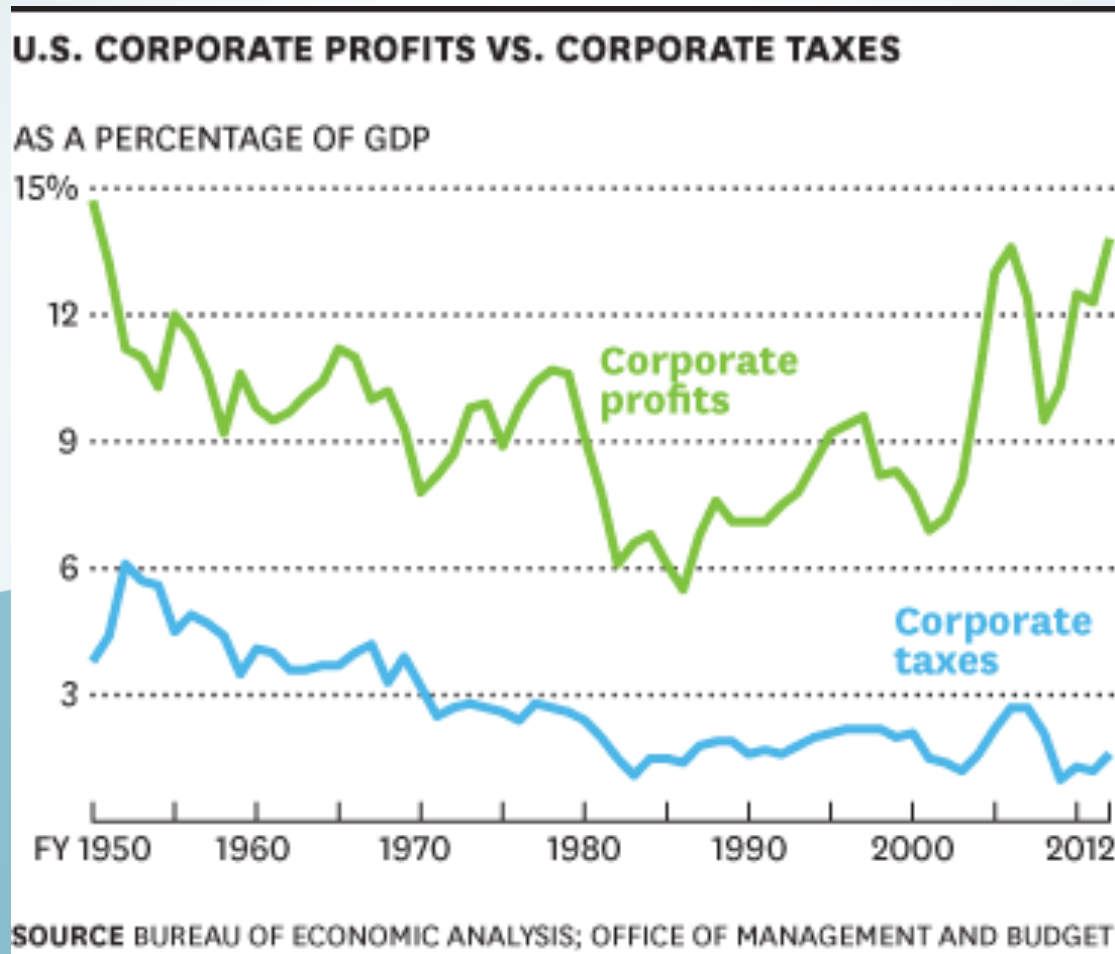


Your 2013 Income Tax Dollar

Source: National Priorities Project



Can Corporations Afford to Pay More?



Investments in War

BUDGET VIOLENCE

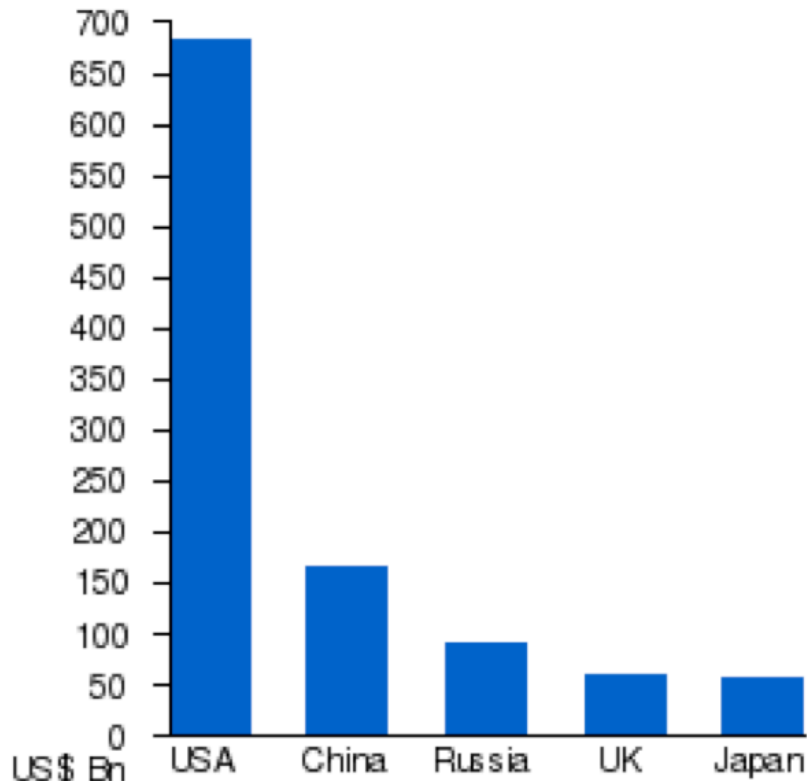


Investments in War

- In 2012, the United States spent an estimated \$682,000,000,000 on the military and related services.
 - More than any other nation in the world
 - Over 50% of discretionary budget
 - Roughly 40% of the world's military spending



Top 5 World Military Spenders



- USA: \$682,000,000,000
- China: \$166,000,000,000
- Russia: \$90,000,000,000
- UK: \$60,000,000,000
- Japan: \$59,000,000,000

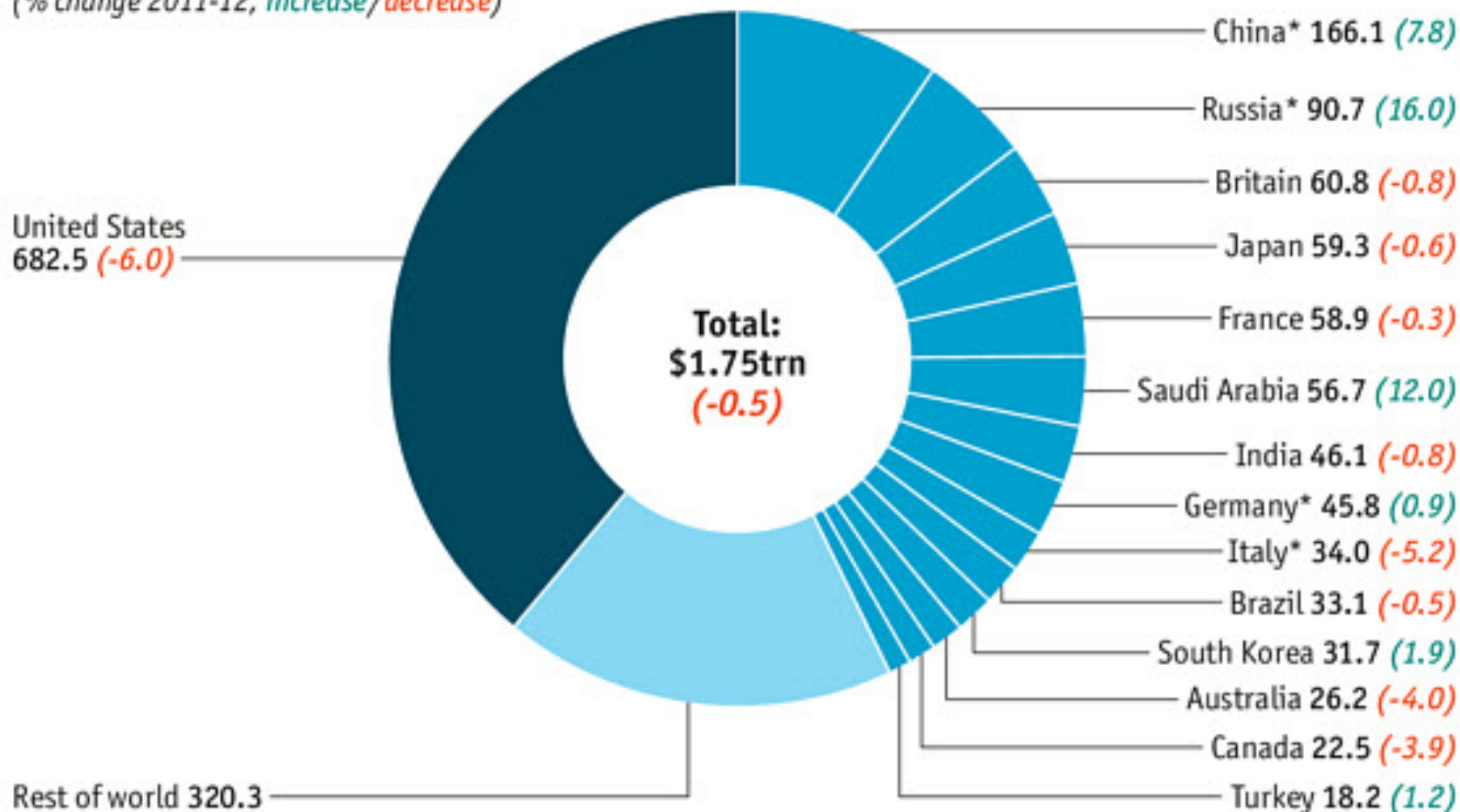


Source: Source: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute; graph: Planetizen

Global Military Spending - 2012

2012, \$bn

(% change 2011-12, *increase/decrease*)

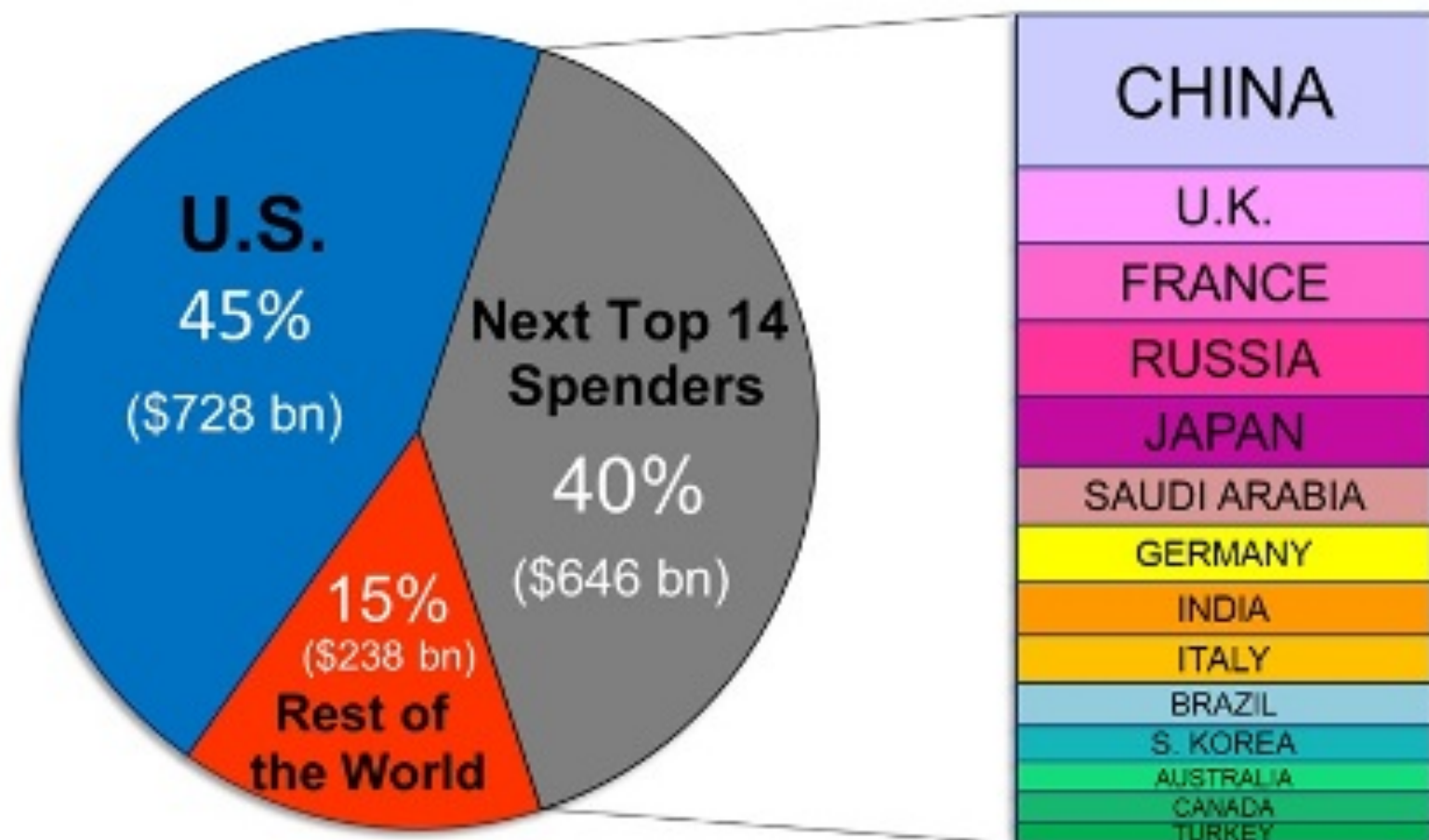


Source: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

* Estimate

World's Top Military Spenders:

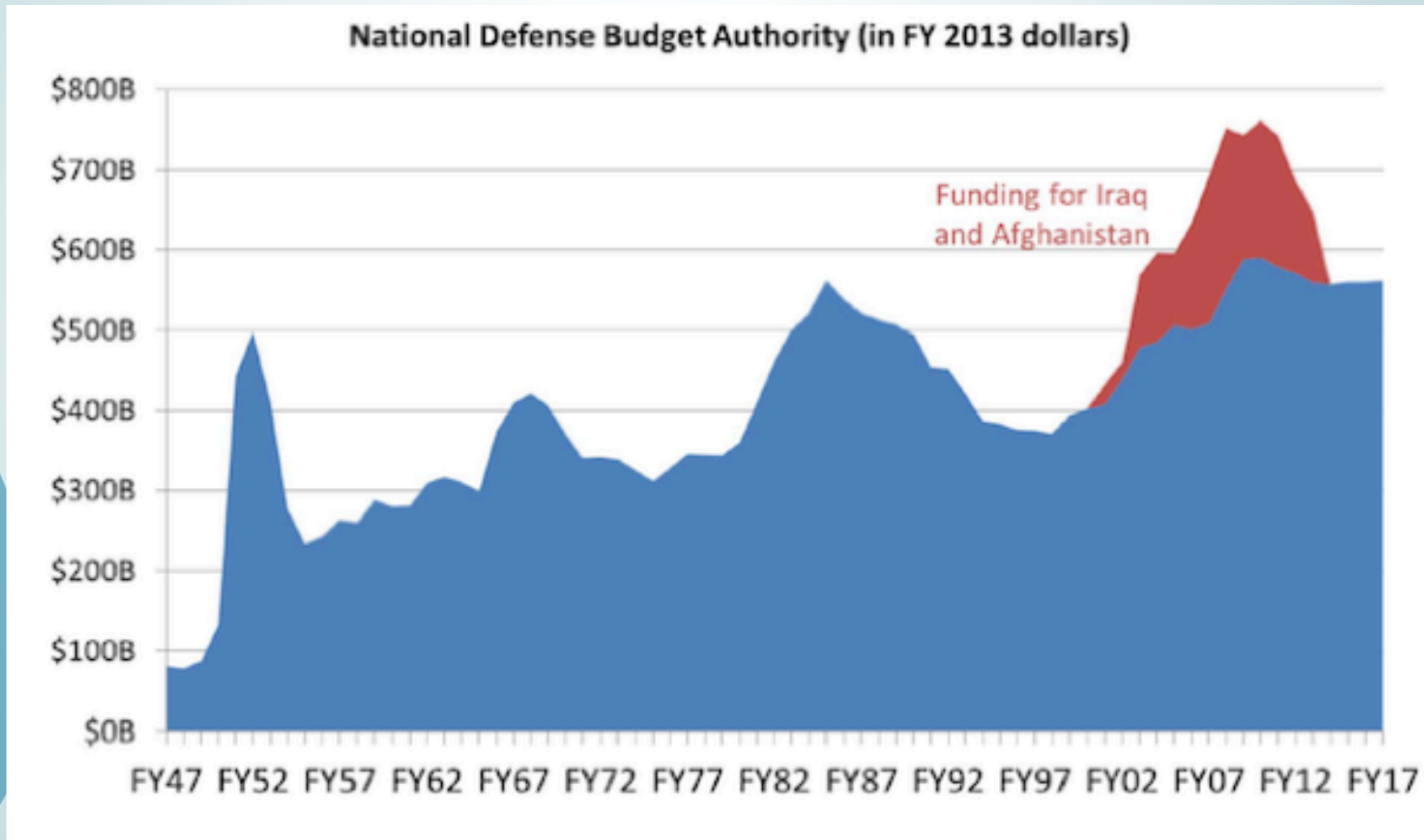
U.S. Spends More Than Next Top 14 Countries Combined



* Figures are from 2010 in U.S. 2010 constant dollars and exchange rates

Source: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute
Produced by: Veronique de Rugy, Mercatus Center at George Mason University

Can the Pentagon Afford a Cut?



Source: Washington Post, Wonkblog, Jan. 2013



Investments in War

DID THE SEQUESTER ACTUALLY REDUCE DEFENSE SPENDING?



Pentagon Sequester Cuts in FY13

Adjustments to Defense Sequestration in FY2013		Source
<i>Sequestration according to Budget Control Act</i>	\$54.6 billion	Government Printing Office
<i>Reduction in cuts through American Taxpayer Relief Act and other adjustments</i>	\$17.4 billion	Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments
<i>Cuts applied to "prior year unobligated balances"</i>	\$6 billion	Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments
<i>Actual cut to FY2013 budget</i>	\$31.2 billion	
<i>Actual cut as percent of pre-sequester Budget Control Act defense cap</i>	5.7%	

Source: Friends Committee on National Legislation

- Instead of cutting weapons systems already identified as unneeded, Pentagon chose to enact these cuts by cutting civilian workers' pay
- Most defense contractors are reporting profits this year
- Sequester did cut Pentagon funds to prevent wars



Sequester Cuts War Prevention

Program	Final Appropriated FY2012	% Sequestrable	What would be left?
Complex Crises Fund (CCF)	\$40,000,000	8.2	\$36,720,000
Conflict Stabilization Operations (CSO)	\$43,500,000	8.2*	\$39,933,000*
Contributions to Int'l Peacekeeping Activities (CIPA)	\$1,828,182,000	8.2	\$1,678,271,076
Contributions to International Organizations (CIO)	\$1,551,000,000	8.2	\$1,423,818,000
Transition Initiatives (TI)	\$58,895,000	8.2	\$52,046,010

**Note: A significant portion of CSO's budget is not directly appropriated, but instead comes as a transfer from a larger pool. The CSO budget could be cut at a much higher rate given post-sequester competition for those funds.*

Source: Friends Committee on National Legislation

Pentagon Sequester Cuts FY14

Adjustments to Defense Sequestration in FY2014		Source
<i>Sequestration according to Budget Control Act</i>	\$54.6 billion	Governing Printing Office
<i>Reduction in cuts through Bipartisan Budget Act</i>	\$20.382	House Budget Committee
<i>Non-war funding in 2014 war budget proposal, estimate</i>	\$20 billion	Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments
<i>Additional funds added by appropriators</i>	\$10.8 billion	Project on Government Oversight
<i>Actual cut to FY2014 budget</i>	\$3.4 billion	
<i>Actual cut as percent of pre-sequester Budget Control Act defense cap</i>	0.62%	

Source: [Friends Committee on National Legislation](#)



Systemic Poverty and Disinvestment

BUDGET VIOLENCE

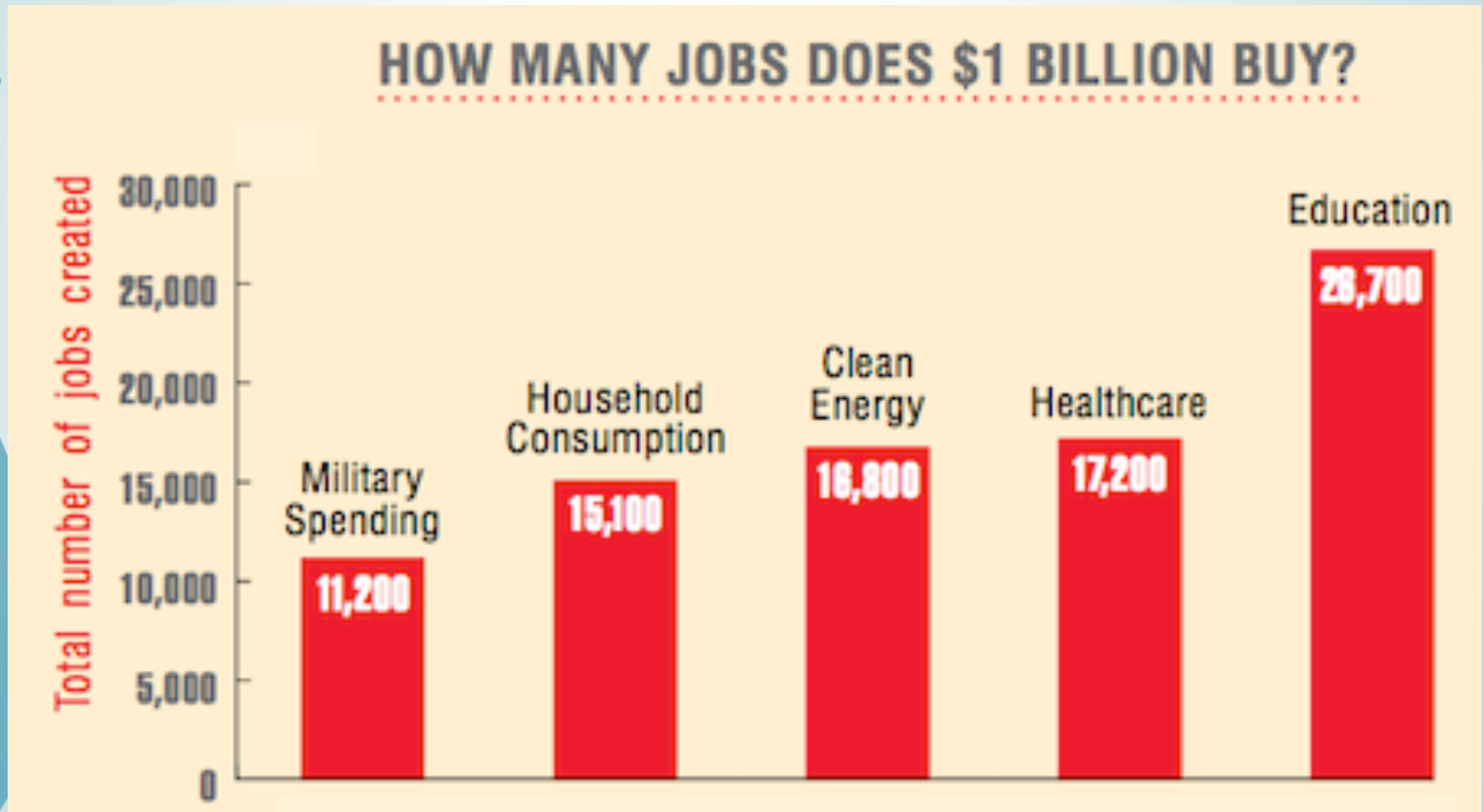


Spending Cuts Do Violence

- Obvious and immediate:
 - Cuts to programs that serve victims of domestic violence
 - Cuts to programs that train law enforcement, fire & rescue, etc.
 - Failure to renew UI
 - Cuts in mental health and other services
 - Systemic shifts to “cost-saving,” private, for-profit prisons
- Long-term and systemic:
 - Generational poverty
 - Failure to invest in education
 - Hunger in the wealthiest nation in the world
 - Lack of preventative care and poor health comes – people really die because of budget cuts
 - Attempts to shift programs like SNAP, Medicare, and Medicaid into block grants or private systems



Investments, on the other hand...



Source: *The Nation*, UMass Study by Robert Pollin and Heidi Garrett-Peltier



What We Need

- Reprioritize, so as to reduce, military spending
- Invest in long-term, systemic poverty reduction
- Ensure that future budget cuts hold harmless the programs that serve people in distress
- **NEW** revenue





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