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## GERMANY'S REARMAMENT UPENDS EUROPE'S POWER BALANCE

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For decades, the European Union ran on an unspoken understanding: Germany handled the money, France handled the military. Now, the tables are turning.

As Germany aims to become Europes predominant military power, the political balance is shifting. In France, theres a scramble to stay relevant, while in Poland, Germanys rearmament is stirring old ghosts and creating a sense that a Berlin-Warsaw alliance might be the most effective way to keep Russia at bay.

Everywhere I go in the world, from the Baltics to Asia, people are asking Germany to take on more responsibility, said Christoph Schmid, a German Social Democratic lawmaker on the Bundestags defense committee. The expectation is that Germany will finally step up and match its economic weight with defense power.

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