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GERMANY VOTES FOR HISTORIC BOOST TO DEFENCE SPENDING

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German lawmakers have voted to allow a huge increase in defence and infrastructure spending - a seismic shift for the country that could reshape European defence.

A two-thirds majority of Bundestag parliamentarians, required for the change, approved the vote on Tuesday.

The law will exempt spending on defence and security from Germany's strict debt rules, and create a €500bn (\$547bn; £420bn) infrastructure fund.

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