

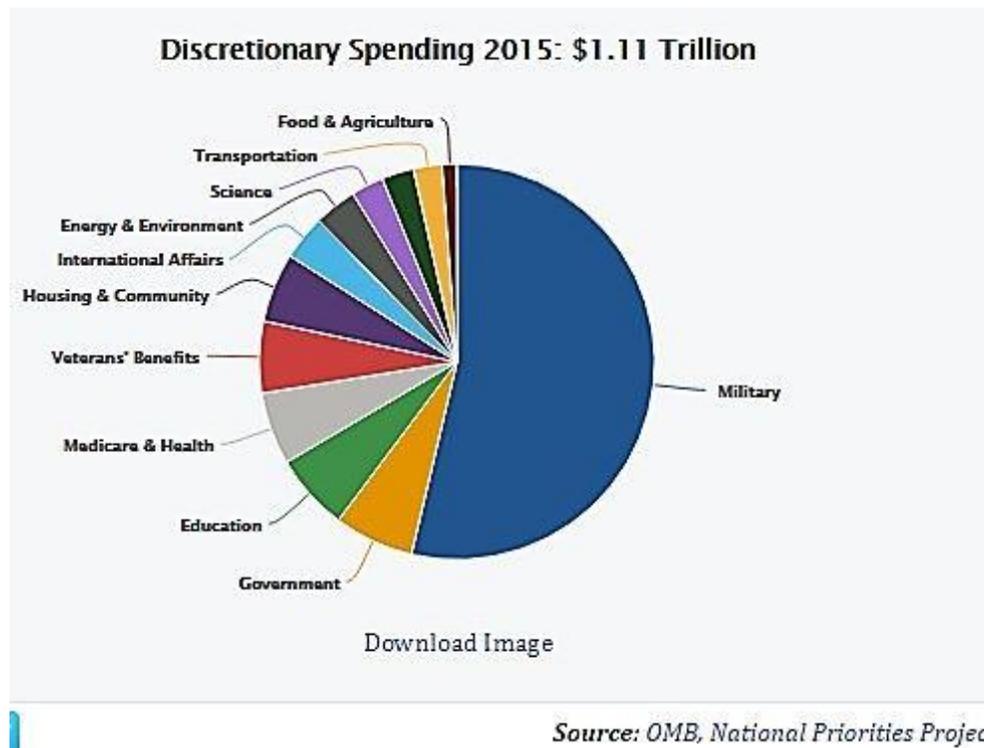
GL-UNA provides timely and concise information, like that which follows, related to the United Nations and its vitally important work to help keep you informed and engaged in the critical issues facing our world.

"In a world where annual defense spending is more than \$1.6 trillion dollars and the UN Peacebuilding Fund receives less than \$700 million dollars, it would seem that the military industrial complex is unwaveringly entrenched..." so begins **"Why the UN needs a "Peace Industrial Complex,"** an insightful on-line article by Jonathan Rozen, an independent researcher working with the Peace Operations & Peacebuilding Division of the [Institute for Security Studies](#). You can read the complete article [here](#). I highly recommend it.



[Forbes magazine recently reported](#), that in Washington, the House of Representatives is proposing a huge defense budget of \$610 billion--that is \$25 billion more than the Department Of Defense requested--largely to fund "pork projects" in the districts of members of Congress. **By comparison, the U.S. spends less than the equivalent of 7% of the Department of Defense budget on the combined costs of all foreign aid, plus all UN peacekeeping and UN organizations (UNHCR, UNICEF, FAO, WHO, UNESCO, etc.), plus the State Department and all U.S. foreign embassies and consulates.**

This is not a new development, but rather a continuing trend: **the United States generally spends about 1% of its budget on foreign aid.**



Please see [Three Foreign Aid Myth Busters](#) to learn more.

See more charts like the above at [National Priorities.org](#).

As Jonathan Rozen concludes, "The world's military industrial complex thrives because of political and financial support for military spending and military solutions to global challenges. To create a "peace industrial complex," more countries will need to commit political and financial support for preventive projects, like UN peacebuilding. But this would also necessitate a change in UN member states' perspective – away from the belief in reactive investment to contain crises and toward a commitment of resources before conflicts emerge."

Perhaps the "peace industrial complex" would thrive if the US and other member states committed greater political and financial support to it.

Thank you for your interest in striving toward a better world for all.

Dave Wiley, Advocacy Chair