

Dánské hangáry F-35 zdvojnásobily cenu, protože celkové náklady projektu byly balóny

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Cena výstavby hangárů pro novou dánskou flotilu stíhaček F-35 neustále stoupá, což nutí parlament vyčlenit nová zařízení.

Díky nedávné tranši se zdvojnásobila cena prostor o rozloze 40 000 metrů čtverečních na letecké základně Skrydstrup ve srovnání s původními plány z roku 2017.

Celkově se očekává, že celkový účet za hangáry F-35 bude 1,35 miliardy DKK (200 milionů dolarů). Původně měla zařízení stát více než 650 milionů DKK (95 milionů USD).

Agentura pro majetek ministerstva obrany připsala rostoucí náklady na „mimořádné“ zvýšení cen stavebních materiálů, zatímco analytici také poukázali na přísné a dalekosáhlé bezpečnostní požadavky, které musí být splněny, než USA povolí letadlům přistát v Dánsku.

Výdajové řádění však vyvolalo hněv mezi dánskou opozicí, včetně Červeno-zelené aliance, která nákladný projekt kritizovala.

"Nemůžete pořád jen přicházet, tlačit účet a žádat o další peníze. Peníze musí najít v rámci vlastních financí projektu," řekl dánským médiím jeho finanční mluvčí Pelle Dragsted. Obvinil také vládu z „nedbalosti s penězi daňových poplatníků“.

Jiní, včetně populistické Dánské lidové strany, však označili zvýšení za nezbytné pro „budoucí odolnost“ obrany národa.

Umírnění, součást křížové koalice se sociálními demokraty a liberály, obhajovali projekt jako „nezbytný“.

Vědci poukázali na to, že úřady se ocitly v úzkých a jsou nuceny pokračovat bez ohledu na náklady. Jakmile si letadla objednali, předplatili si celý balíček a musí pokračovat bez ohledu na to, jak drahé to může být.



15 February, 06:51 GMT

Previously, the F-35, touted as the new backbone of Denmark's armed forces, ran into a noise controversy, as the bulkier and heavier fighters recorded noise levels that exceeded both the military's own reports and than of their predecessors, the F-16s. Similar issues have plagued other F-35 operators, including the fellow Nordic nation of Norway.

The Danish Armed Forces have had a long partnership with Lockheed Martin since the early 1950s, fielding a number of its fighter jets and transport aircraft over the decades. Denmark joined the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter program in 2002 during the system development and demonstration phase. In June 2016, Denmark confirmed plans to procure 27 F-35As. The total lifetime costs associated with Denmark's new fleet of F-35s are estimated to run up

to DKK 57 billion (\$8.2 billion), making it the country's largest in history. All 27 fighter jets are expected to have arrived on Danish soil by 2026.

Poland: Germany Not 'as Generous as It Should Be' in Funneling Support to Ukraine

51 minutes ago



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Earlier, as Warsaw announced it was moving ahead with plans to deliver Soviet-era MiG-29 jets to the Ukrainian Air Force, Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki revealed that his country was exploring the possibility of increasing the production of ammunition for Kiev amid fast-depleting stockpiles.

Germany has been lambasted by Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki for ostensibly failing to duly contribute to supporting

Ukraine.

Berlin was chided by the Polish leader as a state that ought to be **"sending more weapons, sending more ammunition, and giving more money to Ukraine, because they are the richest and the biggest country by far,"** according to a US media outlet.

"They were not as generous as they should have been... I still encourage them to do so," Morawiecki was cited as saying.

Morawiecki weighed in on Berlin's original reluctance to support Kiev with lethal weapons, which was finally crushed last year. At the time, bowing to Washington-driven pressure, Germany reversed its practice of blocking lethal weapons from being sent to conflict zones and dipped into its stockpiles of anti-tank weapons and Stinger anti-aircraft defense systems, sending them to Kiev authorities.

Furthermore, Berlin announced a decision to send 14 Leopard 2A6 battle tanks to Ukraine in late January - once again, under a pressure from the US.

"Three months ago, Germany said it's not possible — now, it's possible, so they are changing their approach," the Polish leader was quoted as quipping.

But Mateusz Morawiecki was not done with Berlin. He lambasted its former energy policies, heavily reliant on importing Russian gas.

"Through their very mistaken gas and oil policy towards Russia, they are co-responsible for what is happening, for this mess on the energy market. Germany made this dramatic mistake of being completely dependent in their business model on Russia with fossil fuels... And we were crying to them. We were asking them not to do so," Morawiecki said.

The Polish Prime Minister, who recently revealed that his country was mulling boosting the production of ammunition for Kiev amid depleting stockpiles, added that he regularly conversed with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz on the issue of support for Ukraine.

"I have this conversation every now and again. I ask him for as big a support. This is all I can do."

The Polish PM also had suggestions regarding the joint EU fund, known as the *European Peace Facility*, that reimburses states, in part, for their weapons-gifting to Ukraine. Again, Morawiecki took a dim view of Germany's contribution to the fund, calling it just "proportional" to the country's size.

As for Poland, he said it will seek to have Brussels partially reimburse all its donations, tanks and jets included. Earlier, Polish President Andrzej Duda said Poland will hand over the first four MiG-29 fighter jets to Ukraine shortly.



16 March, 18:53 GMT

In the EU bloc Poland holds the lead in military support to the Kiev regime in percent of GDP, according to data provided by the Ukraine Support Tracker. Warsaw has not held back in its scathing criticism of such European powerhouses as Germany and France for alleged shortcomings in playing their part when it came to propping up Kiev. **"I'm not attacking them, I'm just stating the obvious," the Prime Minister was quoted as saying.**

In the wake of the European Union leaders' summit in Brussels on March 23 – 24, the Polish leader underscored in a US media interview that both Brussels and NATO should rethink their

spending rules in the direction of substantial military investments. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization's allies should hike up their spending target from the current 2 percent of the GDP, Mateusz Morawiecki insisted.

“Given that there are more and more uncertain times around us, first I will be advocating for increasing these expenditures to 3 percent... Poland will already spend up to four percentage points of GDP this year on defense,” Morawiecki said.



22 March, 10:48 GMT

Ever since Moscow began its special military operation in Ukraine on February 24, 2022, NATO-member Poland has been frenziedly supporting the regime of anti-Russian sanctions and willingly on board with the drive to deliver vast quantities of military aid to the Kiev authorities.

In April 2022, Moscow sent a note to NATO member states condemning their military assistance to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky's regime. The Kremlin said that pumping Ukraine with weapons would have a detrimental effect on the conflict. Furthermore, the Russian Foreign Ministry has warned on numerous occasions that any cargo containing weapons for Ukraine would become a legitimate target for Russia.

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