

7 Misconceptions about France and Germany

#3 “Fiscal austerity is stronger in Germany than in France”. Wrong!

The world tends to see the German government as thrifty, or at least not profligate. Yet a closer look reveals that since 2013 German **public spending** has grown at more than twice the pace seen in France (cumulated 13.6% versus 6%).

Thus, Germany, often under pressure to contribute to a more supportive policy stance in Europe, has already switched to an **expansionary fiscal course**.

+4.0%
German
government
expenditure
in 2016