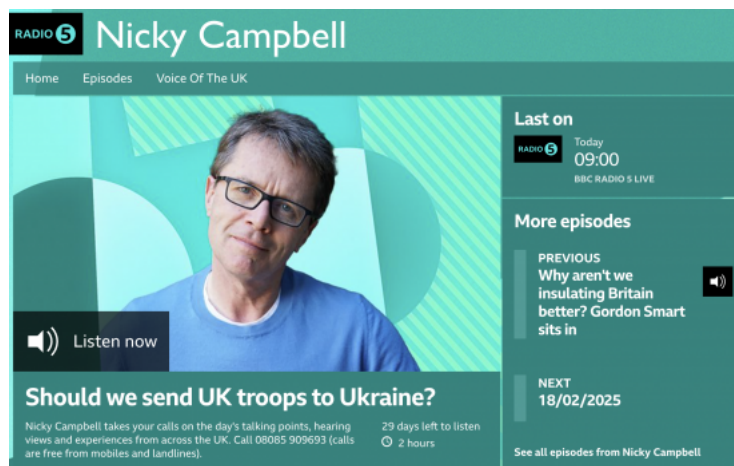


Whose defence is it?

Published: January 13, 2026, 7:16 pm

I took part in a discussion on defence spending during the Nicky Campbell Show on BBC Radio 5 this morning, and contrary to most of my media experience of late, this went really well.



You [can listen here - start at 90 minutes in.](#)

Nicky gave me the chance to develop an idea, and Anthony (Tony) King of Exeter University the chance to respond. The three callers all added value. One was well-versed in modern monetary theory, but all were good, and then Tony and I were allowed to conclude. The Taxing Wealth Report 2024 also got a good plug.

For once, I can recommend this: I enjoyed it, and the producer was effusive afterwards.

There will be more on this tomorrow.