# Article information:

UK is poorer as a country, says Michael Gove - BBC News
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-your-money-65079792>

# Article summary:

1. Michael Gove, the Levelling Up Secretary, has admitted that the UK is poorer than it would have been due to the war in Ukraine and the Covid pandemic.

2. The head of the independent forecaster, the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR), said living standards were seeing their biggest squeeze on record, with Brexit having a similar impact to the pandemic.

3. The OBR forecasts that inflation will fall below 3% this year but warns that people's real spending power is not forecast to recover to pre-pandemic levels until the end of the decade.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article "UK is poorer as a country, says Michael Gove" by BBC News provides an overview of Levelling Up Secretary Michael Gove's admission that the UK is poorer than it would have been due to the war in Ukraine and the COVID-19 pandemic. The article also includes comments from Richard Hughes, head of the independent forecaster, the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR), who stated that living standards were seeing their biggest squeeze on record and warned that they would not return to pre-pandemic levels for another five to six years.

The article appears to be well-researched and provides a balanced view of the situation. However, there are some potential biases and missing points of consideration that need to be addressed.

Firstly, while Gove acknowledges that both the war in Ukraine and the pandemic have had a significant impact on the UK economy, he fails to mention other factors such as Brexit. The OBR chairman Richard Hughes does mention Brexit as having a similar impact to the pandemic but this point is not explored further in the article.

Secondly, while Gove denies that the government is to blame for the current economic situation after 13 years in power, he admits that "one can always do better." This statement seems contradictory and raises questions about whether or not the government could have done more to mitigate some of these economic shocks.

Thirdly, while Gove mentions steps being taken by ministers to address soaring inflation such as taxing oil and gas firms' profits and lowering household energy bills, there is no mention of any potential risks associated with these measures. For example, taxing oil and gas firms' profits could lead to higher prices for consumers if these costs are passed on.

Finally, while Gove insists that ministers are taking action to help people back into work and support families with childcare, there is no mention of any specific policies or initiatives being implemented. This lack of detail makes it difficult for readers to assess the effectiveness of these measures.

Overall, while the article provides a good overview of the current economic situation in the UK, there are some potential biases and missing points of consideration that need to be addressed.

# Topics for further research:

* Impact of Brexit on UK economy
* Government's response to economic shocks
* Potential risks of taxing oil and gas firms' profits
* Specific policies to support families with childcare
* Long-term effects of COVID-19 on UK economy
* Comparison of UK's economic situation with other countries

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/4609988af6388b1cc687366a3909e1db>