

# PIR CENTER

## PUBLISHES A RUSSIAN JOURNAL ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

The 80 issues of *Yaderny Kontrol* are in the past. Twelve years of history, 567 articles, 59 interviews, and a total of 346 authors. “Not many things, but well”—*Non multa, sed multum*—was its motto. Indeed, we have managed to do a lot well in the past few years. The most important success has been attaining authority in the eyes of our readers. *Yaderny Kontrol* was read in 35 Russian cities and 86 other cities throughout the globe.

Beginning in 2007, into uncharted territory! We are launching *Security Index*.

*So is this a new journal or an old one?*

*Well, of course it is a new journal!* What could be simpler than looking at the cover: there is a new name there. Is it really that similar to *Yaderny Kontrol* (nuclear monitor)? Moreover, we are now publishing a *Russian journal on international security*. In other words, the scope of the issues covered has been broadened. The main focus used to be the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and means of their delivery; while questions of WMD nonproliferation will continue to occupy a serious amount of *journalistic space* (consistent with the place the issue occupies in current discussions of international security as a whole), it will share that space with other issues, such as combating international terrorism; protecting critical infrastructure; energy security (including oil and gas as well as nuclear energy); military-technical cooperation; dual use exports and export control; information security, advanced telecommunications, and the new role of the Internet; demographic security and the problem of migration; environmental security and global climate change; biosecurity and the fight against infectious diseases; the struggle for water resources; as well as education and the knowledge economy as the main strategic trump card in the new century...

Not only are the issues the journal will examine expanding, but also their geography. While the majority of the articles and materials in the earlier journal were *about* Russia, the new one will look at what a variety of issues mean *for* Russia. I plan to delve into such regions as the Middle East and Iran, Central Asia and the Caspian, and East Asia particularly closely. Certainly, those regions that have traditionally received the journal's extra attention—Europe and the United States—will continue to do so. But in setting editorial policy, I am interested in all information related to threats and challenges to Russian security, even those originating in the most distant locations; or, on the other hand, in new options opening up for Russia, for its geopolitical and economic growth, and here we could discuss the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Guinea with equal enthusiasm. Finally, the journal will not limit itself to terrestrial geography: the problems of outer space—both the possibility of military



conflict there as well as the prospects for its peaceful use—will also find a place in the pages of *Security Index*.

Not only is the geography of our interests enlarging, but also the geography of our readership. The issue you hold in your hands has also been received by readers in 54 Russian cities and 92 cities outside of Russia. Furthermore, the international edition, published in English, will for the first time in the history of the periodical share the same format as the Russian edition and will be published with the same frequency, three times per year (spring, summer/fall, and winter). Our audience in Russia and North America has traditionally been broad, but now the journal is rapidly and robustly expanding its readership in Western Europe, Central Asia, South Asia, East Asia, the Middle East, and the Persian Gulf.

*Security Index* is becoming a full-fledged *international* publication. Its headquarters in Moscow, *Security Index* has opened representative offices in Geneva, Switzerland and Monterey, California, in the United States. My daily electronic correspondence with our authors and correspondents comes from addressees in Baku and Novosibirsk, Nizhniy Novgorod and Bishkek, Vienna and Vladivostok, London and St. Petersburg, Stockholm, Tyumen, Riyadh, Washington, and Tokyo... I found the idea that we might examine the world through the eyes of experts in Moscow alone inadmissible. My aim is to provide you a *chorus of expert voices*: a real *polyphony* from throughout today's world, examining the world—and the world order—of tomorrow.

Well, of course it is an old journal! What could be simpler than looking at the cover: it says there that it is the first issue in 2007, but the 81st since the journal began to be published. Could the 81st issue really be an indicator of a *new* journal? This idea informs the first article in this issue, by Chief of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces **Yury Baluyevsky**—certainly, the first article in our journal this year, but also the 568th article since establishing a journal in November 1994. This article does not just recall the earlier articles in our journal on issues related to Russia's decisions regarding its military doctrine, but also previous articles in our journal by Gen. Baluyevsky himself.

While adding new sections, I will nevertheless remain conservative: the majority of the sections in *Security Index* and the very structure of the issue itself are easily recognizable to readers of *Yaderny Kontrol*.

Among new journal's features I would like to present a new section which introduces the **iSi Index** (pronounced "I-see"), a comprehensive **index of international security** expressed in numerical terms. To calculate the index we will be using a methodology developed by PIR Center over the course of a year. At present *iSi* is undergoing review both in Russia and in several academic institutes abroad. We at PIR Center are convinced that with the aid of this index we will be able to ascertain the main global trends in international security. Why, for example, the world was a bit safer in August, than in October 2006? You can read about this in two reviews of world events that accompany the *iSi* Index. Both cover one and the same period: the four months from July through October 2006. But feel the difference! One and the same time period is evaluated by a *Russian liberal* and a *Russian conservative*. Not just their analysis of events, but

their very prioritization of events from the point of view of Russian interests is completely different.

In addition to the objective indicators of the Index and the very subjective evaluations of our two experts, we have also added the comments of 10 members of the PIR Center **International Expert Group**: what do they think about our *security barometer*? They do trust its indicators? To what degree do the *global security* indicators coincide with developments on their continents and in their regions from Brazil to India, from Saudi Arabia to Kazakhstan?

We at the PIR Center are attentively tracking world reaction to the indicators in our *iSi* Index. The most interesting result will not be the indicators for one particular month or another, so much as the global security trends that are revealed.

This is an ambitious goal. But would it really be interesting otherwise?

So, happy journey, my Reader! Regardless of any thorns and bushes in the way of international relations, any multiplying threats and challenges to Russia's security I wish you happy journey through the pages of our journal, which I hope can, at least in some instances, define our response to these threats and challenges. And certainly our publications will dwell on new opportunities opening up for rising Russia.



**Vladimir Orlov,**  
director of PIR Center  
editor-in-chief of the *Security Index* journal