



*“The BRICS Think Tanks Council will form the platform for the exchange of ideas among researchers, academia and think tanks. The policy recommendations and guidance provided by the council will be presented to the BRICS Leaders for consideration.”*

### Declaration on the Establishment of the BRICS Think Tanks Council. Durban, 2013

#### Beginnings of a new world order

Participation in BRICS is very important for Russia's foreign policy. Beginning with the Yekaterinburg summit in 2009, the leaders of the group's countries took to create a new global agenda. The ambitious union was bound to attract the attention of international relations researchers.

PIR Center experts participated in meetings with experts from Russia, the PRC, India, and Brazil when the very concept of BRICS was only being developed. Since then, we have been closely following the developments of the group of four and, subsequently, five countries.

The project formally began in 2012 when PIR Center research on Russian relations with the individual BRICS members was combined into one project.

#### PIR Center and BRICS:

- ✓ Representatives from all five BRICS countries are members of the PIR Center's International Expert Group
- ✓ Participates in the National Committee on BRICS Research, that is a members of the BRICS Think Tanks Council
- ✓ Published a report "BRICS and High Tech: Prospects For Cooperation And Russia's Interests"
- ✓ Conducts dialogue with government agencies on Russia's strategy for BRICS

#### Russia's place

Within the framework of the project, the PIR Center analyzes Russia's participation in the BRICS forum, as well as direct partnership with Brazil, India, China, and South Africa. An important part of this analysis is the cooperation between these countries in high-tech industries (nuclear energy, information technology, and the use of outer space).

The PIR Center actively participates in developing Russia's strategy for BRICS, PIR Center's staff members participate in work of the National Committee on BRICS Research.

On March 11-13, 2013 in Durban, PIR Center President Vladimir Orlov participated in the BRICS Academic Forum as part of the Russian delegation.

For more information on the project, check out our site:  
<http://brics.eng.pircenter.org> Rev. 13-04-03 / BAK