

# KONTR ERNY



PIR CENTER E-BULLETIN
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**«YADERNY KONTROL»: 30 YEARS LATER...**— REFLECTING ON THE INAUGURAL ISSUE ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

GLOBAL SECURITY AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

**BRICS AND MULTIPOLARITY** 

ARMS CONTROL AND NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION

AFRICA AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY INDEX YEARBOOK:
PRESENTATION IN GENEVA AND BEYOND



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## PIR QUOTES

## «IF THERE WERE WORLD PEACE, IT WOULD ALSO BE DANGEROUS...»

The question of the nature of peace and its role in international security is far more complex than it may initially seem. Peace is traditionally seen as the ultimate goal; however, achieving it can cause unexpected risks and threats to the established security architecture. For military institutions oriented towards confrontation, peace is not only the absence of war but also a challenge to existing defense strategies, necessitating a radical overhaul of approaches and adaptation to a new reality where it is not always clear who or what poses a threat.

This idea was once discussed by the Swiss playwright and novelist **Max Frisch**.

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"If there were world peace, it would also be dangerous. Why do we need the Cold War? If there were genuine peace and the clear picture we have of the enemy were to fade, the billions approved for defense spending would be put in jeopardy. That is why our army chiefs don't believe in peace research. Their thinking is realistic — not world peace, but rather only the absence of war saves the Swiss army from abolition."

Max Frisch, 2003



### **HOT TOPIC**

## BRICS AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY: ENTERING A NEW STAGE



#### **Dr. Vladimir Orlov**

The progressive movement of the BRICS already at the initial stage made it possible to include the *Peace and International Security* basket in the spotlight. Everything that did not separate the BRICS participants could become a subject for discussions and, gradually, for strengthening rapprochement and mutual understanding. Today, under the Russian Chairship, BRICS activities cover an impressive range of issues, including even very specialized ones. But economic and security issues remain the most important.

#### **Read more**

## **«WESTERN COUNTRIES WANT TO FURTHER ESCALATE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS»: FROM THE SPEECH OF AMB. GENNADY GATILOV IN GENEVA**



#### **Amb. Gennady Gatilov**

On November 20, PIR Center conducted the presentation of *Security Index Yearbook: Global Edition*. The event took place at the UN Office in Geneva and was co-organized with the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva. The presentation was held in the format of a roundtable on the topic: *Security Index in a New World: What Future for Arms Control?* 

We are pleased to share the opening remarks by **Amb. Gennady Gatilov**.

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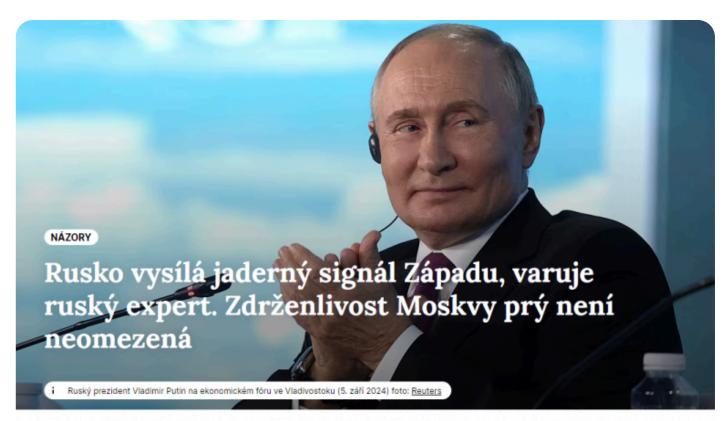
## **EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW**

«THE USAGE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS SHOULD NOT BE TURNED INTO A SPECTACLE. RUSSIA, IN THE CONTEXT OF ITS CONFLICT WITH THE WEST, IS LOWERING THE THRESHOLD FOR THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. AND THIS IS NOT A BLUFF»: INTERVIEW WITH VLADIMIR ORLOV FOR LIDOVKY

**Dr. Vladimir Orlov**, Founding Director of PIR Center, gave an interview to *Lidovky* discussing the changes in Russia's nuclear doctrine, state's nuclear policy, and relations with the West amidst the current geopolitical crisis.



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#### ROZHOVOR

Použití jaderných zbraní by neměla být show. Rusko však kvůli konfliktu se Západem snižuje práh použití jaderných zbraní. A neblafuje. V rozhovoru pro Lidovky.cz to sdělil Vladimir Orlov, ředitel ruského bezpečnostního think tanku PIR Centr.

### PIR POST

## DRAWING CONCLUSIONS FROM THE BRICS SUMMIT IN KAZAN: IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY



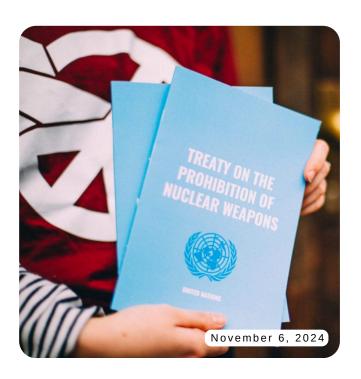
#### Mr. Sviatoslav Arov

The BRICS Summit in Kazan has come to an end. The event had been attracting attention long before it began.

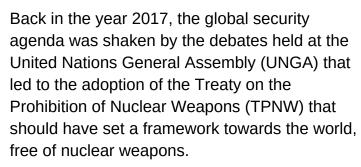
How will the new BRICS members integrate into the Group? Will it be possible to avoid contradictions in the new expanded format? What will be the outlines of BRICS' further development? All of these worries failed, and the Summit was truly historic for the entire Group, not only for Russia.

#### **Read more**

## WHY HAS THE TPNW BECOME AN UNWANTED LEGAL INSTRUMENT?



#### Mr. Maksim Sorokin

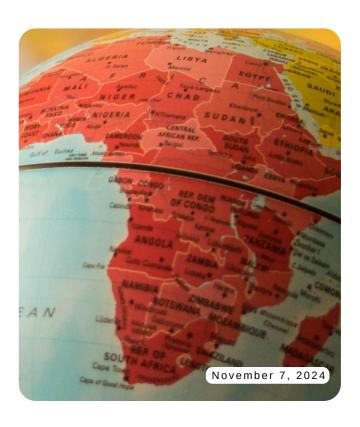


It has been the consecutive inherently political move forward, following the humanitarian impacts of nuclear weapons initiative.



## HOW DOES AFRICA APPROACH INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ISSUES? A VIEW FROM TANZANIA





#### Ms. Brenda Harry Mollel

Africa's approach to international security emphasizes effective governance and strong political will as essential pillars for achieving peace and stability. Prioritizing educational development, fostering patriotism among young people, supporting research initiatives, and promoting technology exchange in healthcare are crucial steps toward sustainable progress.

By focusing on these areas, African nations aim to empower the next generation to become catalysts for positive change and to build secure, resilient societies across the continent.

**Read more** 

## HOW DOES AFRICA APPROACH INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ISSUES? A VIEW FROM SOMALIA





#### Mr. Abdi Abubakar

Terrorism and criminal activities remain critical challenges that demand focused attention and comprehensive action. In this context, security extends to respecting and upholding the sovereignty of African nations.

There have been instances where external actors interfered in the internal affairs of African countries, an intrusion that has undeniably shaped the current situation across the continent.

## HOW DOES AFRICA APPROACH INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ISSUES? A VIEW FROM ZAMBIA





#### Mr. Nyambe Nalishebo

The key challenges faced by African countries, including Zambia, are regional instability, inadequate funding for education, high unemployment rates, and the impacts of climate change.

Addressing these issues requires the implementation of the following measures: restructuring the education system, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, and curbing illicit financial flows.

**Read more** 

## HOW DOES AFRICA APPROACH INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ISSUES? A VIEW FROM ETHIOPIA





#### Mr. Gashaw Ayferam Endaylalu

We are living in an era of *multicrises*, where challenges are interconnected, with their causes and processes deeply intertwined. This complexity gives rise to issues that demand comprehensive solutions.

Addressing these challenges requires thinking beyond conventional frameworks and pursuing avenues for international cooperation, particularly given Africa's growing geopolitical significance.

### **ANALYSES**

## DOES INTERNATIONAL LAW KEEP UP WITH TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT? REFLECTING ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS, EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, AND THE LEGAL RESPONSES TO NOVEL CHALLENGES THEY POSE

#### Mr. Maksim Sorokin

International law has always been the cornerstone of the co-existence of the diversity of actors in the global political arena. It aims to regulate the use of force, protect the sovereignty of nation-states, and prevent wars and armed conflicts. The United Nations Charter posits the critical elements of international security, focusing on so-called *soft* and *hard security*. The former is preventive, especially in that it prioritizes economic prosperity, intercultural cooperation, respect for human rights, and other universally recognized values and policy objectives over conflict, which is inherently destructive to all the underlined aspects. *Hard security*, in turn, addresses the ways of tackling conflicts by an authorized use of force under the UN Security Council Resolutions.



### **POLEMICS**

## THE SHADOW OF THE THIRD WORLD WAR? TRANSFORMATION PROCESSES IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA AND THEIR KEY PARTICIPANTS

Global and occasionally radical transformations in politics, economics, and military affairs are drawing increasing attention to changes in the international relations system and the architecture of global security. Conflicts, intensifying competition among great powers, and a shifting geopolitical landscape have emerged as key factors shaping contemporary trends and interstate dialogue.

Thus, the 123rd Extended Session of the *Trialogue Club International* was held. The session featured two panel discussions, with the first focusing on ongoing transformation processes, the shifting world order, and emerging challenges.

The panelists who shared their thoughts on the topic included General Evgeny **Buzhinskiy**, Co-Chair of the *Trialogue Club International* and Chairman of the Executive Board of PIR Center; Dr. Dmitry **Evstafiev**, Professor in the Department of Theory of Law and State at the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia; and Dr. Dmitry **Trenin**, Research Professor and Academic Supervisor for World Military Economy and Strategy at the Higher School of Economics, and Member of the Executive Board of PIR Center.





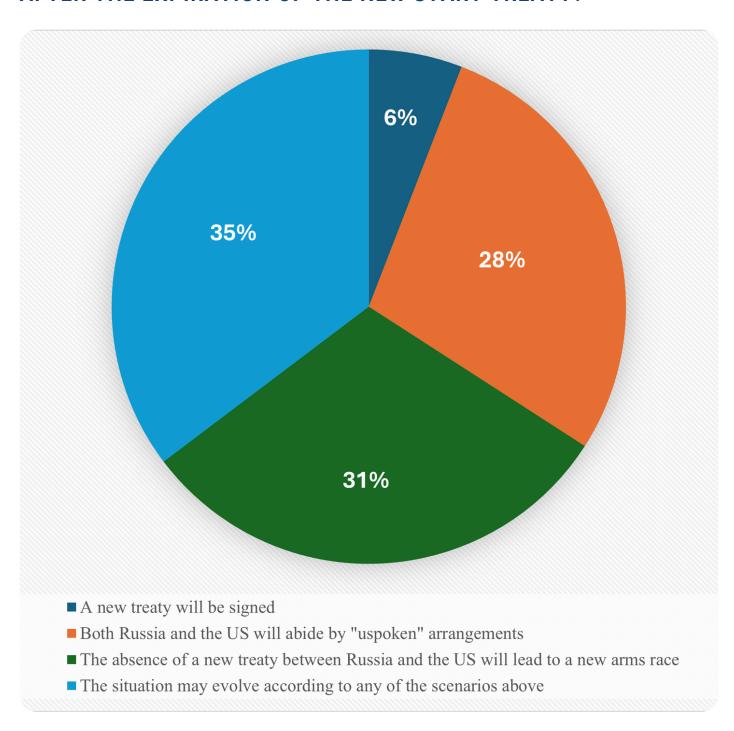
## **SURVEY**

HOW WILL BRICS DEVELOP IN THE MEDIUM TERM?

**More** 

## RESULTS OF THE JULY-SEPTEMBER PIR CENTER SURVEY

HOW WILL THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN RUSSIA AND THE UNITED STATES ON ARMS CONTROL AND STRATEGIC STABILITY EVOLVE AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE NEW START TREATY?



## NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN

## **«YADERNY KONTROL»: 30 YEARS LATER... — REFLECTING ON THE INAUGURAL ISSUE ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY**

On November 15, 1994, 30 years ago, the first issue of the <u>Yaderny Kontrol</u> (in Russian) journal was published. *Yaderny Kontrol* was the predecessor of the *Security Index*, published as a journal from 2007 to 2016, and, since 2019, in the format of an *Occasional Paper Series* and the e-journal *Yaderny Kontrol*.

The *Yaderny Kontrol* journal has been recognized by the Russian and international establishment and the expert community as a source of exclusive analytical information on global security issues.

#### The Inaugural Issue featured the following materials:

- Roland Timerbaev, The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: It Must Be Preserved for Russia and the World:
- **Gennady Evstafiev,** Nine Questions about Nuclear Nonproliferation;
- Alexander Bolsunovsky, Who Will Argue with the President;
- **POLEMICS.** Russia-Ukraine-US: The Nuclear Triangle.

Yuri **Baturin**, who was then the assistant to the President of Russia, wrote in the *Foreword* to the inaugural issue of *Yaderny Kontrol*: «Until now, Russia has lacked a publication fully dedicated to the issue of arms control. With the release of Yaderny Kontrol it seems that this gap is finally being addressed. Indeed, the issue of controlling the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is highly specific and, at times, delicate, requiring a specialized approach. The Presidential Executive Office is confident that certain information on this subject should be made public.

With best wishes for the success of Yaderny Kontrol's editorial team and contributors, and with the hope for objectivity and professionalism in presenting the information.»



## H.E. SERGEY RYABKOV: AFTER EXPANSION: THE PROSPECTS OF BRICS AS THE BASIS FOR A FAIRER MULTIPOLAR WORLD ORDER, 2024



BRICS is an innovative format of interaction rather than just a union of individual states. BRICS partnership is built on mutual respect for each other's interests and a common effort to promote the realization of developing countries' aspirations on the whole. At the same time, BRICS does not oppose itself to anyone and is ready to build equal and mutually beneficial cooperation with all international actors. Such an approach, practiced by BRICS, attracts the majority of world states. This was clearly demonstrated by the summit held in Johannesburg on August 22-24, 2023, which was attended by the leaders of more than 60 countries of the Global South and, most notably, African countries.

## DR. ALEXANDER VORONTSOV: SITUATION ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA: OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION AND RUSSIAN INTERESTS, 2016



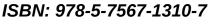
During our meetings in March and October 2016, our North Korean counterparts — including representatives of the Foreign Ministry and of the leading research institutes in Pyongyang — made it very clear that they are not scared of the sanctions regime or the prospect of it being made even more biting. They also emphasized that they had already shown flexibility by offering negotiations — meaning the initiative on a mutual moratorium (on missile and nuclear tests by North Korea, and on large U.S.-South Korean drills). That proposal by Pyongyang, however, was rejected out of hand.

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

«RUSSIAN ACADEMIC MATERIALS IN ENGLISH PERFORM AN IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF SCIENCE FOR DIPLOMACY»: FROM THE FOREWORD BY DR. ANATOLY TORKUNOV FOR THE SECURITY INDEX YEARBOOK



SECURITY INDEX YEARBOOK 2024-2025. Vol. 1. Vladimir Orlov and Elena Karnaukhova (Editors). PIR Library Series № 37. Moscow: Aspect Press, 2024.





#### **Dr. Anatoly Torkunov**

«Today, a lack of globally focused publications with analytical materials written by Russian international relations experts is evident. It has become more challenging for the Russian academic community to deliver its views on topical issues of global security to a worldwide audience. However, such analysis is more in demand than ever. Russia remains an essential part of the international community and plays a significant role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals; it is one of the critical actors in the global arena, holding the world back from sliding into chaos. Wars on narratives, which regrettably have been emerging in academia these days, do not contribute in any way to finding an efficient response to global challenges.»

## NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION AND ARMS CONTROL. DIGITAL PAPERS

Global Security:
A View from Russia for the Youth Around the World

## NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION AND ARMS CONTROL

DIGITAL PAPERS



NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION AND ARMS CONTROL. DIGITAL PAPERS. Vladimir Orlov and Elena Karnaukhova (Editors). PIR Library Series № 36. PIR Center, 2024.

ISBN: 978-5-6051623-1-5

The textbook *Nuclear Nonproliferation and Arms Control. Digital Papers* was designed as a preparation to, and a continuation of the First PIR Center Online Course on Nuclear Nonproliferation and Arms Control.

The *Digital Papers* are intended for a wide foreign English-speaking audience of diplomats and government officials, journalists, employees of research centers and institutes, instructors and students, functionaries of public organizations dealing with international cooperation and public diplomacy, as well as all those who are simply interested in the nuclear domain or adhere to the principle of *life-long learning*. It will also be of interest to Russian specialists who would like to develop their professional vocabulary and conceptual system in English. All of them will have an opportunity to get acquainted with the theoretical approaches to the study of nuclear nonproliferation and arms control regimes, their history, and, of course, the current challenges.

To make the *Digital Papers* more diverse, comprehensive, and versatile, offering different perspectives on issues, many Russian experts with different professional background and experience, views, and opinions were invited.

## **PIR TEST**

## WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS CORRESPONDS TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (NPT)?





- a. Bans on the transfer of potential benefits from any peaceful applications of nuclear explosions to non-nuclear-weapon states;
- b. Restricts the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in the territories of non-nuclear-weapon states;
- c. Enables international exchange of nuclear material and equipment for peaceful purposes;
- d. Limits the right of any group of states to conclude regional treaties to ensure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories

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## UNVEILING THE ANSWER TO THE PREVIOUS PIR TEST

WHICH OF THE NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE TREATIES ALLOWS NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES?





- a. Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)
- b. The South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Rarotonga)
- c. Southeast Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Bangkok Treaty)
- d. Treaty on Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone

**Correct answer:** Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

## **GOSSIP COLUMN**

Ambassador Roland M. Timerbaev was one of the authors of the NPT and founders of the international nuclear nonproliferation regime, a Soviet and Russian Ambassador, and our colleague at PIR Center for many years (1994–2010). He often became bored and restless at major international conferences because he did not like to listen to the platitudes that were often repeated there and was very happy to have coffee breaks. It was live communication with real people — exactly what he really valued — and the opportunity to learn the latest news, as well as unconfirmed information and expert gossip in the corridors, on the sidelines, over coffee... At such moments, Ambassador Timerbaev would joyfully say: "Well, now is the time for some good gossip".

Hence the title of this column. PIR Center is not responsible for the accuracy of what our employees and authors heard in the corridors and on the margins of the conferences and told us without reference to the source. Although we know what are these sources.



We've heard the gossip that after Trump's inauguration, contacts between Russia and the United States at the level of heads of state may resume to resolve current conflicts... or not?

The comment below was first published (in Russian) on the Telegram channel "Vatfor" by Dmitry Stefanovich, a member of the PIR Center Advisory Board.

The Americans have always had a "magic button," a switch that could end the hostilities in Ukraine. In fact, they have several: cutting off arms supplies, access to intelligence, and communications. However, such a scenario is accompanied by catastrophic consequences for their entire system of alliances and partnerships. Consequently, to mitigate such a threat, pacification in Ukraine will be followed by simultaneous strengthening of the support system for everyone else. That includes multiplying various unpleasant things at the frontlines.

What we get out of it is another thing to contemplate further. *However...* For everyone lacing up their shoes, ready to "get on the negotiation track," there are two things to consider.

First, Trump is not yet president, and he cannot and will not be able to make any decisions for another two months.

Second, in 2016, he also had numerous initiatives to build relations with Russia. The unyielding wall of the deep state and the media effectively blocked all of them. Trump must undertake radical transformations in the American government system to overcome this swamp. There is no reason to think that a president — even one as unconventional as Trump, with only one term ahead of him — will succeed in this.

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## **OPEN COLLAR**

## MY MISSION IS TO SAY TRUTH TO POWER — OPEN COLLAR INTERVIEW WITH DR. TARIQ RAUF

I had an exciting career at the IAEA in a position that put me at the right hand of the Director General. During my career in the IAEA, I devoted my efforts in IAEA to bringing NPT PrepCom to Vienna, setting up IAEA LEU reserves at the Siberian electrochemical Complex in Angarsk and Kazakhstan, and making a so-called uranium bank. I also spent two years, from 2002-2004, getting the Arabs and the Israelis to agree on the agenda or a forum on the Middle East Nuclear



Weapons Free Zone, which was quite an achievement. However, the sides did not hold the

forum for another several years until 2011.

I enjoy my extensive library, which predominantly contains nuclear-related books. To take a break from the complexities of nuclear issues, one of my favorite things to read is the poetry by the Arab philosopher Rumi and Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam. Those things help to clear my mind from nuclear weapons.

In spite of living in England during my Master's studies, I was not interested in English football, but there is another game

called cricket, which is very much played in the former English colonies: India, Pakistan, Australia, New Zealand, and Sri Lanka. South Africa. We consider cricket the most intelligent

game played with the bat and a ball. People do not press in funny costumes and tights like they do for baseball. Here you wear trousers. You are appropriately dressed.

The practice of refusing to engage with someone solely based on their nationality is, in many ways, irrational. While it may be a government policy, it is an entirely different matter regarding interactions among students and researchers. Students,



researchers, and academics need to remain in contact despite policies of their governments.

### PIR TOAST

ON BEHALF OF PIR CENTER, WE WISH HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES WHO CELEBRATED THEIR BIRTHDAY IN SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER:



**Eleukenov,** Dastan S., Chairman of the Board of the Kazakhstan Agency for International Development (KazAID), Member of PIR Center Advisory Board since 1994



#### September 7

**Stepanova,** Ekaterina A., Head of Peace and Conflict Studies Unit and Lead Researcher at Primakov National Research Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO RAS), Member of PIR Center Executive Board **September 10** 



**Danilov,** Dmitry A., Professor at the Department of Integration Process of MGIMO University, Head of the Department for European Security at the Institute of Europe of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Member of PIR Center Advisory Board since 2011



#### September 22

**Kibaroglu,** Mustafa, Dean of the Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences, Director of the Center for International Security Studies and Strategic Research at MEF University, Member of PIR Center Advisory Board since 2013 **September 30** 



**Soltanieh,** Ali Asghar, Multilateral Diplomat on International Security and Disarmament and Nuclear Scientist, President of Vienna International Institute for Middle Eastern Studies (VIIMES), member of PIR Center Advisory Board since 2015



#### October 1

**Varma,** Venkatesh, distinguished fellow at the Vivekananda International Foundation, visiting faculty at the Kautilya School of Public Policy, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of India to the Russian Federation (2018–2021), member of PIR Center Advisory Board since 2023



#### October 7



**Antipov,** Sergey V., Deputy Director of Strategic Planning and Project Management of Radiological Security at Nuclear Safety Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences (IBRAE RAS), member of PIR Center Advisory Board since 2004

October 11



**Rauf,** Tariq, Director of SIPRI's Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-proliferation Program, Board Member of Atomic Reporters, Former Head of Verification and Security Policy Coordination, Office reporting to Director General, International Atomic Energy Agency, member of PIR Center Advisory Board since 2013

October 19



### YADERNY KONTROL



Ediitor-in-Chief: Dr. Vladimir Orlov

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#### **PIR CENTER**

Founded 30 years ago, in April 1994, by Dr. Vladimir Orlov, PIR Center is a leading Russian nongovernmental organization dealing with international security, with the emphasis on nuclear nonproliferation and nuclear policy. PIR Center's portfolio currently consists of 36 projects combining research and consultancy, education and training, publishing and outreach, and networking and partnerships. Most recent addition to this portfolio (since April 2024) is an ambitious *Security Index* Yearbook (Global Edition). With its vibrant 1200+ member-strong alumni community residing in 72 countries of the world, with its internationally renowned Summer Schools on Global Security, with its two MA Programs, and with its online training planform Nonproliferation.World, PIR Center is in the forefront of educating new generation of security and nonproliferation experts. As an independent think-tank, PIR Center is engaged in various formats of policy discussions on the most urgent topics of global and regional security agenda. PIR Center's status has been recognized by the United Nations with its consultative ECOSOC status (since 2010) and by the Russian Government, which has granted PIR Center a privileged status of a socially oriented NGO (SONKO) (since 2020)

#### **NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION AND RUSSIA**

*Nuclear Nonproliferation and Russia* Program is a core research program of PIR Center, which analyzes Russia's place and role in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) review process, the state of the arms control regime, the Russian-American dialogue on strategic stability and global security, the situation around Iran's nuclear program, the problem of the establishment of the Middle East WMD-Free Zone, the prospects for the development of nuclear energy, and many other topics. Furthermore, PIR Center is engaged in the preservation and transmission of the historical memory of the role of Russian diplomats and military officers in the shaping of the modern architecture of arms control, disarmament, and nuclear nonproliferation.

Editorial work on this paper was completed on November 26, 2024.

PIR Center: https://pircenter.org/en/





