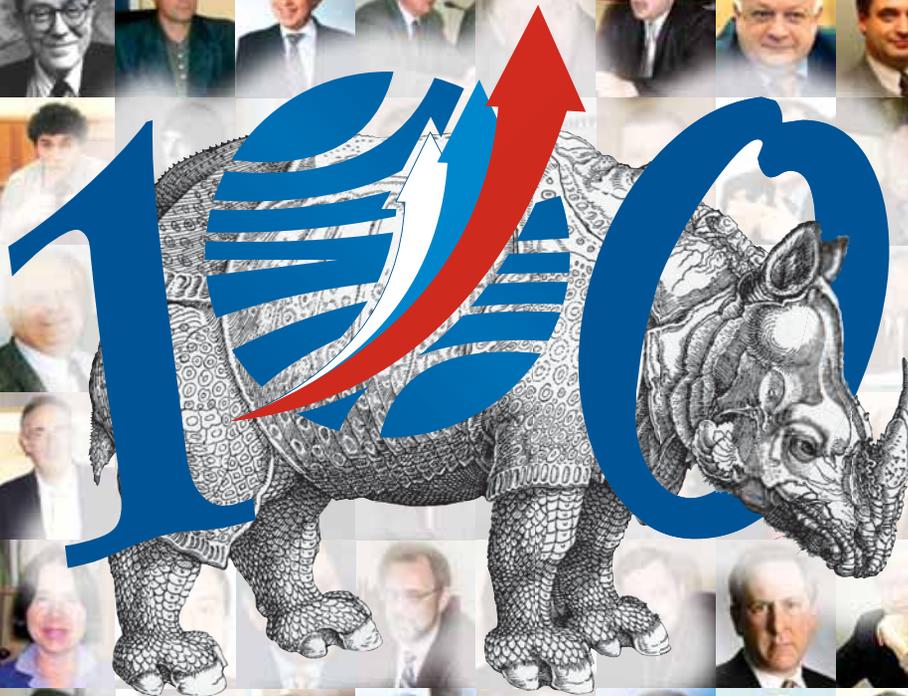


PIR CENTER INFORMATION BULLETIN 2012

# PIRogue

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SECURITY INDEX JOURNAL:

*Celebrating the Landmark 100<sup>th</sup> Issue*

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## PIRogue

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Top picture: *Security Index* journal Editorial Board meeting, March 10, 2011. Left to right: Vasily Lata, Vladimir Dvorkin, Ekaterina Stepanova, Vadim Gaponenko

Bottom picture: participants and lecturers of the International Summer School on Global Security — 2011.

Left to right. Bottom row: Przemyslaw Ozierski, Anton Kanashev, Alexander Cheban, Dmitrii Yantalets, Dmitry Chizhov, Murodali Khudoyorov, Yevgenij Sidorov.

Top row: Elmira Imamkulieva, Anton Baklanov, Marina Berberikh, Albert Zulkharneev, Batyr Mamedov, Andrey Baklitskiy, Tigran Harutyunyan, Yulia Lebedeva, Natalia Piskunova, Eugenij Belov, Aygozel Aramedova, Vadim Kozyulin, Ulyana Kozyulina, Vladimir Orlov, Nazira Mamatkanova, Artur Hakobyan, Sergey Tadtaev

On the front cover: authors and Editorial Board members of the *Security Index* journal (1994–2012)

# REACHING ONE HUNDRED

*Some day you'll reach a hundred  
And we'll sing, "Thank you that you're alive!"*  
Vladimir Vysotsky

It's a special kind of pleasure to read through all the congratulatory emails. Especially emails like, "I congratulate the entire Editorial Team of the *Security Index* on your 100th anniversary". Believe me, that was far from the only such slip of tongue.

Our actual stats are as follows. The journal was born in November 1994, when the test issue came out. It was prepared by a small team of like-minded people in the editorial offices of the legendary *Moskovskiy Novosti* [Moscow News] newspaper on Pushkin Square. The official first issue was unveiled to a broad audience in January 1995, in the run-up to the NPT Review Conference.

So we are not actually 100 years old, we're only 18. But we have reached a hundred: the 100th issue of the *Security Index*. And I am glad that many of our readers, it seems, cannot even imagine a time when our journal did not exist.

We have really enjoyed that road, from No 1 to No 100. I had the task — and the honor — to edit and sign off to print every single one of those 100 issues.

The beginning was difficult. This piece of lyrics by my favorite Russian poet Vladimir Vysotsky just about sums it all up:

*By great good fortune you were born  
Almost the same day your country was born.  
You have lived through it all together.  
Be thankful you're still alive.*

Back then, in 1994–1995, it sometimes felt as though "being born almost the same day your country was born" was a piece of really bad luck for the journal (and for its parent, PIR Center). At the beginning of new Russia, values and ethical criteria were eroded, and NGOs specializing in international security were seen as something unnatural. Now that we have reached a hundred, it is clear that the timing was not bad luck at all; it was actually our great good fortune. It was a time of great risks, but also a time when it was right and proper to take those risks and tread new paths instead of following in other people's footsteps.

That is why it has been so interesting. Always interesting. The heart of any journal's editorial team is the ideas and the authors. We have never had a shortage of either. I cannot remember a single instance of our editorial portfolio starting to look a bit thin. But I remember plenty of times when authors started taking offence at us for keeping their articles, excellent as they were, in a long line of similarly excellent articles awaiting their turn to be published.

On this day I would like to say a heartfelt "Thank You!" to every single one of our authors. Some of them are people who need no introductions. Others are young specialists whose careers our journal has helped to kick-start. There are in fact entire dynasties of authors: father and son, or father and daughter.

But there is one particular person who deserves our special gratitude. That person is Roland Timerbaev. Without his vast experience, without his energy, and his confidence that NGOs must play a more prominent role, without his ability to nurture a new generation of specialists, our journal would never have become what it is now.

As time went by, we started to feel that our chosen niche is too narrow, and we decided to add new topics to our regular coverage. Although nuclear nonproliferation remained at the center of our attention, it soon ceased to be our sole remit. We broadened our expertise and merged other PIR Center periodicals: *Voprosy Bezopasnosti* [Security Issues], *Khimicheskoye Oruzhie i Problemy Ego Unichtozheniya* [Chemical Weapons and Their Elimination], *Export Obichnikh Vooruzheniy* [Conventional Arms Exports], and *Rakety i Kosmos* [Missiles and Space] — with our flagship publication. We have also launched

new projects dealing with the new challenges and threats to international security and Russian national interests.

It was therefore entirely logical for us to move on from our old academic stomping ground. The road from *Yaderny Kontrol* to the *Security Index* took us twelve years. During that time we moderated our pace (at one point we were a monthly), gained a lot of substance (the first issues had just 16 pages; our 100th issue has almost 10 times as many), won an international audience by launching an English-language version, and, most importantly, attained a whole new level of quality of our output. Not a single piece of analysis is published in our journal without external peer review by the most reputable experts in the field. The Editorial Board, which maintains the quality standards and sets our development goals, is made of people of all political hues and stripes united by the depth of their thinking (more about them on pages 8 and 9). We also have 14 representatives of the journal in cities across the globe, from Prague and Kiev to Vladivostok and Tokyo.

When the Editorial Board met a year ago to set the outlines of the landmark 100th issue, we immediately decided against turning the issue into a *review of our success stories*. We also agreed that the necessary bit of tomfoolery to mark the occasion would be constrained to one of the back covers. Of course, we are going to have a party, all of us who have worked with me on one hundred issues of this journal over the years; we are going to have a laugh at the most famous and hilarious typos... But as the Russian saying goes, "You give your pleasures an hour, but you give your business the whole time".

The circulation of our 100th issue will be double the usual figure. In addition to our regular audience, we invite new readers to have a look with us at the future of the nonproliferation regime, which remains a cornerstone of the entire global security architecture. The Russian and English-language versions of our latest issue are gaining a new audience on Staraya Ploshad in Moscow, the home of the President's office, in the libraries of Tomsk and Paris, in the universities of Shanghai and São Paulo, in Riyadh and Sarov, Astana and Ankara, and, for the first time, in Pretoria.

In addition to the traditional printed version of this journal, we are also offering an electronic version; key articles from it have been highlighted in *PIR PRESS* newsletters and announced via *Twitter*. Our latest issues and the entire archive in Russian are now available on *elibrary.ru*, a major Russian online library. The English-language versions are available in the databases of our partner *Taylor&Francis*, the world's largest publishing house specializing in international relations. We are also glad to see that the electronic version of our journal is gaining new audiences among the decision makers and scholars in South Korea, Iran, Canada, Armenia, Turkey, the Czech Republic, Germany, Switzerland, and Brazil.

So everything is only just beginning for us and for our journal with this *one hundred*.

Finally, to those of you who keep asking us, *Why the rhino?* You will definitely find some hints inside. And if you're still curious, I can say only this: stick with us until the 200th issue, and I'll tell you.

  
Vladimir Orlov,  
President, PIR Center  
Editor-in-Chief, *Security Index* journal

