

**MESSAGE**  
**from Deputy Chairman of the Russian Federation Government and**  
**Russian Federation Minister of Defense Sergei B. Ivanov**  
**to the readers of *Security Index***

**Dear friends,**

Today no one would doubt that by combining efforts on the basis of the observance of international norms and principles, the global community can successfully oppose the threats and challenges of our time.

Understanding the importance of collective efforts in solving these problems, Russia is working to develop the most active cooperation in the security sphere.

In this regard, the level that has been reached on questions of Russian cooperation with leading European and Euro-Atlantic organizations is particularly significant.

Even very recently it would have been difficult to imagine, but in the 21<sup>st</sup> century we have been successfully tackling the most urgent problems of mutual interest in many areas.

The publication of the first issue of *Security Index*, which is intended as a clear and reliable source of objective information on Russian foreign and defense policy not compromised by politics and ideology, is no doubt a very necessary and timely event.

I am certain that the new publication will engender a lively response, not only from politicians and experts in the sphere of international relations but also from representatives of scientific and business circles.

Sergei Ivanov  
Deputy Chairman of the Russian Federation Government,  
Russian Federation Minister of Defense