

Russian Research Center Kurchatov Institute

To the Associates of the PIR Center for Policy Studies in Russia
upon the publication of the first issue of *Security Index*

Dear Friends,

For many years I have been a reader of and author published in *Yaderny Kontrol*, and therefore have mixed feelings about the editorial board's decision to rename that publication.

On the one hand, *Yaderny Kontrol* was, I would say, the most authoritative and, even more importantly, influential Russian publication devoted to the issues of arms control, security, and nuclear nonproliferation. The opinions of the journal's authors had a noticeable effect on the course of discussions within the Russian expert community while the materials that were published provided a direction for academic debate.

On the other hand, changing the journal's name to *Security Index* reflects the expansion of threats that has occurred in recent years and the need for the journal to appear in a new form: as a Russian journal on international security. And this will offer its readers new interesting topics and new possibilities for discussion.

I am confident that broadening the range of problems discussed in the publication will not lead to a reduction in the depth of analysis, and will enable the editorial board to pay even more attention to both the technological and political aspects of security issues, while maintaining the priority of nuclear security. I would like to see the journal not simply focus on an analysis of contemporary threats to international and national security, but also look to tomorrow and the potential problems and challenges that we will face as high technology spreads throughout the world. The journal's new approach towards choosing topics of interest should make it possible to include such important subjects for the future of Russia as the country's technological development and its economic competitiveness in the sphere of high technology on world markets.

I hope that the PIR Center's journal will not simply preserve and build upon the authority that *Yaderny Kontrol* earned within the expert community, but also acquire new authors and readers for whom the journal *Security Index* will become the No. 1 academic publication!

Nikolai Ponomarev-Stepnoi,
Academician, Vice President of the Russian Research Center Kurchatov Institute