

**Moscow State University for International Relations (MGIMO) of the Russian
Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

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

I would like to send my greetings and congratulations to the associates of the PIR Center for Policy Studies in Russia upon the publication of the first issue of *Security Index*!

Over the course of many years, the PIR Center's publications have been an important source of knowledge for students and young specialists taking their first steps in learning about international security and international relations, as well as for experts who have already received their degrees and are participating directly in the formation of Russian foreign policy on a daily basis. I am certain that *Security Index* will also occupy an important place on the desks of Russian specialists who are professionally engaged in international security issues.

It is pleasant to note that the PIR Center has always paid special attention to educational activities, providing access to the pages of its publications not only to acknowledged experts, well-known scholars, and practitioners, but also to young researchers. At the same time, the Center has actively sought out graduates of regional universities to work with it.

It is therefore no accident that MGIMO has been a member of the PIR Center Advisory Board for many years: we see this independent academic research institute as a worthy partner in training young experts in the area of international security. It is doubly pleasant that the reigns of the PIR Center are in the hands of two MGIMO graduates—the chairman of the PIR Center Executive Board is Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Roland Mikhailovich Timerbaev while the director of the Center is Vladimir Andreevich Orlov—which makes it possible for us to consider the PIR Center's successes and achievements as our own.

I wish *Security Index* a pleasant voyage through the stormy seas of the world's oceans and Center associates new creative successes and accomplishments!

Sincerely,

Anatoly Torkunov,
Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences,
Dean of MGIMO