On the one hand, Russia’s immediate proximity to a region where instability is escalating reveals a number of challenges to international security. On the other hand, the region also reveals high energy potential. For this reason, Central Asia has become a region of interest and concern for Russia, the U.S., the EU, China, India, Iran and Pakistan. However, the situation is changing. It is increasingly clear that the original goals are unlikely to be achieved without the active involvement of Russian security projects. It is necessary to increase the effectiveness of regional cooperation mechanisms through organizations such as SCO, CSTO, EurAsEC.

PIR Center’s project "Security in Central Asia and Russia" defines the main vectors of rivalry and cooperation in the region. The objective is to determine optimal behavior strategies for Russia in Central Asia.

"The key issue in security and development in Central Asia is the harmonization of interests. Given the continuing disagreement among states in the region, it is important to establish ongoing dialogue on the basis of a joint threat assessment now more than ever. Only then can we really turn towards effective partnership in the field of security".

Gennady Evstafiev, Lieutenant-General (ret.), Member of PIR Center’s Advisory Board