

## **The Center for Political and International Studies**

The Center for Political and International Studies is an independent, non-profit research and consulting institution that conducts expert studies, holds conferences and seminars, and publishes analytical reports on subjects such as international security, disarmament, the political dynamics of modern societies and conflict resolution. The Center for Political and International Studies (CPIS) has been operating since 1989.

The Center finances its activities through research and consulting contracts with domestic and international institutions, grants, publishing, information services, public opinion polling, etc.

Within the framework of the CPIS international programs, Russian scholars have participated in joint studies, co-authored books and conducted research projects in cooperation with Brown University, Ohio State University, the University of Iowa (USA), Dangook University and the Korean Institute for National Reunification (South Korea), the North Atlantic Assembly, the International Pugwash Committee on Science and World Affairs and other institutions.

Between 1989 and 1993 the CPIS cooperated with other institutions in conducting a series of public opinion surveys in Russia, the Ukraine and Lithuania on security, economic and political matters.

In 1991–1992 the Center organized a series of international consultations among parliamentary representatives and experts of the CIS and Baltic States on matters of the collective security of the New Independent States.

The Center has published the following studies:

- **"Collective Security for Russia and the CIS. Based on the Results of the Series of International Consultations on Security Matters"**
- **"Russia on the Way to a Market Economy"**
- **"The Public Movement «Democratic Russia»: History, Current Status and Prospects"**

- **"National Reconciliation: Mediation Practice"**
- **"Nuclear Weapons and Security Issues in the CIS. The Policy of Russia, the Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan Towards Nuclear Armaments"**
- **"Elimination of Chemical Weapons: Political and Technical Aspects"**
- **"Peace Support Operations: Concepts and Practice"**
- **"Democratic Control over the Military Sphere in Russia and the CIS"**
- **"Civil-Military Relations in Russia"**

Between 1992 and 2004, under the auspices of the Committees on International Affairs and on Defense of the Parliament of the Russian Federation, along with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Council of CIS Defense Ministers, the Center for Political and International Studies organized a program of international conferences and consultations on East-West security matters with the participation of representatives and experts from NATO, the Western European Union, the North Atlantic Assembly, the European Union and international research institutions.

Among the major international projects and conferences organized by the CPIS between 1993 and 2003 are:

- **"Political and Military Integration in the CIS",**
- **"The Role of Russia in Maintaining Stability and Security on the Territory of the Former Soviet Union",**
- **"Peacekeeping Operations in the New Independent States",**
- **"European Integration and Russia",**
- **"Export Control: Political Aspects",**
- **"International Workshop on Peacekeeping in the CIS",**
- **"Preventing Ethno-Political Conflicts: Minorities in Russia and Russians as Minorities in the Former Soviet Republics",**
- **"Russia and Georgia: Status and Prospects of Relations",**
- **"Russia and the Ukraine: Framework for Partnership"**
- **"The Status and Future of Nuclear Weapons Complexes in the USA and Russia"**
- **"Russia and Estonia: In Search of a New Type of Relationship",**
- **"The Evolution of NATO and Russia's Interests"**

Between 1991 and 2004 more than 500 officials and experts from the EU, NATO, Western European Union, North Atlantic Assembly, Foreign Affairs and Defense Ministries from the USA, UK, Germany, Netherlands, Spain, Norway, Italy, Iceland, Turkey, France and other countries visited the Russian Federation as guests and participants of the CPIS conference programs.

The CPIS was the hosting organization for a series of **NATO Ambassadors' Information Lecturing Tours** to various Russian cities. Programs in Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Yekaterinburg and Vladimir took place between 1993 and 1994. The North Atlantic Assembly Civilian Affairs Committee visit was organized by the CPIS in 1995 and again in 1999. Under the auspices of the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation, the Center hosted NATO Defense College visits to Russia in 1995, 1997, 1998, 2000 and 2002.

In 1993 and 1995 the Center coordinated the work of **foreign observers from European countries' Parliaments at the Parliamentary elections** in Russia. The CPIS hosted a series of seminars and briefings for international observers in connection with the presidential elections in 1996 and 2000. Currently the CPIS prepares expert reports and assists in organizing hearings for Committees for Foreign Affairs, on Defense and on the CIS Affairs of the State Duma (Parliament) of the Russian Federation. On request of the Security Council of the Russian Federation the Center, in 1996, conducted a study of peace support operations on the territory of CIS members.

Among CPIS projects organized between 1998 and 2004 the following should be mentioned:

- **"Agreements Between Russia and NATO: Consequences and Prospects"** (Analysis of the Russia-NATO Founding Act),
- **"Nuclear Complexes of the USA and Russia"** held in Moscow and Chelyabinsk-70,
- **"International Maritime Law and Peacekeeping"**
- **"Parliamentary Control over the Military Sphere in the CIS"** attended by 60 parliamentary and independent experts from 18 states
- **"Information Technology, Security and Conflict Resolution"** attended by 85 experts from 16 states
- **"Nuclear Weapons Complexes of the USA and Russia"** held in the Russian Federal Nuclear Center Arzamas-16

- **“Legal, Scientific and Technical Aspects of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention”** attended by members from various nations’ official delegations to the Geneva negotiations at the BWTC.
- **“Democratic Control over the Military Sphere”** seminars held in Almaty (Kazakhstan), Bishkek (Kirgizstan) and Kiev (Ukraine)
- **“Development and Conversion of the Science Cities: Russian and International Experiences”** held in Moscow and Obninsk

In 2001 the CPIS authored the *CIS Model Law “On the Parliamentary Oversight of the Military Organization of the State”* adopted in 2002 by the CIS Inter-parliamentary Assembly for all CIS states. In 2002–2004 the CPIS authored the CIS Model Law **“On Peacekeeping Operations”** and drafted the Federal Law of the Russian Federation **“On alterations and amendments into some legislative acts of the Russian Federation aimed at the mastering of civil oversight over the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation”**.

*The CPIS is ready to assist officials and experts from international and national organizations, state structures and research institutes, to get in touch with their counterparts in Russia, to organize visits, consultations and international conferences and seminars on political, security and economic matters in Moscow, as well as information missions or business visits to other cities and regions of the Russian Federation.*

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