

PREFACE

The Institute of World Economy and International Relations presents in this volume the 9th edition of *RUSSIA: ARMS CONTROL, DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY*.

This publication is an offshoot of the joint IMEMO – SIPRI project ‘*The Russian edition of the SIPRI Yearbook: Armament, Disarmament and International Security*’. Our aim is to contribute to transparency on arms control matters as well as to unbiased assessments of Russia’s security needs.

The studies in this volume reflect two major developments of the past year affecting the Russian security environment: the crisis in the North Caucasus in August (with its local, regional and global ramifications) and the beginning of the worldwide financial and economic down-turn.

The 9th edition offers analyses of various critical issues: the political fallout of the Caucasian conflict; the standoff over Iran’s nuclear program; the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space; naval arms control and countering terrorism at sea; the humanitarian and military aspects of cluster munitions.

Problems of Russian defense-industrial complex are addressed in chapters describing Russia’s military-technical cooperation with foreign states and resource allocation for defense needs in the 2009–2011 Federal Budget.

The volume contains the brief overview of key Russian official documents on security and arms control.

The book represents a collective effort. I would like to offer special thanks to Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Dr Alexei Arbatov and Dr Alexandre Kaliadine for contributing, compiling and editing this volume. My appreciation also extends to George Bechter, Boris Klimenko and Vladimir Svarichovsky for helping to prepare the manuscript for publication.

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