

A Russian concern for global safety:

the National Institute for the Research of Global Security

The first decades of the third millennium have been characterized by drastic changes in the world distribution of political forces leading to the outcrop of new challenges and threats. Expanding globalization process and raising interdependence of the states, the formation of common financial and information space and worldwide deepening environmental problems have brought forth the understanding/concept of a “common/ single planet”. To deal with the new reality of a “single world”, to understand its logic and trends are the tasks of vital importance.

In February 2011, a new non-governmental entity was formed in Russia to facilitate the process of apprehension of today’s global processes, **the National Institute for the Research of Global Security (NIRGlobS)**. The primary goal of the NIRGlobS has been to call upon the best intellectual forces of Russia and involve them in the process of innovative research of various aspects of global security embracing the spheres of politics and economics, science and education, social and cultural spheres. A special focus of the Institute is advanced ICT technologies as applied for defence purposes, in view of the cyber-terrorism threat.

To contribute to the development of ICT and other innovative technologies by setting up **Crisis Management Centres** aimed at risks and threats assessment is a commitment of the Institute to the assurance of international information security and elimination of global threats.

Russia extends across the whole of northern Asia and forty percent of Europe in covering one third of Eurasia territory, and it disposes of the world's largest reserves of mineral and energy resources. Contributing to the provision of sustainable development by making all effort to bring Russia to the status of a global society’s full member

and make it

a responsible actor in a

Eurasian family of nations is a primary mission which the NIRGlobS is committed to. For that, the Institute plans to develop a range of specific activities and provide consulting services aimed at ensuring global security and enforcing international links, primarily in the Eurasian continent whose hot spots and crisis areas are determining the future of the whole planet and directly effecting the global safety.

The research and analyses to be made by the experts attracted by the Institute are to supply the Russian Federal and regional authorities with advanced tools for making proper and timely decisions for the prevention of and response to emergency situations, as well as for elaborating the innovative development programs.

In its analytical and consulting activities, the Institute will exploit the opportunities of the partnerships built with other non-government entities. Joint events in Russia and outside Russia will help to form new alliances and to widen the scope of research for the benefit of all the partners. The Institute will strive for the promotion of international activities to develop all types of cooperation in the areas of business, culture, science and technology.

A practical realization of the NIRGlobS' initiatives was the international conference "Innovative and Safe Cooperation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region

" held

14-17 June, 2011 in Kirkenes (Norway)

by t

he National Institute for the Research of Global Security

jointly

with two other Russian NGO's, namely,

the InfoForum and the Russian High-Tech Development Fund.

The city of Kirkenes is a symbolic place for the Euro-Arctic region, for it was here that the Barents Euro-Arctic Council (BEAC) was formed in 1993 as the forum for intergovernmental cooperation in the Barents Region. Kirkenes is located 14 kilometers from the RF border. The Barents Institute studying the issues of the Arctic region is here.

Global climatic changes cause the shifts in global logistics: Arctic may become one of in the world-greatest □ □ infrastructural through-passages. □ The melting of Northern ice opens new shipping routes, the most important being the Northern Sea Route. The shipping lane is the shortest way between the European part of Russia and the Far East,

curving round the major part of the Eurasian coast through the seas of the Arctic Ocean. Potential transit volume is estimated 8-12 million ton cargo per year. In 2011, the Russian Sovcomflot shipping company shipped off 15 vessels along the ice way.

The Arctic Shelf is a largest oil-and-gas productive region of the Earth. It is important to provide safe and conflict-free exploration of resources in this region. The most important task is to prevent pollution of Arctic and oil spills on the sea surface and the ice covering.

The conference focused on the issues of energy efficiency and technological cooperation that could enforce environmental safety and efficient use of natural resources in the Arctic land which is an extremely promising part of the mass of the Eurasian and North-American continents. The circumfluous ocean waters feature a biological variety of species, which may give answers to a number of problems faced by the mankind. To provide the safety of the region while efficient using its reserves, to assure its security for the sake of future generations – these were the issues discussed by the participants of the Conference, including the International and Norwegian Barents Secretariat spokespersons and Russian diplomats.

In the conditions of the speed-up in globalization processes, traditional methods of analysis and conflict forecasting are doomed for failure, and, as a rule, traditional approaches bring to short-term effects. The expert community of the whole world tries to find innovative ways to forecast and resolve crisis situations. A team of leading experts engaged by the NIRGlobS enunciates the principles of hazard analysis and crisis management in a series of publications, the latest

are the books: “

The Information Globalization and Russia: Challenges and Opportunities

” (2007) and

“

The

Global safety: innovative methods of the analysis of conflicts

” (2011). The

latter

demonstrates an attempt to describe basic concepts and approaches used to analyse global safety as well as to compare traditional and innovative ways of conflict assessment. The book represents

the

results

of

R

&
D
work
implemented
in
the
development
of
advanced
ICTs
,
creation
of
Crisis Management Centres
and deployment of
geo-
informational
and info-analytical systems for crisis forecast and efficient response.

The National Institute for the Research of Global Security is an entity open for any proposal coming from a company or an organization interested in the strengthening of global security and building co-operative partnership to make Eurasia a safe and prosperous continent.



[Anatoly Smirnov, Ph.D. \(Sc.\), President of the NIRGlobS](#)

[Anatoly Ivanovich SMIRNOV](#) is a professional diplomat with a status of [Extraordinary](#)

[and Plenipotentiary Envoy of the Russian Federation.](#)

[After graduating from the Diplomatic Academy, he held executive posts in](#)

the central apparatus of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia, and during 1992 – 1997 was Consul General of Russia in Northern Norway (Kirkenes). An Honorary Doctor of the Northern (Arctic) Federal University and a member of the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences (RANS), h
e has devoted much of his time to the development and application of information technologies for state management purposes and w
as awarded a certificate of expert in “E-Government” (CIO) of South Korea. Over 100 works on globalization and international cooperation issues were published by A. Smirnov.