

Russian Military Statistics: Forgotten Art or Neglected Institution?

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On the eve of the 150th anniversary of the 4th International Statistical Congress held in London in July 1860 this article assesses evolution of Russian military statistics. First, three historical periods of its evolution are discussed. Second, contemporary problems are defined and illustrated by examples from defense policy domain and by own results in statistics of Russian military expenditure. The study concludes that real progress not only in Russian military reform but in overall country's modernization and sustainable economy growth too are impossible without bringing military statistics to modern standards.

Keywords: Military statistics, Russia, history, post-communist transition, modernization, military reform, civil-military relations, transparency, defense burden, military expenditure, comparability, adjustment of time series