

Armies and Politics

RPR

UDC 32-355

Charitable Fund "Slovo"
Russian Progressive Review
International Center for Socio-
Political Studies and Consulting
Printed Sims Ltd
E-mail: info@rpr.slovo.ru

Published with the academic assistance
of Moscow City Pedagogic University
and Center for Latin American Studies,
State University of São Paulo

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Review

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Progressive Review

ISBN 5-9290-44-1

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Printed in Russian Federation

Handfuls of authors struggle here to understand the complex interrelationships between the legions of the sword and the halls of parliament. Even in those countries where stable political systems have at the same time having powerful armed forces, no one would pretend to ignore the complex interplay of the military. Many international problems and solutions to our "civilized world" are statements of the rights of nations, and the political system that supports the rights of nations - political realities. Armies should obey the laws of civil society. But the civil society must be mature, stable and democratic to really integrate the armed forces into its most structures.

The original articles presented here serve to enlarge the comprehension of a very complicated problem - the armies' role in politics. The authors of this volume are scholars from thirteen countries of South and North America, Europe and Asia. Among them are ten leaders of national academic institutes and centers, academicians, as well as members and leaders of international scholarly associations.

All that glitters is not gold. And it is not the brilliancy of scientific degrees and titles of the authors which makes the book a sparkling addition to our knowledge. The authors present a panorama of such complexity and vitality that the history of different countries becomes clearer, more meaningful and more striking than anything the reader has heretofore imagined.

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