



THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

We are the largest country in the world, the most populous country in Europe, and have one of the most powerful militaries. As a recognized nuclear-weapon state, we also possess the world's most comprehensive stockpile. Our extensive mineral and energy resources are the healthiest of such reserves in the world, making us one of the leading producers of oil and natural gas globally.

With a view to upholding the national interests of the Russian Federation and achieving its strategic national priorities, the State's foreign policy activities shall be aimed at accomplishing the following main objectives:

1. International Relations

The attempts made by western powers to maintain their positions in the world, including by imposing their point of view on global processes and conducting a policy to contain alternative centres of power, leads to a greater instability in international relations and growing turbulence on the global and regional levels. The Russian Federation aims to consolidate its position as a centre of influence in today's world; to pursue neighbourly relations with adjacent States, assist them in eliminating the existing and preventing the emergence of the new hotbeds of tension and conflicts on their territory; to ensure comprehensive, effective protection of the rights and legitimate interests of Russian citizens and compatriots residing abroad, including within various international frameworks. Russia has been expanding its ties with its partners within the Group of Twenty, BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and the Republic of South Africa), the SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organization), RIC (Russia, India and China) alongside other organizations and dialogue platform Regional Foreign Policy Priorities. The foreign policy priorities of the Russian Federation include developing bilateral and multilateral cooperation with member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and further strengthening integration structures within the CIS.

2. Security

To ensure national security, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and strengthen the rule of law and democratic institutions, the Russian Federation aims at consolidating its position as a centre of influence in today's world. Efforts to expand and upgrade military capabilities and to create and deploy new types of weapons undermine strategic stability and pose a threat to global security which is underwritten by a system of arms control treaties and agreements. As a permanent member of the UN Security Council and a participant in a number of influential international organizations, regional frameworks, inter-State dialogue and cooperation mechanisms, the Russian Federation contributes to the development of a positive, well-balanced and unifying international agenda by relying on substantial resources in all areas of human activity and pursuing a foreign policy that actively seeks to develop relations with the leading States, international organizations and associations in various parts of the world.

3. Trade and Economy

To strengthen Russia's position in global economic relations and prevent any discrimination against Russian goods, services and investments by using the options afforded by international and regional economic and financial organizations; Russia's policy is aimed at ensuring that this State participates on an equal and proactive basis in the global economy. To this end, the Russian Federation seeks to contribute to the efficiency of the multilateral trade system with the WTO at its core, and promotes regional economic integration in line with its priorities; to create favorable conditions for expanding Russia's presence on global markets, primarily by diversifying its exports, and specifically by increasing the

volume of non-resource based exports, and expanding the geography of foreign economic ties; in accordance with international norms and principles, adopts the necessary trade policy measures to protect national interests and effectively respond to unfriendly economic actions by foreign States that infringe upon the rights of the Russian Federation or Russian business entities; takes action to benefit from its unique geographic location by increasing transit cargo shipments with a view to facilitating the development of trade and economic relations between Europe and the Asia-Pacific Region;

4. International Law

To promote the efforts to strengthen international peace and ensure global security and stability with a view to establishing a fair and democratic international system that addresses international issues on the basis of collective decision-making, the rule of international law, primarily the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations (the UN Charter), as well as equal, partnership relations among States, with the central and coordinating role played by the United Nations (UN) as the key organization in charge of regulating international relations. Alongside military might, other important factors allowing States to influence international politics are taking centre stage, including economic, legal, technological and IT capabilities. Using these capabilities to pursue geopolitical interests is detrimental to efforts to find ways to settle disputes and resolve the existing international issues by peaceful means on the basis of the norms of international law. The UN should maintain its central role in regulating international relations and coordinating world politics in the 21st century, as it has proven to have no alternative and possesses international legitimacy. Russia supports the efforts aimed at strengthening the UN's central and coordinating role. The rule of law in international relations is intended to ensure peaceful and fruitful cooperation among States while seeking to balance their interests, as well as to guarantee the overall stability of the global community.