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14. ABSTRACT
This paper examines numerous aspects of Russia's planning concepts that indicate how the nation's Defense Ministry has chosen to confront perceived Western and other territorial challenges. U.S. planning is contrasted against Russian planning in some areas. For Russia, primary planning concepts and organizations include the following:• Theater of war (TV);• Theater of military operations (TVD);• Theater strategic operation;• Military districts;• Strategic region;• Strategic direction/ axis;• Operational design;• Territorial defense forces. The conclusion: Russia's geostrategic planning for the initial period of war is underway and, if conflict erupts, the nation will be better prepared to gain the initiative than it has been in the past.

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