

# RUSSIA RELATED ANALYTICAL DIGEST ON JUNE 2025

# "Militarization without markets: Russia's collapsing economy hidden behind state secrecy and fear"

The world needs a proactive strategy on Russia, taking the initiative by developing and communicating a clear strategic vision for Ukraine, along with a plan to contain and counter Russian influence.

The <u>NGO ANTS</u> conducts monitoring and research work on the state not only of the Ukrainian economy and society, but of the Russian economy and Russian society as well in order to have a true picture of the situation in this country, and not be satisfied with the bluff, hybrid aggression and desinformation that Vladimir Putin loves so much.

Fortunately, in today's world it is difficult to hide anything, and realistic conclusions can be drawn if information is analyzed in a timely and correct manner, having instant access to the Russian and international information field, and an excellent understanding of the context and social processes.

The head of our organization, Dr. Hanna Hopko, former head of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, is making great efforts in the international arena to advocate for the cessation of appeasement of the aggressor, who should not be irrationally feared, because his economy and social processes are far from being in the best shape.



### Analytical column:

Russia's economy under pressure from war: where will the Kremlin look for money?



**Yehor Ostapov,** Expert of the analytical center of the National Interests Advocacy Network "ANTS".

When talking about the state of the Russian economy, it is very easy to fall into extremes, sometimes expecting it to collapse "in two or three weeks," and sometimes believing in the infinity of Moscow's resources. The reality, as always, is much more complicated. The Russian economy is not on the verge of collapse, but it has entered a phase of systemic degradation, where each new month of war requires increasingly desperate measures to find resources.

### Read more

# Mosaic of Russian economic news for June 2025

### Debt, Despair, and Defense: Escalating Authoritarian Drift Amid Economic Strain

### Economic Crisis Intensifies — Repression Grows Alongside Decline

As the economy worsens, the Kremlin opts for repression over reform. With corporate losses mounting and key industries collapsing, authorities tighten control over both markets and society.

### Censorship and Surveillance Deepen to Preempt Discontent

To suppress dissent, the government increases censorship, restricts online platforms, and monitors economic speech to mask the true scale of decline.

### Militarization Remains the Core Economic Strategy

With civilian sectors stagnating, defense industries receive priority support. Military spending distorts the economy, while the central bank yields to pressure from the security elite.

#### Demographic Decline Masked by Patriotic Rhetoric

Russia's population crisis deepens, yet support programs are slashed. While the regime talks of "traditional values," real policy shifts toward military incentives over family welfare.

#### Strategic Isolation Grows — Even China Backs Off

Exports to China are plunging, and energy trade is shrinking. Even allies are distancing, leaving Russia reliant on risky, informal deals – a sign of deepening global isolation.

#### **Fear Replaces Stability**

As economic pain and war fatigue mount, the Kremlin governs through fear. Rising debt, ethnic scapegoating, and propaganda replace real solutions – but public frustration is rising.

## The military-industrial complex has become the main driver of Russia's economy in 2025

The military-industrial complex has become the main driver of Russia's economy in 2025. In May, industrial production rose by 2.9% compared to April. Military vehicle output jumped by 42%, and weapons and ammunition production grew by 14%.



## Mosaic of socio-political news from Russia in June 2025

### Militarization, Digital Surveillance and Repression

### State-Run Messenger App: A Tool for Total Citizen Surveillance

Under the guise of digital modernization, the Kremlin is building a state-controlled messaging platform designed to monitor and control citizens at an unprecedented level. This app will turn private communication into a mechanism for mass surveillance and repression.

### War Dragging On Until 2027 — Economy on the Brink of Collapse

NATO intelligence warns Russia can only sustain its military operations through exhausting its defense industry and a fragile economy.

### Schools Weaponized for Propaganda — Ukrainian Language Erased

The removal of Ukrainian language and literature from school curriculums in annexed regions is a deliberate cultural erasure, aimed at destroying local identity.

### Incoming Foreign Calls Banned — Russia Seals Itself Off

The proposed ban on incoming calls from foreign numbers under the guise of antifraud measures effectively isolates Russians from outside information and contacts, tightening the regime's grip on communication and reinforcing the country's growing international isolation.

### **Economic Mobilization Classified — Transparency Vanishes**

Putin has made key economic mobilization data state secrets, hiding the true extent of Russia's wartime economic struggles.

### Increased Penalties and Militarized Control Over Civilians

The State Duma has quadrupled fines for failing to notify military authorities about

### Fake War Heroes and Propaganda Masks Growing Social Decay

Reports of fraudsters posing as decorated soldiers highlight the erosion of genuine patriotism and the regime's desperation to manufacture legitimacy. Propaganda replaces truth as social trust crumbles under the weight of lies and coercion.

#### **Tighter State Secrets and FSB Control Over Science**

New laws give the FSB authority to monitor scientists' contacts with foreigners and classify wide swaths of mobilization and defense data as secret. This stifles innovation, isolates Russia's research community, and signals growing paranoia within the regime.

### Budget Cuts Amid Collapse in Oil and Gas Revenues

With oil and gas revenues plummeting 24%, the Kremlin slashes funding for crucial industrial, scientific, and technological programs.



# ANTS is open to cooperation! The most accurate information on your desk before anyone else!

NGO National Interests Advocacy Network ANTS is a non-governmental organization, a powerful analytical center working to develop a strategy for countering the threat from Russia and its allies. We are open to proposals for cooperation in this direction for a deeper awareness of our partners and allies about socio-political and economic processes in Russia and Ukraine, and therefore a more profitable strategy for dealing with threats.

We offer operational and high-quality monitoring, analytics, joint events, briefings and discussions.

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