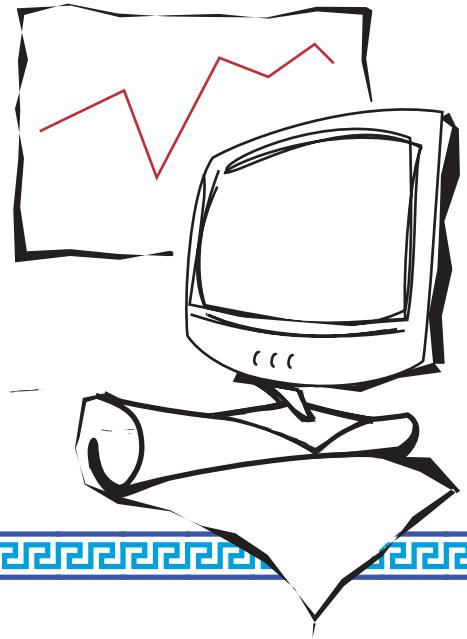


Sophist

Information Bulletin



№1 2003

Dear Readers!

This is an opening issue of the Russian Sociological Data Archive's information bulletin. This long-awaited free-access soci-

ety of information sources give rise to the problems of information safety, standardization and accessibility for later reference and secondary analysis.

Industrial Production were also among those who helped this idea become a reality.

At present, RSDA exists as a program in the framework of the Independent Institute for Social Policy. It is run by the Archive Council among the members of which are L. Khakhulina (Archive Council's President), T. Zaslavskaya, L. Kosals, L. Kosova, A. Kryshchanovsky, T. Maleva, V. Radayev, N. Rostegayeva, N. Tikhonova, and S. Shishkin.

RSDA stores more than 70 sociological surveys (see table 1). The data retrieval system is available at <http://sofist.socpol.ru>. The system enables the user to look for the relevant data and to request it. The Archive passes data for research purposes free of charge.

The Archive collaborates with international organizations. RSDA is an IASSIST member and a partner of the EDAN (East-European Data Archives Network).

We plan to publish the bulletin every six months to keep you posted on a new archive data avail-

"I believe founding of the Russian Sociological Data Archive is the most remarkable and encouraging fact in modern Russian sociology. When I first got acquainted with the Cologne Archive, I could not imagine that I would live to see a similar archive made in Russia. The Hungarian archive was created in the late 80-s and the early 90-s, but it was not until recently that Russia finally saw its own sociological archive. And the inevitable has occurred: the RSDA has been founded, its research fellows successfully assimilate new activities and conduct significant methodological work. From now on, sociological data are open to general public and will be of particular use to researchers and students. It is, however, clear that the work on the archive is far from being complete. There is still much to be done to resolve methodological, organizational, financial and even ethical issues. Nevertheless the first steps to that end speak well of the fact that Russian sociology is alive and leaping forward."

T.I. Zaslavskaya, Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences

ological archive was designed to meet various pressing needs of researchers, students and mass media. Building up democratic society implies a free access to reliable up-to-date sociological information to help researchers better understand the nature of social transformation processes and bring it within reach of the general public.

Although there have been several attempts to form an archive on sociological issues before, it was not until 1990-s that the necessary prerequisites for the realization of the project were actually jelled. The first prerequisite consisted in accumulating a practical experience of sociological research in accordance with international standards. At the moment there are some ten organizations that specialize in regular public opinion polls and do research on various aspects of Russian mass perception and behaviour. Also, there are a number of independent researchers and small research groups financed by national and foreign funds. The diver-

The idea of creating a joint sociological archive was initiated by VCIOM (Russian Center for Public Opinion and Market Research) and

"The Russian Sociological Data Archive opens new scope for Russian students and researchers in social, political, economic and historical sciences providing a new approach to modern social issues such as social inequality, poverty, migration, educational opportunities, unemployment etc. The Archive is likely to become a gold vein for researchers and scholars, the fact that will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the development of Russian sciences in general. Thank you for the pains you have been taking in promoting Russian social sciences".

Elena Tarasenko, Post-graduate Student of the Institute of Sociology

financed by the Ford Foundation in September 2000. The leading research centers – the Institute of Sociology of Russian Academy of Sciences, the Public Opinion Foundation, the Institute of Complex Sociological Research, ROMIR, the Institute of Economy and Organization of

able and the latest events of our life. Additionally, the bulletin will be presenting the latest analytical surveys of the archived data. We invite all interested researchers to participate.

Welcome to the Russian Sociological Data Archive !

All the archive survey data can be divided into 3 large groups. The first group comprises the monitoring type surveys conducted by leading sociological agencies (see table 1).

The second group of data consists of 5 joint files, based on similar questions asked in different monitoring surveys: VCIOM joint monitoring survey, Consumer Sentiments Index, 1995-96' and 1999-2000' Elections Research, Time Budgets of Rural Population.

The third group accounts for ISSP (International Social Survey Programme) research. Although Russia first joined the program in 1991 RSDA stores all rounds. For more information see <http://sofist.socpol.ru>.

All files in the archive are in SPSS-format, and are available free of charge for research purposes.

Table 1.

Study	Fieldwork
IS RAN Public Opinion Mirror 92-II	01.05.1992 -30.06.1992
IS RAN Public Opinion Mirror 92-III	01.12.1992 -31.12.1992
IS RAN Public Opinion Mirror 93-IV	01.03.1993 -31.03.1993
IS RAN Public Opinion Mirror 93-V	01.05.1993 -30.06.1993
IS RAN Public Opinion Mirror 93 - VI	01.11.1993 - 31.11.1993
IS RAN Public Opinion Mirror 94 - VII	01.05.1994 - 30.06.1994
IS RAN Public Opinion Mirror 94 - VIII	01.11.1994 - 31.11.1994
IS RAN Public Opinion Mirror 95 - IX	01.06.1995 - 30.06.1995
FOM Weekly Survey 51/2000.	23.12.2000 - 24.12.2000
Monitoring of VCIOM 1998-1	14.01.1998 - 01.02.1998
Monitoring of VCIOM 1998-11	09.11.1998 - 23.11.1998
Monitoring of VCIOM 1998-3	17.03.1998 - 30.03.1998
Monitoring of VCIOM 1998-5	08.05.1998 - 31.05.1998
Monitoring of VCIOM 1998-7	17.07.1998 - 31.07.1998
Monitoring of VCIOM 1998-9	09.09.1998 - 23.09.1998
Monitoring of VCIOM 1999-1	12.01.1999 - 28.01.1999
Monitoring of VCIOM 1999-11	04.11.1999 - 18.11.1999
Monitoring of VCIOM 1999-3	05.03.1999 - 22.03.1999
Monitoring of VCIOM 1999-5	11.05.1999 - 25.05.1999
Monitoring of VCIOM 1999-7	07.07.1999 - 21.07.1999
Monitoring of VCIOM 1999-9	02.09.1999 - 16.09.1999
Monitoring of VCIOM 2000-1	12.01.2000 - 26.01.2000
Monitoring of VCIOM 2000-11	01.11.2000 - 14.11.2000
Monitoring of VCIOM 2000-3	04.03.2000 - 17.03.2000
Monitoring of VCIOM 2000-5	04.05.2000 - 18.05.2000
Monitoring of VCIOM 2000-7	30.06.2000 - 14.07.2000

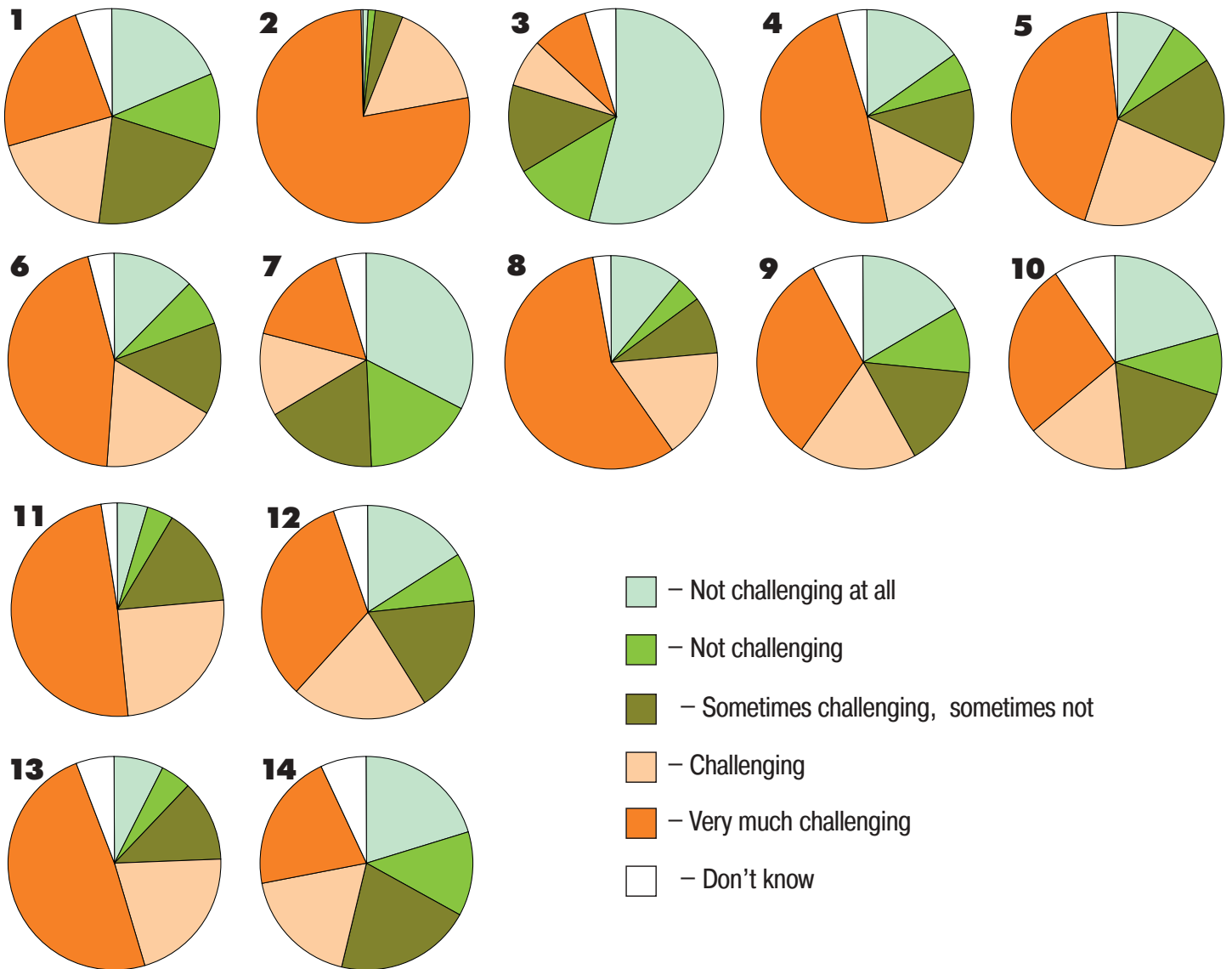
Monitoring of VCIOM 2000-9	01.09.2000 - 15.09.2000
Monitoring of VCIOM 2001-1	04.01.2001 - 21.01.2001
Monitoring of VCIOM 2001-11	03.11.2001 - 25.11.2001
Monitoring of VCIOM 2001-3	02.03.2001 - 16.03.2001
Monitoring of VCIOM 2001-5	02.05.2001 - 20.05.2001
Monitoring of VCIOM 2001-7	09.07.2001 - 23.07.2001
Monitoring of VCIOM 2001-9	30.08.2001 - 19.09.2001
Monitoring of IKSI 1998-I	20.03.1998 - 04.04.1998
Monitoring of IKSI 1998-II	17.06.1998 - 17.06.1998
Monitoring of IKSI 1998-III	02.10.1998 - 02.10.1998
Monitoring of IKSI 1998-IV	21.12.1999 - 21.12.1999
Monitoring of IKSI 1999-II	05.06.1999 - 21.06.1999
Monitoring of IKSI 1999-III	19.10.1999 - 19.10.1999
Monitoring of IKSI 1999-IV	28.11.1999 - 17.12.1999
Monitoring of IKSI 2000-I	27.02.2000 - 27.02.2000
Monitoring of IKSI 2000-II	14.07.2000 - 14.07.2000
Omnibus of ROMIR 2000-10	01.10.2000 - 31.10.2000
Omnibus of ROMIR 2000-11	01.11.2000 - 01.11.2000
Omnibus of ROMIR 2000-12	01.12.2000 - 31.12.2000
Omnibus of ROMIR 2001-03	01.03.2001 - 31.03.2001
Omnibus of ROMIR 2001-04	01.04.2001 - 30.04.2001
Omnibus of ROMIR 2001-05	01.05.2001 - 31.05.2001
Omnibus of ROMIR 2001-06	01.06.2001 - 01.06.2001
Omnibus of ROMIR 2001-07	01.07.2001 - 31.07.2001
Omnibus of ROMIR 2001-08	01.08.2001 - 01.08.2001
Omnibus of ROMIR 2001-09	01.09.2001 - 30.09.2001
Modern Russian Society under Transformation (IS RAN)	01.11.1998 - 31.12.1998

Let's have a look at some of the results of the archive's analytical study. The public opinion polls of the last decade testify to dramatic changes that occurred in the people's minds with regard to the problems that they believe to be significant. While 70 percent of people surveyed considered the issue of shortages to be the main problem in the early 90-s, this attitude accounts for less than 5 per-

cent of people surveyed today (most of them have a low income). At present, it is not the lack of goods that people mostly bother about, but the lack of money for purchasing the goods they need. The social focus has shifted towards the questions related to the material well-fare, namely, inflation, price growth, low incomes, absence of wage arrears etc.

Which of the threats listed do you consider to be most challenging for your family's well-fare?

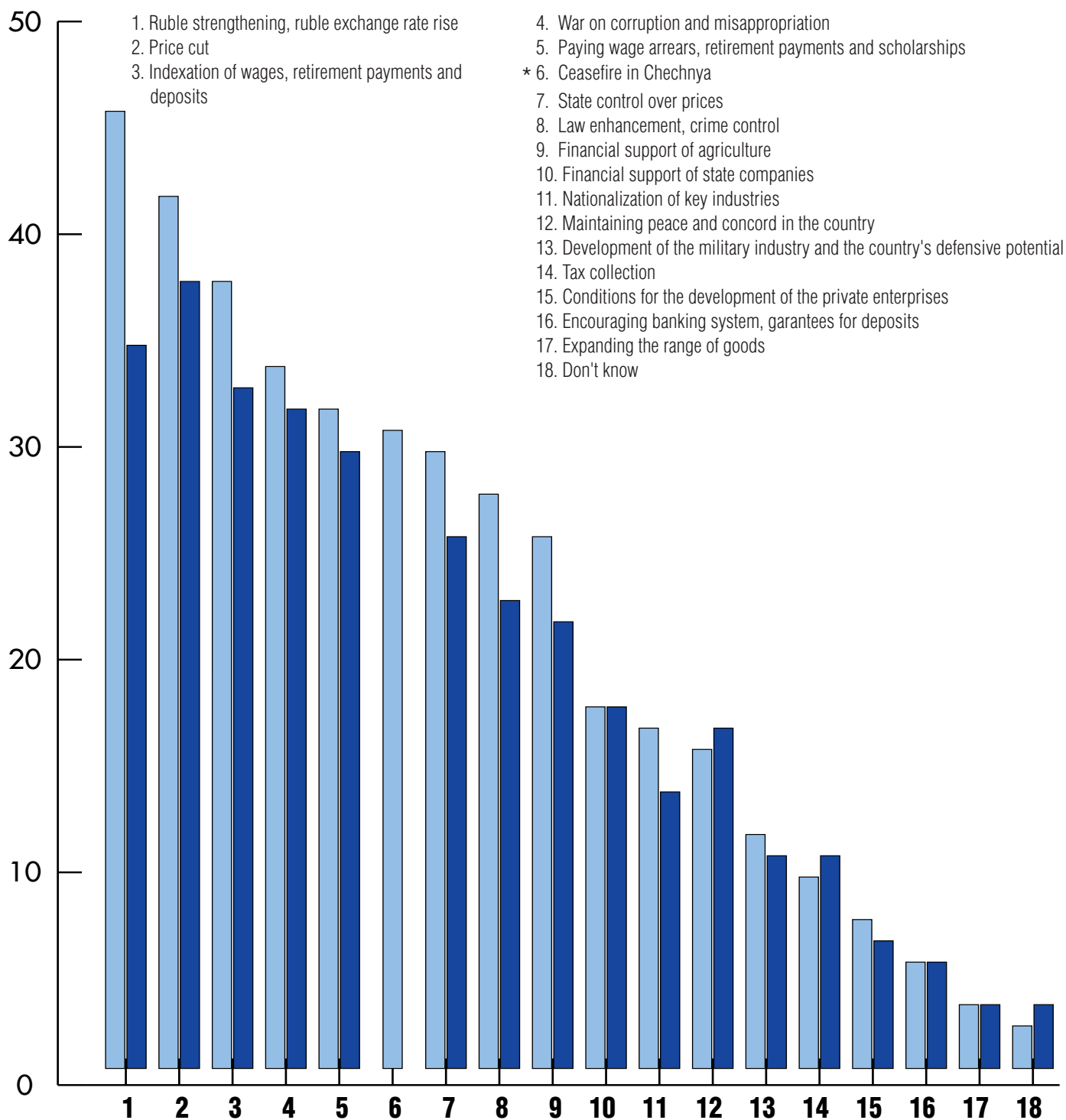
- 1. Air and soil pollution in the place of residence
- 2. Inflation
- 3. Lack of ethnic tolerance
- 4. Unemployment
- 5. Crime
- 6. Lack of opportunities to get good wages
- 7. Strikes and social unrest
- 8. Delays in wage payments
- 9. Corruption, power abuse
- 10. Unlimited power of employers
- 11. Health care
- 12. Educational system
- 13. Social security
- 14. Exasperation and lack of amicability



Source: 'Modern Russian Society'. The survey was conducted by the Center 'Socioexpress' of the Institute of Sociology RAN in November-December 1998

The hierarchy of problems that are believed by most Russian people to be pressing sheds light on people's expectations with regard to the focus of the government policies. Moreover, it is the state and not private

business that is considered by most people to be the source of material well-being, as only 7 percent of people surveyed believe promoting private businesses is really important.



Source : ■ – Express-poll VCIOM, 5-9.11.99 □ – Express-poll VCIOM, 14-17.01.00

*The question was asked only in the second poll.

