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## **DETTERRING RUSSIA IS THE FOCUS OF BULGARIA'S NEW MILITARY STRATEGY**

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16.10.2023

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Novinite (15 October 2023)

For the first time since the fall of the communist regime, Bulgaria's National Defense Strategy (NDS) states that Russia is the biggest threat to the country's national security, regardless of the outcome of the war in Ukraine.

The project strategy was developed by an expert group of the Ministry of Defense under the leadership of Minister Todor Tagarev in coordination with other departments. It is published for a month's discussion on the public consultation portal. The document must be accepted by the government to enter into force. Its time horizon is "until 2033", leaving a loophole to be updated as the security environment changes.

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