

10 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE RUSSIAN ARMY (SV)

Ukraine Conflict Has Forced Russia To Transform

*The SV is an **artillery army** with tanks*

- Fires set conditions for maneuver
- Artillery remains “God of War”—UAS are an extension of fires

*The SV has **no integrated fires command***

- Commanders at each echelon prioritize and allocate their own fires
- Concepts promote multiple nodes of sensors, C2, and shooters

*The SV **commander and staff roles differ dramatically from those in Western armies***

- Three officer paths—command, staff, and tech—means deep subject-matter proficiency in career tracks
- Small staffs enable commanders’ plans

*The SV values **speed***

- Quickly executes simple commander-developed plans
- Conducts rapid, massed, deep operations

*The SV formulates operations based on **correlation of forces and means***

- Prioritizes math/science to determine appropriate force ratios
- Uses attritional approaches for the long war

*The SV values **simplicity and mass over complexity and quality***

- Prefers simple equipment over exquisite systems, enabling vast reconstitution capability
- Employs an exceptionally resilient force, emphasizing quantity over quality in personnel



The SV will not fight like us

- Seeks to change the facts on the ground then off-ramp
- Seeks quick win with mass, deception, speed, and overwhelming fires



*The SV wants to **win without fighting***

- Often uses information operations to create division among the adversary
- Disseminates firehose of propaganda—quantity over quality—to control the narrative

*The SV is **deliberately modernizing and rapidly adopting technical innovations***

- Works with industry to rapidly incorporate change
- UAV troops are already a branch and career field

*The SV may not recognize **protected status of noncombatants***

- Has deliberately targeted medical and religious sites in Ukraine
- Has a poor track record for treatment of civilians and POWs

