

# Contents

List of Maps	ix
Acknowledgments	xi
Introduction: “Backwardness” and Russian Strategy	xiii
1. Russian Military Weakness in the Seventeenth Century	1
2. Peter the Great and the Advantages of “Backwardness”	35
3. Russian Imperialism and Military Power in the Eighteenth Century: Obstacles	85
4. Russian Imperialism and Military Power in the Eighteenth Century: Why and How	125
5. The Baleful Consequences of Victory: Russian Strategy and the War of 1812	177
6. The Policy and Strategy of Nicholas I	219
7. From the Treaty of Paris to the Congress of Berlin, 1856–78: Russia and the New Vulnerability	265
8. Alliances, Squandered Opportunities, and Self-Inflicted Wounds: Russia Between Two Wars, 1878–1903	328
9. The Quest for Exits: Russian Strategy, 1904–14	394
10. Strategies of Confidence and Strategies of Fear: Toward a Strategic Interpretation of the History of the Russian Empire	452
Notes	465
List of Archival Materials	535
Index	536