

## SUMMARY

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### *Numerus Clausus in the Russian Army. Religious and ethnic restrictions for recruitment to the military in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century*

Certain numerical quotas (numerus clausus) were established for recruitment to the Russian military in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The quotas had to ensure the domination of ethnic Russians in different military units and institutions. These were restrictions and barriers based on people's religious and later ethnic background which had to be observed for the recruitment of both soldiers and officers to military units. The quotas that were first introduced in 1864 (and amended and extended in 1865 and in 1874) limited the proportion of Catholics among officers. Barriers against Jews were established in 1874. Further, from 1888 the numerus clausus was also applied to Baltic Germans, Estonians, Latvians, Lithuanians and Finns. The general principle was that there could be no more than 30% of non-Russian officers in different military units. Also, at least 2/3 of young soldiers recruited to military units had to be Russian. The establishment of the numerus clausus in the Russian Army in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the consequences of this fact were not confined to military affairs. Due to the militarization of society, many measures tested in the military were used to regulate different aspects of civil life, for instance, the railway. The background for this approach was Peter the Great's idea that society should model itself on the military. The influence of the military was particularly important for the Russification of the educational system, which was largely based on the aspirations and needs of military authorities and significantly affected the political situation in the Baltic provinces in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.