

ON THE ORIGINS OF THE INTERACTION BETWEEN SCIENCE AND THE STATE IN RUSSIA

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The paper considers the early history of the Academy of Sciences in Russia. The authors outline major steps taken by the Russian imperial government in the 1720s that culminated in the establishment of the Academy of Sciences. They consider European institutions for advancement of science and scholarship of the same age that could serve as a model for the Russian government, and they analyse the foundation statute of the Academy. The authors conclude with making a few observations on the specificity of the Academy of Sciences in Russia that distinguished the institution from its European counterparts at this early stage and had a lasting impact on the history of Russian scholarship and academic culture : its dependency on the state patronage, its active engagement not only in verification and dissemination but also in the production of knowledge, its unique combination of teaching and research.
