

# Russian Defense Official Promises Massive New Cannon for Armata Tanks – Izvestia

By [The Moscow Times](#)

May 14, 2015

**The**  **Moscow Times**

Russian T-14 tank with the Armata Universal Combat Platform drives during the Victory Day parade at Red Square in Moscow.

Russia's new Armata T-14 tank will eventually be armed with a cannon larger and more powerful than the standard Soviet-style gun mounted on current models, said Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin, newspaper Izvestia reported Thursday.

Izvestia reported that the new gun will fire a 152mm shell, which would make the Armata the most heavily armed tank in the world. Western tanks such as the U.S. M1 Abrams and German Leopard 2 fire a NATO standard 120mm shell.

Though Armata's current 125mm cannon is technically a larger calibre than that carried by Western tanks, the ammunition it fires was designed for the older Soviet-designed T-72

tanks.

This means that in its current form, Armata fires shells that have shorter ranges and lower impact velocities than Western tank ammunition.

The Armata's new 152mm shells will “burn through a meter of steel,” Izvestia quoted Rogozin as telling President Vladimir Putin and members of the nation's Military-Industrial Commission at a meeting on Wednesday.

The Armata tank, which Russian officials have touted as the best in the world, was publicly displayed for the first time Saturday as part of a parade celebrating 70 years since the end of World War II.

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