

## Members of the Commission for Dialogue between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Assyrian Church of the East hold a meeting



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On November 15, members of the Commission for Dialogue between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Assyrian Church of the East met at “Pokrovskaya” hotel under the chairmanship of Catholicos-Patriarch Mar Awa III currently on a visit to Russia.

In 2015-2021 he served as a co-chairman of the Commission and will continue to coordinate its work until he hands over the co-chairmanship to Mar Elia, Bishop of Baghdad.

Taking part in the meeting on behalf of the Assyrian Church of the East were also Chor-Bishop Samano

Odisho, representative of the Assyrian Church of the East in Russia; Rev. Priest Ephraim Alkhass, personal assistant of His Holiness Catholicos-Patriarch Mar Awa III; Rev. Priest Nikodim Yukhanayev, clergyman of the Diocese of Iran, Armenia and Georgia; and Deacon Roland Bijamov, a representative of the Moscow community of the Assyrian Church of the East.

The Russian Orthodox Church was represented by Bishop Clement of Krasnoslobodsk and Temnikov, co-chairman of the Commission; and hieromonk Stefan (Igumnov), secretary for inter-Christian relations of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations and secretary of the Commission.

In keeping with an agreement reached on the same day at the meeting of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' with His Holiness Patriarch-Catholicos Mar Awa III of the Assyrian Church of the East, the participants discussed issues pertaining to the implementation of common projects outlined earlier in the humanitarian, academic and scholarly theological fields. Also, plans were considered on holding a regular plenary session of the Commission in 2023 in the territory of the Russian Orthodox Church according to rotation.

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