Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk meets with German Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development



On the 23rd of April 2019, at a parish house of the Church of 'Joy of All Who Sorrow' Icon of the Mother of God in Bolshaya Ordynka Street in Moscow, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, met with Dr. Gerd Müller, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Among those who took part in the meeting were also Mrs. Gertruda Müller-Hoorens, spouse of the Federal Minister; Ms. Beate Grzeski, Plenipotentiary Minister and chargé d'affaires ad interim of the German Embassy in Russia; Mr. Thomas Graf, head of the Department of Economy and Science of the German Embassy in Russia; Ms. Miriam Golan, personal assistant to the Federal Minister; Archpriest Sergy Zvonarev, DECR secretary for far abroad countries; and Deacon Andrei Titushkin, a staff member of the DECR Secretariat for Far Abroad Countries.

Metropolitan Hilarion warmly greeted the high-ranking German statesman.

Dr. Müller thanked the archpastor for the meeting and shared his impressions of his visit to Russia and acquaintance with the Russian Orthodoxy.

At the request of the Federal Minister the DECR chairman told about the present-day mission and ministry of the Russian Orthodox Church, the construction of new churches and monasteries, the social ministry of the Church and its assistance in the rehabilitation of alcohol- and drug-addicted persons, as well as about the aid that it renders to the elderly.

The participants in the meeting also discussed the current situation in the religious life of Ukraine, where the Ukrainian Orthodox Church is suffering discrimination.

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