



## The 12th Assembly of the Russian World



November 3, 2018 – The 12<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Russian World was opened in a solemn ceremony at the Academic Drama Theatre in Tver. It was organized by the Russian World Foundation and the International Association of Russian Language and Literature Teachers.

The Assembly is a large-scale event in the work of the Russian World Foundation. Traditionally, it is timed for the celebrations on the People's Unity Day.

Devoted to the theme 'Universality of the Russian Culture', the event is attended by delegates from 69 countries of the world and 33 cities in Russia – political and public leaders, diplomats, scholars, representatives of associations of compatriots, clergy, culture and art figures, university professors and Russian schools teachers, as well as Russian and foreign journalists.

The Russian Orthodox Church is represented by Metropolitan Savva of Tver and Kashin, first deputy chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate, and Archpriest Sergiy Zvonarev, secretary for the far abroad of the Moscow Patriarchate department for external church relations. Among the participants were also clergy from abroad invited by the organizers.

The forum was opened by the chairman of the Board of the Russian World Foundation and chairman of the State Duma Committee for Education, V. Nikonov.

Messages of greeting were brought from President Vladimir Putin, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev, Ms. V. Matvienko, chair of the Federal Assembly Council of the Federation; V. Volodin, chairman of the State Duma; S. Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Ms. E. Mitrofanova, head of the Federal Agency for the Commonwealth of Independent States Affairs, Compatriots Living Abroad, and International Humanitarian Cooperation (Rossotrudnichestvo).

During the opening ceremony, the head of the Metropolis of Tver read out a message of greeting from His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia.

In the course of discussions, the participants dealt with the topic of the multifaceted and global nature of the Russian culture as a global phenomenon. They also outlined ways for preserving and developing culture as a unique resource of international humanitarian cooperation in the world today.

The participants discussed a wide range of issues dealing with the ideals and values of the Russian world including the role of the Russian language in international communication, the development of Russian-speaking journalism in other countries, strengthening of the Russian theatre traditions abroad as a model for preserving the Russian language, cultural-historical heritage and historical memory of the heroism of our ancestors and the importance of inter-confessional dialogue for the culture of peace.

Assembly will complete its work on November 4.

*DECR Communication Service*

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