



## **Patriarch Kirill begins his visit to the Albanian Orthodox Church**

April 28, 2018 – His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia has arrived in the Albanian capital city of Tirana.

At Mother Teresa Airport the Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church was met by His Beatitude Anastasios, Archbishop of Tirana and All Albania, members of the Holy Synod of the Albanian Orthodox Church, Russia's ambassador to Albania V. Karpushin and other officials.

During his visit to the Albanian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Kirill is accompanied by Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate department for external church relations (DECR), Archbishop Sergiy of Solnechnogorsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate administrative secretariat, Archpriest Nikolay Balashov, DECR vice-chairman, Archpriest Igor Yakimchuk, DECR secretary for inter-Orthodox relations, Archpriest Andrey Bondarenko, acting head of the Patriarchal protocol service, and Rev. Alexander Volkov, head of the Patriarchal press service.

From the airport, the Primates of the Russian and Albanian Churches proceeded to the Cathedral of the Resurrection in Tirana.

*DECR Communication Service*