



The world of people long for unity and always seeks unity, Patriarch Kirill stated. The forms of organized human common life has changed many times in history, going through various stages beginning from the primitive mode of life in antiquity to the rainbow of national states and multinational empires. 'Today even these ways of organizing societies, to which we are accustomed, are being exhausted with crisis raging everywhere', His Holiness noted, 'The borders between people have come to lie where nobody expected them to lie nor could even suspect, while the former borders between peoples and states are becoming transparent. Actualizing themselves are centers of power headed by little known people elected by no one, while the might of some corporations already today exceeds the power and resources of some states'.

The unity that is revealed by the Church lies beyond transient barriers and divisions, Patriarch Kirill said. 'This unity is eternal and timeless, unperishable, always actual and never obsolete – the unity that God-Man Jesus Christ prayed for to His Heavenly Father. In the light of this, in the public service of an hierarch all that can become an obstacle for particular people on their way to faith in the One Church inevitably moves back to the background, namely, the personal interests of a bishop, his private opinions and preferences...The episcopal ministry is a visible means of realizing the church unity. It is only a united community headed by a bishop, not divided and isolated groups, that is a real Church'.

*The Bishops' Council information service*

---

Source: <https://mospat.ru/en/news/47973/>