



Representatives of Protestant organizations visit DECR

On October 30, 2017, Rev. Joseph Kassab, general secretary of the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon, and President of Eurovision Mission to Europe David Gordon Hathaway visited the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations (DECR). Hieromonk Stefan (Igumnov), DECR secretary for inter-Christian relations, met with the guests.

Taking part in the meetings also were Sergei Ryakhovsky, chairman of the board of the Associated Russian Union of Christians of Evangelical Faith (Pentecostals), other officials of the Union, and staff members of the DECR Ruslan Akhmatkhanov and Philip Champion.

Special attention was paid at the talks to the situation of Christians in the Middle East and to the work of the Interreligious working group for rendering humanitarian aid to the population of Syria at the Russia's Presidential Council for Cooperation with Religious Associations. The guests noted the importance of efforts made by the Russian Orthodox Church in cooperation with other religious communities of Russia for helping Christians in the Middle East.

Rev. Joseph Kassab and Mr. David Hathaway have come to Moscow at the invitation of Russian Protestants to attend events being held on the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.