



## DECR representative attends conference on theological education



On 19 October 2017, the 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Islamic Ideals and Values in Educational Context of the 21st Century took place in Ufa, Russia. The meeting was organized by the Russian Islamic University of the Central Muslim Spiritual Board of Russia and the Bashkir State Pedagogical University named after Miftakhetdin Akmulla.

Among those who addressed the participants in the conference with speeches of greetings were Chief Mufti of Russia Talgat Tadzhuddin, head of the Central Muslim Spiritual Board of Russia; Metropolitan Nikon of Ufa and Sterlitamak; Mr. Almaz Faizullin, deputy head of the Department for Cooperation with Religious Organizations of the Directorate of the President of the Russian Federation on Domestic Policy; Mr. Rail Asadullin, rector of the Bashkir State Pedagogical University; Mr. Artur Suleymanov, rector of the Russian Islamic University of the Central Muslim Spiritual Board of Russia; as well as other Islamic leaders and scholars from Turkey, Tunisia, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. Representing the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations was Mr. Sergei Melnik, a staff member of the DECR Secretariat for Interreligious Relations and of the Secretariat of the Interreligious Council of Russia.

Discussed at the meeting were the following topics: current state and prospects of the Islamic education in Russia and abroad, theology in today's education system and spiritual and moral values of the traditional Russian Islam in a multicultural context, and methods of preventing totalitarian sects and terrorist organizations from recruiting people.

In his address, Mr. Melnik dwelt on the role of theological education and science in preventing extremism and terrorism acting under religious slogans and on the activities of the Interreligious Council of Russia.

*DECR Communication Service*

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