His Holiness Patriarch Kirill meets with President of South Ossetia

On 25 July 2017, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia met with President of the Republic of South Ossetia Anatoly Bibilov.

Taking part in the meeting, which took place at the Patriarchal residence, Chisty side-street in Moscow, were Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of South Ossetia to the Russian Federation Znaur Gassiev; Bishop Leonid of Vladikavkaz and Alania; Mr. Vladimir Legoida, chairman of the Synodal Department for Church's Relations with Society and Mass Media; and Archpriest Nikolai Balashov, deputy chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations.

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill congratulated Anatoly Bibilov with his election and expressed hope that his work will further the consolidation of society. The Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church noted that religious life has spiritual as well as social and political dimensions. 'The position of people in society, the level of moral and ethical standards, law-abidingness and many other things depend on the state of people's spirit,' he said.

Discussed at the meeting were religious situation in South Ossetia, relations between the Russians and the Ossetians and other matters of mutual interest.

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