



DECR chairman meets with Ambassador of New Zealand to Russia

On 10 July 2017, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, met with H.E. Mr. Ian Hill, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of New Zealand to the Russian Federation. They were joined in the meeting which took place at the premises of the Department for External Church Relations by Ms. Irina Beloglazova, assistant to the Ambassador, and Hierodeacon Roman (Kiselev), a staff member of the DECR Secretariat for Far-Abroad Countries.

Metropolitan Hilarion warmly greeted the head of New Zealand's diplomatic representation in Moscow and emphasized the importance of promoting relations with the government of New Zealand, since there are many Russian Orthodox compatriots living in the country.

Mr. Hill noted that he as the Ambassador to Russia attaches primary importance to the spiritual dimension of the life of the Russian society, and, first and foremost, to the life of the Russian Orthodox Church.

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