



## Metropolitan Hilarion meets with chairman of Russian-Kyrgyz Business Council

On 26 February 2017, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations (DECR), met with Ivan Polyakov, chairman of the Russian-Kyrgyz Business Council (RKBC). Taking part in the meeting were also Alexei Kalashnik, RKBC vice-chairman, and Dmitry Petrovsky, a DECR staff member.

Mr. Polyakov presented a specially prepared copy of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill's book "Freedom and Responsibility: In Search of Harmony" in the Kyrgyz language. The Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church received the first copy during the celebration of his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The Russian-Kyrgyz Business Council translated and published the book with coordination of the DECR and with assistance of the Bishkek diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church. The presentation is due to take place in Bishkek during His Holiness Patriarch Kirill's visit to Kyrgyzstan.

The participants in the meeting discussed a wide range of problems pertaining to cooperation of the DECR with Russian Business Councils. Metropolitan Hilarion expressed his sincere thanks to Mr. Polyakov for supporting various initiatives of the Russian Orthodox Church.

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