



## **Meeting with a French National Assembly deputy at the Department for External Church Relations**

On February 22, 2017, Archpriest Sergiy Zvonarev, DECR secretary for the far abroad, met at the DECR with Mr. Jean-Francois Copé, a Republic Party deputy to the French National Assembly.

Archpriest Sergiy welcomed Mr. Copé on behalf of the DECR chairman, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk. He informed the guest about the history and present life and work of the Russian Orthodox Church, as well as her place and role in society and church-state relations.

They discussed the need for faith to be present in people's life and issues concerning the religious diversity and interreligious cooperation in Russian society. They dwelt especially on problems involved in the struggle with international terrorism and the need to protect Christians in the Middle East and North Africa as well as refugees in Europe.

*DECR Communication Service*