



His Holiness Patriarch Kirill's condolences over terrorist attacks in Istanbul

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia sent condolences to Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Turkey, over the terrorist attacks in Istanbul. On December 10, 2016, two huge blasts hit a football stadium in the centre of Istanbul, killing over 40 people and injuring more than 150. The text of the message is given below.

Your Excellency, dear Mr. President,

I was deeply grieved to learn about the terrorist attacks committed in Istanbul, as a result of which dozens of people had died and many more had been injured. Please accept my sincere condolences.

Terrorism has become a global threat that can only be opposed through the concerted efforts of state and religious leaders and of all people of good will. The criminals must be aware that they have no future, for evil is destined to be defeated, and they will not escape punishment.

On these days of sorrow I sympathize with the people of Turkey, with the relatives and friends of those who have died or been injured. Please convey to them my words of consolation and support.

Yours sincerely,

+KIRILL

PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUSSIA