



Meeting of the Churches in Europe working group of the St. Petersburg Dialogue Russian-German forum

On September 5, 2016, the Churches in Europe working group of the St. Petersburg Russian-German forum of civil societies met at the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations (DECR).

From the Russian Orthodox Church the meeting was attended by Archimandrite Philaret (Bulekov), a DECR vice-chairman and Russian co-chair of the working group, Archpriest Sergiy Zvonarev, DECR secretary of the far abroad, and S. A. Ochkanov, DECR secretariat for the far abroad.

The event was also attended by Dr. Johannes Eldemann, director of the Institute for Ecumenical Research and leader of the working group from the German side, as well as Dr. Martin Illert and Dirk Stelter, representatives of the Supreme Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Germany.

The meeting outlined some major areas for cooperation within the Churches in Europe working group for 2017. It was decided in particular to give special attention to the religious and moral education in Russian and German societies today and continuation of the project for Youth Theological Meetings – a students' exchange in which theological students from the two countries are given an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the theological education systems in Russia and German, to establish contacts and to exchange experience.

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