



## **DECR chairman meets with Karl Erjavec, Slovenia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs**

On 29 July 2016, Mr. Karl Erjavec, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, gave a reception at the Strmol Castle in honour of Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, who is visiting Slovenia with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia.

Among those who attended the reception were high ranking officials of the Russian Federation and of the Republic of Slovenia, as well as representatives of the Roman Catholic Church and the Serbian Orthodox Church and the DECR staff members accompanying Metropolitan Hilarion on his visit.

Mr. Erjavec warmly greeted the DECR chairman and discussed with him various issues of mutual interest, including the annual memorial ceremony due to take place at the Vršič Pass. This year marks the centenary of the foundation of the Russian Chapel of the Holy Prince Vladimir, Equal-to-the-Apostles, built to commemorate the Russian soldiers who had died there during World War I.

In the evening of the same day Metropolitan Hilarion and his suite arrived in the town of Kranjska Gora.

*DECR Communication Service*

*Photo by the Press Service of Slovenia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs*