



## **Metropolitan Hilarion visits Military University**

On 26 May 2016, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations (DECR) and Rector of the Ss Cyril and Methodius Institute of Post-Graduate Studies (CMI), visited the Military Institute of the Russian Ministry of Defence. Accompanying the archpastor were Mr. Miguel Palacio, a staff member of the DECR secretariat for far abroad countries and head of the CMI educational and methodological management, and Mr. Dmitry Petrovsky, a staff member of the DECR secretariat for inter-Orthodox relations.

Metropolitan Hilarion was met by the Chief of the Military University, Colonel General Valery Marchenkov; deputy chief of the Military University for academic affairs and research Yelena Knyazeva; and Archpriest Dimitry Solonin, assistant to the Chief of the Military University for relations with the believing servicemen.

The DECR chairman visited the University Church of St. Daniel of Moscow and made an office of blessing of the Tabyn icon of the Mother of God and the holy banner of St. Daniel, the heavenly patron of

the humanitarian department of the University, and after that addressed the leadership, faculty and student at the conference hall and answered many questions.

An agreement on cooperation between the CMI and the Military University was signed.

Metropolitan Hilarion presented an icon of St. Alexander Nevsky to the University and his books, including 'Orthodoxy' in two volumes.

Colonel General Marchenkov presented Metropolitan Hilarion with an album about then 95<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Military University.

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