



## **Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk: News on the external activities of the Russian Church is spread in six languages**

On 19 May 2016, in his report delivered at the grand meeting on the occasion of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk spoke, among other things, about the work of the DECR Communication Service.

The DECR Communication Service prepares official news about meetings of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia with representatives of the Local Orthodox Churches, non-Orthodox communities and inter-Christian organizations, as well as with leaders of non-Christian religious communities. The Communication Service also covers foreign trips of His Holiness and fraternal visits of the Primate of the Local Orthodox Churches, as well as visits of other religious leaders to the Russian Orthodox Church.

As the DECR chairman noted, the website of the Department for External Church Relations has given wide coverage on the preparation of the Pan-Orthodox Council, last year's celebrations of the millennium of the blessed demise of the Holy Prince Vladimir, the millennium of Russian monasticism on Mount Athos, which is being celebrated this year, as well as on many other church-wide events.

Sometimes, with the blessing of supreme church authority, the DECR Communication Service issues statements on burning issues of church and public life.

"The official website of the Department for External Church Relations works in six languages, that is, Russian, English, French, Italian, Greek, and Spanish," Metropolitan Hilarion said in his speech and noted that the materials published on the website are frequently reposted by such large foreign news portals as Greek *Romfea*, Vatican's *Osservatore Romano*, French *Orthodoxie*, American Orthodox Christian Network, and others.

*DECR Communication Service*