



DECR representative takes part in enlarged session of Interfaction parliamentary group in defense of Christian values



An enlarged session of the Interfaction parliamentary group in defense of Christian values took place in the State Duma on February 24, 2016. Taking part in the session on behalf of the Russian Orthodox Church were Archpriest Dimitry Roschin of the Synodal Department for Church-Society Relations and the Mass Media, and Rev. Dimitry Safonov, head of the inter-religious contacts section of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations.

Coordinators of the parliamentary group summarized its work done during the last year and noted the importance of the Christmas Parliamentary Meetings. Plans for the future were outlined, and new draft legislations and initiatives of the deputies were discussed linked to the defense of traditional spiritual and moral values as well as cooperation with traditional religious communities of Russia.

Rev. Dimitry Safonov spoke about activities of the Interreligious Council of Russia and noted the

necessity of its closer cooperation with the deputies.

Archpriest Dmitry Roschin highlighted issues of coordinated relations between the Church and society and called for common opposition to the negative moments in social and informational space.

Ms Natalia Yakunina, chairperson, the All-Russian Sanctity of Motherhood Program Board of Trustees, suggested to introduce a new commemorative date, Day of the Defense of Children and Happiness of Parents.

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