



## **DECR chairman meets with the newly-appointed ambassador of Poland to Russia**



On March 24, 2015, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations, met with the newly-appointed ambassador of Poland to Russia, Ms. Katarzyna Pełczyńska-Nałęcz. Present from the DECR side were Archpriest Sergiy Zvonarev, secretary for the far abroad, and Ms. O. Mazur of the secretariat for the far abroad. In attendance from the Polish Embassy was Counsellor R. Kowalczyk.

His Eminence welcomed the high guest to the Department for External Church Relations.

The participants pointed to the Common Message signed by His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia and the president of the Polish Bishops' Conference, Metropolitan Josef Michalik in August 2012 during Patriarch Kirill's visit to Poland as a document of great importance for closer relations between the peoples of Russia and Poland.

In the course of the talk, Metropolitan Hilarion gave much attention to the situation in eastern Ukraine and the state of the canonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church. He said that the Russian Church prays for conciliation in Ukraine and takes an active part in giving aid to refugees and those affected by the armed conflict in eastern Ukraine.

*DECR Communication Service*

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