



## **Metropolitan Hilarion chairs session of Commission on Theology of the Russian Orthodox Church's Inter-Council Presence**

On 23 March 2015, the Inter-Council Presence's Commission on Theology met for the first time in its new composition at the assembly hall of Ss Cyril and Methodius Theological Institute of Postgraduate Studies. The meeting was chaired by the head of the Commission, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, rector of Ss Cyril and Methodius Theological Institute of Postgraduate Studies, chairman of the Synodal Biblical and Theological Commission.

According to the resolution of the presidium of the Inter-Council Presence as of 28 January 2015, the Commission on Theology will consider the following six topics in 2015-2018:

1. Faith and Science;
2. Theology as Scholarship and Its Place in the System of Knowledge;
3. The Church's Prayerful Care for the Unbaptized;
4. Theological Understanding of Bioethics;

5. The Church's Teaching on Miracle;
6. The Attitude to the Modern Practice of Exorcism.

The Commission members agreed that the first four topics would be considered as the priority ones. Working groups were set up, which will focus on each of them.

The working group, dedicated to the topic "The Church's Prayerful Care for the Unbaptized", will also include representatives of the Inter-Council Presense's Commissions on the Liturgy and Church Art, on Canon Law, and on Relations with Non-Orthodox Confessions and Other Religions.

The next meeting of the Commission on Theology will take place on 15 June 2015.

*Press Service of Ss Cyril and Methodius Theological Institute of Postgraduate Studies*

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