



## **Primate of Orthodox Church of Antioch completes his visit to Russia**

February 22, 2015 – His Beatitude John X, Patriarch of Great Antioch and All the East, completed his visit to the Russian Orthodox Church.

At Vnukovo-3 airport in Moscow, the Primate of the Orthodox Church of Antioch was seen off by Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate department for external church relations, Metropolitan Niphon of Philippople, representative of the Patriarch of Antioch to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Bishop Tikhon of Podolsk, vicar of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Archpriest Nikolay Balashov, DECR vice-chairman, Archpriest Igor Yakimchuk, DECR secretary for inter-Orthodox relations, Deacon Fedor Shulga, DECR staff member, and Mr. V. Alekseyev, president of the International Public Foundation for the Unity of Orthodox Nations.

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His Beatitude Patriarch John was on a visit to the Russian Orthodox Church from February 18-22, 2015, at the invitation of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia.

On February 19, the heads of the two Churches had a fraternal talk at the Patriarchal and Synodal residence at St Daniel's Monastery.

On the next day, Patriarch John met with the head of the Russian foreign policy department, Ms. S. Lavrov.

On February 20, Patriarch Kirill presented Patriarch John with the prize of the International Public Foundation of the Unity of Orthodox Nations, at the Church Councils Hall of the Cathedral Church of Christ the Saviour.

His Beatitude John also visited the Moscow representation of the Orthodox Church of Antioch.

On February 22, the Sunday of Forgiveness, the final day of the visit, Patriarch John and Patriarch Kirill celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Church of Christ the Saviour in Moscow.

*DECR Communication Service*

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