

## Reception in honour of Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk takes place at the residence of Mexican Ambassador to Russia

On 29 April 2014, H.E. Rubén Beltrán, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Mexico to Russia, and his spouse gave a reception in honour of Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations. The dinner took place at the residence of the head of the Mexican diplomatic mission.

Present at the reception were diplomatic representatives of a number of countries in Russia: the Ambassador of Spain, H.E. José Ignacio Carbajal Gárate, with his spouse; the Ambassador of Portugal, H.E. Mário Godinho de Matos, with his spouse; the Ambassador of Brazil, H.E. Antonio Guerreiro, with his spouse; the Ambassador of Guatemala, H.E. Herbert Estuardo Meneses Coronado; the Ambassador of Cuba, H.E. Emilio Lozada García, with his spouse; the Ambassador of Nicaragua, H.E. Luis Alberto Molina Quadra; the Ambassador of Paraguay, H.E. Ramon Diaz Pereira, with his spouse; the Ambassador of Salvador, H.E. Claudia Ivette Canjura de Centeno; the Ambassador of Uruguay, H.E. Aníbal Cabral Segalerba, with his spouse; the Ambassador of Ecuador, H.E. Patricio Chavez Zavala, with his spouse; as well as the former Russian Ambassador to Mexico, Mr. Valery Morozov; the executive director of the St Gregory the Theologian Charity Foundation, Mr. Leonid Sevastianov, with his spouse; a staff member of the Department for External Church Relations, Mr. Migel Palcio; and representatives of academic circles and businessmen.

Mr. Rubén Beltrán greeted the guests and expressed his appreciation to Metropolitan Hilarion for attending the reception. The DECR chairman thanked the Mexican Ambassador for the hospitality and noted that the Christian tradition and deep faith drew the peoples of Russia and Ibero-America closer together. Metropolitan Hilarion emphasized that the event took place on the radiant Paschal days and wished all those present God's help in their work.

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