



## **DECR chairman meets with Ordinary of Eastern Europe Armenian Catholics**



December 18, 2013, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Department for External Church Relations, received the Ordinary of Eastern Europe Armenian Catholics, Archbishop Raphael Minassian, at the DECR.

Metropolitan Hilarion warmly welcomed the guest and told him about the state of Russian-Armenian relations. In his response, Archbishop Minassian thanked the DECR chairman for the warm welcome and expressed gratitude to the Russian Church for her work to strengthen the faith and preserve Christian traditions in society. Then he spoke about the present problems facing the Armenian diaspora.

They also raised the problem of the persecution against the Christian population in the Middle East. They recognized the importance of common efforts to oppose the discrimination against Christians.

After the talk, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, the parties exchanged tokens of the meeting.

Present at the meeting were Archpriest Dimitry Sizonenko, DECR secretary for inter-Christian relations, and the Rev. Petros Petrossian, vicar of Armenian Catholics in Moscow.

*DECR Communication Service*

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