



## **DECR chairman meets with the new Italian ambassador to Russia**

On 8 November 2013, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, the DECR chairman, met with the newly appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Italian Republic to the Russian Federation, Cesare Maria Ragaglini. Metropolitan Hilarion congratulated him on his new appointment, expressed his hope for the continuation of constructive cooperation between the Embassy of Italy in Russia and the Moscow Patriarchate, and made a survey of the relations between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Roman Catholic Church.

Ambassador Ragaglini thanked Metropolitan Hilarion for the meeting and expressed his interest in the development of contacts with the Department for External Church Relations.