Metropolitan Hilarion visits Pro Oriente Foundation

On June 28, 2013, Metropolitan Hilarion, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations, who is on a visit to Vienna with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, visited the Pro Oriente Foundation to meet with representatives of Austrian secular and ecclesial mass media journalists and to hold talks with Pro Oriente leaders.

The Pro Oriente President, Dr. Johann Marte, warmly welcomed the hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church. In his greeting remarks, Metropolitan Hilarion highlighted the primary areas of cooperation between the Russian Church and the European Union giving special attention to the need to give joint support to the Christian population in the Middle East and North Africa where countries are experiencing internal disorders. Answering questions from journalists, His Eminence explained to them the state of affairs in the relations between the Moscow Patriarchate and the Holy See and in inter-confessional and interreligious relations in Russia.

The talk with Pro Oriente leaders focused on joint efforts for protecting Christians in countries of the so-called 'Arab Spring' and on development of academic cooperation and students exchange between the Ss Cyril and Methodius School of Post-Graduate and Doctoral Studies and higher education institutions on Austria.

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