



## Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk completes his visit to Bulgaria



On February 26, 2013, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations, in the course of his visit to Bulgaria, paid a visit to the head of the Bulgarian Royal House, Simeon of Saxe-Coburg, at his residence in Sofia.

Participating in the meeting were Russian Ambassador to Bulgaria Yu. Isakov, Archpriest Nikolay Balashov, DECR vice-chairman, Archimandrite Philip (Vasiltsev), dean of the ROC Sofia Representation, Archpriest Igor Yakimchuk, DECR secretary for inter-Orthodox relations, and L. Sevastyanov, executive director of the St. Gregory the Theologian Charity.

In a long talk, they exchanged opinions on a wide range of issues including the preservation of traditional moral values in Europe today and underscored as important the development of fraternal relations between the Russian and Bulgarian Orthodox Churches and the peoples in their pastoral care.

With this visit the Russian Orthodox delegation, who had come to Sofia for the enthronement of the new Patriarch of Bulgaria, concluded their stay in Bulgaria.

*DECR Communication Service*

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