



## Rector of University of Skopje visits DECR

[gallery]

January 17, 2013 – a delegation of the Sts Cyril and Methodius University of Skopje visited the Moscow Patriarchate Department for External Church Relations. The delegation included Prof. Velimir Stoikovski, rector of the University, and Archpriest Aco Girevski, dean of the University's Department of Theology. They were accompanied by Macedonian Ambassador to Moscow Mr. Ilia Isailovski.

The delegation came to Russia to sign an agreement with Moscow Theological Academy on cooperation and mutual recognition of diplomas and academic degrees.

In the DECR Minor Hall, the rector of the University of Skopje met with the vice-chairman of the Department, Archpriest Nikolay Balashov, and the pro-rector of the Sts Cyril and Methodius Post-Graduate School, Archpriest Vladimir Shmaliy.

They discussed the present state and prospects for the development of academic cooperation and students exchange between educational institutions in the Republic of Macedonia and the Russian Orthodox Church. They also exchanged opinions concerning possible steps for regulating the canonical status of Orthodoxy in Macedonia and ways of removing obstacles to the development of dialogue with the aim to restore the unity of fraternal Orthodox nations.

*DECR Communication Service*