



Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk meets with new Ambassador of Colombia to Russia

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On 27 January 2012, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, met with Mr. Rafael Francisco Amador Campos, newly appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Colombia to the Russian Federation.

Participating in the meeting were archpriest Sergy Zvonarev, DECR secretary for far abroad countries, and Miguel Palacio, a DECR staff member.

Metropolitan Hilarion congratulated Mr. Amador Campos on being nominated the Ambassador of Colombia to Russia and wished him success in his work. The DECR chairman told about the contacts between the Moscow Patriarchate and the Republic of Colombia and about the situation of the Russian Orthodox Church in the country. He noted that the parish of St Seraphim of Sarov in Bogotá does not have its own church and expressed his hope for the Colombian authorities to assist in solving this problem.

Mr. Amador Campos thanked Metropolitan Hilarion for the meeting and said he sees the importance of developing relationship with the Russian Orthodox Church. He noted that religion is one of the factors promoting national unity both in Colombia and in Russia.

The Ambassador also expressed his interest in developing joint cultural projects with the Russian Church.