Patriarch Kirill congratulates Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk on 10th anniversary of his archpastoral ministry

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russian sent the following congratulatory message to Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of his episcopal consecration:

To: The Most Reverend Hilarion

Metropolitan of Volokolamsk

Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations

Moscow Patriarchate

Your Eminence,

Please accept my cordial congratulations on the auspicious day in your ministry for the good of the Church of Christ – the 10th anniversary of your episcopal consecration.

In 2002, at the cathedral church of the first capital city of Moscow, through the mystery of the All-Holy Spirit and laying of the hands of the Apostles' successors, you were elevated to the bishop's dignity and now zealously carry out important and responsible work in the Lord's Vineyard.

The task that has been given you by the Supreme Authority at the Department for External Church Relations requires much time and energy, and you seek, to God's eternal glory, to show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity and sound speech (Tit. 2:7-8).

In maintaining cooperation with Local Orthodox Churches and conducting dialogue with the non-Orthodox, you have focused your attention and support on our brothers and sisters persecuted for their faith, seeking to help stop the violence through diplomatic methods.

Among your urgent concerns is also the training of qualified specialists. As head of the Church Post-Graduate and Doctoral School, you have diligently carried out this difficult work.

I lift up prayers to the All-Merciful Master of Heaven and Earth so that He may give you spiritual and physical strength to continue serving in peace and joy for the benefit of His Holy Church.

With love in the Lord,

+ Kirill,

Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia

Source: https://mospat.ru/en/news/54654/