UN Human Rights Council passes a resolution on traditional values

On 24 March 2011, at its sixteenth session the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council (HRS) passed the resolution A/HRS/16/L.6 entitled “Promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms through a better understanding of traditional values of humankind.”

The approval of the resolution continued the Council’s work on traditional values begun on 18 March 2008 by an address of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, who was the head of the Department for External Church Relations in the rank of metropolitan, at the UN Human Rights Council’s seminar on “International dialogue on human rights.”

The resolution, introduced by the Russian Federation, was supported by the majority of the Council’s member states. Several states from various regions of the world acted as co-authors.

By the resolution that fixes the notion of traditional values the Council confirmed that dignity, freedom and responsibility are traditional values shared by humankind as a whole and fixed in the universal treaties on human rights. The Council noted an important role of the family, community, society and educational institutions in maintaining and passing traditional values and called upon all the states to strengthen this role through adopting adequate positive measures.

It is expected that the UN Human Rights Council will continue its work on the problem of traditional values.

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