



Patriarch Kirill greeting Ukraine's President Yanukovich on Independence Day

The Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church has sent the following message of greetings to Ukraine's President Yanukovich on the occasion of the Independence Day:

Your Excellency, Dear Victor Fedorovich:

I cordially greet you and all the Ukrainian citizens on the occasion of the Independence Day. This Day has initiated a new historical period in the life of the country.

Your recent election to the presidential post has helped to restore peace and accord in society, to settle its problems and to bring the country back to the path of constructive cooperation with countries historically close to Ukraine. We see in the preservation of past traditions and the spiritual unity of the fraternal nations a way to their better future, well-being and to the prosperity of their sons and daughters.

On this auspicious day, I would like to assure you of my gratitude for the sincerely good attitude to the Orthodox Church in Ukraine.

I wish you good health and successes in you manifold efforts, and to all the people of the Republic I wish that the Lord may grant them peace and tranquillity and abundance of earthly fruits and heavenly gifts.

Respectfully,

+ Kirill

Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia