## Moscow Patriarchate representative meets with Council of Europe Secretary General in Strasbourg

The Rev. Hegumen Philaret (Bulekov), Moscow Patriarchate representative to the Council of Europe, met on 15 December 2009 with the newly-elected Secretary General of this major European international organization, Mr. Thorbjørn Jagland.

Hegumen Philaret conveyed to the Secretary General a letter from His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia setting forth the basic principles and aims of the dialogue between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Council of Europe.

In anticipation of Mr. Jagland's visit to Russia, they discussed the forthcoming meeting of the high-ranking delegation of the Council of Europe with His Holiness the Patriarch. They also considered the results and prospects of common work in the area of inter-cultural dialogue in Europe and its religious dimension.

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