



## **“The Ukrainian Orthodox Church is Ukraine’s national Church uniting a majority of Orthodox believers of the country”**



“I very much hope that the public both inside and outside of Ukraine will finally pay attention to the lawlessness which was going on under President Poroshenko and which, unfortunately, has not been exhausted because from time to time we continue hearing about captures of churches, and the propaganda, which leads to these captures, continues”, the chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate’s department for external church relations, Metropolitan Hilarion pointed out in the Church and World broadcast.

As the archpastor reminded the viewers, the essence of the propaganda aimed against the canonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church boils down to the fact that it is alleged to be the Kremlin’s fifth column”, that it is “a Russian Church in Ukraine” whereas actually it is Ukraine’s national Church uniting a majority of Orthodox believers, and members of this Church, by and large, were born and raised in Ukraine and they have Ukrainian passports.

“As long as this lawless propaganda continues the captures of church, regrettably, will continue”, the hierarch believes.

He expressed the hope that “the propaganda will be stopped and that the Orthodox faithful in Ukraine will be let live in peace”.

*DECR Communication Service*

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