DECR chairman meets with Ambassador of Montenegro to Russian Federation



On 25 th March 2021, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations (DECR), met with H.E. Milorad Šćepanović, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Montenegro to the Russian Federation. Accompanying the guest was Ms. Borjanka Simićević, a counsellor of the Embassy of Montenegro in Moscow. Participating in the meeting was also Archpriest Sergy Zvonarev, DECR secretary for far abroad countries.

Metropolitan Hilarion welcomed the high-ranking diplomat to the Department for the External Church Relations, and Mr. Ambassador expressed his pleasure at meeting with the hierarch. The participants noted historical ties between people of Russia and Montenegro based on the common faith and closely related culture and the necessity of further strengthening of relations between the two countries in various areas.

The DECR chairman told the Montenegrin diplomat about the experience of inter-religions relations in Russia, dialogue between the Russian Orthodox Church and the state, the situation of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and relationship with the Serbian Orthodox Church, also in the territory of Montenegro. The situation with the coronavirus pandemic as well as other topics of mutual interest were discussed. In conclusion of the meeting the participants agreed to develop constructive cooperation.

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