



## Russia's minister of foreign affairs gives high assessment to the DECR's contribution to the broadening of inter-civilization dialogue



The year 2021 marks the 7 th anniversary since the establishment of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate.

“Through all these years, the Department has made an invaluable contribution to the consolidation of the unity of Orthodox nations, the broadening of interreligious and inter-civilisation dialogue, the promotion of intransient religious and moral values, the advocacy of the interests of our compatriots residing abroad”, is stated in particular in the message made on the occasion of this significant day by Russian Federation Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergey Lavrov, “This selfless work aimed to support the atmosphere of peace, trust and mutual understanding in international affairs has gained respect inside and outside our country”.

As the head of the Russian diplomatic department pointed out, “the fruitful cooperation with the Russian Orthodox Church is a good tradition of the Russian diplomatic service”.

“We highly appreciate the support given by the staff of the Department for External Church Relations in settling pressing problems of today, including the protection of Christians in the Middle East and other regions of the globe. We are ready to build up our co-work including in the respective Working Group”, Mr. Lavrov underlined.

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