



## **Orthodox Romanian filmmaker: "Greek-speaking Churches are under pressure from state leaders."**



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Archpriest Ciprian Mega, a cleric of the Romanian Orthodox Church, who arrived in Moscow to participate in the 44th Moscow International Film Festival (August 26 - September 2, 2022), gave an interview to the "Spas" TV channel. He briefly spoke about his filmmaking process and shared his views on current issues of our time.

Reflecting on filmmaking as an integral part of his ministry to the Church, Fr Ciprian said that he believes in the ability of filmmaking to change the world. "I'm not trying to convince an audience," the filmmaker said. - I just want to talk to them about freedom. As a priest serving God and the Church, and as a filmmaker, I feel I have to talk about freedom".

The struggle for religious freedom in communist Romania is also the subject of Archpriest Cyprian's film "Crying in the Desert," which was nominated for the 44th Moscow International Film Festival and premiered there on August 28, 2022.

In his interview, Archpriest Ciprian Mega expressed the opinion that good relations between the Local Orthodox Churches are damaged by the fact that "unfortunately some of them, especially the Greek-speaking ones, are under pressure from those who rule the states." This situation is assessed by the

clergyman as "a trouble in inter-Orthodox relations."

Archpriest Ciprian Mega lamented the observed attempts to culturally isolate Russia. "I love Russian culture, cinema, and as for me, today it is a great injustice that they put an iron curtain against it," said the Orthodox film director. - But my goal was to come here and prove that the people behind that curtain are different, not at all the way they are portrayed in the world.

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