THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Department for External Church Relations

Metropolitan Gabriel of Lovech: Struggle for the destruction of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church is outside limit



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Metropolitan Gabriel of Lovech, a hierarch of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church, has expressed support for the Ukrainian Orthodox faithful who are subjected to severe persecutions and prevented from the opportunity to pray at their shrines, in their churches.

In his response to Metropolitan Luke of Zaporozhye and Melitopol, he noted, 'I have received your brotherly letter that moved us to the depth of our souls. We, dear Metropolitan, were aware of the huge problems in the life of the fraternal canonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church but we did not think at all that the struggle for the destruction of your holy Church has gone outside limits'.

Metropolitan Luke's letter was published by the website of the Diocese of Lovech, a number of much-

read public electronic mass media, as well as one of the Bulgarian central newspapers. These publications have evoked a great number of readers' comments who were very surprised that such a development is possible in Ukraine and expressed immense compassion and support for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

'The Ukrainian Orthodox Church is the spiritual salt for your Motherland as the Holy Spirit dwells in it in full measure. Your Church prays to God day and night for peace, well-being and God's blessing upon your Motherland - Ukraine, and for peace for the whole world. Therefore, any war against the UOC is a war against the Chief Pastor and Lord the Saviour Jesus Christ', Metropolitan Gabriel of Lovech stressed addressing Metropolitan Luke of Zaporozhye and Melitopol.

Source: https://mospat.ru/en/news/90144/