



## Russian Orthodox Church condemns actions of law enforcers in Kiev-Pechersk Lavra



The Chairman of the Synodal Department for Church's Relations with Society and Mass Media, V.R. Legoyda, has commented on the events taking place in the Kiev-Pechersk Lavra. His words are quoted by the Patriarchy.ru website.

Earlier, it became known that representatives of the Kiev-Pechersk Lavra national reserve with the support of the police broke the doors to the building №70 of the monastery, which is the residence of His Beatitude Metropolitan Onuphry of Kiev and All Ukraine, and broke in. In addition, the locks in the 69<sup>th</sup> and 71<sup>st</sup> buildings of the Lavra were changed, after which they were sealed. Representatives of law enforcement agencies also began to use force against believers who stood up in defence of the monastery.

"Since today's morning, the Kiev regime, represented by the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine, with the forceful support of the police has begun the seizure of a number of buildings of the Kiev-Pechersk Lavra," - said the head of the Department for Church's Relations with Society and Mass Media.

"Under a far-fetched pretext, armed men broke into the territory of the monastery, began breaking down

doors and using violence against believers who were peacefully opposing the arbitrary behaviour," V.R. Legoyda added.

According to him, while this blatant lawlessness continues in Lavra, all human rights activists remain silent as if nothing is happening.

"However, there's nothing surprising about this. Apparently, the Ukrainian authorities have carte blanche for any violence against their own citizens," the Church representative concluded.

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