The DECR Chairman met with His Holiness Patriarch Daniel of Bulgaria



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On November 22, at the building of the Holy Synod of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church in Sofia, a meeting took place between His Holiness Patriarch Daniel of Bulgaria and the Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk. The meeting was also attended by Metropolitan Gregory of Veliko Tarnovo, Metropolitan Gabriel of Lovech, Secretary-General of the Holy Synod of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church Bishop Gerasim of Melnik, Patriarchal Advisor Archpriest Nikolai Balashov, Deputy Chairman of the DECR Archpriest Igor Yakimchuk, Representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus' to the Patriarch of Bulgaria and Rector of the Patriarchal Metochion in Sofia Archpriest Vladimir Tyshchuk, and Assistant to the Chairman of the DECR Priest Alexander Ershov.

The Primate of the Bulgarian Church warmly welcomed the guests, expressing his joy at the arrival of

representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church in Bulgaria during the celebrations of the 100th anniversary of the consecration of the Alexander Nevsky Patriarchal Cathedral in Sofia.

In response, Metropolitan Anthony sincerely thanked His Holiness for the invitation and the opportunity to participate in the celebration, noting that this visit is yet another vivid testimony to the unity between the Bulgarian and Russian Churches. He also conveyed greetings from His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus'.

During the meeting, the participants discussed various issues concerning the development of relations between the two fraternal Orthodox Churches. They also exchanged views on the state of global Orthodoxy, in particular the persecution faced by the canonical Church in Ukraine.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Metropolitan Anthony presented the Primate of the Bulgarian Church with a set of two panagias (engolpions), a pectoral cross, and an altar cross for the Patriarchal Alexander Nevsky Cathedral.

His Holiness Patriarch Daniel gifted His Eminence a set of commemorative jubilee medals.

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