



DECR chairman meets with Minister of Endowment and Religious Affairs of Kurdistan Region of Iraq



DECR Communication Service, 29/09/2025

On 29th September 2025, during his visit to Erbil, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, met with Mr Pshtiwan Sadq Abdullah, Minister of Endowment and Religious Affairs of the Kurdistan Regional Government.

They discussed topical issues of inter-Christian and interfaith relations, pertaining, in particular, to the Russian Orthodox Church's contacts with religious communities in Iraq.

Taking part in the meeting were also Mr Maxim Rubin, Consul General of the Russian Federation in Erbil; Mr Zainaddin Mawlood Khidhir, Deputy Minister of Endowment and Religious Affairs; and other representatives of the Ministry of Endowment and Religious Affairs; as well as Mr Danar Mustafa, Acting Representative of the Kurdistan Region in the Russian Federation, President of the Foundation for the

Support and Development of Russian-Kurdish Cultural and Public Relations; Chorbishop Samano Odisho, Representative of the Assyrian Church of the East in Russia; Hieromonk Stefan (Igumnov), DECR secretary for inter-Christian relations; and Priest Nikolai Vasin, secretary to the DECR chairman.

Source: <https://mospat.ru/en/news/93613/>