



## Russian diplomat awarded Patriarchal Letter of Commendation



### **DECR Communication Service, 03/04/2026**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026, at the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, Archpriest Igor Vyzhanov, DECR Deputy Chairman, presented the Patriarchal Letter of Commendation to Mr Alexander Bessarabov, Head of the Entry Bureau of the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. Mr Bessarabov was awarded the Patriarchal Letter in consideration of his assistance for the Russian Orthodox Church and on the occasion of his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Taking part in the ceremony was also Hegumen Feofan (Lukyanov), Head of the Protocol Office of the Department for External Church Relations.

During the meeting that followed the award ceremony, various topics of mutual interest were

discussed.

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Source: <https://mospat.ru/en/news/94157/>