Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk meets with Deputy Chairman of the Group of Strategic Vision “Russia – Islamic World”



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On 21st April 2026, at the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, DECR Chairman, met with Mr Marat Gatin, Assistant to the Rais of the Republic of Tatarstan, Deputy Chairman of the Group of Strategic Vision “Russia – Islamic World.”

They were joined in the meeting by Priest Iliya Kashitsyn, DECR Secretary for Interfaith Relations, and Ms Elmira Sadykova, Director of the Centre for Interreligious Dialogue of the Bolgar Islamic Academy.

The participants in the meeting discussed a wide range of issues regarding interfaith relations in and beyond Russia. Mr Gatin told Metropolitan Anthony about the activities of the Group of Strategic Vision

and the upcoming International KazanForum. On the sidelines of the forum, the Group will hold its next meeting.

They also discussed an international academic round table meeting scheduled for 14th May 2026, which will take place as an expert session during the KazanForum at the Kazan Orthodox Theological Seminary.

The participants in the meeting, held in a friendly atmosphere, agreed to develop further cooperation for the sake of peace and accord among religions and peoples, upholding traditional moral values and broadening Russian experience of interfaith cooperation.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Metropolitan Anthony and Mr Marat Gatin exchanged gifts.

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