Press Conference with religious leaders and scholars held ahead of the meeting of the Interreligious Council of Russia



DECR Communication service, 29.10.2026.

On 28 October 2026, a press conference dedicated to preparations for the enlarged meeting of the Interreligious Council of Russia, scheduled for 3 November, was held at the Rossiya Segodnya International Multimedia Press Centre in Moscow.

The event was organised at the initiative of the news agency, with the organisational support of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate. Those taking part included: Priest Ilya Kashitsyn, Executive Secretary of the Interreligious Council of Russia and DECR Secretary for Interreligious Relations; Ildar Nurimanov, Deputy Chairman and Chief of Staff of the Spiritual Administration of Muslims of the Russian Federation; Rabbi Aaron Gurevich, Head of the Department for Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies of the Federation of Jewish Communities of Russia; Lama

Dondop, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Buddhist Traditional Sangha of Russia in Moscow; L.L. Yezhov, Chairman of the Board of the autonomous non-profit organisation Light to the World; O.V. Blyudov, Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Interreligious Council of Russia; and S.V. Melnik, Head of the Department of Philosophy and Leading Research Fellow at the Institute of Scientific Information for Social Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

The participants spoke about various areas of activity undertaken by the religious communities they represent to strengthen peace and harmony in society, promote dialogue and develop social outreach.

The central topic of discussion was the work of the Interreligious Council of Russia and preparations for its enlarged meeting, which will take place on 3 November 2026 at the Institute of Scientific Information for Social Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The meeting will be accompanied by an exhibition of religious art objects belonging to the country's traditional religious communities: Orthodox Christianity, Islam, Judaism and Buddhism.

During the meeting, members of the Council plan to discuss cooperation with government institutions and the academic community, support for participants in the special military operation, international cooperation, and joint initiatives in the fields of culture and the arts.

Photos by Mikhail Bogachev, RIA Novosti

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