



## Metropolitan Hilarion meets with a large group of students from Italy

On October 11, 2016, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, head of the Department for External Church Relations (DECR) and rector of the Ss Cyril and Methodius Institute of Post-Graduate Studies (CMI), met with a group of professions and 250 students from schools in Rome, Milan, Naples, Turin and Palermo, run by the Society of Jesus.

The meeting was attended by Italian Consul General Gabriele Papadia de Bottini, and Apostolic Nuncio in Russia Archbishop Celestino Migliore, as well as Rev. Alexy Dikarev, DECR, and the CMI public relations director, M. Palacio.

Metropolitan Hilarion welcomed the guests, saying in particular, 'You are in the largest country and one of the most beautiful cities in the world. I am very delighted to offer you an opportunity to see the life of Moscow and the life of our Church'.

In his address to the Italian student, Metropolitan Hilarion also introduced them to the history of the Russian Orthodox Church.

*DECR Communication Service*