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## **Metropolitan of Volokolamsk: Personal contacts between Russian, Ukrainian leaders beneficial**



The Metropolitan of Volokolamsk, His Eminence Hilarion, this week announced that the Russian Orthodox Church believes that personal contacts between the presidents of Russia and the Ukraine will bring both sides closer, especially in terms of major differences in national issues that have arisen over the past decade.

Hilarion, who heads the Russian Church's external affairs department, added that the issue of what he called the "...Ukrainian schism" will not be discussed by Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Ukrainian counterpart, Volodymyr Zelensky.