

## **The Russian Orthodox Church criticizes the project of 'futuristic' church in Moscow**



Head of the Russian Orthodox Church expert committee on church art, architecture and restoration Archpriest Leonid Kalinin says that the Patriarchate has not approved of the project of the so-called 'futuristic' Church of Ignatius the God-Bearer in Moscow.

"The project has never been discussed. And it is not the question of its quality, but of the behind-the-scenes manner in which the decision was taken. It is an event. It is a landmark event. Cheered up by our modernists, they start mocking at the church," the priest was quoted as saying by NG-Religii paper on Wednesday.

The project of the church that won at Faith and Form international contest is characterized with simple forms, lack of ordinary for churches elements of decor and rich interior, its altar wall will be made of glass. The authors of the project say they were inspired by the Transfiguration Church of the 14th century in Veliky Novgorod.

In his interview to Echo Moskvyy radio, Father Leonid said that the final decision on the project had not been taken. "The project has not passed the Moscow Commission on Architecture and Church Art. Certainly, experts of the Russian

Orthodox Church will have a number of questions, designers and sponsors will have to answer them,” the priest said.

However, the head of the expert committee noted that “the Church is open for everything new.”

“Certainly, there are certain parameters, and a certain project can meet them or not. But the Church is open to new ideas and approaches. However, the self-conscience that has been formed for centuries, should not be destroyed by momental, not time-proved forms,” the priest said.

/ Source: [Interfax](#)