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## **His Holiness Patriarch Kirill chairs extraordinary session of the Holy Synod**



On October 17, 2019, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia chaired the extraordinary session of the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church held at the Patriarchal and Synodal residence in Danilov Monastery in Moscow.

The Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church opened the session and addressed the members of the Holy Synod, saying:

‘Your Beatitude! Your Eminences and Graces! Dear members of the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church!

“Today we are opening the extraordinary session of the Synod to consider the issues that have appeared on the Orthodox agenda due to the developments concerning Ukraine and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church because of the known to you actions of the Patriarchate of Constantinople and potential actions of the Patriarchate of Constantinople and other Churches involving recognition of the schismatic group in Ukraine.

“You understand that this matter relates to the very essence of the inter-Church relations, and its negative development can disrupt pan-Orthodox unity. Therefore, with full responsibility for the preservation of Orthodox unity and with full responsibility before our believers, our clerics and bishops, we must arrive at a judgment on this matter. May the Lord help us!”

His Beatitude Metropolitan Onufry of Kiev and All Ukraine; Metropolitan Juvenaly of Krutitsy and Kolomna; Metropolitan Vladimir of Kishinev and All Moldova; Metropolitan Alexander of Astana and Kazakhstan, head of the metropolitan area in the Republic of Kazakhstan; Metropolitan Vikenty of Tashkent and Uzbekistan, head of the metropolitan area in Central Asia; Metropolitan Varsonofy of St. Petersburg and Ladoga; Metropolitan Pavel of Minsk and Zaslavl, Patriarchal Exarch of All Belarus; Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate’s Department for External Church Relations, and Metropolitan Savva of Tver and Kashin, chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate, are permanent members of the Holy Synod.

Invited to the winter session (September-February) are Metropolitan Kornily of Arkhangelsk and Kholmogory, Metropolitan Grigory of Chelyabinsk and Miass, Metropolitan Dimitry of Chita and Petrovsk-Zabaykalsky, Bishop Ignaty of Vyborg and Priozersk, and Bishop Matthew of Sourozh.



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- Source: [mospat.ru](https://mospat.ru)