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DECR Deputy Chairman takes part in panel session dedicated to compatriots



On 2 November 2026, a panel session entitled “Unity of Generations and Cultures: How Consolidation Helps Compatriots Preserve Their Values and Traditions Abroad” was held at the World Trade Centre in Moscow as part of the International Week “Peoples of Russia”.

The event brought together representatives of government bodies and the wider public. With the blessing of Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, Archpriest Igor Vyzhanov, Deputy Chairman of the DECR, took part in the session. Among those present was Archpriest Sergiy Zvonaryov, DECR Secretary for the Affairs of the Far Abroad.

The discussion was moderated by M.V. Drozdov, Chairman of the World Coordinating Council of Russian Compatriots. The session featured addresses by G.A. Ovechko, Director of the Department for Work with Compatriots Abroad of the

Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Executive Secretary of the Government Commission for Compatriots Abroad; E.V. Afanasyeva, Deputy Chairwoman of the Federation Council Committee on International Affairs; V.G. Shaikhraziev, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Tatarstan; V.A. Moskvin, Director of the Alexander Solzhenitsyn House of Russia Abroad; and K.E. Trifonova, Chairwoman of the Australian charitable organisation “From Heart to Heart”.

The DECR representative conveyed to those gathered the greetings of Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk and spoke about the efforts undertaken by the Russian Orthodox Church to provide pastoral care for compatriots and unite them around spiritual ideals and values.

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