

## **PATRIARCH KIRILL RECEIVES HIGHEST SERBIAN STATE AWARD**



Serbian President Aleksandar Vučić awarded a number of outstanding political and cultural figures of the country and foreign citizens in honor of the Day of Serbian Statehood yesterday.

Among those awarded was His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, who received the Order of the Republic of Serbia on a chain “for services for the development and strengthening of friendly relations and cooperation between Russian and Serbia,” reports Patriarchia.ru.

The Order is the highest Serbian state award.

Alexander Rukavishnikov, the Russian sculptor who made the newly-installed monument to St. Symeon the Myrrh-Gusher (Stefan Nemanja) in Belgrade, was also awarded.

President Vučić thanked all the awardees “for friendship, the development of relations, and the promotion of Serbian culture in the world.”

In May 2018, His Holiness Patriarch Irinej of Serbia was honored at the International Public Foundation for the Unity of Orthodox Peoples awards ceremony for his “outstanding work in strengthening the unity of Orthodox peoples and in affirming and promoting Christian values in the life of society.”

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