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Metropolitan of Volokolamsk expresses Russian Church's concerns over rise of Taliban



The Moscow Patriarchate's Metropolitan of Volokolamsk, His Eminence Hilarion, this week expressed the Church's heightened concern over the situation in war-ravaged Afghanistan, in the wake of the assumption of power by the extremist Taliban. The specific Islamist movement is banned in Russia.

The head of the Russian Patriarchate's Synodal Department for External Church Relations added that "...We are concerned about the fate of the few Christians who still remain in Afghanistan, and I think that the right decision for them would be to leave the country."

Metropolitan Hilarion also expressed concern about how the situation will develop in neighboring states, and over the dark prospect of terrorism being exported from Afghanistan to other countries, including Russia.