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## **Patriarch of Moscow Kirill receives Kazakhstan senate speaker**



The Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, His Holiness Kirill, this week received the senate speaker of Kazakhstan, Maulen Ashimbayev.

The latter presented the Patriarch of Moscow with an invitation by his country's president to participate in a forthcoming congress of the international leaders and heads of traditional religions, scheduled for next September.

According to Ashimbayev, roughly one-fifth of Kazakhstan's population, or 3.5 million people, are Orthodox Christians.