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Newly appointed Metropolitan of Volokolamsk Anthony expresses concern over extremist violence in Holy Land



The Russian Orthodox Church's newly appointed Metropolitan of Volokolamsk, His Eminence Anthony, who also assumes the post of chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, this week referred to continuing instances of extremism against Christian shrines and places of worship in the Holy Land.
His Eminence spoke to the Russian TASS news agency.

The Metropolitan's statement comes more than a week after a group of roughly 50 Israeli religious extremists broke through a gate and railing and forced their way into the chapel on the Hill of St. Zion in Jerusalem.

According to a statement issued by the Jerusalem Patriarchate at the time, the extremists desecrated the interior of the church and even threatened a guard.

His Eminence said he hopes Israeli state authorities will immediately deal with such lawlessness and find ways to contain acts of extremism, in order to guarantee the harmonious and peaceful coexistence of the three global religions in their Holy City.