

## **Condemnation, prayers for victims of Sri Lanka terror attacks**



Elsewhere in the world, the death toll in Sri Lanka from Sunday's dastardly terrorist attacks against churches and hotels – coinciding with Catholic Easter – has now reached 290, with more than 500 people injured.

Orthodox hierarchs continued to issue stern condemnations, as well as expressing their condolences and prayers to the victims, the families of victims and the people of Sri Lanka.

On his part, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, His All Holiness Bartholomew I, expressed his shock with the latest multiple attack on Christians, a message echoed in statements by the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, His Holiness Kirill, and the Patriarch of All Romania, His Beatitude Daniel.

The latter expressed his concern over the fact that more and more Christians around the world are falling victims to terrorist attacks.

No less than 11 countries around the world are now characterized as “extremist” in terms of persecution against Christians, when just five years ago, only one country was on the list, the communist dictatorship of North Korea.