



Metropolitan Hilarion takes part in the festive evening held for the 15th anniversary of the House of Russian Abroad

[gallery]

On 7 December 2010, a festive evening to mark the 15th anniversary of the House of Russian Abroad named after Alexander Solzhenitsyn took place at this cultural centre.

The guests saw a film showing the activities of the House of Russian Abroad and were greeted by its director, V. Moskvina. He told them that at present there are over 18.000 museum items, over 80.000 archive documents and the same number of books in the archives of the cultural centre donated by over 2.200 people from different countries of the world.

Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin greeted the participants, saying that the Moscow government will continue to render assistance to the House of Russian Abroad.

Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk congratulated the House of Russian Abroad on the remarkable date on behalf of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia and on his own behalf, saying, inter alia, that a lot has been done for the spiritual and cultural heritage of the Russian emigration to have a new life in Russian society. The DECR chairman wished all those present success in their work aimed at the reconstruction of spiritual unity of our common home – the historic Russia. He donated to the library his books, "Patriarch Kirill. His Life and World Outlook" and "Orthodoxy" in two volumes.

Director Moskvina read out greetings from Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. The First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, Metropolitan Hilarion of Eastern America and New York, also sent his greetings.

In the morning of December 7, the descendants of Russian emigrants visited necropolis at the Donskoy Monastery, where they prayed at the requiem service for all those who died in exile.