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**THE RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY SUMMONED THE BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW AND THREATENED WITH CONSEQUENCES**

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26.09.2023

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Novinite (25 September 2023)

The Russian Foreign Ministry summoned the Bulgarian ambassador Atanas Krastin today to express to him "a firm protest in connection with the forced removal from Bulgaria under a fabricated pretext, in a blasphemous and insulting manner" of Nikolay Zmeev (Archimandrite Vasian), a representative of the Russian Orthodox Church in Sofia.

His expulsion together with two other officials from the Russian Orthodox Church, who are citizens of Belarus, has been called "another provocative expulsion of the Bulgarian authorities, fully in line with the current Euro-Atlantic attitudes of fighting Russian influence".

This is followed by a warning that this "will inevitably turn into unpleasant consequences - especially for its initiators".

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