

Ukraine, Prayer for Peace: Peace March of Orthodox Church Reaches Kiev

By [South Front](#)

Global Research, August 01, 2016

[Deutsche Wirtschafts Nachrichten and South Front](#) 31 July 2016

Region: [Russia and FSU](#)

Theme: [Religion](#)

In-depth Report: [CRIMINALIZE WAR, UKRAINE REPORT](#)

The Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate has carried out with tens of thousands of participants a peace march from the Donbass up to Kiev. Just outside the city the procession was stopped. The government, which considers the march very suspicious, has so far responded with a sense of proportion. However, right-wing extremists might try to escalate the situation through provocations.

Tens of thousands of people had come to the monument for the baptism of the medieval Kievan Rus, according to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate. This Thursday the christianization more than 1000 years ago in the former Soviet Union is remembered. The competing Orthodox Kyivan Patriarchate invites their believers to prayer service as well.



Eyewitnesses reported of up to 20,000 supporters of the church, praying for peace and the preservation of Ukraine. Previously two peace marches with hundreds of pilgrims from the West and East of the country already came together in Kiev.

For the religious peace march the Ukrainian government prohibited people from arriving as a closed group in the capital, the German State broadcaster Deutsche Welle (DW) reported.

Ukrainian nationalists accusing the participants of the march of “spying activities” for Moscow. On June 27, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate had called for a Christian peace march for the Eastern Ukraine. However, up until now the government has sensibly responded in this case and allowed the march. Participants will be allowed to march in smaller groups to the final event.

The peace march began on July 3rd in the Donetsk region and is performed daily. The march is joined every day by thousands of priests, monks, nuns and families, reports Larissa Voloshin from the online newspaper Kyiv.ua. The photos from the march show that numerous young males participate as well.

While one march started in the eastern part of the country, the other one started in Ternopil Oblast. Ternopil is located in western Ukraine. Both processions were to meet in Kiev on 27 July.

What the protesters want to show that the East and the West of the country are forming the State and that the war in the eastern Ukraine should end.

Voloshin reported that the peace march also has to do with a power struggle in the Ukraine.

The Kiev government wants to get the Ukrainian Orthodox Church “out of the control” of the Moscow Patriarchate, but the Church is defending itself against this and wants to maintain its ties to Moscow.

Translated from German by South Front, minor edits by Global Research

The original source of this article is [Deutsche Wirtschafts Nachrichten and South Front](#)
Copyright © [South Front](#), [Deutsche Wirtschafts Nachrichten and South Front](#), 2016

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [South Front](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca