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## High-level contacts continue between new Greek gov't, Church hierarchy



High-level contacts are continuing this week between top members of the new Greek government and institutional representatives of the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Greece.

The contacts come after a particularly high-profile pair of meetings between new Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis, as well as education and religious affairs minister Niki Kerameos, with the Archbishop of Athens and All Greece, His Beatitude Ieronymos.

On Wednesday, representatives of the Athonite brotherhood, who represent monasteries on the semi-autonomous and self-governing monastic community of Mt. Athos, met in Athens with new Development Minister Adonis Georgiadis.

In referring to the commencement of a "...constant dialogue" with the rotating Holy Community, as the council of representatives from the 20 monasteries is called,

the minister said his government wants to find ways to assist the monastic community in continuing its “illustrious course”, as he said.

On Thursday, Archbishop Ieronymos received Attica regional governor-elect Giorgos Patoulis at his Archdiocese office. Ieronymos congratulated Patoulis over his election.

The Church of Greece enjoyed a particularly close and beneficial relationship with Patoulis’ predecessor, Rena Dourou, with the latter’s administration allocating significant funding for Church-run programs.

Dourou has also been praised by Church hierarchs for her willingness to cooperate with the Archbishop and other particularly active Church Metropolitans.













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