18/07/2024

Holy Synod secretary meets with new Albanian Ambassador to Romania

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His Grace Patriarchal Auxiliary Bishop Varlaam of Ploiești, the secretary of the Holy Synod, received Her Excellency Mrs Enkeleda Merkuri, the new Ambassador of the Republic of Albania to Bucharest, on a courtesy visit at the Patriarchal Palace on Wednesday, July 17.

His Grace Bishop Varlaam welcomed Her Excellency to the Romanian Patriarchate and highlighted the longstanding fraternal ties between the Romanian Orthodox Church and the Orthodox Church of Albania.

He also emphasized the significant contribution of His Beatitude Archbishop Anastasios of Tirana, Durrës, and All Albania, to the revival of Orthodoxy in Albania.

His Grace Bishop Varlaam mentioned the growing interest of Romanian Orthodox Christians in visiting and pilgrimaging to Albania’s historical and religious sites.

Her Excellency Mrs Enkeleda Merkuri thanked for the reception and noted the strong cultural and political relations between Romania and Albania, also referencing the shared historical experiences of the two countries, particularly in the 20th century.

During the discussion, Her Excellency expressed the willingness of the Albanian Embassy in Bucharest to organize various events and activities to further acquaint Romanian believers with Albanian Orthodoxy.

At the end of the meeting, His Grace Patriarchal Auxiliary Bishop Varlaam of Ploiești wished Her Excellency much success in her new diplomatic mission in Romania.

Department for Church Relations, Interreligious Affairs, and External Church Communities

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