

## Deputy Foreign Minister for Greeks Abroad Ioannis Loverdos visits the Holy Archdiocese of Australia



On Tuesday, 7 October, His Eminence Archbishop Makarios of Australia received the visit of the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece, responsible for Greeks Abroad, Mr Ioannis Loverdos.

Mr Loverdos visited the headquarters of the Holy Archdiocese in Sydney on the first day of his multi-day tour of Australia and New Zealand.

The Deputy Minister was welcomed and given a tour of the Cathedral of the Annunciation of Our Lady by Their Graces Bishop Athinagoras of Canberra, Bishop Iakovos of Miletoupolis, Bishop Christodoulos of Magnesia, and Bishop Christophoros of Kerasouna, Chancellor of the Holy Archdiocese.

Following this, they proceeded to the Archbishop's Office, where Mr Loverdos was warmly welcomed by His Eminence Archbishop Makarios. His Eminence had the

opportunity to brief the distinguished guest on the multifaceted work of the local Church, with one of its chief priorities being the strengthening of the bonds between the Greek Diaspora and the beloved homeland. They also discussed matters concerning the needs of the Greek-Australian community and explored potential avenues for further collaboration between the Holy Archdiocese and the Greek State.



The constructive meeting was also attended by the Ambassador of Greece to Australia, His Excellency Mr Stavros Venizelos, and the Consul General in Sydney, Mr Georgios Skemperis, along with the Deputy Minister's accompanying delegation: the Secretaries General of the Hellenic Ministry of the Interior, Mr Athanasios Balerbas (Secretary General for Interior and Organisation) and Mr Dimitrios Karnavos (Secretary General for Citizenship).

Before departing the Archdiocesan Office, the Deputy Minister held an extended private meeting with the Archbishop, during which matters concerning Church and State were discussed.





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