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Meeting of the Archbishop of Cyprus with a Delegation of the Conference of European Churches

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On Thursday, 26 February, His Beatitude Archbishop Georgios of Cyprus received a delegation of the Conference of European Churches, led by His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain, at the Holy Archbishopric of Cyprus.

The members of the Council are visiting the island on the occasion of the Republic of Cyprus assuming the Presidency of the European Union.

During the meeting, which took place in a particularly cordial and constructive atmosphere, matters of common interest were discussed, including the role of the Churches in contemporary European society, as well as the promotion of peace and dialogue.

Among other points, His Beatitude conveyed to the delegation his concern for the survival of Cypriot Hellenism on the land of its forefathers, “due to Turkish intransigence and its refusal to seek a solution grounded in the principles and values of Europe.”

He further underlined that “the presence of the Conference of European Churches in our homeland, on the occasion of this Presidency, is not merely an institutional event, but an act of solidarity toward a place that continues to experience the consequences of occupation, yet does not cease to hope and to strive for justice and freedom.” At the same time, the Primate of the Church of Cyprus noted that “the Council’s presence in Cyprus is the practical application of what the Apostle Paul proclaims: ‘If one member suffers, all the members suffer with it.’”

The meeting concluded with an exchange of commemorative gifts and a shared recognition of the need to further strengthen cooperation for the benefit of peaceful coexistence among peoples.

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