06/03/2026

The Ecumenical Patriarch on the sacredness of childhood



The sacredness of childhood was emphasised by His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew in a recorded message addressed to the President of the European Network for Smoking and Tobacco Prevention (ENSP), Panagiotis Behrakis, following his recent visit to the Ecumenical Patriarchate at the Phanar.

Professor Panagiotis Behrakis assumed the Presidency of the ENSP, the European Network for Smoking and Tobacco Prevention, in November 2025.

In his message, the Patriarch appeals to the international community to remain vigilant, underscoring the need to protect children from practices and products that endanger their health, freedom, and future.

Particular reference is made to the promotion of nicotine products which, through attractive designs, flavours, and aromas, target pre-adolescent and adolescent ages, leading young people into lifelong addiction.

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