

Church of Greece's Holy Synod approves composition of open letter to the faithful explaining the Church's position on cremation



The issue of religious class instruction in Greece's public schools, amid a recent ruling by the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), as well as the operation of the first crematorium in Greece, in light of the Church of Greece's opposition to cremation as a method of interment for an Orthodox believer, dominated Wednesday's session of the permanent Holy Synod of the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Greece.

According to a relevant announcement, the Holy Synod's members also examined a letter by a nationwide association representing theologians in the country, while also receiving a briefing on the ECHR ruling. The announcement noted that the Holy Synod awaits actions by the relevant education and religious affairs ministry.

Finally, members of the permanent Holy Synod approved the composition of an open letter to the faithful explaining the Church's position on the cremation of the dead.