

Church of Greece statement: Decision to recognize Ukrainian Church autocephaly taken ‘freely, readily’



The Church of Greece on Wednesday dismissed a recent spate of media reports regarding the issue of autocephaly for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, which the latter recognized over the recent period, nearly a year after the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople granted the Tomos of Autocephaly to the latter.

In a statement issued after the end of a two-day session of the Church's permanent Holy Synod, the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Greece emphasized that it **“freely and readily, within the framework of its Synodical right, decided to accept the proclamation, by the Ecumenical Patriarchate, of the Autocephaly of the Church of the Ukraine. The specific decision is based on the Canonical and Ecclesiastical tradition, and has no relation, whatsoever, with ‘nationalisms’, or other ‘higher’ interventions, as uncritically and completely eagerly propagated by some.”**