

## **Church of Greece Holy Synod convenes for first time in 2020**



Members of the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Greece's Holy Synod convened today in the Greek capital, the first session of 2020.

The new year is judged as significant for the Church of Greece, especially in terms of Church-state relations and a series of issues affecting Greek society.

The Church's positions on the teaching of religious classes in public primary and secondary schools, possible revisions to the penal code, as well as on issue of cremation – on the one hand – dominate the Church's agenda. Additionally, the Church of Greece is particularly active in initiatives to counter Greece's demographic decline and to assist in the state's efforts to deal with the ongoing refugee crisis.

Developments are expected within the year, given that the current Greek government has signaled that dialogue with the Church will commence from scratch.