Ecumenical Patriarch conveys sincerest condolences to Ukrainian president, victims' relatives over jetliner's crash



The Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, His All Holiness Bartholomew I, expressed his condolences to the families of the 176 people aboard a Ukrainian passenger jet that crashed on Wednesday morning shortly after taking off from the Tehran airport in Iran.

In a letter to Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky, His All Holiness stressed that "... Allow me to express the sincerest condolences, commiseration and solidarity of the Mother Church, praying that the All-Merciful God grants eternal rest to the souls of the victims ... and supports their families and loved ones in their very profound bereavement".