13/02/2020

Threats faced by Orthodox Church in Montenegro discussed by Archbishop of America and Bishop of Diokleia



The Archbishop of America, His Eminence Elpidophoros, this week received the Bishop of Diokleia, His Grace Metodije at the Archdiocese's headquarters in New York City, with talks touching on the current religious and tense political situation in Montenegro.

The Bishop expressed his deep gratitude for the support provided by His All-Holiness, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, Bartholomew I.

He also thanked Archbishop Elpidophoros for advocating on their behalf to US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Metropolitan Tikhon, of the Orthodox Church of America. Bishop Metodije also thanked the hierarchs of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States for their solidarity.

Finally, he emphasized that the specific initiatives have sent a clear message to the hundreds of thousands of Orthodox faithful in Montenegro, who are marching

peacefully twice a week, that they are not alone — and that their struggle to preserve their sanctuaries is supported by their co-religionists in the United States.

On his part, Archbishop Elpidophoros assured Bishop Metodije of his deep concerns for the sisters and brothers of the Orthodox Church in Montenegro, stressing: "…We pray for peace in Montenegro, religious freedom for all, and an open conversation with all parties about this law."