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Metropolitan Bishop of Montenegro: Orthodox Church has clashed for 2,000 years with all types of viruses that cause sin, death



The Metropolitan Bishop of Montenegro and the Littoral, His Eminence Amphilochios, this week reiterated that the Orthodox Church has, for the last 2,000 years, clashed with all types of viruses that cause sin and death.
In statements to Russian media, His Eminence referred directly to both the coronavirus outbreak, as well as to the simmering tension in the small Adriatic country over the Montenegro government's insistence on attempting to seize Church properties and relics via a controversial law passed late last year.

"Even today we have two viruses in Montenegro. Up until recently we had one: the unfair law by the government, and now the coronavirus. As representatives of the Church we will continue to struggle against the spreading of the coronavirus … incense and prayer has also been a way to combat viruses in humanity."

Referring to the contentious law regarding religious institutions, which he called

“blasphemous”, he expressed a hope that dialogue with the government will bring results. Additionally, Amphilochios said persecution of the Orthodox Church in Montenegro must cease.