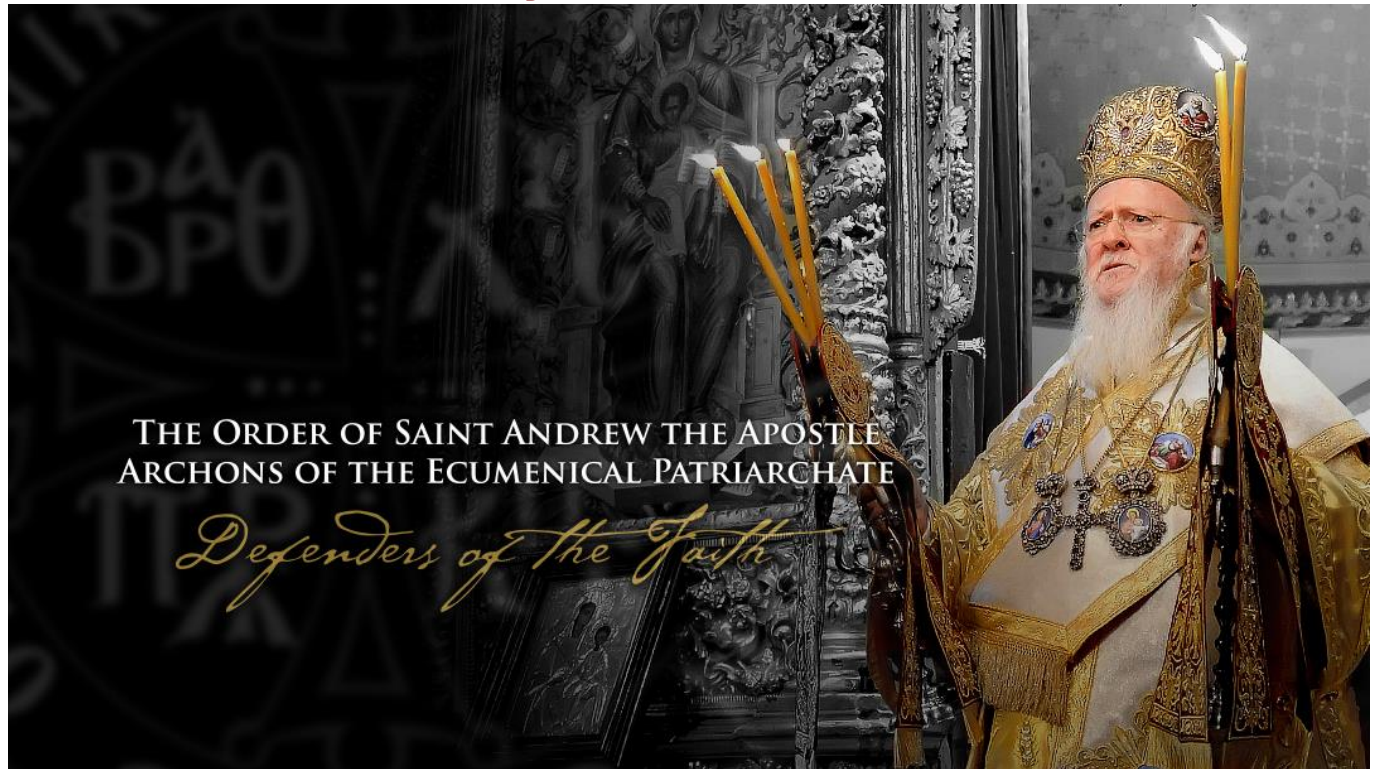


## **The Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle strongly deplores Turkish Magazine's false accusations against the Ecumenical Patriarch and religious minorities in Turkey**



The Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle, Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, joins the many minority groups and others in Turkey and beyond who have issued denunciations of the recent hate speech that was published against religious leaders of the Jewish, Armenian and Greek communities in the so-called “special” Centennial Issue of the Turkish publication Gerçek Hayat.

This egregious article is riddled with hate speech, filled with propaganda against the most vulnerable indigenous communities within Turkey's borders and beyond.

The Order of Saint Andrew strongly denounces these baseless and reckless charges. Gerçek Hayat's rhetoric exacerbates division and encourages paranoia, and amounts to nothing more than bigotry, not legitimate and serious discourse in the civilized world.

As kindred spirits with the other minorities of Turkey, we believe the attack on

these leaders is an attack on us all. No matter your political party, religion, ethnic background, race, or community status, robbing a people of its sense of security and well-being is an act of terrorism, and must be loudly condemned.

The Order reaffirms the words of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew:

*Members of the community and religious leaders are targeted with unsubstantiated slanders, which are highly inflammatory and upsetting to the Christian and Jewish members of our people. As this action was very painful, very grave and irresponsible, and made further allegations, we consider it necessary to explain to the public our concerns in order to reduce the false claims against the Orthodox community in Turkey....While making this statement to the respected public, we declare that we are confident that the state authorities will take the necessary action.*

We beseech you, be not "deaf to the voice of justice."

Anthony J. Limberakis, MD  
Archon Aktouarios  
National Commander



[Source](#)