

Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs announcement on the reading from the Quran in Hagia Sophia, on the anniversary of the fall of Constantinople



The Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued an announcement regarding the reading from the Quran in Hagia Sophia, on the anniversary of the fall of Constantinople on May 29, 2020.

The announcement reads:

Today's reading of passages from the Quran inside Hagia Sophia, a global monument protected by UNESCO as a world heritage site that has functioned as a museum since 1935, is not only an unacceptable attempt to alter the site's designation as monument, but also an affront to the religious sentiment of Christians throughout the world.

This action is an insult to the international community and once again exposes Turkey, which has an obligation to respect both the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and

UNESCO, of which it is a member.

We once again call on Turkey to respect its international obligations and stop putting domestic expediencies ahead of its very privileged role as guardian of a monument as important as Hagia Sophia, which belongs to all of humanity.