Ultra-nationalist group in Albania demands expulsion of Archbishop Anastasios, removal of Greek military cemeteries



Another instance of harassment against Orthodoxy and Orthodox believers took place late last Wednesday in southern Albania, where members of a shadowy ultranationalist movement, known as "Boys of Laberia", attempted to hold a protest in front of the Greek consulate in the city of Gjirokastër.

Before being disbanded by police, protesters demanded that Archbishop of Tirana and All Albania, His Beatitude Anastasios, be stripped of Albanian citizenship and deported from the western Balkans country – whose people suffered for more than four decades under the most tyrannical and paranoid communist regime in Europe.

The extremists also called for the removal of Greek monuments from Albania, a reference to military cemeteries where thousands of Greek soldiers who fell during WWII are buried.

The fringe group also called for the Greek consul in the small city to be declared a persona non grata by the Albanian state.