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Georgian president doesn’t hurry to congratulate Ukraine on granting autocephaly



Georgian President Salome Zourabichvili says that she has not congratulated the Ukrainian people or the Ukrainian leadership on the granting of autocephaly to the new church of Ukraine because the Georgian Orthodox Church has yet not voiced its stance on this issue.

“This is a very sensitive issue for us,” Zourabichvili said at a press briefing on Friday.

“It would be very easy for me to congratulate the Ukrainian people on the granting of autocephaly, but I, as the Georgian president, feel responsibility, and if the Georgian Church is showing caution due to possible consequences, which I do not want to talk about today, I am not entitled to take on responsibility and exacerbate the situation this way,” she said.

Late in December, the Holy Synod of the Georgian Orthodox Church postponed a discussion on the issue of granting autocephaly to Ukraine.

(Source: Interfax)