

## **Greek president pays a visit to Mytilini, Lesvos on Dormition of the Virgin Mary**



President of the Hellenic Republic Katerina Sakellaropoulou paid a visit to Mytilini, Lesvos island on the national holiday of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary.

Sakellaropoulou attended church services and was given a tour of the Folklore and Byzantine Church Museum by Mytilini, Eressos and Plomari Metropolitan Iacovos.

Commenting on current events, she said that “Turkey’s provocative behavior and aggressiveness does not daunt Greece, but serve to isolate Turkey itself internationally, as more people understand the validity of Greece’s positions. The country is a pillar of stability and a deterrent power in the region of the eastern Mediterranean, and will remain so.”

She also recalled the disproportionate burden the border islands shouldered in the migration and refugee crisis at difficult times and spoke of the readiness of the armed forces who are at the front lines of defense with Turkey. “At Evros borders and the Aegean, we defended with decisiveness and effectiveness both our own borders and those of Europe as well,” she noted.

The president also referred to the holiday of the Dormition as a recognition by the

Greek people of the role the Virgin Mary plays in Greek lore and traditions as a mother, protectress and mediator. “Today on Lesbos, which has so many churches of the Holy Virgin, I ponder the richness of that special bond the Greek people developed with her, bestowing on her nearly 500 poetic vocatives,” she said.

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[Source](#)