

Church, state eye cooperation in the area of religious tourism, pilgrimages to Greece



Members of the Greek government Cabinet convened on Wednesday, under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis, with the main topics on the agenda dealing with the repercussions of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

One issue that touched on the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Greece came during a briefing by Tourism Minister Haris Theocharis, who detailed the course of this year's coronavirus-battered season, as well as prospects for next year.

Theocharis said his ministry is giving serious consideration to religious tourism and pilgrimages to Greece.

A ministry source later told the **Orthodoxia News Agency** that a series of initiatives in this field are expected in the coming period, namely, to better promote religious monuments and pilgrimages in the country, especially ones listed as UNESCO World Heritage sites.

The development came after a meeting last week between the Archbishop of Athens and All Greece, His Beatitude Ieronymos, with Theoharis.

Meanwhile, the Greek government on Wednesday renewed a series of restrictive measures on public assembly until October 31. The measures, which affect all places of worship in the country, aim to prevent exposure to the Covid-19 virus.

