

Members of new municipal office of religious affairs in Bosphorus metropolis visit Cathedral of Panaghia Koumariotiss



Ekrem Imamoglu, the mayor of glorious mega-city of Constantinople, known today in Turkish as Istanbul, has opened a new municipal Office of Religious Affairs. Members of the Greek Orthodox community of Neochori, in fact, hosted members of the newly created office, while expressing their appreciation for a visit by the former to the Cathedral of the Panaghia Koumariotissa.

In a related regional development, the group Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) this week expressed its grave concern over the impact of the conversion of the Hagia Sophia into a mosque.

The group affirmed a recent petition to the United Nations by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, which seeks to "...hold the Republic of Turkey accountable for its deliberate policies to erase the cultural heritage of Orthodox Christians."

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan ordered the conversion of the Hagia

Sophia, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, into a mosque last July.