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US presidential contenders issue statements referring to US-Greece ties, issues faced by Orthodoxy



Voters in the United States head to the polls today to vote for, among others, a new US President.

Incumbent Donald Trump is the candidate for the Republicans, while former US vice-president Joe Biden is the contender for the Democrats.

Both men cited US-Greece relations, the Greek-American community and issues faced by Orthodoxy in their numerous last minute statements, all aimed at various ethnic and religious communities in the United States.

In a long list of what his campaign listed as “accomplishments” by the Trump administration in promoting issues considered significant to the Greek-American

community, one point reminded that "...President Trump met with newly appointed Archbishop Elpidophoros on two occasions to discuss religious freedom for the Ecumenical Patriarchate and issues related to the Greek Orthodox Church."

Another point cited is the fact that "...President Trump required that new Centers for Disease Control guidance classify houses of worship as "essential," allowing Greek Orthodox Churches to open after being closed during the coronavirus lockdowns."

On the part of the Biden campaign, a released statement stressed that as US President, Joe Biden will continue to be a strong voice for religious freedom worldwide, including the rights of the Greek Orthodox Church.