

## **Head of EU Delegation to Turkey received at the Ecumenical Patriarchate; tours other Orthodox sites**



**The Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, His All Holiness Bartholomew I, on Wednesday meet with the head of the second directorate of religious institutions in the Bosphorus metropolis, all on the heels of this week announcement by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of an initiative to boost human rights in the predominately Muslim country.**

At least in the sphere of pledges, the increasingly authoritarian Erdogan also promised a new framework for non-Muslim religious charities and foundations in the country.

Meanwhile, the head of the European Union Delegation to Turkey, Amb. Nikolaus

Meyer-Landrut, also paid a visit to the Ecumenical Patriarchate's seat on Wednesday.

Amb. Meyer-Landrut was accompanied by his colleague Eleftheria Pertzinidou and other high-ranking EU Delegation officials.

On Friday, members of the EU diplomatic delegation will tour the Theological School of Halki and the Ecumenical Patriarchate's orphanage building on the isle of Prinkipo.

During a subsequent tour of Nichori, the diplomatic delegation was given a tour by the president of the Community, Lakis Vigas, of the Church of Panagia Koumariotissa, the chapel of St. Theodore of Byzantium, and to the courtyard, where they were briefed about the history of the church.



