

Moscow Patriarchate official: Russian PM's visit to Greece, Mt. Athos very significant



A Moscow Patriarchate official this week underlined that the visit to Greece by Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin, and especially to the semi-autonomous monastic community of Mount Athos, testifies to the spiritual and historical ties between the two nations, Russia and Greece.

In a statement, the deputy chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's synodal department for external Church relations, Nikolai Balasov, said it was "very satisfying" that the Russian state was represented with such a high-ranking office-holder in the commemorations for the bicentennial of the commencement of the Greek War of Independence.

"As an Orthodox Christian, Mikhail Mishustin had the opportunity to visit Mount Athos. It is impossible to ignore the significance of Mount Athos for our country," he added.

Saint Joseph the Hesychast

