16/02/2019

Delegation from the Ecumenical Patriarchate Meets with Greek Political Officials

/ Επικαιρότητα



On Wednesday, February 13, 2019, the Delegation of the Ecumenical Patriarchate met with the President of the Greek opposition party New Democracy (ND), Kyriakos Mitsotakis, as well as with the Secretary General of the Greek Parliament's ND group, Konstantinos Tsiaras, in the Hall of the Hellenic Parliament. According to a party announcement the Patriarchate's delegation expressed concern over the changes to the Constitution promoted by the government, as well as over the government's intention to change the clergymen's payroll status. Mitsotakis said that his party is against the changes, noting that the pending issues between the Church and the State can be settled without changes in the Constitution. He also clarified that ND had from the start opposed the government's attempt to change

the clergymens' payroll status.

Then on Thursday, February 14, 2019, the Delegation of the Ecumenical Patriarchate had a working meeting with the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Greece Dimitrios Koutsoumpas, along with the Speaker of the Greek Parliament, Athanasios Pafilis, again in the Hall of the Hellenic Parliament.

On Saturday, February 16, 2019, the Delegation of the Ecumenical Patriarchate met with Movement for Change (KINAL) leader Fofi Gennimata. According to a party announcement "it was confirmed the Ecumenical Patriarchate's disagreement with the government's plans to make changes to the clergymen's payroll status and the allegedly exploitation of the church's assets".
"From the very start, the Movement for Change was clearly against the government's manipulations to use the distortion in Church-State's relations for its own political benefit. KINAL will not allow any games with the Constitution and will protect the labour and insurance rights of the clergymen from the government's opportunistic treatment", said KINAL's announcement.



(Sources: archons.org & ANA-MPA news)