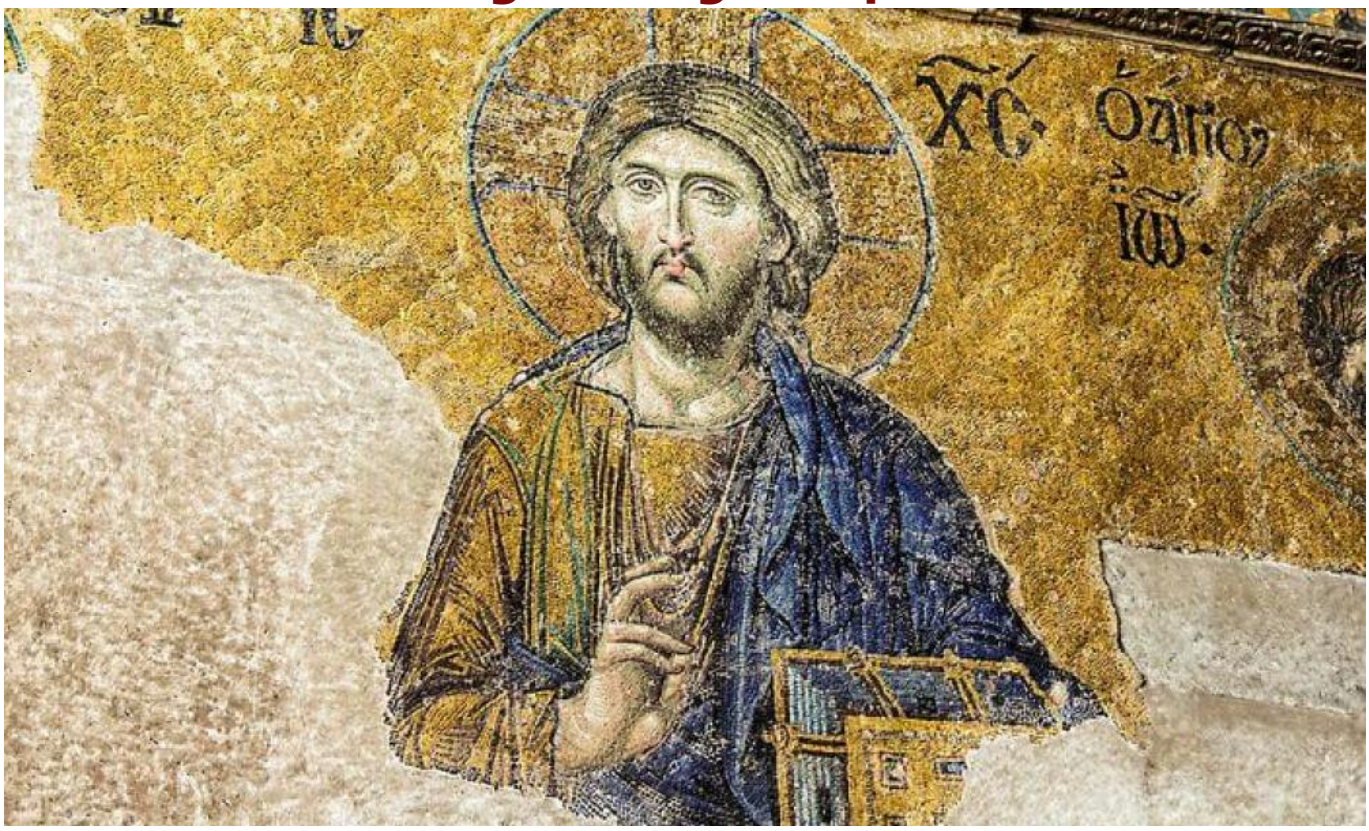
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Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of Orthodoxy delegation briefs Greek leadership over latest initiatives focusing on Hagia Sophia



The Archbishop of Athens and All Greece, His Beatitude Ieronymos, on Thursday received a delegation of lawmakers who are members of the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of Orthodoxy.
Members of the assembly emphasized the need to inform international public opinion over the insolent decision last year by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to reconvert the iconic Hagia Sophia into a mosque.

The delegation was also separately received by Greece's President of the Republic, Katerina Sakellaropoulou, and Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis.
During the meeting with Mitsotakis, Greek MP Maximos Harakopoulos, the general secretary of the assembly, presented the group's initiatives regarding the Hagia Sophia, the greatest of all basilicas in eastern Christendom.

Among others, the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of Orthodoxy published and circulated a four-language illustrated edition devoted to the cathedrals around the world bearing the name Hagia Sophia, and also sponsored a photographic

competition, with the theme being Orthodox places of worship dedicated to the Hagia Sophia, which means Holy Wisdom in Greek. The competition will conclude in June.

On his part, the president of the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of Orthodoxy, Russian lawmaker Sergei Gavrilov, congratulated the Greek prime minister over his government’s handling of the pandemic, while also touching on the recent attacks against Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh and the conversion of the Hagia Sophia into a mosque.