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Montenegro PM declines to sign fundamental agreement with Serbian Orthodox Church at last minute; points to autumn



A previously announced ceremony in Belgrade for the signing of a fundamental agreement between the Serbian Orthodox Church and the state of Montenegro did not take place on Thursday evening, as scheduled.

According to an announcement by the Church in Serbian capital, Montenegro Prime Minister Zdravko Krivokapic presented the Patriarch of Serbia, His Holiness Porfirije, with "...unspoken reasons why he believes the signing of the agreement must be postponed."

The disappointing development followed talks between the Serbian Patriarch and Montenegro leader at the Patriarchate in Belgrade.

The Serbian Orthodox Church had earlier let it be known that the Montenegro premier would arrive in Belgrade in the afternoon in order to sign the fundamental

agreement with Patriarch Porfirije.

Other reports stated that Krivokapic merely said the agreement should be signed in October, while he also cited the election of a new Metropolitan of Montenegro and the Littoral to succeed reposed in the Lord Metropolitan-Bishop Amphilochios.