

Church of Greece: highly crucial matters in the coming period



The Church of Greece's hierarchy is expected to decide on two highly crucial matters in the coming period — one involving Church-state relations, and the other dealing with the issue of the Ukrainian Church's autocephaly.

In relation to the first matter, a second vote in Greece's parliament is set for early next month over a proposal to revise Article 3, which deals with the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Greece's role in the east Mediterranean country.

At the same time, negative reactions continue on the part of Orthodox clerics to the Greek government's proposal to change their payroll regime.

The relevant education and religious affairs minister, meanwhile, continued his provocative statements, referring to a "blackmail" on the part of clerics against the government.

The dilemma now facing the current government is whether to unilaterally change

the way registered Orthodox clerics receive their salary, a development that may cause friction in relations with the Church, or, to leave the issue until after general elections – which must take place no later than October 2019.