

Archbishop of Athens address conference on ecclesiastical diplomacy



Archbishop of Athens and All Greece, His Beatitude Ieronymos II, addressed the opening of a two-day seminar on the issue of “Ecclesiastical Diplomacy”, which began in Athens on Thursday at the foreign ministry.

Referring to the issue of the seminar, Ieronymos emphasized the importance of ecclesiastical diplomacy, which he said is better described as “inter-ecclesiastic relations and cooperation.”

Moreover, the Primate of the Church of Greece cited what he called the distinct roles of Church and state, saying the latter’s role is necessary and useful, as long as it moves within the boundaries of this distinction, and “does not intervene in the free exercise of the spiritual functions of whatever Church or faith”.

Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras did not attend the opening of the conference, as previously scheduled, with his opening address read out by Foreign Minister Giorgos Katrougalos.