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Holy Community of Mt. Athos issues strongly worded statement over insolent quip by noted Greek academic, calls on him to seek forgiveness



The Holy Community of Mount Athos on Thursday expressed its strong reaction to a Tweet posted last week by Prof. Elias Mossialos, one deemed as highly disrespectful by the faithful and Church hierarchs.

In a strongly worded statement, the Holy Community of the semi-autonomous monastic polity in northern Greece underlined that the Tweet by the London School of Economics academic is a direct affront to the Sacrament of the Divine Incarnation of the Son of God.

The impudent social media quip by Mossialos generated a firestorm of criticism, given that he also serves as the Greek government's representative to international organizations dealing with the coronavirus pandemic.

The statement read, in part, "...we believe that amid an era when particular emphasis is ascribed to the protection of religious freedom, and, in fact, for religious minority groups, it is impudent and unacceptable to use the pandemic as an excuse to savagely and publicly insult the faith of the Orthodox Christian Greek people... as well as the faith of millions of Orthodox believers and of Christianity

around the world, during a time when we invoke the protection of our Most-Holy Mother, the Theotokos, amidst an escalation of a terrible pandemic.”

The Holy Community also called on the Greek professor to ask forgiveness from the Protectress of Mount Athos, from the faithful and to repent for his action.

