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Holy Synod concluded without any major decisions



Today's session of the Church of Greece's standing Holy Synod concluded without any major decisions, as the Church has now decisively signaled to the Greek government that it will not enter into dialogue or negotiations over the government's intent to change the payroll regime for clerics in the country.

The Church's hierarchs have also rejected the government's so-called "take it or leave" proposal.

In another matter, the Holy Synod's hierarchs also decided against taking a position, at this phase, over the contentious issue of the Ecumenical Patriarchate's granting of autocephaly to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. The most probable outcome is a decision by the Greek Church's Holy Synod to be taken in the autumn.

Deliberations on the issue, however, appear to be continuing. On Monday, Archbishop of Athens and All Greece, His Beatitude Ieronymos, received the Orthodox Metropolitan of France, His Eminence Emmanuel, and the Metropolitan of Adrianopolis, His Eminence Amphilochios.

Metropolitan Emmanuel is considered as the architect of the agreement whereby the Ecumenical Patriarchate granted the Tomos of autocephaly to the Ukrainian Church.