

Biden, Mitsotakis: Greece-US relationship 'stronger than ever'



US President Joe Biden and Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis on Monday affirmed that the Greece-US relationship is “stronger than ever”, during the meeting of the two leaders at the White House.

Biden congratulated Mitsotakis on 201 years of Greek independence, while both sides underlined the enduring people-to-people bonds which have helped define bilateral ties for more than two centuries.

Defense and trade cooperation, energy security and climate change dominated talks, Biden said in brief introductory comments to the press.

He noted, "...Today our friendship and partnership between our countries, between Greeks and Americans, I think is more important than ever. And I'm honored to celebrate the partnership with you."

On his part, Mitsotakis referred to the significance of celebrating the bicentennial of the Greek War of Independence, which was also inspired by the American struggle for independence.

Speaking at the White House press briefing, the Greek PM said Greece will also request to join the F-35 fighter plane program, with the goal being the acquisition of a squadron of the US-made warplanes by the end of this decade.

After the talks, Biden hosted an official reception at the White House for the Greek delegation.



The reception was attended by about 200 guests, including the Archbishop of America, His Eminence Elpidophoros.

In his statements before the beginning of the press briefing, His Eminence noted that "...Together, you make us all optimistic for a better world and a brighter tomorrow. Greece, the wellspring of democratic values and of Western Civilization, and America, the world's best hope of liberty and self-determination for all.

The Archbishop also directly referred to the Mother Church of Constantinople,

stating “...We all thank you both for your strong support of justice, and especially for the freedom of the purely spiritual mission of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.”

Mitsotakis was received today at the Capitol by US Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, before addressing a joint session of the US Congress, a first by a Greek leader.



