

## **Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos receives State Secretary of Hungary Tristan Azbej**



The Patriarch of Jerusalem, His Beatitude Theophilos III, this week received the State Secretary of Hungary, Tristan Azbej, at the Patriarchate. The meeting comes after His Beatitude received the visiting president of Hungary, Katalin Novák, earlier this month.

The minister was accompanied by the Hungarian Ambassador to Ramallah.

His Beatitude briefed the Hungarian minister and accompanying officials over the work and mission of the Patriarchate, including the schools that the Church maintains.

Additionally, the Patriarch of Jerusalem spoke about the challenges faced by Christians in the Holy Land, especially from what He called “...extreme fanatical elements, those who covet Christian property.”

The Hungarian Minister expressed his interest in promoting the work of the Patriarchate in the European Union, and his commitment to the support of the Christians of the Holy Land.

His Beatitude thanked Azbej for his government’s financial contribution towards the

renovation of the Basilica of Bethlehem and the Holy Tomb of the Holy Sepulchre.