

07/12/2022

Mitsotakis to Archbishop Anastasios of Albania - “You are an outcast of the Greek minority”



The prime minister, Kyriakos Mitsotakis, met with the Albanian archbishop Anastasios in Tirana. “You are a bridge of reconciliation between the two countries,” said, among other things, Mr. Mitsotakis to the head of the Greek Orthodox Church of Albania.

During the meeting between the two men, Kyriakos Mitsotakis congratulated the Archbishop of Albania Anastasios for his very important work and pointed out: “You are a bridge of reconciliation between the two countries and a relief for the Greek ethnic minority that I wanted to visit tomorrow (s.s. 07.12.2022), but the weather did not allow us”.

The Prime Minister announced that he will soon go to the areas where the Greek minority lives, “since”, as he said, “I feel the need to be next to our compatriots who live and excel here, so that we can provide them with the maximum support from the Greek state ».

For his part, Archbishop Anastasios called on the Prime Minister to continue the work of reconciliation in the Balkan Peninsula and emphasized: “I have been close to the people for 30 years. In a time of doubtful moods we shouted that Albania’s place is in Europe. I feel particularly happy when I hear that steps are being taken in the direction of integration.”

The position of the Western Balkans and Albania is at the heart of Europe, Kyriakos Mitsotakis emphasized to Archbishop Anastasios.

Tirana: Kyriakos Mitsotakis – Archbishop Anastasios

“We completed thirty years of fighting in these trenches” noted Mr. Anastasios and added: “Many times I am asked about what happened in these thirty years here and they ask me what is the most important, I am talking about the temples that were built, 150 temples , and the other institutions and my answer is that for thirty years I have been close to the people, to the pain, to the distress, to the sadness, to the disappointment, to the hope of the world. It is the most important thing that the world needs. And from the first moment I have to tell you that in an era with dubious dispositions, the Orthodox Autocephalous Church of Albania was the one that shouted Albania’s position is in Europe”.

The Prime Minister was informed about the issues that concern the Church of Albania and assured His Beatitude of the support of the Greek State in the problems it is facing.

Kyriakos Mitsotakis also had a meeting with representatives of the minority organization “Omonoia”, during which the prime minister had the opportunity to discuss with them issues that concern the Greek National Minority.

Earlier, the prime minister met with representatives of the Union of Greek Businesses of Albania, who informed him about the course of Greek entrepreneurship in the neighboring country and the challenges they face.

Mr. Mitsotakis noted that as the Greek economy is developing at particularly high rates, there is the possibility of reversing the withdrawal of Greek companies from Balkan markets, which was observed during the crisis of the previous decade.

It was also emphasized that Greek companies operating in Albania can offer valuable know-how, in many sectors, to the local market.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nikos Dendias, and the Deputy Minister for Economic Diplomacy and External Relations, Kostas Fragogiannis.

radiosecret.gr