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Snap election in Greece expected to block current govt's aim to alter Church-state relations



Greece entered a full-flown campaign season on Monday, after the Greek prime minister's address, late on Sunday, where he announced that he will resign and request that a snap election takes place.

The most likely dates are June 30 or July 7, both Sundays.

Expectedly, the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Greece and the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople are closely following developments, given that the outgoing Tsipras government has previously announced its intent to alter Church-state relations in the country and modify the penal code.

What remains to be seen is whether the current government will try to push on with the changes or allow whichever government emerges from the election to deal with the issues.

Members of the Church of Greece's Holy Synod last week focused on proposal changes to the penal code, as the Church is sternly opposed to the prospect of abolishing the articles dealing with blasphemy against religions and insulting the deceased.