



2013
ANNUAL REPORT

— 2013 —
ANNUAL REPORT

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3/20/13 Vatican Visit

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew walks with Pope Francis after a private meeting at the Vatican prior to a papal reception of all church and religious leaders.

The Order's fundamental goal and mission is to promote the religious freedom, well-being and advancement of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, which is headquartered in Istanbul, Turkey.

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His All-Holiness participates in celebrations in Niš, Serbia for the anniversary of the Edict of Milan.

OPENING REMARKS



The Honorable Order of St. Andrew, Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate serving in America, our beloved in the Lord: Grace be to you and peace from God.

It is our paternal joy to address this Patriarchal Letter on the occasion of your Annual Meeting and the official presentation of the Annual Report of the Order of St. Andrew.

As indeed we do each year, we would like to extend to you our sincerest congratulations on all that you have achieved in support of the Mother Church and express our wholehearted appreciation for your tireless struggles for the Holy Church of Christ through your service within the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

Through your devoted and relentless support, you initiate unique events and influential programs, both relieving the tensions under which the Ecumenical Patriarch exercises its historical and prominent ministry while also highlighting the injustices that are prevalent in our world, such as human rights and religious freedom.

Therefore, we warmly invoke upon all of you every blessing and strength from St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle in order that you might continue to serve the holy Great Church of Christ with your commitment and diligence.

At the Ecumenical Patriarchate, September 27, 2013

Your fervent supplicant before God,

✠ BARTHOLOMEW
Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome
and Ecumenical Patriarch



October 18, 2013

Dear Dr. Limberakis, National Council Officers, Metropolis Commanders and Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate,

I greet you in the grace and peace of our Lord as you assemble in New York City to attend to the responsibilities of the Order, among them being, the Annual Meeting and the induction of new Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

I extend to you my best wishes for fruitful meaningful meeting deliberations. To the newly inducted Archons, I offer my warmest congratulations for the dedicated service to the Church that has earned you membership into this organization of stalwarts of the faith. You are joining an order that labors steadfastly for the defense of the faith and the right of our Holy Mother Church, the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, to exercise her leadership as the See of Orthodox Christianity and on behalf of 300,000,000 ecumenical Orthodox Christians worldwide.

I commend you for your sacred aims and pray that you will become further united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind (Philippians 2:2) for the growth and advancement of the apostolic mission of the Holy Mother Church.

With my prayers and best wishes for God's infinite grace upon you and your sacred work, I remain

With paternal love in Christ,

† DEMETRIOS
Archbishop of America



October 18, 2013

With profound respect, the Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in America offer this Annual Report to our worldwide spiritual father, His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, his Exarch in the United States, Archbishop Demetrios of America; the Metropolitans and Orthodox Hierarchy in America; the Clergy, the Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and all Orthodox Faithful and People of Goodwill.

It is the pledge that The Order of Saint Andrew will continue relentlessly the good fight for the full and complete religious freedom of the Holy and Great Mother Church of Constantinople until the bells of freedom can be heard emanating from the Phanar!

Respectfully Submitted,
In the Service of the Ecumenical Patriarchate

Anthony J. Limberakis, M.D.
Archon Aktouarios
National Commander

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The
**ARCHON
 ARENA**

**The Religious Freedom Mission
 The Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle
 Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in America**

.....
**1700th Anniversary Edict of Milan issued by St. Constantine the Great
 Granting Religious Freedom to all Religions in 313 AD**

**Washington, DC; Each of the 50 States; the European Union (Brussels, Capitals of Europe);
 the OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Warsaw, Poland);
 the European Court of Human Rights (Strasbourg, France); Istanbul and Ankara, Turkey**

2013 the 1700th Anniversary of the Edict of Milan, stands today as a lost opportunity for the Republic of Turkey to seriously demonstrate its commitment to religious freedom and fundamental human rights. The historic anniversary of this bold, courageous declaration that St. Constantine the Great issued in 313 AD so that all Christians may worship freely resulting in the immediate cessation of the torture and execution of countless martyrs of the Faith *could have been, should have been* the grand opportunity for Turkey to transform religious freedom *rhetoric* into *reality*. Pathetically, and true to past behavior Turkey *never misses an opportunity to miss an opportunity*, to borrow the words of an Israeli diplomat [Abba Eban after the Geneva Peace Conference with Arab countries (21 December 1973)]. The September 30, 2013 government announcement of its so-called “democratization package” represents doublespeak, gobbledygook and broken promises regarding religious freedom and fundamental human rights for the minority citizens of Turkey.

It is because of this entrenched government obstinacy in refusing to establish policies improving religious freedom, The Order of Saint Andrew continues to engage in the relentless execution of a multifaceted domestic and international strategy to secure religious freedom and the institutional human rights of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, the Spiritual Center of the world’s 300 million Orthodox Christians. Although it must be stated that some positive steps have been undertaken by the government of Turkey including the return of several proper-

ties, and the granting of permission to celebrate Divine Liturgy at ancient churches in Turkey (think about that, our church *must ask permission* to worship) there are still ongoing major religious freedom violations that remain unaddressed, with the persistent closure of Halki Seminary at the top of the list.

The Archons of America under the inspired leadership of the Exarch, His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios and the members of our Holy Eparchial Synod, remain focused on the monumental religious freedom deficit that persists in Turkey. Our efforts to secure religious freedom working side by side with our Spiritual Advisor Rev. Alexander Karloutsos must be redoubled and re-energized, especially in light of the September 30, 2013 remarks by Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan concerning his government’s new “Democratization Package,” that the Order believes is grossly inadequate in addressing the religious freedom violations, and almost laughable, if it were not so tragic.

In the subsequent pages of this Report the Patriarchal religious freedom concerns will be reviewed, including the specific advances which have been realized and a presentation of a chronology of Archon events that highlight the **educational, diplomatic, juridical and spiritual activities** of the Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle.

The major issues of the Religious Freedom Deficit in Turkey accompanied by a succinct description of recent government advances addressing those issues:



The Ecumenical Patriarch presides before other Heads of Churches at the Cathedral of the Archangel Michael on October 5, 2013 in Belgrade, Serbia for celebrations marking the 1700th anniversary of Emperor Constantine the Great's "Edict of Milan." The celebrations were organized by the Orthodox Patriarchate of Serbia in Niš, the city of St. Constantine's birth.

Government interference in selection of Ecumenical Patriarch

Requirement of Turkish citizenship: **PM Erdoğan waived the 5 year residency requirement for Turkish citizenship opening the path for hierarchs to apply for Turkish citizenship**

- 26 Hierarchs from around the world have applied
- 21 Hierarchs have received Turkish Citizenship
- 5 Hierarchs have been denied Turkish Citizenship, apparently in an arbitrary manner without meaningful explanation

Lack of Legal Personality

A detailed strategy is being contemplated in pursuit of a **bona fide legal personality**, although this process is in the nascent stage

Non-recognition of title Ecumenical

Prime Minister Erdoğan stated in January 2009 that the use of the **title "ecumenical" should not be a matter on which the state should rule**; however, the government continues to refer to the Ecumenical Patriarchate as the "Greek Orthodox Patriarchate"

Property confiscation

Significant positive developments

- **Return to Ecumenical Patriarchate by unanimous Judgment of the European Court of Human Rights (July 7, 2008), the Patriarchal Orphanage located in Pringipos Island (Büyükkada Island, the largest of the Princes' Islands in the Sea of Marmara, near Istanbul) on November 30, 2010; the Ecumenical Patriarchate has announced that the Orphanage will be transformed into a **Global Center for Peace and the Environment**, a project supported by the Brookings Institution and its Managing Director Archon William Antholis, as well as Archon Andrew Liveris, Chairman and CEO of Dow Chemical and longtime friend of the Ecumenical Patriarch Muhtar Kent, Chairman and CEO of the Coca-Cola Company.**
- **August 27, 2011 Turkish government signed historic decree to return confiscated property to religious minority foundations and to compensate those foundations for those properties that were sold to third parties; the Regulations to implement the decree were published on October 1, 2011 and there are a number of concerns voiced by human rights organizations and the religious minorities regarding such implementation**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



On May 17, 2013, the Ecumenical Patriarchate honored the 1700th anniversary of the "Edict of Milan" by hosting an international and interfaith one-day seminar in collaboration with the Council of European Episcopal Churches at the Conrad Hotel in Istanbul, Turkey. The seminar was generously sponsored by the Order of Saint Andrew, and represented by Archon Constantine G. Caras.

- The decree currently applies to 167 minority foundations of which approximately 67 are Greek Orthodox claiming over 1012 Greek Orthodox properties in issue
- As of August 30, 2012, the General Directorate has thus far identified 115 non-Muslim minority foundations (of the 167 including some Greek Orthodox foundations), which have applied for 1452 properties
- The General Directorate is slowly going through the applications for property return and as of this writing **has approved only 98 applications** for the return of property, **given monetary compensation on one property** that could not be returned as it was conveyed to third parties.
- As a positive development, however, certain Greek Orthodox Foundations have regained valuable properties and are hopeful that others will follow
- The Archons will continue to monitor the status of applications and provide assistance as requested through the Patriarchal Properties Committee chaired by Archon Judge B. Theodore Bozonelis

Closure of Halki School of Theology

Forcibly closed 42 years ago

There have been public statements calling for the reopening of Halki by significant government leaders, including the

President of Religious Affairs, Prof. Mehmet Görmez

Despite these statements, and the recent appointment of His Eminence Metropolitan Elpidophoros, a Professor of Theology as Dean of the Seminary, no real progress has been made in the reopening of the Seminary.

The position of the Order of Saint Andrew and for human rights organizations in general is that **the issue of religious freedom and human rights is not one of reciprocity** and not of *quid pro quo* status

Celebration by His All-Holiness of Divine Liturgy at Greek Orthodox religious shrines "allowed" in isolated circumstances, an activity previously prohibited

Summary of Archon Initiatives and Activities

Allow me to summarize the various activities that constitute the **overall Religious Freedom Project** undertaken by The Order. **Archon John A. Catsimatidis, serves as Chairman of the Religious Freedom Committee** which coordinates our comprehensive strategy.

The Archon Washington Initiative

Regional Commander Archon Andrew E. Manatos and son Archon Mike Manatos and their public policy team coordinate



On August 15, 2013, His All-Holiness celebrated the great feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos at the historic monastery of Panaghia Soumela. This is the fourth consecutive year that His All-Holiness has led an annual pilgrimage to the historical monastery since its closure nine decades ago. The monastery was founded in 386 and functioned without interruption until 1923.

the *Archon Washington Initiative*. Their ongoing efforts to keep the issue of the religious freedom of the Ecumenical Patriarchate high on the agenda of our government leaders are intensive and laborious. There are many new officials serving the White House, State Department and Congress who formulate policy towards Turkey who are not familiar with the religious freedom deficit that severely constricts the ministry of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Concentrated efforts in educating members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and Senate Foreign Relations Committee are underway to ensure the many new committee members are fully aware of the religious freedom crisis in Turkey.

Working closing with our Spiritual Advisor Fr. Alexander Karloutsos, the Manatos team organizes an annual one-on-one meeting of the President and Vice President with His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America at the White House. Frequent contact with State Department officials, including Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom Ambassador Susan Johnson Cook and The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, chaired by Dr. Katrina Lantos Swett are essential in maintaining the urgency of our religious freedom concerns.

Building on the historic visitation of a sitting Vice President of the United States, Secretary of State John Kerry visited the Ecumenical Patriarchate on April 21, 2013.

National Council Member Archon George J. Tsunis Slated to be United States Ambassador to Norway

The entire Order of Saint Andrew expresses our heartfelt congratulations on the anticipated United States Senate confirmation of *Archon Hypomnematografos* George J. Tsunis to serve as United States Ambassador to Norway. We are all bursting with Archon pride for Archon George, his beloved wife Olga, their three children and Mrs. Eleni Tsunis, the mother of Archon George and beloved wife of Archon James Tsunis of blessed memory. AXIOS! AXIOS! AXIOS!

The Archon 50-State Plan to Enact Religious Freedom Resolutions

Archon Stephen P. Georgeson, Esq. is coordinating the Archon State Legislative Religious Freedom Resolution Initiative pro bono. The Order has identified Archons, clergy and key Orthodox Christians in all 50 states and has asked them to participate in local campaigns to enact Religious Freedom Resolutions in their state legislatures under the coordination of Archon Georgeson. Thus far, **52 Religious Freedom Resolutions have been adopted in 42 states representing 90% of the American citizens**, including the most populous states in the Union, California, New York and Texas. The Order congratulates and expresses its appreciation to Archon Georgeson and his team as they proceed state by state to secure Religious Freedom Resolutions, yet there is significant more work

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

to be done, as we seek 100% of these United States to stand up for Religious Freedom.

If you can offer guidance or assistance in the following states, please contact me (ajl@bustletonradiology.com) or Archon Stephen P. Georgeson (stephengeorgeson@bellsouth.net)

States where there has been no activity whatsoever:

- Montana
- Idaho
- New Hampshire

States where resolutions have been introduced but not yet passed:

- Minnesota
- Indiana
- Ohio
- Maryland
- Hawaii

Archon Religious Freedom Regional Meetings

Organized by Regional Commanders

Regional Commanders throughout the United States whose jurisdictions are based upon the Metropolises of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America organize periodic symposia on various issues regarding the Ecumenical Patriarchate, from religious freedom concerns to the relationship of the Orthodox Christian Church and Roman Catholicism. The symposia serve to educate the public at large regarding the historical, canonical and ecclesiastical significance of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

The following Archons serve as Regional Commanders throughout the United States:

- Archon Andrew E. Manatos – Direct Archdiocesan District (Washington, DC)
- Archon John Kassimatis – Direct Archdiocesan District
- Archon Nikiforos Matthews – Direct Archdiocesan District
- Archon Harold Peponis – Metropolis of Chicago
- Archon Gregory G. Demetrakis – Metropolis of Boston
- Archon Drake Behrakis – Metropolis of Boston
- Archon Dr. Gregory G. Papadeas – Metropolis of Denver
- Archon Chris Pappas – Metropolis of Denver
- Archon Dr. Manuel Tissura – Metropolis of Atlanta
- Archon John Scurtis – Metropolis of Atlanta
- Archon Dr. Theodore Vlahos – Metropolis of Atlanta
- Archon Harry Thomas Cavalaris – Metropolis of Atlanta
- Archon Tommy Yearout – Metropolis of Atlanta
- Archon Mark Stavropoulos – Metropolis of Detroit
- Archon Lou Lazaros Kirkos – Metropolis of Detroit
- Archon Peter Clyde Papadakos – Metropolis of Pittsburgh
- Archon Theofanis V. Economidis – Metropolis of San Francisco
- Archon Dr. James G. Kallins – Metropolis of San Francisco
- Archon Dr. Cary J. Limberakis – Metropolis of New Jersey
- Archon Judge B. Theodore Bozonelis – Metropolis of New Jersey

Second Archon International Conference on Religious Freedom

Tearing Down Walls

Berlin, German / December 4 -5, 2013

The Order is planning its second International Religious Freedom Conference scheduled for December 4 and 5, in Berlin, Germany. In November 2010, the Archons sponsored its first International Religious Freedom Conference which took place in the European Parliament in Brussels. The upcoming December conference is entitled “Tearing Down Walls: Achieving Religious Equality in Turkey” and will again bring together similar individuals as the previous conference including scholars, religious leaders, journalists, diplomats, government leaders and members of the religious minorities of Turkey. It will focus on two main subject areas: (1) the concepts of equality, neutrality and pluralism as they relate to religious freedom; and (2) the status of religious freedom under the current constitution and the proposed new constitution. Chaired by Archon George C. Rockas and Co-Chaired by Archon Judge B. Theodore Bozonelis and Archon John Zavitsanos, the committee has organized an extraordinary conference with over 30 speakers and various activities highlighted by a VIP reception at the United States Embassy next to the Brandenburg Gate, Luncheon Meeting at the Bundestag (Germany’s Parliament), a city tour of Berlin, the Berlin Wall and the Berlin Wall Museum and an afternoon visiting the world-famous Christmas Markets of Germany. The conference is open to the public.

In preparation for the Conference, a religious freedom mission took place to Berlin and to the Ecumenical Patriarchate June 15 ~ 21, 2013. The visit to Ankara previously planned for June 20 was cancelled due to the political unrest and massive demonstrations that took place in Turkey at that time in which tear gas and other stern measures were utilized, including the arrest and imprisonment of journalists and demonstrators.

The Archon European Union Initiative

The Order developed *The Archon European Union Initiative* because Turkey seeks entry to the EU and this venue provides an opportunity for Turkey to *harmonize* its existing laws to the standards of the European Union. By meeting with the rotating EU Presidency Nations which guide negotiations between the EU and Candidate States (i.e. Turkey), the Order has the opportunity to bring to the forefront the issues of religious freedom and institutional human rights for the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

The Archon meetings in the international arena make a very powerful statement in the advocacy of religious freedom when volunteers leave their families, businesses and security of the United States to travel abroad to seek fundamental human rights and religious freedom for the Spiritual Center of our deep seated Orthodox faith.



On June 18, 2013, a Religious Freedom Mission Team traveled to Berlin, Germany and met with U.S. Ambassador Philip D. Murphy at the U.S. Embassy. Extensive and productive meetings were held with the U.S. Ambassador, along with other religious, diplomatic and government leaders during their visit, in preparation for the Archon Second International Conference on Religious Freedom.

The Archon Legal Initiative

Despite the ongoing domestic and international diplomatic and political initiatives that are being conducted, it may take actual judicial action to force Turkey to change its asphyxiating policies that threaten the survival of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. **Archon Legal Counselor Christopher Stratakis leads a team of top Archon attorneys in the United States, including Emanuel G. Demos, George C. Rockas, John Zavitsanos, Les George and Hon. B. Theodore Bozonelis.** Currently the team is working on the Second Archon International Conference on Religious Freedom and the issue of "Legal Personality."

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) 2013 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting

Warsaw, Poland / September 23 ~ October 1, 2013
The Largest Human Rights Conference in Europe

Since 2006 the Order has sent an Archon Delegation to the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation meetings in Warsaw, Poland to present to the international community the religious freedom violations of the government of Turkey perpetrated against its own citizenry. These meetings constitute the largest human rights conference in Europe in which 57 nations participate from Europe, Central Asia and North America. Archon Spiro J. Macris, DDS and Archon Nicholas G. Loutsion, VMD first represented the Order in 2006 and for the past several years, the Order has been represented by Archon Theofanis V. Economidis and Archon Achilles G. Adamantiades, PhD. This year Archon Dr. Adamantiades made two presentations this year (a) "The Status and Issues of the Greek Orthodox Minority in Turkey" and (b) "The Status and Issues of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople." Both papers were well received, given out to interested parties, and posted on the OSCE web site.

The 2013 Nicholas J. Bouras Award for Extraordinary Archon Stewardship:

Archon Aktouarios Stephen J. Yallourakis, MD, DDS
Axios! Axios! Axios!

In honor of the extraordinary and incomparable Archon Stewardship Vice Commander Archon Depoutatos Nicholas J. Bouras has demonstrated over the many years economically and spiritually empowering the Order to execute its sacred mission to Defend the Mother Church of Constantinople, the National Council established an award in his name. The inaugural recipient of the *Nicholas J. Bouras Award for Extraordinary Archon Stewardship* was Archon Depoutatos George D. Behrakis who received the recognition on June 5, 2011 at the Metropolitan Club in New York at an elegant celebratory gala dinner dance. The 2012 recipients of this coveted recognition were Archon Depoutatos James C. Fountas, National Treasurer and Archon Ekdikos John Halecky, Jr., National Secretary. This year the 2013 Nicholas J. Bouras Award for Extraordinary Archon Stewardship will be presented to Archon Stephen J. Yallourakis, MD, DDS. The exemplary accomplishments and Archon stewardship of Dr. Yallourakis in service to the Ecumenical Patriarchate are laudatory and most deserving of this distinguished Award.

Respectfully Submitted,
In the Service of the Ecumenical Patriarchate

Anthony J. Yallourakis, MD

Archon Aktouarios
National Commander
October 19, 2013





10/20/12

The Athenagoras Human Rights Award

The Athenagoras Human Rights Award is presented to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation. Mr. Andreas Dracopoulos, director and co-president of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, accepted the Award on behalf of the Foundation. The Award was presented during the annual Athenagoras Human Rights Award Banquet held at the New York Hilton Hotel with some 500 Archons and guests in attendance.

Past recipients of the award have included Presidents Jimmy Carter and George H. W. Bush, Mother Teresa, Elie Wiesel and Mikhail Gorbachev.

ANNUAL ARCHON WEEKEND


10/19/12 The Nicholas J. Bouras Award for Extraordinary Archon Stewardship

Archbishop Demetrios of America together with Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey joined the Order of Saint Andrew in honoring James C. Fountas, National Treasurer and John Halecky, Jr., National Secretary by bestowing upon them the "Nicholas J. Bouras Award for Extraordinary Archon Stewardship." The Awards were presented during a special celebratory dinner dance held at the New York Hilton Hotel, which launched the Annual Archon Weekend.

Archons Fountas and Halecky have been involved in virtually all the major initiatives of the Archons for a quarter century. They have played significant roles as organizers in the groundbreaking International Archon Religious Freedom Conference held in November 2010 at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium and are assisting in preparations for the 2013 Conference slated to be held in Berlin.

PHOTO CREDIT: J. MINDALA

10/21/12 The New Class

Archbishop Demetrios presided over the investiture of 18 new Archons at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New York City with Metropolitans Methodios of Boston, Alexios of Atlanta and Dimitrios of Xanthos concelebrating, with Evangelos of New Jersey also attending.





10/20/12 Honoring The Stavros Niarchos Foundation



The Stavros Niarchos Foundation is one of the world's leading international philanthropic organizations. In its 16 year history, the Foundation has provided over 2,000 grants to nonprofit organizations in 90 nations around the world, with over one billion dollars in humanitarian grants.

[L-R] Prof. Andonios Trakatellis; Vasili Tsamis, Chief Operating Officer of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, and his wife, Donna; Archon Congressman Gus Bilirakis; Andreas Dracopoulos, Director and Co-President of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation; His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America; His Excellency Ambassador Christos Panagopoulos of Greece to the U.S.; Archon John A. and Margo Catsimatidis; Drs. Anthony J. and Maria A. Limberakis.

PHOTO CREDIT: ARCHON D. PANAGOS







3/20/13

The Two Lungs of Christianity

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew met privately with His Holiness Pope Francis at the Vatican prior to a papal reception of all church and religious leaders, where His All-Holiness delivered the sole address to the newly-installed Pope. The Patriarch's attendance at the papal inaugural mass was a historic initiative on the part of Patriarch Bartholomew inasmuch as it was the first time in history that an Ecumenical Patriarch was personally present at a papal installation.

The delegation outside the Brandenburg Gate—considered a symbol of European unity and peace.



THE ARCHON
2ND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

DECEMBER 4-5, 2013 • BERLIN, GERMANY

6/17/13

Conference preparations and Religious Freedom Mission to Berlin and The Phanar



Delegation with Dr. Hans-Gert Pottering MEP, Honorary Professor and President of the European Parliament ret., Chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.

With the blessings of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America, a Religious Freedom Mission Team traveled to Berlin, Germany and Constantinople to finalize plans and logistics for the Archon Second International Conference on Religious Freedom. The purpose was to further religious freedom advocacy with Turkish government officials and pay respects to His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and to receive his blessings regarding the Conference and other Archon activities.

Extensive and productive meetings were held with, the President of the Evangelical Protestant Church of Germany, leaders of respective think tanks, including Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the think-tank of the governing party Christian Democratic Union (CDU), the Roman Catholic Cardinal of Berlin, officials of political parties and Ambassadors of the United States, Greece, Cyprus and Turkey.

The Delegation was hosted by His Eminence Metropolitan Augoustinos of Germany and consisted of Fr. Alexander and Presvytera Xanthi Karloutsos, Legal Counselor Archon Christopher Stratakis, Conference Chairman Archon George C. Rockas and National Commander Anthony J. Limberakis.



BERLIN CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS



Delegation with His All-Holiness in Istanbul.



Delegation with U.S. Ambassador to Germany Philip Murphy.



Delegation with Cardinal Rainer Maria Woelki of Berlin.

5/15/13 Conference preparations in Washington, D.C.

Archon leadership along with Regional Commander Andrew E. Manatos had meetings at the State Department with the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Europe and Eurasian Affairs; at the office of US Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom; at the headquarters of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and at the White House Complex with Acting Senior Director for European Affairs and current Director for NATO and Western European Affairs.

At the request of Archon Congressman Gus Bilirakis, Co-Chair of the Congressional Hellenic-Israel Alliance (CHIA), Commander Limberakis made an informal presentation on the religious freedom concerns of the Ecumenical Patriarchate at the CHIA Lunch Briefing on the State of Religious Freedom and Human Rights Abuses in the Eastern Mediterranean at the U.S. House of Representatives, where Dr. Elizabeth Prodromou, Former Vice-Chair of the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (2004-2012) offered a compelling presentation.



The delegation at the offices of the U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom.



The delegation at the offices of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.



1/21/13

Up Close With The President

Archbishop Demetrios together with Father Alexander Karloutsos participate in the 57th Inauguration of the President of the United States.

PHOTO CREDIT: AP PHOTO



DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

2/25/13 Chancellor of Germany

His All-Holiness met with the Hon. Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany, at the residence of Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan in Ankara.

**3/4/13 Prime Minister of Greece**

The Hon. Antonis Samaras, Greek Prime Minister, visited the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

11/29/12 President of Bulgaria

His All-Holiness met with the Hon. Rosen Plevneliev, President of Bulgaria, who visited the Phanar.

**2/5/13 President of Serbia**

His Excellency Tomislav Nikolic, President of Serbia, visited the Ecumenical Patriarchate.



9/5/13 Prime Minister of Estonia

His All-Holiness met with His Excellency Andrus Ansip, Prime Minister of Estonia.



9/13/13 President of Finland

His All-Holiness met His Excellency Sauli Niinistö, President of Finland, in the Presidential Palace.



12/12/12 President of France

His All-Holiness met with the President of France, the Hon. François Hollande at the Elysee Palace in Paris.

1/12/13 President of Georgia

His All-Holiness met with the Hon. Mikhaïl Saakashvili, President of Georgia, at Tbilisi Palace.







4/21/13

The Secretary of State

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry met with His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew for an hour-long visit at the Ecumenical Patriarchate. "It is our hope that the Halki seminary will open," Kerry said during a press conference in Istanbul. Mr. Kerry follows a long tradition established by former First Lady and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, who has visited the Phanar on three occasions, followed by former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

HONORS & ACHIEVEMENTS



3/09/13

AHI honors the Order of Saint Andrew with Religious Freedom Award

The American Hellenic Institute (AHI) bestowed their Religious Freedom Award upon the Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle, during its 38th Anniversary Hellenic Heritage Achievement and Public Service Awards Dinner, March 9, 2013, at the Capital Hilton, Washington, D.C.

Archons Nick Larigakis, AHI President, and Dr. Spiro Spireas, AHI Foundation President, honored several distinguished awardees that evening, based upon their important career or institutional achievements and contributions to the Greek American community or community at-large. Accepting on behalf of the Order was its National Commander Dr. Anthony J. Limberakis.



12/4/12

Tzakis named honorary member of European Surgical Association

Archon Dr. Andreas G. Tzakis of Miami, FL, was invited to become an honorary member of the European Surgical Association (ESA) in Beaune, France. He is the first physician of Greek heritage to become a member of the ESA.



9/10/13

National Council member Tsunis named U.S. Ambassador to Norway

Archon George J. Tsunis of Cold Spring Harbor, NY, was nominated by President Barack Obama as ambassador to Norway. He is a member of the Order's National Council. He and his wife Olga pictured here.



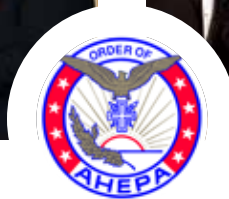
1/29/13

Catsimatidis makes historic run for NYC Mayoral Race

Archon John A. Catsimatidis, member of the Order's governing body, the National Council and chairman of the Archon Religious Freedom Committee stood on the steps of City Hall and announced that he would seek the Republican nomination for mayor of New York City.

5/22/13 AHEPA honors Public Service & Excellence

The American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) members and friends gathered to honor excellence in public service and the community as the 40th Congressional Banquet at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel in Washington. Archon Andrew E. Manatos was honored with the "Outstanding Public Advocacy Award," presented by AHEPA Chairman of the Board Nicholas Karacostas. Father Alexander Karloutsos, Archon Spiritual Advisor and assistant to the Archbishop for Public Affairs was honored with the "AHEPA Excellence in Leadership Award," by Supreme President Dr. John Grossomanides.





3/2/13

Economidis honored by the Metropolis of San Francisco

The Metropolis honored the leadership of Archon Theofanis Economidis, a dedicated volunteer of the Metropolis for over 30 years, during their inaugural Gala at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in San Francisco.

12/12/12

Orthodox Christian Studies Center receives Challenge Grant

Professor Archon George Demacopoulos and Professor Archon Aristotle Papanikolaou, co-founders of the Orthodox Christian Studies Center at Fordham University, were awarded a National Endowment of the Humanities Matching Grant to the tune of \$500,000. Even more significant than the amount, is that this is the most prestigious award available for humanities-based scholarship in the United States.



10/26/12

HANAC honors The Order

The Hellenic-American Neighborhood Action Committee (HANAC) recognized National Commander Dr. Anthony J. Limberakis with the "Man of the Year" award. The Order of Saint Andrew was recognized with the "Humanitarian Award" during HANAC's 40th Annual Dinner Dance Gala at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in New York. HANAC's mission is to develop and administer the operation of essential social services including youth, senior and immigrant services, employment and education programs, counseling and affordable housing for the betterment of the community. HANAC presently sponsors over 40



programs located in twelve sites in four boroughs, serving over 25,000 clients annually.





4/20/13

Archon Lenten Retreat

Father Maximos—a monk from Mount Athos, Greece, and for many years was a professor at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology and subsequently at Harvard Divinity School—was the featured speaker for the 10th Annual Archon Lenten Retreat. The retreat was held at the Metropolis of New Jersey Headquarters in Westfield, at the gracious invitation of His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey, and was attended by some sixty Archons, spouses and participants. The retreat allowed everyone to grow in their spirituality, join together in fellowship and prayer, and allowed Archons to reenergize their commitment in the pursuit of religious freedom for the Mother Church of Constantinople.

REGIONAL NEWS

4/6/13

Metropolis of Atlanta Archons hold Spring Meeting

the Metropolis of Atlanta Archons held their annual spring meeting and banquet which focused on the critical issue of religious freedom for the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the remembrance of the 90th anniversary of the destruction of Smyrna, organized by Regional Commander Manuel N. Tissura.



3/30/13

Detroit Archons host Religious Freedom Symposium

The Order of Saint Andrew's Detroit region hosted a religious freedom symposium at Saint George Greek Orthodox Church in Southgate, MI. The event was held under the auspices of His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas of Detroit and organized by Regional Commanders Lazaros Kircos and Mark Stavropoulos.

**9/19/13 The Future of Orthodox-Catholic Relations**

A lecture, entitled, "The Papacy in Transition and the Future of Orthodox-Catholic Relations," was presented by Archon Dr. George Demacopoulos. Dr. Demacopoulos is a professor of Historical Theology and co-founder of the Orthodox Christian Studies Center at Fordham University. Dr. Demacopoulos is the Historian for the Order of Saint Andrew, professor of Historical

Theology and co-founder of the Orthodox Christian Studies Center at Fordham University. The lecture was co-sponsored by the Archons of New York, Connecticut and New Jersey from Archon Districts 1, 2 and 3 and organized principally by Regional Commander Nikiforos Mathews.



1/26/13 Metropolitan Antony's Enthronement

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony was enthroned as the fourth Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA during a service held at Saint Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Silver Spring, MD. Through the hands of the Exarch, National Commander Limberakis presented a panagia set later that afternoon to His Eminence on behalf of the Order.



11/27/12 Bishop Gregory's Enthronement

His Grace Bishop Gregory became the fourth ruling Bishop of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese of the USA at Christ the Saviour Cathedral in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Archon John Halecky, National Secretary, was joined by fellow Archons as they presented a panagia to Bishop Gregory at the banquet.

10/2012 – 10/2013

Departed Archons

John C. Angelis

Archon Dikaiophylax
Lexington, KY

Departed on January 9, 2013

Andrew A. Athens

Archon Maestor
Chicago, IL

Departed on March 14, 2013

Hon. Monte G. Basbas

Archon Depoutatos
Concord, MA

Departed on May 25, 2013

Spiro Cappony

Archon Hartouarios
Reno, NV

Departed on November 08, 2012

George C. Chryssis

Archon Orphanotrofos
Southborough, MA

Departed on May 31, 2013

Dr. George T. Demos

Archon Aktouarios
Highlands Ranch, CO

Departed on October 12, 2012

Andre C. Dimitriadis, PhD

Archon Referendarios
Malibu, CA

Departed on August 13, 2013

Dr. Orestis D. Finale

Archon Kastrinsios
Brooklyn, NY

Departed on November 18, 2012

Basil C. Foussianes

Archon Megas Ekdikos
Naples, FL

Departed on December 12, 2012

Eppaminondas Johnson

Archon Laosynaktis
Sacramento, CA

Departed on September 16, 2013

George A. Kappos

Archon Maestor
Pepper Pike, OH

Departed on August 25, 2013

Chris Karafotias

Archon Ekdikos
Skokie, IL

Departed on July 21, 2013

Peter T. Kikis

Archon Maestor
New York, NY

Departed on February 28, 2013

John S. Kokonos

Archon Ekdikos
Havertown, PA

Departed on November 19, 2012

Emmanuel M. Kontokosta

Archon Depoutatos
New York, NY

Departed on March 31, 2013

Dr. Michael G. Melas

Archon Aktouarios
Albany, NY

Departed on January 22, 2013

Hon. Nicholas J. Melas

Archon Ekdikos
Chicago, IL

Departed on March 15, 2013

James M. Mezilson

Archon Notarios
Chicago, IL

Departed on January 18, 2013

Themis C. Pailas

Archon Depoutatos
Lansdale, PA

Departed on January 28, 2013

Angelo L. Pappas

Archon Depoutatos
Los Angeles, CA

Departed on October 5, 2012

Michael F. Parlamis

Archon Nomophylax
Tenafly, NJ

Departed on October 6, 2013

James A. Poll

Archon Hieromnimon
Manhasset, NY

Departed on April 17, 2013

Constantine J. Skedros

Archon Depoutatos
Salt Lake City, UT

Departed on November 11, 2012

George L. Strike

Archon Depoutatos
Loveland, OH

Departed on October 20, 2012

Christos G. Tsaganis

Archon Depoutatos
Brockton, MA

Departed on February 4, 2013

Sava Tshontikidis

Archon Hypomnematoγραφος
Satellite Beach, FL

Departed on February 3, 2013

Cleo N. Zambetis

Archon Megas Referendarios
Canfield, OH

Departed on July 18, 2013

May their memory be eternal!



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

2013 Archons By The Numbers

The Order of Saint Andrew has representation all over the world fighting for religious freedom for the Mother Church of Constantinople. In addition to the countries listed below, Archons also reside in Italy, Spain, Finland, Panama, The Netherlands and Egypt.



770

Archons in the United States



206

Archons in Greece



84

Archons in Great Britain



30

Archons in Canada

15



Archons in Turkey

12



Archons in Switzerland

10



Archons in France

9



Archons in New Zealand

7



Archons in Argentina

6



Archons in the Australia

3



Archons in Germany

STATISTICS PROVIDED AS OF OCTOBER 9, 2013

9/24/13 Archons represented at OSCE Conference

On behalf of the Order, Archons Theofanis Economidis and Achilles Adamantiades, Ph.D. presented two papers at the 2013 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw, Poland to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The topics for the presentations were: "The Status and Issues of the Greek Orthodox Minority in Turkey" and "The Status and Issues of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople." The OSCE is the world's largest security organization whose 56 participating States and 11 partner states span the globe.

**3/1/13 Meetings with Canadian Archons**

Members of the Executive Committee of the Order of Saint Andrew, led by National Commander Dr. Anthony J. Limberakis, visited the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Toronto. They met with His Eminence Metropolitan Sotirios, His Grace Bishop Christoforos and a number of Archons from Canada to discuss various issues and initiatives.

12/5/12 Pilgrimage to Cuba

Under the auspices of His Eminence Metropolitan Athenagoras and led by Father Alexander Karloutsos, Archon Spiritual Advisor, a group of over 80 Archons and Greek Orthodox faithful journeyed to Havana, Cuba for a six-day pilgrimage to visit Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral in celebration of the patronal feast.

Metropolitan Athenagoras together with clergy of the local community baptized many local residents into the Orthodox Christians faith during the Pilgrimage.



CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION

9/2/13

Haghia Sophia: The First Great Martyr of Christian Art and Architecture

Excerpts taken from original story by Nikolaos Manginas

It all started with the Church of Haghia Sophia in Nicaea. Then Haghia Sophia in Trabzon. Both of these glorious Byzantine churches – which functioned for many decades as museums – have now been turned into mosques, a harsh reminder of their forced conversion centuries ago.



It is well known that following the Fall of the Byzantine Empire, numerous churches were converted to mosques by the Ottomans. With the establishment of the modern Turkish Republic in 1923, the same spaces were gradually converted into museums, which is what also occurred with the Great Church, Istanbul's Haghia Sophia, in 1934. Nevertheless, there are now indications that certain factions are endeavoring to cultivate in popular opinion the notion that Haghia Sophia of Istanbul, the symbol of Christian faith, should be turned into a mosque. A few months ago, a Turkish citizen submitted an application to the National Assembly for the conversion of Haghia Sophia into a mosque.

His All-Holiness declared in a February interview with *Milliyet*, “With regard to Hagia Sophia in Istanbul, it served as a Christian church for over one thousand years. If it is to reopen as a house of worship, then it should open as a Christian church. Because it was built as a church and not a mosque.”

9/30/13

Erdoğan Breaks Promises of Reopening Halki SeminaryBy Christina Flora of *Greek Reporter Europe*

The Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Abbot of the Holy Monastery of Agia Triada of Halki, expressed its deep sorrow over the fact that Erdoğan's promises to reopen the Theological School of Halki, have not been fulfilled.

In a written statement, the Bishop says, “We will keep believing that the reopening of the Theological School of Halki is necessary and we will keep trying. We ask our

Prime Minister to continue in the right direction towards the violation of human and religious rights of his citizens.”

In recent years Erdoğan's government promised to reopen the Halki Seminary, leading many people to believe that it would operate again.

However, in a recent interview, Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey implied that this is not going to happen.

Tayyip Erdoğan announced the “package of democratization” in which there was no mention to the Theological School of Halki.

9/4/13

Sinai's 1,500 Year-Old Monastery Shut Down by Egyptian SecurityExcerpts taken from original story by Mohannad Sabry of *Al-Monitor*

In the Sinai city of St. Catherine, a few thousand people and around 800 camels have been left struggling when Egyptian security authorities ordered the total shutdown of the town's 1,500-year-old monastery. Bedouin residents of the mountainous area were forced to sell their camels, which they cannot feed, to feed their families.



“This is the third time we've closed since the early 1960s before the Israeli occupation. And even during the occupation, we remained open,” Father Paolos, a member of the monastery's Holy Council who's been serving in St. Catherine's since 1972, “After the attacks on churches around the country in the past two months, we received orders from security authorities to shut down for security reasons.”

“Despite having more time to pray and practice, our priests live without crowds of visitors, we are suffering a major financial crisis, and we cannot cover the monastery's expenses and dozens of families that we constantly support,” said Paolos.

St. Catherine's Monastery employs 400 workers from the surrounding community at its olive groves, grape farms, honey bee farms and several processing facilities including an olive oil press.

9/29/13

Church of Sts. Sergius and Bacchus in Ma'loula Destroyed by MilitantsExcerpts taken from original story by *pravoslavie.ru*

Militants have destroyed the ancient Christian Church of Holy Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus in Ma'loula, Syria and have stolen or demolished its world-famous icons. This construction, which was the oldest in the Middle East, had been built in the early 4th century.



A unique icon of Sts. Sergius and Bacchus painted in the 13th century, which was situated just at the entrance, has been lost forever. The iconostasis and its central icon, painted in the 13th century, have been destroyed together with the icons of the Mother of God and Christ “the Archpastor”.

The church cannot be restored. The main cross fell from the dome, wall paintings were destroyed, shot down and slashed by debris, while the walls themselves were either destroyed or disfigured by holes of shells. At the same time, the militants are continuing to shoot down the remaining church walls with mortar.

5/7/13

The Mass Exodus of Christians from the Muslim World

Excerpts taken from original story by Raymond Ibrahim of *FOX News*

Millions of Christians are being displaced from one end of the Islamic world to the other.

The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom recently said: “The flight of Christians out of the region is unprecedented and it’s increasing year by year.” In our lifetime alone “Christians might disappear altogether from Iraq, Afghanistan, and Egypt.”



In 2003, Iraq’s Christian population was at least one million. Today fewer than 400,000 remain—the result of an anti-Christian campaign that began with the U.S. occupation of Iraq, when countless Christian churches were bombed and countless Christians killed, including by crucifixion and beheading.

The 2010 Baghdad church attack, which saw nearly 60 Christian worshippers slaughtered, is the tip of a decade-long iceberg.

Now, as the U.S. supports the jihad on Syria’s secular president Assad, the same pattern has come to Syria: entire regions and towns where Christians lived for centuries before Islam came into being have now been emptied, as the opposition targets Christians for kidnapping, plundering, and beheadings, all in compliance with mosque calls telling the populace that it’s a “sacred duty” to drive Christians away.

4/1/13

The Order protests USCIRF decision to remove Turkey from World’s Worst Violators

Excerpts taken from original report submitted by *USCIRF*

The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) continues to recommend that the U.S. government encourage the Turkish government to end its longstanding denial of full legal recognition for religious communities and permit religious minorities to train clergy in Turkey, including by reopening the Greek Orthodox Theological Seminary of Halki and returning the entire territory of the Mor Gabriel Syrian Orthodox monastery.



The Turkish government, in the name of secularism, continues to impose burdensome regulations and to deny full legal recognition to religious minorities. These restrictions, including policies that deny non-Muslim communities the rights to train clergy, offer religious education, and own and maintain places of worship, threaten the very survival of minority religious communities in Turkey.

The Turkish government’s strict control of religion in the public sphere continues to restrict religious freedom and freedom of expression, especially for non-Muslim religious minority communities.

At a meeting with USCIRF, the Archon leadership formally protested its decision to remove Turkey from the Country of Particular Concern designation, which is the worst category of religious freedom offenders.

4/23/13

Orthodox Christian Bishops abducted in Syria, Deacon Killed in Attack

Sources *antiochian.org* and *RT.com*

His Eminence Metropolitan Philip of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese reported from His Beatitude John X, Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, that it was learned that Metropolitan Paul (Yazigi), of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo, and the brother of His Beatitude, as well as Mar Gregorios Yohanna Ibrahim of the Syriac Archdiocese of Aleppo, were both abducted by terrorists as they were returning from Antioch to Aleppo.



As they neared the city, they were met by an armed group in the village of Kfar who forced them out of the car. The assailants killed the bishops’ driver before taking them hostage.

Syria’s 10 percent Christian population is particularly vulnerable to such attacks especially from the opposition groups as they have remained largely neutral or supportive of the government.

Archbishop of Aleppo Paul has been given a mission to minister the parishes of the diocese of Antioch, where a large part of the Arab Orthodox population is located. This came despite the fact that the road connecting Aleppo and Antakya is extremely dangerous: it is constantly shelled and there are frequent cases of kidnappings

5/10/13

Turkey uncovers alleged plot to assassinate Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

Excerpts taken from original story by Ayla Yackley of *Reuters*

Turkey investigated an alleged plot to assassinate Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and stepped up security around the patriarchate in Istanbul.

Spokesman Dositheos Anagnostopoulos said the patriarch had not received any direct threats but had learned of the alleged plot from Turkish media, which was later confirmed to the patriarchate by Turkish police.



“Later in the day, police informed the patriarchate of a possible threat and dispatched additional police officers,” Anagnostopoulos said.

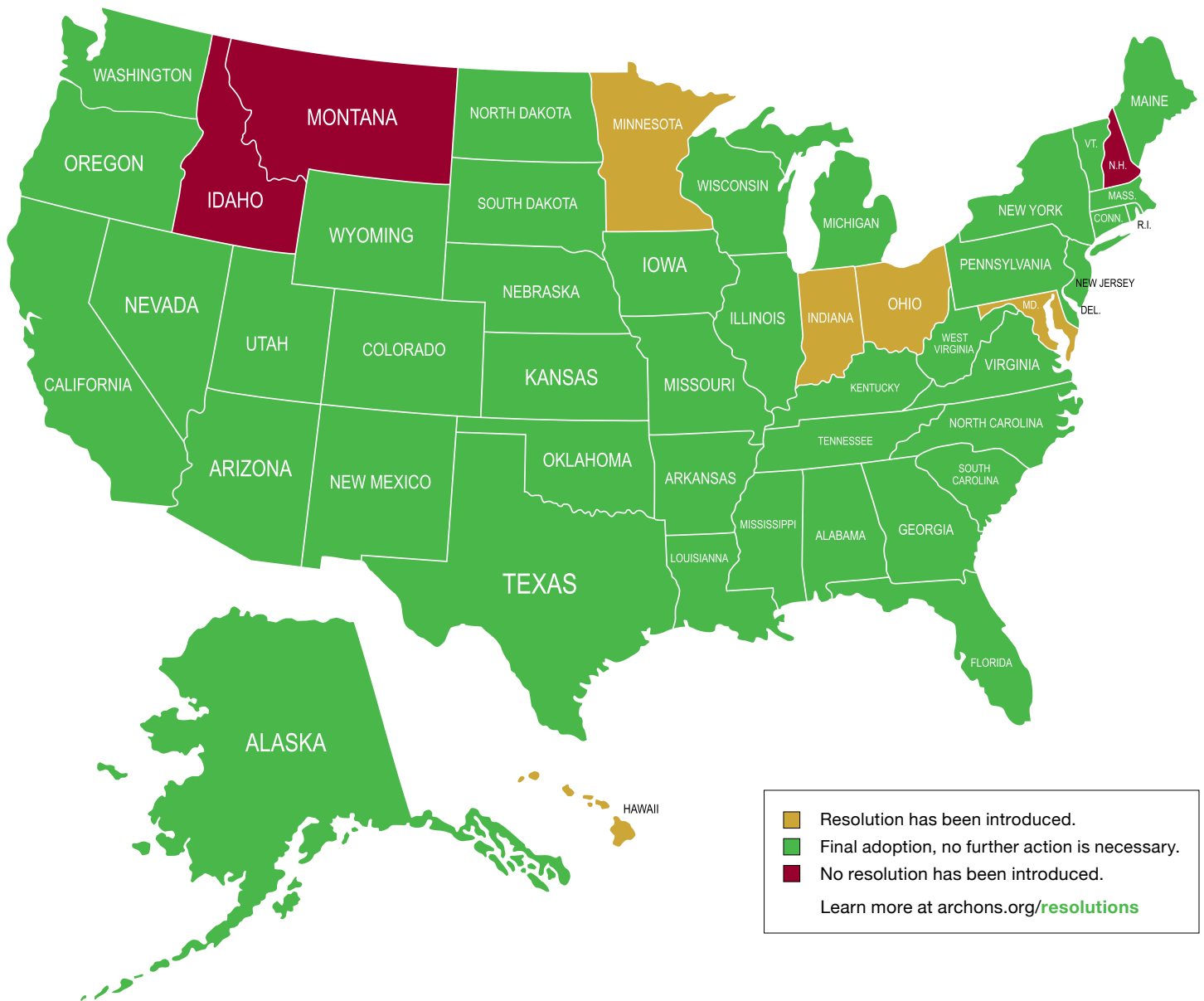
Turkish broadcaster NTV said one man had been arrested in relation to the alleged plot, after state prosecutors in central Kayseri province received an anonymous letter saying there was a plan to assassinate Bartholomew on May 29, the anniversary of the Ottoman conquest of present-day Istanbul.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM RESOLUTIONS

2013 52 religious freedom resolutions adopted in 42 States, representing 90% of the American population

In 2006, the National Council of the Order of Saint Andrew initiated the Religious Freedom Resolutions project, coordinated by Archon Stephen Georgeson of Atlanta. The goal of this project, which represents one component of the overall, multi-faceted Religious Freedom Initiative, is the adoption of religious freedom resolutions in support of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in every state legislature. This project is an ongoing effort of the Order of Saint Andrew and represents an important part of the governmental and public affairs strategy of the Religious Freedom Initiative. Below is the most recent update as of October 15, 2013:

<p>Alabama</p> <p>SJR 73 Adopted by House and Senate on 5/2007</p>	<p>Alaska</p> <p>SJR 28 - Introduced on 2/18/2010 Adopted by Senate 4/5/2010 Adopted by House 4/11/2010</p>	<p>Arizona</p> <p>HCM 2009 Introduced on 1/17/2008 Adopted by House 3/18/2008 Adopted by Senate 5/22/2008</p>	<p>Arkansas</p> <p>SCR 3 Introduced on 1/22/2009 Adopted by Senate on 2/18/09 Adopted by House 3/12/2009</p>	<p>California</p> <p>SJR 17 Introduced on 9/10/2007 Adopted by Senate 2/28/2008 Adopted by Assembly 8/30/2008</p>
<p>Colorado</p> <p>HJR 1014 Adopted by House and Senate on 4/7/2011</p>	<p>Connecticut</p> <p>Adopted on 4/30/2010</p>	<p>Delaware</p> <p>HR 9 Introduced on 3/10/2009 Adopted on 3/19/2009</p>	<p>Florida</p> <p>HM 191 Introduced on 3/2/2010 Adopted on 4/23/2010 SM 314 Introduced on 3/1/2010 Adopted on 4/28/2010</p>	<p>Georgia</p> <p>HR 415 Adopted by House 4/2007 SR 1038 Introduced on 2/27/2008 Adopted by Senate 3/6/2008</p>
<p>Hawaii</p> <p>SCR 57 and SR 31 Introduced on 3/4/2011 Adoption Pending</p>	<p>Idaho</p> <p>No resolution has been introduced at this time.</p>	<p>Illinois</p> <p>HR 666 Introduced on 8/10/2007 Adopted on 10/4/2007 SR 70 Introduced on 2/25/2009 Adopted on 5/31/2013</p>	<p>Indiana</p> <p>SR 4 Introduced on 1/5/2011 Adoption Pending</p>	<p>Iowa</p> <p>HR 27 Introduced on 3/12/2009 Adopted on 3/23/2009</p>
<p>Kansas</p> <p>SR 1807 Introduced on 1/6/2011 Adopted by Senate 2/3/2011</p>	<p>Kentucky</p> <p>HR 244 Adopted on 3/26/2008</p>	<p>Louisiana</p> <p>SR 109 Adopted by Senate 6/2007</p>	<p>Maine</p> <p>HP 924 Introduced on 3/25/2009 Adopted by House 3/31/2009 Adopted by Senate 4/2/2009</p>	<p>Maryland</p> <p>HJR 5 Introduced on 3/14/2008 Adoption Pending</p>
<p>Massachusetts</p> <p>Adopted on 4/16/2008</p>	<p>Michigan</p> <p>SCR 6 Introduced on 3/19/2009 Adopted by House 3/19/2009 Adopted by Senate 3/25/2009</p>	<p>Minnesota</p> <p>SR 178 Introduced on 4/2/2008 Adoption Pending</p>	<p>Mississippi</p> <p>HCR 67 Introduced on 3/19/2008 Adopted by House 3/31/2008 Adopted by Senate 4/16/2008</p>	<p>Missouri</p> <p>HR 1365 Introduced on 3/19/2008 Adopted by House 5/7/2012 SR 1762 Adopted by Senate 5/7/2012</p>
<p>Montana</p> <p>No resolution has been introduced at this time.</p>	<p>Nebraska</p> <p>LR 273 Introduced 1/6/2010 Adopted on 4/13/2010</p>	<p>Nevada</p> <p>ACR 31 Adopted by Assembly and Senate on 5/6/2009</p>	<p>New Hampshire</p> <p>No resolution has been introduced at this time.</p>	<p>New Jersey</p> <p>SJR 11 Adopted by Senate and House 6/2006</p>
<p>New Mexico</p> <p>HM 39 Introduced on 2/2/2010 Adopted by House 2/13/2010</p>	<p>New York</p> <p>Adopted by Senate and House 4/1/2011</p>	<p>North Carolina</p> <p>Adopted on 6/28/2010</p>	<p>North Dakota</p> <p>SCR 4014 Introduced 1/26/2010 Adopted on 3/24/2011</p>	<p>Ohio</p> <p>SCR 3 Introduced on 2/1/2011 Adoption Pending</p>



- Resolution has been introduced.
- Final adoption, no further action is necessary.
- No resolution has been introduced.

[Learn more at archons.org/resolutions](http://archons.org/resolutions)

<p>Oklahoma</p> <p>SR 54 Introduced on 2/19/2008 <i>Adopted</i> on 3/24/2008</p>	<p>Oregon</p> <p>SJR 16 Introduced on 5/4/2009 <i>Adopted</i> by Senate on 5/6/2009 <i>Adopted</i> by House on 6/1/2009</p>	<p>Pennsylvania</p> <p>HR 876 <i>Adopted</i> by House 11/2006 SR 188 Introduced on 10/24/2007 <i>Adopted</i> by Senate 3/10/2008</p>	<p>Rhode Island</p> <p>SR 895 <i>Adopted</i> by Senate 3/2007</p>	<p>South Carolina</p> <p>HR 4727 Introduced on 2/20/2008 <i>Adopted</i> by House on 4/9/2008 SR 735 <i>Adopted</i> by Senate 5/2007</p>
<p>South Dakota</p> <p>SCR 6 <i>Adopted</i> by Senate 2/21/2012 <i>Adopted</i> by House on 2/23/2012</p>	<p>Tennessee</p> <p>SJR 535 <i>Adopted</i> by Senate 6/2007 <i>Adopted</i> by House on 4/17/2008</p>	<p>Texas</p> <p>HCR 1670 Introduced on 5/1/2011 <i>Adopted</i> on 5/5/2011 SR 1006 <i>Adopted</i> on 5/16/2011</p>	<p>Utah</p> <p>SR 1 Introduced on 1/23/2009 <i>Adopted</i> on 2/5/2009 HR 2 Introduced on 2/3/2009 <i>Adopted</i> on 2/19/2009</p>	<p>Vermont</p> <p>JRS 47 Introduced on 2/9/2010 <i>Adopted</i> on 5/12/2010</p>
<p>Virginia</p> <p>HR 35 <i>Adopted</i> on 3/1/2012</p>	<p>Washington</p> <p>HR 35 <i>Adopted</i> by the Senate and House 2/26/2012</p>	<p>West Virginia</p> <p>HCR 37 Introduced on 2/11/2008 <i>Adopted</i> by House 3/3/2008 <i>Adopted</i> by Senate 3/8/2008</p>	<p>Wisconsin</p> <p>SR 10 Introduced on 3/4/2010 <i>Adopted</i> on 4/22/2010</p>	<p>Wyoming</p> <p><i>Adopted</i> on 6/20/2012</p>

THE EDICT OF MILAN—1,700 YEARS

10/4/13

Conquer By This

1,700 years ago, Saint Constantine the Great saw a symbol of a Cross in the heavens and received the words from God, "Conquer By This" before his decisive battle with Maxentius. The result ended in the Edict of Milan legislating the persecuted Christians their freedoms to worship and own property. His All-Holiness, along with numerous Heads of Churches, participated in celebrations in Niš—the city of Emperor Saint Constantine's birth—for the anniversary which was hosted by His Beatitude Patriarch Irinej of Serbia and organized by the Orthodox Patriarchate of Serbia.



[L-R] Metropolitan Sawa of Poland; Archbishop Ieronymos of Athens; Archbishop Chrysostomos of Cyprus; Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem; His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew; Patriarch Kirill of Moscow; Patriarch Irinej of Serbia; and Archbishop Anastasios of Albania.



9/11/13 **Leader of Love**

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew holding a young child during an official trip to the Autonomous Church of Finland.

Defenders

Defenders of the Faith



Advocates of
Religious Freedom
for The Ecumenical Patriarchate