

Declaration of his Beatitude Archbishop of Athens and All Greece Mr. Ieronymos at the opening of the first regular Session of the Holy Synod of the Hierarchy of the Church of Greece, on 2/10/2024, on the dramatic escalation of the conflict in the Middle East and a message of support to the Ancient Orthodox Patriarchates of Antioch and Jerusalem

Athens, October 2, 2024

His Beatitude the Archbishop, in his address to the Hierarchs, at the start of the work of the first regular Session of the Hierarchy, on Wednesday, October 2, 2024, among other burning issues he mentioned related to the situation in Greece that cause great concern - such as the crisis of values of our identity, the demographic, the increasing violence in the social and family environment as well as the housing problem -, he particularly pointed out his concern about the situation of the war in the Middle East and the consequences for the ancient Orthodox Patriarchates of Antioch and Jerusalem:

" Apart from all these, we hear more and more often the sound of war drums, we see human lives being lost or injured mentally and physically. Children's souls are forced to experience the horrors of war with devastating consequences. These events make us worry about the ancient Orthodox Patriarchates of Antioch and Jerusalem. We express our support to His Beatitude Patriarch of Antioch Mr. Ioannis and His Beatitude Patriarch of Jerusalem Mr. Theophilos and the Clergy and lay people around them, and indeed (we offer our support) in practice, if necessary, as in the past. May the God of peace enlighten the mighty of the earth, so that they stop working the works of darkness and turn to the True Light".