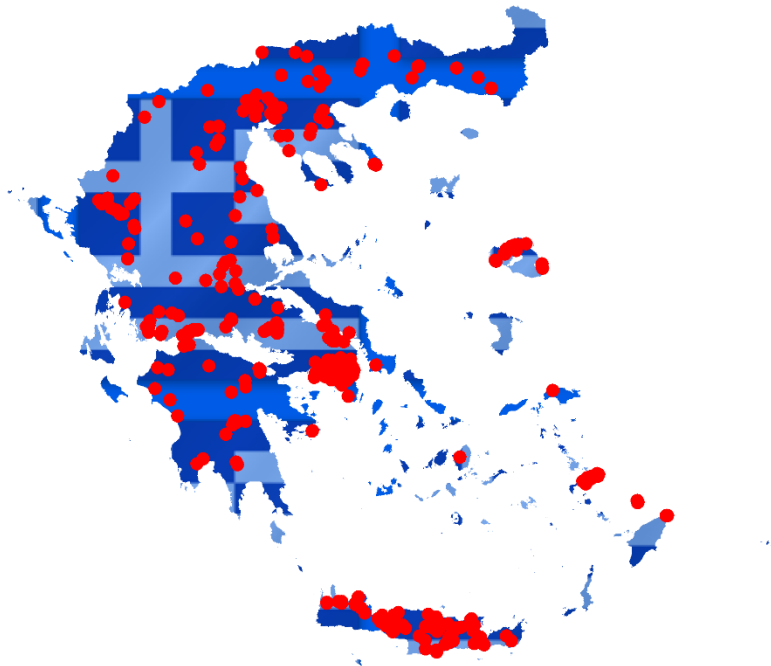




MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS, AND SPORTS
GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS
DIRECTORATE FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND INTERFAITH
RELATIONS
DEPARTMENT FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS AND INTERFAITH RELATIONS

ACTS AGAINST RELIGIOUS SITES IN GREECE



REPORT 2022

All maps and statistical analysis are also available on the website:

<https://arcg.is/1fKmujo>



Cover page: Geographical display of all incidents presented in the 2022 Report. Original map-layout source: Hellenic Statistical Authority

Back cover: Detail of inscription, Holy Monastery of Aghios Georgios Hozeva, Israel

All maps (except for II.A.2.c.iii) as well as statistical processing and data presentation were prepared, upon request and instructions by the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs, by V. Rev. Archimandrite Ioannis-Georgios Peristerides, Chemical Engineer MSc, Theologian MA, PhD candidate of School of Rural and Surveying Engineering, National Technical University of Athens- whom we warmly thank - with the support of the research group “GeoCHOROS” of the National Technical University of Athens and were granted free of charge.



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COURTESY AND NON-OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Translated and adapted by Isidora Prokopiou

“I have loved, O Lord, the beauty of thy house; and the place where thy glory dwelleth”

(Psalm 25,8)

קְבוֹדְךָ מִשְׁכַּן, וּמְקוֹם; בֵּיתְךָ מֵעוֹן, אֶהְבֵּתִי--יְהוָה

(תהלים ח)

“Domine dilexi decorem domus tuae et locum habitationis gloriae tuae”

(Psalm 25,8)

مَجْدِكَ مَسْكِنٍ وَمَوْضِعَ بَيْتِكَ مَحَلًّا أَحْبَبْتُ رَبُّ يَا

(مزَامير ٨)

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Foreword

Religious freedom for all is the cornerstone of Greece's policy on religious affairs and cannot be understood without the freedom of worship and without respect for the places of worship. The Annual Report of the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports offers safe, reliable and valid data on the acts against religious sites. At the same time, it contains the necessary information on the existing legislative framework on religious affairs in Greece. The Report is posted on the website of the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports and is also translated into English. In this way, it becomes a public property and a source of reference within and outside Greece.

Our priority at the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports is the integration of digitization into the policy on religious affairs. We aspire to implement promptly this new approach in steady steps. The digital dimension is not only defined as the digitization of processes but also the management of information in the digital world, so that among the positive results we can include the maximum possible halt of misinformation and fake information on religious policy issues in Greece.

Greece has an impressive religious diversity, while at the same time it has a unique position in Christianity due to its relationship with Orthodoxy. These two facts do not work in opposition to each other but complementarily, because they are based on the principle of religious freedom for all, which is guaranteed by the State.

Kyriakos Pierrakakis

Minister of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports

Introductory Note

In 2022, eight (8) years were completed since the first edition of the Report on acts against religious sites. The following table summarizes the data for all these years:

**Number of acts against religious sites and their distribution by religious community,
2015 - 2022**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total	%
Orthodox Church	137	208	525	563	504	374	370	564	3.245	95,72%
True Orthodox Christians (Old Calendarists)			1		3	4	3	1	12	0,35%
Catholic Church	1	1	2	1	3	7			15	0,44%
Ethiopian Orthodox Church			1						1	0,03%
Armenian Evangelical Church			4						4	0,12%
Jehovah's Christian Witnesses			4	3	4			2	13	0,38%
Judaism	4	5	11	20	5	10	3	1	59	1,74%
Islam	5	1	8	2	5	9	2	8	40	1,18%
Total	147	215	556	589	524	404	378	577	3.390	

After 2014 and the passing of the fundamental law 4301/2014 (A' 223) "*Organization of the legal form of religious communities and their associations in Greece*", 2022 is the year in which emblematic reforms for the religious policy of Greece were implemented.

Specifically, by Law 4957/2022 (A' 141):

(a) the legal status of the Holy Metropolises of the Dodecanese and the Patriarchal Exarchate of Patmos, which had been pending for 75 years since the liberation of the Dodecanese, was regulated. It is noted that the equivalent problem for the Managing Bodies of the Waqf properties in Kos and Rhodes was resolved by Law 4821/2021 (A' 134) which put a definitive end to a period of 73 years during which a decree of B. Mussolini was applied in Greek territory,

b) a 77-year pending issue was settled which had repeatedly threatened the relationship of solidarity and cooperation between the Church and the State because of the discrepancy between the number of employed Clergy and the number of permanent positions. The

rationalization that has been achieved, without any additional expenditure by the State, is a milestone in the observance of the principle of distinct roles,

c) the purpose and mission of the Mosque of Athens was redefined in order to meet the wish of the Muslims in Attica to become their religious center. In addition, a “Religious Committee of the Mosque of Athens” was established in order, inter alia, to provide valid and reliable guidance to Muslims on matters of Islamic orthopraxy.

By Law 4964/2022 (A’ 150), which was the result of extensive research and lengthy consultation with Muslim religious ministers, a fundamental reform of the regime governing the Muftiates and Muftis of the Muslim minority in Thrace was implemented, offering, for the first time, a modern and comprehensive regulatory framework, fully compatible with the Constitution and the country's international obligations, as defined by the Treaty of Lausanne, the European Convention on Human Rights and the jurisprudence of the Council of State and the European Court of Human Rights.

Greece is therefore demonstrably continuing its efforts in a methodical and effective manner to create a modern, liberal and pioneering legislative framework for religious affairs, at the core of which is the respect for the fundamental right of religious freedom, without ignoring the provisions of Article 13 of the Constitution: *“The practice of worship must not offend public order or morality. Proselytism is prohibited. [...] No one may, on account of their religious beliefs, be exempted from fulfilling their obligations to the State or refuse to comply with the law.”*

George Kalantzis

Secretary General for Religious Affairs

Content Summary

In the **Introductory Part (I)** the background and the general regulatory framework for the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs is presented as well as the regulatory framework governing the protection of religious freedom in Greece with particular reference on the framework for building and operating worship places. Reference is made on setting up the Network for recording incidents against religious sites, on the types of religious sites referred to in this Report and a list with the co-operating religious and state bodies is drawn up.

In **Part II** all incidents against religious sites by religious community are listed, as they have come to the knowledge of the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs. Additional information is provided on relevant historical, legal and statistical data where appropriate.

For the year 2022, a total of five hundred seventy-seven (577) incidents against religious sites were recorded, which are broken down by religion as follows:

- Christianity: 567 incidents of all kind (vandalism, burglaries, thefts, sacrilege, robberies, arsons and other types of desecration).

In particular there have been:

- Greek Orthodox Church: 564 incidents, representing 97,7% of the total number of incidents,
 - True Orthodox Christians: 1 incident, i.e. 0,17% of the total,
 - Jehova's Christian Witnesses: 2 incidents, i.e. 0,35% of the total.
- Judaism: 1 incident of antisemitic nature, i.e. 0,17% of the total.
 - Islam: 8 incidents, i.e. 1,39% of the total.

One (1) incident against the Indian Cemetery in Thessaloniki was also reported.

In **Part III** data is presented geographically and statistically in the form of maps and graphs, as follows:

- a) Geographical breakdown of the incidents in Greece by religious community,
- b) Geographical breakdown of the total of incidents reported by administrative region,
- c) Chronological order of the incidents by month,
- d) Cases that have been solved and cases remaining unsolved.



I. INTRODUCTION



A. General Secretariat for Religious Affairs

1. Overview

The General Secretariat for Religious Affairs has always been associated with the Hellenic Ministry of Education because matters concerning religion and education have been dealt with jointly since the creation of the modern Greek State. This relation is easier to understand through summarizing the establishment and evolution of the Ministry currently called Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports and in particular the course of the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs in time.

At the first National Assembly of Epidaurus which was the first assembly of the legislative body of the Modern Greek State (Epidaurus, December 20, 1821 – January 16, 1822) the Provisional Constitution of Greece which is considered the first Constitution of Greece was adopted on January 1st, 1822. By this text it is established, inter alia, that “the Government is composed of the Senate and of the Executive Power”. The Executive Power names eight Secretaries renewed every year, one of whom is the Secretary “of Divine Worship”. The Bishop of Androussa, Iossif, was named to this position (The Provisional Constitution of Greece, First National Assembly of Epidaurus).

At the Second National Assembly convened in Astros a year later, the Provisional Constitution of Greece was revised and a new Constitution was adopted, named “the Epidaurus Law”, demonstrating the continuity between the new Constitution and the previous one. In this text, it is established that the Executive body shall be composed of seven ministers, one of whom still is the “Minister of Religion” (The Provisional Constitution of Greece, Second National Assembly at Astros, p. 5).

The Political Constitution of Greece adopted by the Third National Assembly at Troezen establishes six Secretaries of the State who are responsible for implementing the laws. One of the Secretaries of the State is the Secretary for law and education responsible for matters of Religion.

Subsequently, in 1829, within the education and ecclesiastical policy of Ioannis Kapodistrias, a Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs and Public Education was established, bringing together two inseparable bodies that serve a single purpose: the moral education of the citizens which is the fundament for the social and political growth of the nation, as stated by Kapodistrias himself¹.

This choice made by Kapodistrias reflects the historical experience of Greeks because preserving self-awareness of the “Genos” and the continuum of Greek language are inextricably connected with the Orthodox Church and, in particular, with the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Indeed, the education structures of the “Genos” before the Greek Nation was established, depended to a great extent on the Orthodox Church. This initiative of Kapodistrias indirectly reflects one of the fundamental principles of Ancient Greek civilization: “All

¹ Fr Georgios Metallinos. “Ioannis Kapodistrias: Politician and martyr of the Orthodox Church and of Hellenism”. *Ecclesia, Year 85, Volume 8*, August – September 2008, Athens, pp. 606-607. (π. Γεωργίου Μεταλληνού, «Ιωάννης Καποδίστριας (Ο πολιτικός – μάρτυρας τῆς Ὀρθοδοξίας καὶ τοῦ Ἑλληνισμοῦ), περιοδικό «ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ», ἔτος ΠΕ', τ. 8, Αὐγουστος-September 2008, Αθήναι, σσ. 606-607.)

knowledge, when separated from justice and other virtue, appears to be cunning, not wisdom” (Plato, Menexenus, 347a).

The Royal Constitution of 1832, which was never applied, established that the Ministers - Secretaries were no more than seven, one of whom was responsible for the Ecclesiastical matters and Public Education.

In 1833, King Otto established with a Royal Decree that the Heads of Ministries shall be hereafter called “Secretaries of the State”. The Secretary for Ecclesiastical matters and Public Education was one of them (Official Gazette A’ 2). By the same decree, it is established that the scope of this Secretariat is to confer full freedom of worship to the Greek nationals of any religion. In the same year, the seven Secretariats are established, governed by the competent Secretary as Chief Director.

The Royal Decree establishing the seven Secretariats sets out that the Secretariat for Ecclesiastical matters and Public Education is the fourth in command among the Secretariats (A’ 13, 1833). Later on, the competences of the Secretariat for Ecclesiastical matters and Public Education are set out in two parts, the first of the two being Ecclesiastical matters:

- a. To comply with the laws regulating the relations among Christian churches and their religious communities;
- b. To maintain legitimate limits between political authority and ecclesiastical authorities and to protect the rights of the public sector in cases of conflict relating to ecclesiastical property and facilities;
- c. To examine decrees by the ecclesiastical authorities, especially those issued by the Pope of Rome, and to issue royal authorization before their publishing;
- d. To establish Synodal authorities, supervise their acts and issue relevant decisions;
- e. To supervise the Divine worship and to restrict or to annul fairs or celebrations that are not essential;
- f. To secure the Royal Decree;
- g. To issue permits for establishing religious organizations and facilities and to shut them down if there is justified reason;
- h. To renovate and establish clerical facilities for the education and training of the clergy and with regard to the examination of the candidates for posts in the ecclesiastical hierarchy;
- i. To divide provinces of different ecclesiastical authorities;
- j. To provide for building and maintaining buildings for churches and priests’ residences;
- k. To supervise the administration and management of the property dedicated to religious needs.

The second part includes Public Education matters, as follows:

- a. To supervise schools and education-related matters in general, to take the necessary actions to set up a body competent for the elementary and higher facilities, a University and an Academy for sciences;
- b. To take the necessary actions to provide equipment for schools and educational facilities and to supervise the administration for school property;
- c. To take the necessary actions to train competent teachers for schools and to build the necessary facilities;
- d. To secure scholarships for gifted students;

- e. To set up and supervise public libraries, an Observatory and other institutions of the kind;
- f. To direct the Royal Printing House and to accelerate translating the most significant foreign books into Greek;
- g. To achieve progress in art and to set up schools for teaching art and collections and to build an Academy for plastic and visual arts, to make preparations for excavations and discovery of lost masterpieces of art and to preserve the existing ones and to ensure that they remain in the State;
- h. To promote scientific research for expanding knowledge and to publish manuscripts of monasteries which may be valuable to sciences;
- i. To make proposals on the faculty that shall be appointed to teaching positions or to public institutions promoting sciences and the arts.
- j. To supervise the administration and management of property and revenues devoted to education and to care for the erection and maintenance of the buildings necessary for the education of the people and the development of the arts.

Additionally, the Secretary for Ecclesiastical matters and Public Education is responsible for maintaining discipline among the staff that he supervises and for applying sanctions. The staff of the Secretariat, according to this Act, includes two advisers, three secretaries, two clerks and an usher. The staff may be increased if there is extreme urgency.

In the Constitution of 1844, State Secretariats are named Ministries and State Secretaries are named Ministers.

Law ΑΓ' "On organizing Ministries" (A' 14) adopted in 1846 establishes by legislation the term Ministries. The seven preexisting Ministries (former State Secretariats) are maintained, but for the first time it is laid down that the administration of the Ministries is divided into Departments and the post of the Secretary General is introduced. By the same law it is established that the staff of the Ministry of Ecclesiastical Matters includes two Department Heads, three Secretaries (class a' and class b'), three Clerks (class a', class b' and class c') and two ushers.

By law ΣΙΕ' of December 16, 1852 (A' 65), an additional secretary of the minister is included and a clerk of class a'.

Four years later, in 1856, by Law ΤΟΣΤ' adopted on October 12, 1856 (A' 60), an additional secretary of the minister of class a' is included.

By the Act of Legislative Content of December 29, 1925 (A' 5) the Directorate for Religious Affairs is established in the Central Agency of the Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs. The Head of the Directorate is a General Director and has, along with the Minister, the high supervision of "Ecclesiastical" matters and may be instructed by the Minister to supervise "special matters". The General Director for Religious Affairs has the responsibilities and jurisdiction that the Head of the Department of Ecclesiastical matters hitherto had.

In 1926, a new Act of Legislative Content lays out that the Ministry of Ecclesiastical matters and Public Education is named Ministry of Religious Affairs and Education, consisting of twelve departments, first of which is the Department for Religious Affairs. By the same Act, the Act of 1925 (A' 140) is repealed, by which the Directorate for Religious Affairs was established.

In 1937, by emergency law 782 (A' 267) the Directorate for Religious Affairs is reestablished and the Ministry is named Ministry of Religious Affairs and National Education consisting of six departments:

- a) The Minister's Cabinet,

- b) The General Directorate for Antiquities, Letters and Fine Arts,
- c) The General Directorate for Education,
- d) The Directorate for Religious Affairs which includes two departments: 1) for Ecclesiastical Matters and 2) for Administration,
- e) The Directorate for the Youth and
- f) The Directorate for Staff, Processing and Archives.

In 1951, by Emergency Law 1671 (A' 33), the Ministry of Religious Affairs and National Education is renamed Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs; this has been the name of the Ministry since 2009².

In 1976, by Presidential Decree 147 (A' 56) the General Directorate for Religious Affairs is established. It comprises three Directorates:

- a) for Ecclesiastical Administration, including i) the Department for Ecclesiastical Administrative matters and ii) the Department for Churches, Monasteries and Clergy
- b) for Ecclesiastical and Religious Education, including i) the Department for Staff and ii) the Department for Administration; and
- c) for other denominations and religions, including i) the Department for other Denominations and ii) the Department for other Religions.

In 1987, by Presidential Decree 417 (A' 186) the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs is established, providing for a position of Secretary General as Head (special positions type, 1st degree). The General Secretariat for Religious Affairs is responsible for implementing the government policies on Religions and for supervising the Directorates under the General Directorate for Religious Affairs, as set out in Articles 5, 6 and 7 of Presidential Decree 147/1976. These Directorates along with their staff have been set under the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs.

In 1990, by Presidential Decree 339 (A' 135), General Directorates are established at the Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs. The first in order is the General Directorate for Religious Affairs including the Directorates for:

- a) Ecclesiastical Administration
- b) Ecclesiastical Education
- c) Other Denominations and Religions

The General Directorate coordinates the action of the units it is comprised of, aiming at specializing, analyzing and evaluating the policies implemented in Religious Affairs.

The General Directorate for Religious Affairs was repealed in 2014 by Presidential Decree 114 (A' 181). By this Decree, it is established that the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs includes two Directorates:

² In 2009, the Ministry was named Hellenic Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs (B' 2234/07-10-2009). In 2012, it was named Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, Culture and Sports (A' 141/21-06-2012). In 2013, it was named Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs (A' 152/25-06-2013). In January 2015 it was named Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Education and Religious Affairs (A' 20, 27-01-2015). In September 2015 it was named Hellenic Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs (A' 114/22-09-2015) and the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports was reconstituted. On July 8, 2019, the Ministry was renamed "Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs" (A' 119 A' /8-7-2019).

- a. Directorate for Religious Administration including the Department for Ecclesiastical Administration and the Department for other Religions and Denominations, and
- b. Directorate for Religious Education including the Department for Ecclesiastical and Religious Education and the Department for Religious Freedoms and Interfaith Relations

In this Presidential Decree, protection of freedom of religious conscience and religious worship as well as supervising religious ministers of all known religions is included for the first time among the scope of the mission of the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs.

2. Regulatory framework in force

Article 1 of the Presidential Decree 18/2018 (Official Government Gazette A' 31) on the Organizational Structure of the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, sets out the mission of the Ministry which is:

“[...] to develop and to constantly improve education aiming at:

- a. Educating Greeks morally, spiritually and physically;*
- b. Developing national consciousness;*
- c. Protecting freedom of religious conscience and of worship and supervising religious ministers of known religions;*
- d. Teaching respect for freedom of speech and expression;*
- e. Tolerating diversity;*
- f. Educating based on the principles of democracy, equity, solidarity, non-discrimination, transparency and merit-based procedures;*
- g. Respecting the natural and cultural environment and consolidating the principles of sustainability;*
- h. Shaping free, active citizens with critical thinking;*
- i. Developing and promoting science, research, innovation, technology, information society;*
- j. Catering for quality education for the youth and for life-long learning.”*

Additionally, according to Article 57 (1) of this Presidential Decree as amended by Law 4589/2019 (A' 13) Article 72 (par. 3 indent a'), *“the scope of the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs is to protect the freedom of religious conscience and religious practice, to*

supervise the religious education system and the religious ministers of known religions and to connect religion, education and culture while promoting actions against fanaticism and intolerance and for interreligious relations and dialogue in benefit to religious peace and social cohesion”.

The General Secretariat for Religious Affairs includes two Directorates:

- a. The Directorate for Religious Administration including the Department for Ecclesiastical Administration, the Department for Administrative matters and Register and the Department for Islamic Matters, and
- b. The Directorate for Religious Education including the Department for Ecclesiastical and Religious Education, the Department for Religious Freedoms and Interfaith Relations and the Department for Medresses (Islamic Religious Schools).

B. Protection of religious freedom

1. Regulatory framework

Since 1821 all Greek constitutional texts in addition to recognizing the religion of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ as the prevailing religion in Greece³, ensured the freedom of religious observance of all other known religions. The freedom of religious conscience was explicitly enshrined in the Constitution of 1927 and since then the word tolerance was substituted by the expression “religious freedom”. The consolidation of religious freedom is very significant because it constitutes an individual **right** which shall not be hindered by the State and the State shall take all appropriate measures (legislative, administrative etc.) to ensure the free exercise of this right⁴. According to the commonly held view, the individual right of religious freedom includes the concept of religious conscience and the freedom of observance⁵.

Article 13 of the Constitution of Greece establishes that: *“1. Freedom of religious conscience is inviolable. The enjoyment of civil rights and liberties does not depend on the individual’s religious beliefs 2. All known religions shall be free and their rites of worship shall be performed unhindered and under the protection of the law. The practice of rites of worship is not allowed to offend public order or morality. Proselytism is prohibited. [...] 4. No person shall be exempt from discharging his obligations to the State or may refuse to comply with the laws by reason of his religious convictions [...]”.*

³ See section I.B.2 for the meaning of the term “prevailing religion”.

⁴ Troiannos, S., *Course in Canon Law*, Sakkoulas Publishing House 1984, 2nd edition, §2.1.4 and 2.2.2. (Σπ. Τρωιάννου, Παραδόσεις Εκκλησιαστικού Δικαίου, Σάκκουλας 1984, β’ έκδοση, §2.1.4 και 2.2.2.)

⁵ Dagtoglou, P.D., *Constitutional Law- Civil Rights*, §554 Sakkoulas 1991. (Π.Δ. Δαγτόγλου, Συνταγματικό Δίκαιο – Ατομικά Δικαιώματα, Σάκκουλας 1991, §554).

This Article of the Constitution protecting religious freedom may not be suspended when in state of siege (as referred to in Article 48 of the Constitution) and paragraph 1 of Article 13 may not be revised (as referred to in Article 110 (1) of the Constitution).

Particularly with regard to the exemption from the fulfilment of obligations to the State or the refusal to comply with the laws due to religious beliefs, an extract is quoted as follows from Judgement 2706/1977 of the Plenary Session of the Council of State: These provisions enshrine in Greece the individual right to religious freedom, both as freedom of religious conscience, and as freedom of worship. However, the exercise of this right is conditional upon the fulfilment of obligations towards the State and compliance with its laws and the non-infringement of public order and morality. Therefore, a religion's adherent may not refuse to fulfil his/her obligations to the State or to comply with the laws of general application that are unrelated to the above matters, such as Royal Decree 229/1965 "on holiday calendar, incomplete attendance etc. of Secondary school students which was issued on the basis of the enabling provision of Article 12 of Decree Law 4379/1964 and lays down (Article 1) the days that Secondary school students are allowed to be absent from school, including certain religious holidays for Orthodox, Catholic and Jewish students; it also lays down (Article 2) that in case of a student being absent on days other than the ones listed above, consequences may result to him/her not being admitted to the class exams.

Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 10, 1948, establishes that: *"Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance"*.

Article 9 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, ratified by **Law Decree 53/1974** (Official Government Gazette of the Hellenic Republic A' 256) establishes that: *"1. Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief, in worship, teaching, practice and observance. 2. Freedom to manifest one's religion or beliefs shall be subject only to such limitation as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of public safety, for the protection of public order, health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others"*.

Article 10 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (2000/C 364/01) establishes that: *"1. Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This right includes freedom to change religion or belief and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or in private, to manifest religion or belief, in worship, teaching, practice and observance"*.

Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ratified by Law 2462/1997 (Official Government Gazette A' 25) provides that: *"1. Everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This right shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of his choice, and freedom, either individually or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching. 2. No one shall be subject to coercion which would impair his freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of his choice. 3. Freedom to manifest one's religion or beliefs may be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary to protect public safety, order, health, or morals or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others. 4. The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to have respect for the liberty of parents and, when applicable, legal guardians to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions"*.

2. The meaning of the term “prevailing religion”

The distinction between the “prevailing religion” in Greece and all “known religions” is stated in the Constitution in force as well in all previous Constitutions since the foundation of the modern Greek state. As stated in Article 3 of the Constitution: “1. *The prevailing religion in Greece is that of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ [...]*”.

It has been often clarified in public rhetoric and in constitutional law literature by constitutional experts that recognizing the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ as the “prevailing” religion is an ascertainment due to the fact that the vast majority of Greeks (representing more than 95%) is connected to the Orthodox Church.

According to Professor Evaggelos Venizelos: “... *the term “prevailing religion” contains on the one hand a historic and cultural content which is of no legal relevance, and on the other a factual content of legal relevance since it describes the orthodox church as the largest collective body of exercising religious freedom under all conditions and always by reference to the list of all other constitutional rights...*”⁶.

The view that the “prevailing religion” does not have the meaning of state religion or official religion is widely accepted nowadays as well as that the Constitution does not mandate dominance of a particular religion⁷.

In terms of case law, in the judgment 660/2018 of the Plenary Session of the Council of State, reason 14, it is stated that, in accordance with the predominant opinion of the Court, the term “prevailing” established in the Constitution, Article 3 (1), referring to the religion of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ in Greece, has been the introductory statement of all the previous Constitutions (1844, 1864, 1911, 1927, 1952) and represents to date a core element of Constitutional tradition in Greece. This term, as well as the invocation to the Holy, Homooousios and Consubstantial Holy Trinity on the heading of the Constitution, is linked with the critical role of the Orthodox Church in the course of history of Hellenism, in particular during the period of Ottoman rule, before national independence. This is also an ascertainment that this is the religion of the vast majority of the Greek population and there are regulatory consequences due to that, such as establishment of certain Christian holidays as compulsory holidays at national and local level, in the public and private sector (cf. judgment 100/2017 of the Plenary Session of the Council of State).

Moreover, in the judgment 926/2018 of the Plenary Session of the Council of State, it is stated that : “[...] *Article 3 of the Constitution, which is subject to review in accordance with Article 110 (1), refers to the actual fact that the religion of the Eastern Orthodox Church is the religion of the majority of Greek people and it is included in Greek constitutions since the Revolution and was included since then in the Constitution also of 1975 mainly for historical reasons (see Minutes of the Hellenic Parliament for the Revision of the Constitution – Plenary Session p. 402). This provision is of limited regulatory content which is connected in particular with establishing official religious holidays to facilitate interested citizens in exercising their religious duties (see judgement 100/2017 of the Plenary Session of the Council of State) etc. It has been deemed by the aforementioned judgements 2280-2285/2001 of the Plenary Session of the Court that this provision of Article 3 which is included in Part One, section II of the*

⁶ Venizelos E., *Church - State relations as relations regulated by the Constitution*, [In Greek], p. 146 Paratiritis Publishing House, 3rd ed., Thessaloniki 2000. (Ευ. Βενιζέλου, *Οι Σχέσεις Κράτους και Εκκλησίας ως σχέσεις συνταγματικά ρυθμισμένες*, σελ. 146, εκδόσεις Παρατηρητής, εκδ. γ', Thessaloniki 2000).

⁷ P.D. Dagtoglou, *Constitutional Law- Civil Rights*, §569, Sakkoulas 1991. (Π.Δ. Δαγτόγλου, *Συνταγματικό Δίκαιο – Ατομικά Δικαιώματα*, Σάκκουλας 1991, §569).

Constitution regarding the relations between Church and the State, does not affect the right of freedom of religion enshrined in Article 13 included in Part Two of the Constitution on individual and social rights, and does not grant privileged treatment for Greek Orthodox Christians on exercising this right. This would be contrary to the special provision of Article 13 (1) by which equal treatment and enjoyment of civil rights independently of religious beliefs is established [...].”

Reason 16 of judgment 1749/2019 of the Plenary Session of the Council of State states that the term “prevailing” religion included in Article 3(1) of the Constitution referring to the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ as well as the invocation to the Holy, Homooousios and Consubstantial Holy Trinity on the heading of the Constitution, is linked with the critical role of the Orthodox Church in the course of history of Hellenism, in particular during the period of Ottoman rule, before national independence. This is also an ascertainment that this is the religion of the vast majority of the Greek population and there are regulatory consequences due to that, such as establishment of certain Christian holidays as compulsory holidays at national and local level, in the public and private sector (cf. judgment 660, 926/2018 of the Plenary Session of the Council of State).

3. Prohibition of proselytism

In Article 13 (2)(3) of the Constitution it is established that proselytism is prohibited. This applies to the prevailing religion and also to any other religion. Even before the adoption of the Constitution and of the Penal Code, a sanction for proselytism was provided for by law⁸.

In particular, Article 4 of Emergency Law 1363/1938, as amended by Article 2 of Emergency Law 1672/1939, lays down that: *“1. Anyone engaging in proselytism shall be liable to imprisonment and a fine [...] 2. By the term ‘proselytism’ is meant, in particular, any direct or indirect attempt to intrude on the religious beliefs of a person of a different religious persuasion (heterodoxos), with the aim of undermining those beliefs, either by any kind of inducement or promise of an inducement or moral support or material assistance, or by fraudulent means or by taking advantage of the other person’s inexperience, trust, need, low intellect or naivety. 3. Committing this act at school or educational or charitable institutions is considered a particularly aggravated case”.*

According to a reference made by the Minister of Justice⁹ at the time during the debates on Article 13 of the Constitution in force by the fifth Revisional Parliament, the constitutional legislator understood as proselytism only the *“attempt to penetrate the religious conscience of heterodox or persons of different religions by illegal or immoral means, by abusing a relationship of dependence or by promising benefits of any kind”.* Consequently, it appears that the type of proselytism prohibited by the Constitution and subject to criminal sanctions is the attempt to intrude on the religious beliefs of a person by unlawful means, notably inducement or by fraudulent means.

Therefore, on the basis of the above, (a) confessing one’s own religious belief in public; (b) persuading with arguments someone to change their religious beliefs; (c) preaching; (d) holding missions to people of a different denomination or religion; (e) publishing, selling and dispatching printed documents; and (f) holding public and/or open speeches with free

⁸ Dagtoglou. P. op.cit. §596

⁹ Chrysogonos C., *Individual and Social rights*, Athens, 2006, p. 281 (Κ. Χ. Χρυσόγονος, *Ατομικά και Κοινωνικά Δικαιώματα*, Νομική Βιβλιοθήκη, 2006, σελ. 281)

attendance and departure and a clear indication of any declaration of religion or doctrine for which the dissemination is made, **do not constitute proselytism**¹⁰.

4. The provisions in the Penal Code regarding the penal approach of acts relating to religious conscience and worship

The new Penal Code ratified by Law 4619/19 (A' 95) entered into force on July 1st, 2019. By the same law, the previous Penal Code which was in force since January 1st, 1951, was repealed.

One of the main changes in the new Penal Code is that the provisions of the following Articles are repealed: Article 198 on malicious blasphemy, Article 199 on insulting religion and Article 201 on insulting the memory of the dead (Chapter Z' on jeopardizing religious peace). In Chapter Z', only Article 200 on disturbance of religious assemblies is still in force. In accordance with Article 200: 1. Malicious attempt or intention to disturb any assembly for worship or practice tolerable by the state organized by a religion is subject to imprisonment for up to two years. 2. The same sanction is provided for as regards acting in an insulting, inappropriate manner in a church or in a place assigned for a religious assembly tolerable by the state.

Usurpation of a religious minister's office of the Orthodox Church of Christ or other known religion in Greece continues to be penalized in accordance with Article 175 (2) of the Penal Code. Nevertheless, Article 176 is repealed, which provided for sentence of up to six months imprisonment for illegally wearing clothing or other distinctive item of a religious minister in public, among other cases of public servants.

Additionally, the provision of Article 373 of the previous Penal Code is repealed, in accordance to which grave robbery aiming at illegally taking items for oneself or for a third party shall be penalized as theft.

The provisions of Article 374 (1)(a) on aggravated cases of theft which in accordance to the previous Penal Code was punishable with imprisonment of up to ten years if religious worship items were stolen from a place intended for religious worship, is amended as follows: "*[A penalty of imprisonment of up to ten years and a fine shall be applied to any person guilty of theft if a) this person steals an item of artistic or archaeological or historical interest used for religious worship from a place intended for religious worship, [...]]*".

Article 191A on "Desecration of symbols or places of particular national or religious interest" is inserted in the new Penal Code. Paragraph 2 of this Article lays down that: "*The same penalty [i.e. imprisonment of up to two years or a fine] applies for acts of polluting or damaging places of particular national or religious interest as well as areas where dead bodies are kept or cemeteries and thus causing fear or concern to an indefinite number of people, if this act is not more severely punishable by another provision*".

5. Legal framework on acquiring a permit to build and operate worship places (Houses of Prayer and Churches)

The procedure for issuing a permit to build and operate worship places is different for the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ and for the other religions although the same basic principles are followed. This is basically due to technical reasons because the composition of the Greek population is by over 95% Greek Orthodox and therefore there is a multiple need

¹⁰ Dagtoglou. P. op.cit. §597

to build and operate churches of the Orthodox Church. Additionally, there are historical and cultural reasons for this practice which date back to the conditions of the establishment of the modern Hellenic State.

Protective provisions are made by the State in order to provide equal treatment for all religious communities in Greece, such as:

- a) **Law 4223/2013** (Official Government Gazette A' 287) introduced an exemption from paying real estate tax for all places of worship and prayer of all known religions and
- b) **Law 4301/2014** (Official Government Gazette A' 223) introduced an exemption from paying fees to regional authorities for all independent buildings of churches and places of prayer of all known religions and denominations.

a. Construction and operation of Churches of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ

In accordance with Article 32 "*Issuing of a building permit for ecclesiastical foundations*", Law 4495/2017 (A' 167):

"1. The provisions of this law apply for issuing a building permit for legal persons prescribed by Law 590/1977 and legal persons prescribed by law 4149/1961 (A' 41).

2. Prior authorization for the building permit is compulsory and issued by the competent Building Service, in case of construction work ordered by Churches, Bishopric buildings, one per Metropolis, belonging exclusively to ecclesiastical legal persons of Law 590/1977 or Law 4149/1961 and to Monasteries and their Glebes, as well as on their premises and in their ground serving the community life, as well as their annexes.

3. For construction work ordered by the Church of Greece, as referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2, the positive opinion on the architectural design is issued before the prior authorization by the Central Council of Ecclesiastical Architecture of the Church of Greece, as referred to in paragraph 5.

4. In respect of the works referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 ordered by the Church of Crete and the Patriarchal Exarchate of Patmos, the positive opinion on the architectural design shall be issued, following the prior authorization, by the Council of Ecclesiastical Architecture in Crete and the Dodecanese and the Building Service of Crete and the Dodecanese referred to in paragraph 6.

5. A Central Council of Ecclesiastical Architecture shall be established in the Church of Greece. The Council shall consist of seven members and shall meet in this composition:

a. a priest, Higher Education graduate or Professor of Architecture at a Polytechnic School, as Chairman,

b. an architect, employee of the Directorate for Architectural Urban Planning and Permits of the General Directorate of Urban Planning of the Hellenic Ministry of the Environment and Energy. This member and his/her alternate shall be designated by the Minister,

c. an architect, representing and designated by the Technical Chamber of Greece, with his/her alternate,

d. an architect, member of the Association of Architects- Higher Education graduates,

e. a civil engineer or a mechanical engineer or an electrical engineer depending on the discussion matter,

f. an icon painter or a wood sculptor or a marble sculptor depending on the discussion matter,

g. an architect, employee of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports designated by the Minister with his/her alternate.

The Council shall be set up by decision of the Permanent Holy Synod of the Church of Greece. The Secretary of the Council shall be appointed by the same decision. The members shall be appointed for a 2-year term, which may be renewed.

6. A Council of Ecclesiastical Architecture for Crete and the Dodecanese shall be established in the Church of Crete. The Council shall consist of seven members and shall meet in this composition:

a. a priest, Higher Education graduate or Professor of Architecture at a Polytechnic School, as Chairman,

b. an architect, employee of the Directorate for Architectural Urban Planning and Permits of the General Directorate of Urban Planning of the Hellenic Ministry of the Environment and Energy. This member and his/her alternate shall be designated by the Minister,

c. an architect, representing and designated by the Technical Chamber of Greece, with his/her alternate,

d. an architect, member of the Association of Architects, Higher Education graduates,

e. a civil engineer or a mechanical engineer or an electrical engineer depending on the discussion matter,

f. an icon painter or a wood sculptor or a marble sculptor depending on the discussion matter,

g. an architect, employee of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports designated by the Minister with his/her alternate.

The Council shall be set up by decision of the Holy Provincial Synod of the Church of Crete. The Secretary of the Council shall be appointed by the same decision. The members shall be appointed for a 2-year term, which may be renewed.

The term of office of the Councils established in accordance with Article 2 of Law 4030/2011 shall expire automatically on 31.12.2017.

7. Upon prior authorization, the building permit and the permit for the building to be used as a church are issued in accordance to this law by the Building Service of the Church of Greece which has been set up by Law 4030/2011 Article 2. Additionally to the provisions of this law, in order for construction work to be carried out, the building permit shall be sent to the competent Building Service and archived for initiating the control procedure for the works, in accordance with the provisions of this law.

8. A Building Service shall be established in the Church of Greece exercising responsibilities of Building Services and shall issue building permits within the spatial jurisdiction of the Church of Greece. A Building Service shall be established in the Church of Crete and the Metropolises of the Dodecanese which shall issue building permits within the spatial jurisdiction of the Church of Crete exclusively on:

a. Bishopric buildings

b. Churches belonging exclusively to ecclesiastical legal persons as referred to in Law 590/1977 and their annexes. Only annexes to churches belonging to ecclesiastical legal persons as referred to in Law 590/1977 are allowed to be built and in condition that the annex constitutes a single architectural whole along with the church and that it is of use to the church,

c. Monasteries, especially on fencing work and on the premises inside the fencing serving monastic life.

9. *It is within the competences of the aforementioned Building Services to issue permits for areas belonging to these buildings for both their use as places of worship as well as all other uses. A legal condition for the works or for the use to begin shall be the issuing of the permit for use as a worship place and the permit for use which is issued with the building permit and may be contained on the same document.*

10. *The aforementioned Building Services fall within the supervision and control of the Minister of Environment and Energy.*

The staff is hired and paid by the Church of Greece and the Church of Crete, respectively.

The Building Services are integrated in the same electronic information system as all Building Services.

11. *The application for prior authorization and a dossier attached shall be submitted to the competent Building Service via the competent local Metropolis. This procedure shall be followed for all monasteries or churches of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ whether they are ecclesiastical legal persons, or natural persons or legal persons governed by private law.*

12. *A permit is required for the iconography and decoration of monasteries and churches as artwork, issued by the Building Service of the Church of Greece or the Church of Crete and the assent of the Central Council of Ecclesiastical Architecture or the Council of Ecclesiastical Architecture for Crete and the Dodecanese, respectively.*

13. *A Regulation by the Permanent Holy Synod sets out the establishment, organization, competences, administrative support, operation and statute of the abovementioned services and agencies as well as the details on the electronic record-keeping.*

14. *The buildings referred to in paragraph b are special buildings of public interest and derogations are allowed by decision of the Minister of Environment and Energy, in accordance with Article 27 of Law 4067/2012 following an opinion by the Central Council of Ecclesiastical Architecture.*

15. *For construction or repair work as referred to in paragraph b, instead of the title deed, the interested parties are required to submit to the competent service the following supporting documents for the issuance of the prior-authorization of the building permit and its issuance:*

a. a document by the competent land register certifying that the property is not being claimed by the State or the local authorities.

b. a notarial deed of consensus or an inventory report drawn up and transcribed in accordance with Article 7 of Law 3800/1957 (A' 256) or Article 88 of Emergency Law 2200/1940 (A' 42) or Article 62 of Law 590/1977 (A' 146), signed by the legal representative of the ecclesiastical legal person with a topographic mapping attached. A notarial deed of consensus as referred to above must be also drawn up for the property of monasteries.

For existing buildings, a solemn declaration of law 1599/1986 declaring the year of construction.

Prior authorization and building permit for private churches and chapels shall be issued by the competent local Building Services of the municipalities.

16. *By decision of the Minister of Environment and Energy the manner of informing, interconnecting and exchanging of information from the records of the Building Service with the authorities which are competent for complying with the provisions of Articles 1-4 of Law 3843/ 2010 (A' 62) shall be set out".*

Furthermore, according to par. 1 of Article 341 of the recent Law 4957/2022 (A' 141) concerning the building permits for Churches and ecclesiastical properties of the Holy

Metropolises of the Dodecanese and the Patriarchal Exarchate of Patmos: *“For the building permits of Churches and ecclesiastical properties of the Holy Metropolises of the Dodecanese and the Patriarchal Exarchate of Patmos, Article 12 of Law 4258/2014 (A’ 94), and Article 32 of Law 4495/2017 (A’ 167), as well as the provisions of Section II of Law 4858/2021 (A’ 220) shall be applied”*.

b. Construction and operation of places of worship (houses of prayer and temples) of religious communities other than the Church of Greece, the Church of Crete, the Ecclesiastical Provinces of the Dodecanese and Mount Athos

In accordance to the regulations of the first chapter of **Law 4301/2014** (Official Government Gazette A’ 223) and the establishment of a new form of collective religious organization, namely the ecclesiastical and religious legal persons, all religious communities (except for those expressly excluded according to Article 16 of Law 4301/2014, that is the Church of Greece, the Church of Crete, the Ecclesiastical Provinces of the Dodecanese and Mount Athos - and in general every Orthodox ecclesiastical jurisdiction (klima)¹¹ -the Jewish Communities and the religious Muslim communities in the regions under the jurisdiction of the Muftiates in Thrace) may be organized as legal persons of this form governed by private law in accordance with the provisions of this law. In the provisions of the aforementioned law it is provided for that the religious and ecclesiastical legal persons may establish and operate worship places in their own name (Article 9). A permit for establishing and operating a worship place may be issued for religious communities that have not received legal personality as referred to in Law 4301/2014.

In the regulatory framework in force for the construction and authorization of places of worship (temples and houses of prayer) the general regulations of **Emergency Law 1363/1938** (Official Government Gazette A’ 305) as amended by the regulations of **Emergency Law 1672/1939** (Official Government Gazette A’ 123), of the **Royal Decree of 20-5/2-6-1939** implementing it (Official Government Gazette A’ 220) and **Article 27 of Law 3467/2006** (Official Government Gazette A’ 128) as well as the [joint circular 105456/01/31-8-2021 \(Online Publication Number Ψ56646ΜΤΛΗ-ΙΟ9\)](#), which updated the [joint circulars 69230/A3/6-5-2014 \(Online Publication Number ΒΙΦ09-Τ0Τ\)](#) and [118939/01/19-7-2016 \(Online Publication Number 76774653ΠΣ-5Ω9\)](#)¹², and also incorporated the circular [128231/01/2-8-2016 \(Online Publication Number: ΨΔ014653ΠΣ-ΓΕΙ\)](#) are in force. These regulations do not apply to the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ (Church of Greece, Church of Crete, Ecclesiastical Provinces of the Dodecanese and Mount Athos), as foreseen in Article 3 of the Constitution, for which specific provisions apply. In particular as concerns building permits for Islamic places of worship and/ or prayer in Thrace (Mosques, Tekkes, Masjids, Jems, Cemevis) [the joint circular 105510/01/31-8-2021 \(Online Publication Number: 60X646ΜΤΛΗ-ΟΥ6\)](#), which replaced the [joint circular 57071/01/3-4-2017 \(Online Publication Number: 780Γ4653ΠΣ-Ζ3Χ\)](#) applies.

¹¹ The Orthodox Churches spiritually connected with the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople which are under a different ecclesiastical jurisdiction, “klima”, (other than the Church of Greece), i.e. other Orthodox Patriarchates or Autocephalous Churches, may establish glebes within the territory of the Church of Greece only under the specific provisions of Article 39 of **Law 590/1977** (Official Government Gazette of the Hellenic Republic A’ 146) “on the Charter of the Church of Greece”.

¹² This [circular](#) as well as a [summary list](#) of the necessary documents are available in English on the webpage of the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports.

In accordance to the aforementioned provisions on the operation of places of prayer and/or worship, in addition to the common planning regulations, a relevant authorization by the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports is required.

The official authorization for a temple or house of prayer (with the exception of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ) is issued by non-discretionary - according to case-law - decision of the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs. The authorization may be issued after verification that the three conditions provided for by Article 13 paragraph 2 of the Constitution are satisfied (Council of State Plenary Session decision 4202/2012, Council of State Plenary Session decision 1444/1991, Council of State 5572/1996, Supreme Court of Cassation 20/2001) i.e. that this concerns a known religion with no hidden belief but clear doctrines, no proselytizing is practiced and its worship is free to everyone and does not offend public order or morality; moreover the other provisions laid down by legislation apply. *“Non-compliance with the condition laid down by Article 13, paragraph 2 of the Constitution on practicing religious worship, i.e. the condition of not offending public order or the morality through religious worship is normally established by state repressive action”* (Council of State Plenary Session 4202/2012 argument 8); however the prior – precautionary administrative investigation to verify formal and easily verifiable requirements and regulations – as those are set by the public order rules, may not be excluded or considered incompatible with the Constitution.

A **“house of prayer”**, as it is set out, is a place of worship of relatively small size in a private property designed to operate as a worship place for a limited number of people as opposed to a **“temple”** which is a single building for public religious observance and practice by anyone without distinction (Supreme Court of Cassation 20/2001 Penal Law Chamber). In accordance to the regulations of Article 1 of Royal Decree 20-05/02-06-1939, an application of at least fifty (50) families is required for issuing the authorization required for establishing and operating a temple, whereas even a one-digit number of applicants is sufficient for issuing the authorization of a place of worship (case-law of the Council of State has upheld the number of five (5) applicants as sufficient).

It is noted that the phrases “house of prayer” and “temple” are used as administrative and/or technical terms and that the religious communities select the exact designation of their places of prayer and/or worship which is stated on the application submitted to the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports.

Therefore, the human right of religious freedom, as enshrined in the Greek Constitution and in international legal instruments, is not unrestricted or uncontrolled. On the contrary, it is subject to specific, limited conditions including not offending the public order, which is a legitimate restriction as laid down in Article 13 (4) of the Constitution where it is provided for that complying with the law is a restriction to this right. This restriction has a consequential function, meaning that practice of religious worship is not above the law, and a positive function, meaning that practicing believers are subject to the same legal obligations and requirements shared by all under the law.

As it is accepted by all legal theory and case-law: *“Freedom of worship does not enshrine the absolute right for believers to worship God where they want and when they want, without complying with the law nor does it enshrine a particular right to practice rites of worship in a designated area. It merely guarantees the right for believers of all religions and denominations to worship God in their own way and with the means chosen by themselves and imposed by the rules of their religion without unjustified obstacles and arbitrary interference by the State.”*

(opinion by Antonis Maniatakis entitled: *“Constitutional protection of cultural property and freedom of worship in response to the use of the Rotonda”* Thessaloniki 05-03-1995¹³).

Therefore, under the above conditions, the administrative authorization for the place of worship is *“a necessary measure in a democratic society pursuing a legitimate aim, namely the protection of public order, as the authorization is a measure proportionate to the aim pursued”* (Supreme Court 20/2001).

The meaning of public order (as laid down by Article 3 of the Civil Code) includes those provisions of mandatory law set out to serve the public -general and not private-interest. The implementation of these laws may not be excluded by the volition of private persons. That is to say that such mandatory rules apply in an absolute manner, without permitting any derogation, amendment or exclusion by virtue of a private agreement or a unilateral expression of the opposite will.

Therefore, in addition to the relevant provisions of the Constitution and the specific legislation, it is clear that, for the issuing of the authorization and the lawful operation of a place of worship, compliance with the laws on street planning, urban planning and health regulations is required as well as the provisions on quiet times, i.e. mandatory rules universally applicable which may not be excluded by private citizens, and regulations designated to ensure the necessary conditions of safety and protection of assembled citizens.

Particularly with regard to the regulations of urban planning and street planning legislation, the Legal Council of the State has held by opinions 343/2002 and 121/2008 that: *“Within the definition of public order the following is included inter alia: compliance with regulations of the relevant urban planning and street planning legislation applicable in the area where the temple or place of worship shall operate”*. In fact, the Greek Ombudsman has expressed his position on this issue in the past, stating that prioritizing urban and building approval is not restrictive of the freedom of religion, provided that this is applicable under conditions of sound administration and is accompanied by a notification to the applicants as laid down by Article 4 par. 2 of the Law of Administrative Procedure (see Greek Ombudsman document Ref. number 18893.06.2.6./09/09/2008 and Mediation Summary of September 2009).

The following rules are included in particular within the generally applicable rules of public order (in terms of urban planning, street planning and public health) aiming at the safe use of buildings and the protection of their users and the local residents:

A. Rules on categories and content of land use i.e. **Presidential Decree 23/02/1987** (Official Government Gazette D’ 166/06-03-1987). These rules lay down the land use in areas of application of the general urban development plans according to their general or specific urban functional dimension in which particular case the legislator has specifically provided for the category “Religious Sites” as a special category (Article 1, indent B, number 3) which is allowed to be used in several areas of Urban Development Plan (e.g. residential areas, “exclusive”, as referred to in Article 2, indent 7, and “general” in Article 3 indent 8, urban areas, as referred to in Article 4, indent 12, tourist areas as referred to in Article 8, indent 10). In accordance with these provisions, a religious site (house of prayer, temple) may operate legally in an Urban Development Plan area where such use is provided for.

B. Rules on categories and classification of buildings depending on their use and on the subsequent specifications that must be followed depending on the estimated population

¹³ Published in Journal *Law and Nature* (Νόμος και Φύση), 1995 and can also be found at: <http://www.constitutionalism.gr/maniatakis-rotonda/>

served, in accordance with **Articles 3 and 4 of the Building Code** (see Articles 346-347 Code of Planning Legislation 14-07-1999, Official Government Gazette D' 580/27-07-1999) which lay down that the category "Public Assembly" includes buildings and parts of buildings used for the assembly of at least 50 persons for religious events and activities (therefore inter alia temples are explicitly included in accordance to Article 346, paragraph 1, indent C); for these religious places floor area of at least 0,65 square meters per person is required (Article 347, indent C (bb)).

C. Rules on general conditions of hygiene of the building and on public health protection (e.g. water, sewerage, lighting, ventilation etc.) such as: a) **Article 11 of the Building Code** (see Article 354 Code of Planning Legislation 14-07-1999, Official Government Gazette D' 580) on the obligation for all areas of principal use in buildings to have natural lighting and ventilation (direct and indirect) and b) **the Ministerial Decree Γ1/9900/27-11/03-12-1974 of the Minister of Social Services** (Official Government Gazette B' 1266/1974) in so far as it is in force, laying down the obligation of constructing and providing toilet facilities in all areas of public assembly and living areas (Article 1, indent 9).

D. Rules on fire safety, i.e. the provisions of **Fire Fighting Regulation 3/2015** (Official Government Gazette B' 529/2015), **Fire Protection Regulation for Buildings, Presidential Decree 71/1988** (Official Government Gazette A' 32) as well as the **Fire Fighting Regulation 13/2013** (Official Government Gazette B' 1586) in force. In accordance with the aforementioned legal provisions, designated requirements on fire safety measures must be followed– depending on the date of the application of the building permit and on the number of people gathered- both for the assembly areas for fewer than fifty persons and those for over fifty persons. It is explicitly mentioned that buildings or parts of buildings where people gather for religious events and activities (in accordance with the relevant regulation of the Building Code) explicitly referring to temples (Article 1, Fire Fighting Regulation 3/1981, Official Government Gazette B' 20) are included in the abovementioned places. Compliance with the relevant regulations is evidenced by the fire safety certificate issued by the competent firefighting authority.

E. The regulation on quiet hours measures, i.e. **Police Regulation 3/1996** (Official Government Gazette B' 15); in accordance with Article 2, managers of public establishments and other enterprises as well as home owners *"are required to use mechanical means or other appropriate means to diminish to the minimum possible level the noise caused"* by various installations to protect neighboring population.

Additionally, the rules of public order generally applicable clearly include the general fiscal provisions relating to taxes, penalties and specific obligations not only with regard to taxpayers (natural persons, legal persons, associations, societies etc.) but also with regard to non-taxpayers, as defined in Article 11 (3) of **Law 4174/2013** *"Tax procedures and other provisions"* (Official Government Gazette A' 170) in force, stating that: *"3. Tax administration may issue a VAT identification number to a tax-exempt person, if this is required by other provisions. In particular, Tax administration shall issue a VAT identification number at the request of any natural person or legal person or legal entity if a financial transaction is carried out with national general government entities, credit institutions and payment institutions. All issues related to the application of the aforementioned indent as well as all additional details may be set up by decision of the Secretary General"* as well as all the relevant regulatory decisions pursuant to this authorization.

Council of State decision 582/2011 on mandatory issuing of VAT identification number held that this obligation: *"... is not contrary to 13 of the Constitution or Article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights because it aims at achieving a public objective (the effective operation of the new computerized system and the subsequent tackling of tax fraud) and it*

introduces an obligation of general and impersonal scope not dependent on religious beliefs, which is not subject to any exception, especially as this obligation does not constitute an attempt to exercise state authority to the personal beliefs of the citizens.”

It is noted that according to circular 128231/Θ1/2-8-2016 on “*Process for construction of a worship place (temple or house of prayer) of a formal or informal type of organization of a religion or a denomination of a religious community (other than the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ)*” (Online Publication Number: ΨΔ014653ΠΣ-ΓΕΙ) the provision for the administrative authorization is applied in all cases of operating temples or houses of prayer and in general all buildings, new or existing, used for practicing religious beliefs of all religious communities (except for those within the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ in Greece as referred to in Article 3 of the Constitution). The above concern religious communities organized as legal persons of any formal type, as well as communities remaining informal, with no special legal personality (on the same legal grounds and given the equal enjoyment, by all religious people, of their constitutional rights, as explicitly stipulated by the Constitution and implemented for decades in the Greek national law).

Before the planning authorities issue a permit to **construct** a temple or a worship place of any religious community (except for those within the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ as referred to in Article 3 of the Constitution), a permit by the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports is required. Having regard to all the above, the religious community concerned should be addressed to the Directorate of Religious Administration of the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports before the issuing of the building permit by the competent building authority in order to request the issuing of the relevant administrative act by the Directorate of Religious Administration on the authorization to construct.

It is clarified that the **authorization to construct** issued in the stage prior to building, **shall not be under any circumstances authorization to establish and operate**. Therefore, it does not authorize the operation of the worship place and it is limited only to authorize on behalf of the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports the reconstruction work. This authorization is issued by the Directorate of Religious Administration before the beginning of the building works and only following an examination of the conditions defined by Article 13, paragraph 2 of the Constitution on free practice of worship (“*All known religions shall be free and their rites of worship shall be performed unhindered and under the protection of the law. The practice of rites of worship is not allowed to offend public order or morality. Proselytism is prohibited*”) and the provisions in force of Law 1363/38 and Law 1672/39, and it does not replace the authorization to establish and operate (separate and distinct from the one cited above) which is issued in a second step and concerns the operating possibility of an existing building to serve the aim for which it was built. Therefore, following the issuing of a building permit and the completion of the necessary building works, all interested parties should be addressed again to the Directorate for Religious Administration to submit the file with the necessary supporting documents in order to receive then the necessary authorization to establish and operate a temple.

c. Procedure for recognizing a worship place existing before 1955 (except for the ones under the jurisdiction, “klima”, of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ, as referred to in Article 3 of the Constitution)

A large number of old worship places of different religious communities, even historical ones, despite the fact that they have not received a permit for establishing and operating a worship place, they operate in a constant and uninterrupted manner for many decades catering for the worship purposes of the relevant communities. A significant number of these worship

places had been established and operated before the existing regulatory framework (1938-1939).

In order to settle this problem that has been unsolved for many years creating serious practical issues in terms of the relations between the religious communities and the public agencies, and of the everyday operation and mission of these communities, the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs initially issued the circular 176169/Θ1/19-10-2018, the provisions of which have now been incorporated into the current joint circular [105456/Θ1/31-8-2021 \(Online Publication Number: Ψ56646MTΛH-IO9\)](#), and, specifically for Muslim places of prayer/worship in Thrace, in the joint circular [105510/Θ1/31-8-2021 \(Online Publication Number: 6ΘX646MTΛH-OY6\)](#). According to the relevant provisions, all religious communities may request an act of declaratory effect, especially as regards worship places for which no permit has been issued for their establishment and operation. In this way, these worship places will operate legally and their religious ministers will be included in the Register held by the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs. **The condition to be fulfilled in order to apply for this act is that the worship places have been operating in a constant and uninterrupted manner in this specific building or in part of the building for a long period of time and at least since August 9, 1955, or before, to the present day.**

6. The Network for recording incidents against religious sites and the Report drawn up

By Decision (Ref. number: 1149/22-6-2015) of the Secretary General for Religious Affairs, the Department for Religious Freedoms and Interfaith Relations was made responsible to:

- a. set up and establish a **Network of cooperation** for recording incidents of desecration/vandalism and any type of offence against religious sites as well as the procedural course. This network consists of representatives of religious communities and state bodies and authorities, as appropriate, involved with confronting and/or recording such incidents (i.e. the Hellenic Police, the competent Public Prosecutors' offices, the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Hellenic Ministry of Justice, the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports etc.) and
- b. collect, process and publish this information **in an annual Report**.

All places of worship (Churches, Synagogues, Mosques, Houses of Prayer etc.) and their associated annexed buildings, both the ones operating lawfully as well as the unofficial ones (i.e. operating without the relevant authorization by the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs) are considered as religious sites. Schools of religious nature [Ecclesiastical Schools, Jewish Schools and Medresses (Islamic Religious Schools) in Thrace], cemeteries of religious nature (Parish cemeteries, Muslim cemeteries, Jewish cemeteries) and, in certain cases, monuments of religious nature or monuments connected to religious minorities (i.e. Holocaust Memorials for Greek Jews etc.), are also considered as religious sites. The data collected and reported is relevant to all types of acts against such religious sites.

As a result of the positive acceptance of the published Reports, the Network of cooperation for recording incidents was further expanded gradually, with the participation of more religious communities which is particularly significant for extracting primary data, regarding offences against sites of specific religious communities as well as lack of such acts within the reference year.

On March 7, 2019, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs and the General Secretariat of Public Order on collecting and recording official data regarding acts against religious sites in Greece and on determining and

implementing further action. Among the points of agreement laid down in the Memorandum is the possibility for the two parties to work together on matters of mutual interest, such as training of the staff on matters of antisemitism, intolerance, racism, islamophobia, interreligious dialogue and deepening on matters related to the Christian Orthodox Church, Orthodox culture etc.

Therefore, by the present Report, an attempt has been made to collect offensive acts against religious sites, by recording the overall situation at national level so that this may be used as a reliable tool to draw conclusions on the real scale of these phenomena and to contribute in developing policies to tackle them.

More specifically, for the year 2022, the data was mostly provided by the official correspondence with the Network participants, Press Releases and Communiqués by the Hellenic Police and news and articles published in the daily press as indexed by the Press Office of the Ministry and news published in electronic media.

The following religious and state bodies whom we thank once again for their support, have cooperated with our Service within the framework of the Network of cooperation for recording incidents:

A. Religious Communities	
RELIGION	Public Law Bodies /Ecclesiastical Legal Persons/ Religious Legal
CHRISTIANITY	Orthodox Church: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church of Greece • Church of Crete • Metropolis of Symi - Tilos - Halki and Castellorizo • Metropolis of Rhodes • Metropolis of Leros, Kalymnos and Astypalaia • Metropolis of Kos and Nisyros • Metropolis of Karpathos and Kasos
	Catholic Church in Greece (Ecclesiastical Legal Person, art. 13. Law 4301/2014)
	Greek Evangelical Church (Ecclesiastical Legal Person, art. 13. Law 4301/2014)
	Greek Evangelical Church of Thessaloniki (Religious Legal Person, art. 13. Law 4301/2014)
	Greek Evangelical Church of Ioannina (Religious Legal Person, art. 13. Law 4301/2014)
	Evangelical Church of Corinth
	Armenian Orthodox Church in Greece (Ecclesiastical Legal Person, art. 13. Law 4301/2014)
	Armenian Community of Komotini
	Christian Evangelist Church
	“Jesus Christ is the answer to life” International Church
	Biblical Baptist Church
	Apostolic Church of Christ (member of the Synod of Greek Pentecostal Churches)
	Church of Christians of Greece
	Free Apostolic Church
	Redeemed Christian Church of God
Choice of Life Christian Church	

	Abundant Grace Christian Church - Apostolate
	German speaking Evangelical Church in Greece - Thessaloniki
	Lamb of God World Outreach Ministries
	Christ Pentecostal Church
	Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ
	Armenian Evangelical Church in Greece
	Jehovah's Christian Witnesses in Greece
JUDAISM	Central Board of Jewish Communities in Greece
ISLAM	Mosque of Athens
	Muftiate of Didymoteicho
	Muftiate of Komotini
	Muftiate of Xanthi
	Managing Bodies of the Waqf property in Kos
	Managing Bodies of the Waqf property in Rhodes
	Managing Committee of the Islamic Property in the City of Xanthi
	Managing Committee of the Islamic Property in the City of Komotini
	Worship house DAROL JANATA (PARADISE)
	Worship House of Greek Muslims
Worship House "Sincerity Mosque"(Masjid Alichlas)	
BUDDHISM	Tibetan Buddhism-Karma Kagyu-Diamond Way
HINDUISM	SARBAT DA BHALA-Welfare of All
BAHA'I	National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Greece
GREEK NATIONAL RELIGION	Worship House of Greek National Religion

B. State bodies

Hellenic Police: Public Security Division/Hellenic Police Headquarters

Public Prosecutor's Offices:

Athens	Katerini	Messolonghi
Aigio	Kefalinia	Naxos
Alexandroupolis	Drama	Nafplion
Amaliada	Edessa	Orestias
Amfissa	Ilia	Patra
Arta	Heraklion	Preveza
Veria	Thesprotia	Rethymno
Volos	Thessaloniki	Rhodes
Giannitsa	Ioannina	Trikala
Kavala	Larissa	Chalkis
Kalavrita	Lasithi	

Hellenic Ministry of Justice

Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

A7 Directorate for North America

D3 Directorate for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the Council of Europe

D4 Directorate for Human Rights, Minorities, Refugees and Migrants

E2 Directorate for Religious and Ecclesiastical Affairs

Hellenic Ministry of Culture: Directorate of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Antiquities/Department for Supervision of Scientific Institutions in Greece and abroad and for Coordination of International Cooperation and Organizations



II. INCIDENTS



Next, the incidents recorded are listed, by religion, in chronological order and with a brief reference to their details (place, date, description of the incident, perpetrators, police and procedural actions, any other observations). The relevant sections are accompanied, where appropriate, by historical, legal, statistical and other information of general interest.

A. Christianity

1. Orthodox Church

a. Introduction

The Orthodox Church in Greece is not a single administrative unit; it consists of ecclesiastical structures sharing a common reference point: their relation to the Ecumenical Patriarchate. The term “**Orthodox Church in Greece**” designates: a) the **Church of Greece** which is autocephalous and consists of the Holy Archdiocese of Athens and eighty one (81) Holy Metropolises, b) the semi-autonomous **Church of Crete**, which, according to the canon law is under the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, consisting of the Holy Archdiocese of Crete and eight (8) Holy Metropolises, c) the **Ecclesiastical Provinces of the Dodecanese** (5 Holy Metropolises¹⁴ and the Patriarchal Exarchate of Patmos¹⁵) which, according to the canon law come directly under the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, spiritually and administratively and d) the Aghion Oros (Mount Athos) which is a self-governed part of the Greek State as established by the Hellenic Constitution, spiritually under the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

The Holy Metropolises and the Parishes (which are the basic subdivisions of the ecclesiastical organizational structure) are legal persons governed by public law¹⁶.

In **Article 3 of the Constitution** the definition of the “**Orthodox Church of Greece**” is established: *“1. The prevailing religion in Greece is that of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ. The Orthodox Church of Greece, acknowledging our Lord Jesus Christ as its head, is inseparably united in doctrine with the Great Church of Christ in Constantinople and with every other Church of Christ of the same doctrine, observing unwaveringly, as they do, the holy apostolic and synodal canons and sacred traditions. It is autocephalous and is administered by the Holy Synod of serving Bishops and the Permanent Holy Synod originating thereof and assembled as specified by the Statutory Charter of the Church in compliance with the provisions of the Patriarchal Tome of June 29, 1850 and the Synodal Act of September 4, 1928. 2. The ecclesiastical regime existing in certain districts of the State shall not be deemed contrary to the provisions of the preceding paragraph. 3. The text of the Holy Scripture shall be maintained unaltered. Official translation of the text into any other form of language,*

¹⁴ a) Holy Metropolis of Rhodes, b) Holy Metropolis of Kos and Nisyros, c) Holy Metropolis of Leros, Kalymnos and Astypalaia, d) Holy Metropolis of Karpathos and Kassos, e) Holy Metropolis of Symi.

¹⁵ Patmos was pronounced a Holy Island by Law 1155/1981 aiming, inter alia, at safeguarding the island’s unique religious nature and at protecting its holy sites along with its artifacts and treasures and at showcasing and evaluating them (Article 1(2)(a)).

¹⁶ Articles 1(4), 11(3) and 36 (1) Law 590/1977 (Official Government Gazette A’ 146)

without prior sanction by the Autocephalous Church of Greece and the Great Church of Christ in Constantinople, is prohibited”.

The factual situation and place of the Church of Greece is established by Law **590/1977** “*On the Charter of the Church of Greece*” (Official Government Gazette A’ 146), as amended by Laws **2740/1999, 2817/2000, 3432/2006, 4178/2013, 4235/2014, 4301/2014, 4386/2016, 4485/2017, 4559/2018** and the Decisions of the Holy Synod of the Church of Greece Ref. 4432/2823/8-10-10 (Official Government Gazette A’ 244), Decision of 23-6-2010 (Official Government Gazette A’ 156), Decision Ref. 4562/2593/16-11-2010 (Official Government A’ 200), Ref. 4736/2758/7-10-2011 (Official Government Gazette A’ 234) Decision of 8-3-2012 (Official Government Gazette A’ 69) and of 8-5-2012 (Official Government Gazette A’ 120), 5053/2016/625/17 (A’ 45), 3823/2018/581/2019 (B’ 1332), 2473/2206/2019 (A’ 175) and 4622/2223/2019 (A’ 175).

As regards the semi-autonomous Church of Crete, Law **4149/1961** “*On the Statutory Act of the Orthodox Church of Crete and other provisions*” (Official Government Gazette A’ 41) as amended by **Emergency Law 137/1967, Decree Laws 464/1970 and 77/1974 and Laws 1894/1990, 2413/1996, 4301/2014 and 4310/2014**.

The legal status of the Ecclesiastical Provinces of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in the Dodecanese remained unregulated since 1947 with obvious negative results for the State, the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Clergy and ecclesiastical employees of the Holy Metropolises of the Dodecanese and, of course, the citizens who embrace Orthodoxy. **Law 4957/2022** (A’ 141) is the first law that regulated in a comprehensive and systematically structured manner the status of the Ecclesiastical Provinces of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in the Dodecanese since the liberation and the union of the Dodecanese with Greece (Article 14 of Decree Law 423/1947 [A’ 226], Article 1 of Law 518/1948 [A’ 7]). This is a reform of equivalent importance as Law 590/1977 (A’ 146) and Law 4149/1961 (A’ 41).

Articles 317-346 of Part C “*Ecclesiastical Provinces of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in the Dodecanese and other provisions*” of **Law 4957/2022** (A’ 141) finally resolved a problem that had remained unsolved for 75 years. In this way, the legal certainty for the Holy Metropolises of the Dodecanese and the Patriarchal Exarchate of Patmos, a more efficient organization and administration and a more complete coverage of the worship, pastoral and welfare needs of the believers were achieved.

Lastly, Aghion Oros (Mount Athos) is self-governed, as established by **Article 105 of the Constitution**: “*1. The Athos peninsula extending beyond Megali Vigla and constituting the region of Aghion Oros shall, in accordance with its ancient privileged status, be a self-governed part of the Greek State, whose sovereignty thereon shall remain intact. Spiritually, Aghion Oros shall come under the direct jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. All persons leading a monastic life thereon acquire Greek citizenship without further formalities, upon admission as novices or monks. 2. Aghion Oros shall be governed, according to its regime, by its twenty Holy Monasteries among which the entire Athos peninsula is divided; the territory of the peninsula shall be exempt from expropriation. The administration of Aghion Oros shall be exercised by representatives of the Holy Monasteries constituting the Holy Community. No change whatsoever shall be permitted in the administrative system or in the number of Monasteries of Aghion Oros, or in their hierarchical order or in their position to their subordinate dependencies. Heterodox or schismatic persons shall be prohibited from dwelling thereon. 3. The determination in detail of the regimes of Aghion Oros entities and the manner of operation thereof is effected by the Charter of Aghion Oros which, with the cooperation of the State representative, shall be drawn up and voted by the twenty Holy Monasteries and ratified by the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Parliament of the Hellenes. 4. Faithful observance of the regime of Aghion Oros entities shall in the spiritual field be under the supreme supervision of*

the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and, in the administrative, under the supervision of the State, which shall also be exclusively responsible for safeguarding public order and security. 5. The afore-mentioned powers of the State shall be exercised through a governor whose rights and duties shall be determined by law. The law shall likewise determine the judicial power exercised by the monastic authorities and the Holy Community, as well as the customs and taxation privileges of Aghion Oros”.

In particular, as regards Aghion Oros, Decree Law **10/16-9-26** “*On ratification of the Charter of Aghion Oros*” (Official Government Gazette A’ 309) is applicable.

a1. The payroll of the Clergy

The State of its own volition, because of the special value and moral importance attached to the Clergy, the undoubted contribution of the Orthodox Church to the national struggles for freedom and independence, the support to everyone -without discrimination of gender, religion, race, etc.¹⁷⁻, the free disposition of church property for national or public benefit purposes and anticipating the continuation of the entire contribution of the Clergy, decided with **Emergency Law 536 /1945** (A’ 226) to cover the salaries of a certain number of Parish priests (6,000) of the Orthodox Church and by **Law 1041/1980** (A’ 75) the salaries of the Metropolitans. **Emergency Law 536/1945** (A’ 226) was amended by **Decree Law 4242/1962** (A’ 135), **Law 3220/2004** (A’ 15) and **Law 4111/2013** (A’ 18), confirming the timelessness of the State's commitment and the reasons that led to the payroll of a certain number of Parish priests.

Specifically on the issue of church property and its connection with the payroll of the Clergy of the Orthodox Church, it is noted that on November 6, 2018, in the joint communiqué of the then Prime Minister A. Tsipras and the Archbishop of Athens and All Greece, Hieronymos II, it is stated: “*1. The Greek State acknowledges that until 1939, when the Emergency Law 1731/1939 was issued, it had acquired church property for a consideration that was less than its value. 2. The Greek State acknowledges that it assumed the payroll of the Clergy, in a broad sense, in exchange for the church property it acquired*”.

Par. 2 of Article 347 of Law **4957/2022** (A’ 141) solved the long-standing problem arising from the fact that 2,311 Parish priests of the Church of Greece were legally employed and paid without the corresponding permanent positions. Specifically, paragraph 2 states the following: “*In the Holy Archdiocese of Athens and in the Holy Metropolises of the Church of Greece, two thousand three hundred and eleven (2,311) permanent positions of Parish priests shall be established, which shall be occupied by Parish priests who are already paid by the State and whose decision of appointment has been published in the Official Government Gazette at the time of the entry into force of the present [...] The positions of the first subparagraph shall be added to the existing permanent positions of Parish priests of the first subparagraph of par. 1 of Article 15 of the first paragraph of Article 15 of the Emergency Law 536/1945 (A’ 226). The expenditure shall be within the Medium-Term Framework of Financial Strategy*”.

Par. 2 of Article 348 of Law **4957/2022** (A’ 141) solved the long-standing problem arising from the fact that all the Parish priests of the Church of Crete (955) were legally employed and paid without the corresponding permanent positions. In particular, par. 2 states the following: “*In the Holy Archdiocese of Crete and in the Holy Metropolises of the Church of Crete, nine hundred and fifty-five (955) permanent positions of Parish priests shall be established, which shall be*

¹⁷ The most recent case in which the Orthodox Church played a very important role in maintaining social cohesion with the support of all people without any discrimination is the period of the deepest economic crisis that Greece has experienced since 1945 and the immigration crisis.

occupied by Parish priests who are already paid by the State and whose appointment decision has been published in the Official Government Gazette at the time of the entry into force of the present [...] The expenses are within the Medium-Term Framework of Financial Strategy”.

Article 335 of **Law 4957/2022** (A’ 141) resolved the long-standing problem arising from the fact that all Parish priests (258), deacons (8) and preachers (5) of the Holy Metropolises of the Dodecanese were legally employed and remunerated while there were no corresponding permanent positions.

With paragraph 11 of Article 335, paragraph 12 of Article 347 and paragraph 11 of Article 348 of **Law 4957/2022** (A’ 141) it was established that the Holy Metropolises of the Church of Greece, the Church of Crete and the Dodecanese: *“may employ Clerics with a private law employment contract to cover worship, pastoral and welfare needs, as well as ecclesiastical employees with a private law employment contract, for a fixed or indefinite period of time, or with a work contract. The employment of Clerics and the provision of services or work by the ecclesiastical employees of the first subparagraph does not create any legal relationship of dependent employment, contract of work or other dependence, or obligation or liability of the State, and the Holy Metropolises and the Patriarchal Exarchate of Patmos are exclusively liable for the payment of their salaries from their own resources”.*

In addition, in par. 16, 17, 18 of Article 336, par. 14, 15, 16 of Article 347 and par. 13, 14, 15 of Article 348 of **Law 4957 /2022** (A’ 141), a crucial reform was introduced, for the first time, which provides for the halving of the salary of Clerics (of all three degrees of priesthood) who are paid by the Greek State and against whom a criminal prosecution has been brought for a felony or for the following offences: a) theft, embezzlement (common and in the service), fraud, extortion, forgery, bribery, breach of duty, slander, any crime against sexual freedom or crime of economic exploitation of sexual life, bodily harm to an embryo or a newborn child, the offences of Law 3500 /2006 (A’ 232) for dealing with domestic violence, abduction of minors, unlawful detention, unlawful violence, vigilantism, threatening, disturbing religious gatherings, b) violence against officials and judicial persons, undue influence on judicial officials, disruption of the functioning of the service, disturbing judicial sittings, contempt of court, revolt, counterfeiting, breach of seals set by the authority, breach of the authority's custody; c) incitement to disobedience, incitement to commit crimes, violence or dissension, inviting and offering to commit a crime, criminal organization, terrorist acts - terrorist organization, criminal support, disturbing the peace, threatening to commit crimes, spreading false news, insulting symbols or places of particular national or religious importance; d) the offences of Law 927/1979 *“On the damnation of acts or actions aimed at racial discrimination”* (A’ 139), as in force; e) proselytizing under Article 4 of Law 1363/1938 (A’ 305), as replaced by Article 2 of Law 1672/1939 (A’ 123).

According to the Regulatory Impact Analysis, *“Par. 16 constitutes a breakthrough in the history of the payroll of the Clergy by the State (a similar provision exists in Article 347 par. 14 and Article 348 par.13 of the plan for the clerics of the Church of Greece and the Church of Crete, respectively). It provides, for the first time, that clerics who are paid by the State and against whom a criminal prosecution has been brought for any felony or for the offences referred to in the said paragraph shall receive only 50% of their salaries, upon the issuance of a relevant act by the payroll clearing officer. The felonies and the offences referred to in this paragraph are of such social demerit that they offend and tarnish the special moral value which the average member of society requires of the religious minister, and not only to the religion to which they belong, but also of all religious ministers of any religion in general. The provision of par. 16 shall take effect from the publication of the Law and shall not have retroactive effect. It is noted that the legislator cannot interfere in the internal functioning of religious communities and therefore cannot impose penalties related to the mandatory or potential leave and suspension of priests from their religious duties. Such penalties shall be imposed only by the*

competent ecclesiastical bodies. It seems appropriate that the protection of the particular moral value and spiritual and social significance of the clerical ministry should require with the prosecution, as a minimum measure, the temporary reduction or complete cessation of their salary if they are convicted by an irrevocable court judgment (par. 18)¹⁸ (p. 567).

By **Law 4957/2022** (A' 141), without any additional cost to the State, the existing legislative framework for the payroll of a certain number of Clerics of the Orthodox Church was modernized in accordance with the principle of the distinct roles that determines the relationship between the State and the Church in Greece, the discrepancy between the actual number of Clerics paid by the State and the number of projected permanent positions recognized by the State was eradicated, the employment and pension rights of the Clerics paid by the State were guaranteed, an explicit provision was introduced that the Orthodox Church should exclusively cover the cost of the payroll of the Clerics hired beyond the permanent positions established by the State, and, for the first time, it was provided, for the reduction of the salaries of Clerics paid by the State against whom criminal proceedings are being brought for felonies and specific offences.

b. Numerical data

The existing Holy Metropolises of the Orthodox Church in Greece are listed in detail in the [Addendum \(table iii\)](#).

According to the data in the possession of the Directorate for Religious Administration, **the existing parish churches and monastery churches for the total of the Holy Metropolises of the Orthodox Church in Greece, amount to nine thousand eight hundred thirty (9,830)**. Chapels, pilgrimage, private and cemetery Churches, as well as other religious sites do not factor in this figure.

The number of parishes and monasteries on the basis of which is calculated the total number of churches per Metropolis in Greece, is also listed in the [Addendum \(table iii\)](#).

In **2022**, one (1) Presidential Decree was published for the establishment of a Parish, three (3) Presidential Decrees for the establishment of Holy Monasteries and one (1) Presidential Decree for the reconstitution of a Holy Monastery, in the Holy Metropolises of the Church of Greece.

c. Incidents

The religious sites of the Orthodox Church for this Report include all types of churches¹⁹, monasteries, religious monuments (such as the Areopagus where Apostle Paul delivered his speech to the Athenians, wayside shrines), as well as Ecclesiastical schools and cemeteries.

The incidents presented below are those communicated to the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs within the framework of the Network of cooperation, and therefore in no way constitute an exhaustive record of all incidents that took place against religious sites of the Orthodox Church during the reporting year. **These include particularly serious criminal acts, such as the placing of explosive devices and the causing of fire, all kinds of desecrations, robberies with the threat or use of violence, body-snatching, grave robbing, vandalism, as**

¹⁸ The Regulatory Impact Analysis is available here: [12010980.pdf \(hellenicparliament.gr\)](#)

¹⁹ According to Article 1 of the Regulation of the Holy Synod 8/79 "On Churches and Parishes" the churches of the Greek Orthodox Church are divided into a) parish churches, including their chapels, b) Pilgrimage churches or churches of public benefit purpose and Church foundations, c) Private Churches, d) Cemetery Churches.

well as general manifestations of religious intolerance against the Orthodox Church (cf. e.g. the incidents: 1, 10, 19, 21, 28, 34, 35, 106, 116, 127 [desecration of the Rotonda in Thessaloniki], 153, 161 [disruption of a religious gathering in Aghios Panteleimon of Athens], 164, 189, 239, 242, 265, 277, 277, 283, 289, 342, 343, 374, 385, 386, 391, 392, 393, 404, 413, 419, 433, 436, 469, 470, 487, 536, 537, 550, 563).

No	1. (cf. incident 239)
Location	Church of Aghios Pavlos, Omonoia, Athens
Date	1 st January 2022
Brief description	Placing on the steps of the Church about 10 Improvised Explosive Devices and activating them by setting them on fire (probably using matches), causing an explosion and fire
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	2.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Perivolakia, Rafina, Attica
Date	1 st January 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of the main door and damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	3.
Location	Chapel of Prophitis Ilias, Pountes, Pythagoreio, Samos
Date	3 January 2022
Brief description	Damage to the entrance
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	4.
Location	Church of Aghios Panteleimon, Arta
Date	3 January 2022
Brief description	Arson in an outdoor canopy with a candelabra resulting in the burning of one side of the canopy
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint
(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)	



No	5 – 6. (two incidents)
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Ano Archanes, Heraklion
Date	Between 25 October 2021 and 4 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in and damage, theft of money and valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals (minors)
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	7.
Location	Church of Aghios Christoforos, Kalamitsi, Grevena
Date	5/6 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in with damage to the door and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area

No	8.
Location	Cemetery of Zografou, Attica
Date	7 January 2022
Brief description	Theft of metal objects from a tomb
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	9.
Location	Cemeteries of Pefka, Thessaloniki
Date	7 January 2022
Brief description	Theft of 180 metal censers from tombs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	10.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Zourtsa, Nea Figaleia, Ilia
Date	8 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in, damage to the collection box, vandalism of an icon and Altar and theft of a microphone amplifier
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	11.
Location	Cemeteries of Panorama, Thessaloniki
Date	9 January 2022
Brief description	Removal of incense burners and candlesticks from tombs, and damage

Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	12.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Plana, Chalkidiki
Date	9/10 January 2022
Brief description	Breaking of the door, search of the temple premises, no theft
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	13.
Location	Church of Aghios Christoforos, Pikermi, Attica
Date	11 January 2022
Brief description	Entry to the Church and theft of the coin counter
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrator was identified

No	14.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Ladiko, Krestena, Ilia
Date	11 January 2022
Brief description	Theft of votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	15.
Location	Church of Panagia and Saranta Martyron, Gomati, Chalkidiki
Date	Between 9 and 12 January 2022
Brief description	Breaking a lock and theft of 8 silver vigil lamps
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	16.
Location	Church of Aghia Triada, Ritini, Pieria
Date	13/14 January 2022
Brief description	Breaking a lock and theft of 5 silver vigil lamps, money from the collection box and money from the office
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrators were arrested in the act. Referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	17.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Perivolakia, Rafina, Attica
Date	14 January 2022
Brief description	Theft of an air conditioning device
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	18.
Location	Church of Aghios Spyridon, Athens
Date	15 January 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the offices of the Church, no damage, no theft
Perpetrator/s	2 unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	19. (cf. incidents 21 and 34)
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Exarcheia, Athens
Date	16 January 2022
Brief description	During the period from 00:30 hours until the early hours of the same day, about five hundred (500) people went into the courtyard of the Church, equipped with alcoholic beverages and being several people in a state of intoxication, caused a disturbance by dropping a number of cigarette butts and broken bottles on the ground. In addition they broke the notice board of the Church and damaged the outer wall, writing slogans and in particular the phrases: "NO GODS, NO MASTERS", "OCCUPATION EVERYWHERE"
Perpetrator/s	Approximately 500 unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	20.
Location	Hermitage of Aghia Paraskevi, Makrisia, Krestena, Ilia
Date	17 January 2022
Brief description	Theft of votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	21. (cf. incidents 19 and 34)
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Exarcheia, Athens
Date	18 January 2022
Brief description	In the early hours of the morning, unidentified perpetrators went into the churchyard, equipped with alcoholic beverages and being several drunk, caused a disturbance by dropping a number of cigarette butts and broken bottles on the ground. In addition they broke the notice board of the temple and damaged the outer wall of the church, writing slogans
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	22.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Ampelakia, Temp

Date	18 January 2022
Brief description	Breaking of a door and theft of money from a metal box, breaking-into the door of the priest's office and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier



№	23.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Deleria, Tyrnavos, Larissa
Date	Between 17 and 19 January 2022
Brief description	Breaking of the exterior collection box and door of the Church, no theft as there was no money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	24.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Stratoniki, Chalkidiki
Date	18/19 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in, theft of money from the collection box and the Philoptochos Fund, theft of silver vigil lamps, sacred vessels and gold offerings of an undetermined value
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	25.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Evosmos, Thessaloniki
Date	19 January 2022
Brief description	Entrance to the churchyard and breaking of the church office door, but nothing went missing
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

№	26.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Skaleta, Rethymno
Date	Between 6 and 20 January 2022
Brief description	Theft of a copper bell and copper lamps from the courtyard
Perpetrator/s	1 national and 1 Bulgarian national
Police/procedural actions	Main interrogation

№	27.
Location	Ascetic retreat of Aghios Georgios, Portes, Achaea
Date	Between 10 and 20 January 2022
Brief description	Theft of vestments, metal vigil lamps and icons
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	28.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios Oplon, Patisia
Date	21 January 2022
Brief description	Damage by throwing paint on the facade and stairs of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier
(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)	
	

No	29.
Location	Church of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, PalaioPyrgos, Tempi
Date	21 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box and the Filoptochos Fund
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	30.
Location	Church of Metamorfosis Sotiros, Kouloura, Tempi
Date	21 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	31.
Location	Church of Aghioi Taxiarches, Krania, Tempi
Date	21 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of a sacred vessel
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	32.
Location	Church of Aghios Kosmas, Pyrgetos, Tempi
Date	21 January 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box

Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

№	33.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Omolio, Tempi
Date	21 January 2022
Brief description	Theft of a sacred vessel
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

№	34. (cf. incidents 19 and 21)
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Exarcheia, Athens
Date	22 January 2022
Brief description	In the early hours of the morning, unidentified perpetrators caused damage to the outer wall of the Church, writing the phrases: "I DON'T JUDGE NOBODY'S SEXUALITY NEITHER THE VIRGIN MARY WHO WENT TO BED WITH THE LILLY", "priests racists POLITICAL RAPISTS WE WILL BURN YOU ALL!". They also painted 2 graffiti to the left of the main entrance of the Church, depicting the sign of anarchy, accompanied by the word "loSΨL"
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	35.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Nikolaos of the Asylo Aniaton, Athens
Date	23 January 2022
Brief description	Painting the walls and the door of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	None

№	36.
Location	Church of Panagia Kamariani, Gerani, Chania
Date	24 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national and 1 Bulgarian national
Police/procedural actions	Investigation

№	37.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Larissa
Date	24/25 January 2022
Brief description	Painting of insulting messages on the outer wall of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	38.
Location	Church of Aghios Tryphonas, Trilofos, Veria

Date	26 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in with damage and theft of a sacred vessel and other objects dedicated to Divine worship
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	39.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Nektarios, Ano Kastelokampos, Patra
Date	26/27 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of sacred vessels
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	40.
Location	Chapel of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Pefkaki, Fokida
Date	27 January 2022
Brief description	Breaking of a window, the collection box and the Filoptochos Fund, and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	41.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Nafaktos
Date	27 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in of a window and of the collection box, and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	42.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios Oplon, Patisia
Date	29 January 2022
Brief description	Painting of slogans on the exterior walls and on the stairs of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	43.
Location	Church of Zoodochos Pigi, Nea Kallindia, Thessaloniki
Date	29 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of sacred vessels and the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	44.
Location	Church of Panagia Faneromeni, Milos

Date	Between 1 st and 30 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	45.
Location	Chapel of Prophitis Ilias, Milos
Date	Between 1 st and 30 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	46.
Location	Church of Panagia Tourliani, Klimatovouni, Milos
Date	Between 1 st and 30 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	47.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Krimni, Chalkidiki
Date	29/30 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	48.
Location	Church of Evangelismos of Theotokos, Christoi, Tzoumerka, Ioannina
Date	29/30 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	49.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Syrrako, Tzoumerka, Ioannina
Date	29/30 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	50.
Location	Church of Prophitis Ilias, Syrrako, Tzoumerka, Ioannina
Date	29/30 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	51.
Location	Church of Issodia of Theotokos, Fortosi, Tzoumerka, Ioannina
Date	29/30 January 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	52.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Patero, Tzoumerka, Ioannina
Date	29/30 January 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	53.
Location	Church of Metamorfosis Sotiros, Platanochori, Chalkidiki
Date	30 January 2022
Brief description	Entry by an unsecured door and search of all premises, no theft
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	54.
Location	Church of Aghioi Taxiarches, Mikrospilia, Arta
Date	31 st January 2022
Brief description	Theft of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	55.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Chidira, Lesvos
Date	January 2022
Brief description	Break-in
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	56.
Location	Church of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Elatochori, Pieria
Date	Between 14 January and 1 st February 2022
Brief description	The lock was broken. Theft of money from the collection box and of 2 bronze candle holders
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrators were arrested in the act. Referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	57.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Moschochori, Pieria
Date	31 st January/1 st February 2022
Brief description	Break-in, theft of valuable votive offerings, money from the collection box and a large quantity of olive oil
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrators were arrested in the act. Referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	58.
Location	Church of Aghios Stefanos, Vria, Pieria
Date	31 st January/1 st February 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of sacred vessels
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrators were arrested in the act. Referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	59.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Ano Milia, Pieria
Date	31 st January/1 st February 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrators were arrested in the act. Referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	60.
Location	Church of Aghios Kosmas Aitolos, Ano Milia, Pieria
Date	31 st January/1 st February 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrators were arrested in the act. Referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	61.
Location	Church of Aghios Efstathios, Mesaia Milia, Pieria
Date	31 st January/1 st February 2022
Brief description	Break-in, no theft
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals

Police/procedural actions	The perpetrators were arrested in the act. Referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office
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No	62.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Artemida, Attica
Date	1 st February 2022
Brief description	Breaking of a window railing and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	63.
Location	Private Church Panagia Giatrissa, Lavrio, Attica
Date	1 st February 2022
Brief description	Theft of money and 1 silver icon
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	64.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Lamari, Milos
Date	1 st /2 February 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	65.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Trachila, Milos
Date	1 st /2 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	66.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Fyropotamos, Milos
Date	1 st /2 February 2022
Brief description	Cutting the lock of the collection box using a cutting tool and an unsuccessful attempt to pick the lock of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	67.
Location	Church of Aghios Simeon, Magoula, Neochori, Aetolia-Acarnania
Date	1 st /2 February 2022
Brief description	Breaking of a window, breaking-into the collection box and theft of money

Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	68.
Location	Church of Anastasis of Lazaros, Livadeia, Boeotia
Date	2 February 2022
Brief description	Theft of metal ecclesiastical objects
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	69.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis, Panorama Galata, Chania
Date	2 February 2022
Brief description	The lock of the collection box was broken, no theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrator was arrested. Referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	70.
Location	Church of Aghios Dionysios, Panorama Galata, Chania
Date	2 February 2022
Brief description	The lock of the collection box was broken, no theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrator was arrested. Referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	71.
Location	Holy Pilgrimage of Aghios Nektarios, Sykea, Monemvassia, Lakonia
Date	3 February 2022
Brief description	Destruction of the doors of the Church, vandalism and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	2 Bulgarian nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	72.
Location	Cemetery of Keramidia, Amaliada, Iliia
Date	3 February 2022
Brief description	Vandalism of 3 tombs
Perpetrator/s	An unidentified woman
Police/procedural actions	Arrest

No	73.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Dimitrios, Klima, Milos
Date	Between 2 and 5 February 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national

Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office
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No	74.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Perivolakia, Rafina, Attica
Date	6 February 2022
Brief description	The window railing was broken, attempted break-in of the collection box and breakage of a candle holder
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	75.
Location	Church of Aghios Charalambos, Tsoukaleika, Patras
Date	6/7 February 2022
Brief description	Theft of 3 gold-plated pendant crosses from the Sanctuary and 1 reliquary with a piece of relic of Aghios Charalambos from the Altar
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	76.
Location	Cemetery Chapel of Pammegistoi Taxiarches, Eretria, Euboea
Date	7 February 2022
Brief description	Theft of objects of historical value
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	77.
Location	Monastery of Koimisis of Theotokos, Fragavilla, Amaliada
Date	8 February 2022
Brief description	Breaking of the protective glass pane of an icon of Theotokos and theft of valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	78.
Location	Church of Aghia Kyriaki, Petri, Lesvos
Date	9 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in, breaking-into the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	79.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Missolonghi
Date	9 February 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of an iron window railing, fleeing due to police approach and evading arrest
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	80.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Fanourios, Nychia, Milos
Date	9/10 February 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	81.
Location	Church of Aghios Charalambos, Lazarina, Mouzaki, Karditsa
Date	10 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	82.
Location	Cemetery of Mandra, Attica
Date	Between 9 and 11 February 2022
Brief description	Theft of crosses, vigil lamps, incense burners and frames from various tombs, and damage
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrator was identified

No	83.
Location	Cemetery Church of Aghioi Apostoloi, Lazarina, Mouzaki, Karditsa
Date	12 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the doors. Breaking-into the collection boxes and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	84.
Location	Cemetery of Panagia, Gortyna, Heraklion
Date	12 February 2022
Brief description	Damage to a tomb
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	85.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Ioannis, Makrisia, Krestena, Ilia
Date	12 February 2022
Brief description	Theft of 2 bells
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	86.
Location	Church of Aghios Sostis, Provatas, Milos
Date	Between 1 st and 13 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	87.
Location	Church of Aghios Stefanos, Livadeia, Milos
Date	Between 1 st and 13 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	88.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Sophia, Xylokeratia, Milos
Date	Between 1 st and 13 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	89.
Location	Chapel of Panagia, Kipos, Milos
Date	Between 1 st and 13 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	90.
Location	Chapel of Prophitis Ilias, Chalakas, Milos
Date	Between 1 st and 14 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	91.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Antonios, Nychia, Milos
Date	Between 1 st and 14 February 2022

Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	92.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Vasileios, Plaka, Milos
Date	13/14 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	93.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Athanasios, Zefyria, Milos
Date	13/14 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	94.
Location	Church of Aghios Theodoros, Nea Raideostos, Thessaloniki
Date	16 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	95.
Location	Cemeteries of Nea Raideostos, Thessaloniki
Date	16 February 2022
Brief description	Breaking of the collection box of the chapel at the entrance of the Cemeteries, no theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	96.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Athanasios, Patras
Date	16 February 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	97.
Location	Private Church of Aghios Theodosios, Patmos
Date	16 February 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box and theft of valuable votive offerings from an icon

Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	98.
Location	Monastery of Ioannis Theologos Siderianos (glebe of the Monastery of Patmos), Chalakas, Milos
Date	16/17 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in, breaking-into the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national and 1 Romanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	99.
Location	Cemeteries of Anastasis Kyriou, Pylaia, Thessaloniki
Date	17 February 2022
Brief description	Theft of bones from an osteotheca within the Cemeteries' ossuary
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	100.
Location	Cemetery of the Monastery of Drymonari, Floriada, Arta
Date	17 February 2022
Brief description	Damage to a tomb
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	101.
Location	Cemetery of Mandra, Attica
Date	Between 17 and 19 February 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 bronze vigil lamp and 1 incense burner from a tomb, and damage
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrator was identified

No	102.
Location	Cemetery of Kardama, Ilia
Date	Between 17 and 19 February 2022
Brief description	Entering the cemetery and removing 50 vigil lamps, 30 incense burners and 20 marble flowerpots from the tombs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	103.
Location	Church of Timios Prodromos, Dimitropoulo, Aigialeia, Achaea
Date	19 February 2022

Brief description	Entry to the Church during the evening service and theft of 1 metal collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

Nº	104.
Location	Church of Aghia Kyriaki, Petri, Lesvos
Date	19/20 February 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	3 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

Nº	105.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Panteleimon, Evosmos, Thessaloniki
Date	22 February 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

Nº	106.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Ioannis Theologos of the Mavriotissa Monastery, Kastoria
Date	22 February 2022
Brief description	Damage to the external frescoes of the Cathedral of the Monastery and the Chapel of Aghios Ioannis Theologos, using a sharp object
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

Nº	107.
Location	New Cemetery Acharnon, Attica
Date	24 February 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of the collection box, no theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

Nº	108.
Location	Cemetery, Artesiano, Karditsa
Date	February 2022
Brief description	Damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

Nº	109.
Location	Cemetery of Aghios Dimitrios, Proastio, Patra
Date	28 February / 1 st March 2022
Brief description	Theft of all bronze vigil lamps from the tombs

Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	110.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis Theologos, Aghios Vasileios, Patra
Date	2 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of sacred vessels and other objects dedicated to Divine worship
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	111.
Location	Church of Aghios Vasileios, Aghios Vasileios, Patras
Date	2 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of sacred vessels and other objects dedicated to Divine worship
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	112.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Paliampela, Aetolia-Acarmania
Date	2 March 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	113. (cf. incident 172)
Location	Church of Hosiomartyr Paraskevi, Artemida, Attica
Date	3 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box and the Philoptochos Fund
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrators were identified

№	114.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Raphael, Aghios Ioannis, Serres
Date	7 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrators were arrested

№	115. (cf. incident 141)
Location	Church of Aghios Spyridon, Piraeus
Date	8/9 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of metal pipes from the exterior of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	116.
Location	Church of Aghios Dionysios, Ilion, Attica
Date	9 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of icon offerings by an unidentified man, who entered the church with a knife and threatened the Parish priest, who was alone at the time
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	117.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Vafeios, Lesvos
Date	12 March 2022
Brief description	Break-in, breaking-into the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	118.
Location	Chapel of Aghioi Theodoroi, Mouzaki, Karditsa
Date	13 March 2022
Brief description	Breaking of the lock and entry to the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	119.
Location	Old Cemetery Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Mouzaki, Karditsa
Date	13 March 2022
Brief description	Breaking of the lock and entry to the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	120.
Location	New Cemetery Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Mouzaki, Karditsa
Date	13 March 2022
Brief description	Breaking of the lock and entry to the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	121.
Location	Church of Aghia Triada, Nea Samsounda, Preveza
Date	13 March 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint



No	122.
Location	Cemetery of Mandra, Attica
Date	12/13 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 bronze vigil lamp from a tomb
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrator was identified

No	123.
Location	Cemeteries of Axiochori, Kilkis
Date	14/15 March 2022

Brief description	Theft of bronze lamps of undetermined value from numerous tombs and damage to the marble of some tombs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	124.
Location	Church of Aghios Spyridon, Sparta
Date	15 March 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the Filoptochos Fund and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrators were identified with the use of the surveillance system of the Church and were arrested

(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)



No	125.
Location	Cemetery of Mandra, Attica
Date	Between 11 and 16 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of a bronze vigil lamp and incense burner from a tomb
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrator was identified

No	126.
Location	Church of Aghia Kyriaki, Spata, Attica
Date	16 March 2022
Brief description	Break-in, damage to the railing of the exterior door and theft of money from the Filoptochos Fund
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	127.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios (Rotonda Monument), Thessaloniki
Date	19 March 2022
Brief description	Entrance to the interior of the Monument and damage to the site and specifically to the

	<p>marble Altar, breaking of the Holy Cross and ecclesiastical items of the Altar as well as the plinth of the Late Byzantine floor of the Sanctuary. The incident lasted about 6 minutes and during this unprecedented act of desecration the normal operation of the Monument was disrupted, as the entrance of visitors was interrupted. The greatest abuse was suffered by the large Cross behind the Altar, with the Crucifix, which the perpetrator, in a state of heterodestructive behaviour (amok), broke at the point of the intersection. The brutality of the event is evident from the excessive force used by the perpetrator, who was obviously confused and spoke incoherently, to lift the Cross by its base and break it, as well as the fact that he alone lifted the very heavy metal grid under the Altar, from which he detached the ceramic plate. This was an unprecedented act of desecration, which, as the perpetrator later stated to the Police Station, was the result of a disappointment in his love life</p>
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)















No	128.
Location	Church of Panagia, Aetos, Karystos, Euboea
Date	19 March 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the window and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	129.
Location	Church of Aghios Antonios, Skinias, Heraklion
Date	19 March 2022

Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	130.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Doxaras, Grevena
Date	19/20 March 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Primary interrogation. The perpetrators were arrested for forming a criminal organization and committing aggravated theft in churches in the Grevena area

№	131.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Aghios Kosmas, Grevena
Date	19/20 March 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Primary interrogation. The perpetrators were arrested for forming a criminal organization and committing aggravated theft in churches in the Grevena area

№	132.
Location	Church of Aghios Spyridonas, Pallini
Date	20 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of a guardrail and breaking of a window, theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	133.
Location	Chapel Church of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Acharnes, Attica
Date	20 March 2022
Brief description	Break-in, breaking-into the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrator was identified

№	134.
Location	Church of Taxiarches, Acharnes, Attica
Date	21 March 2022
Brief description	Break-in, breaking-into the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrator was identified

No	135.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis, Akra Tegeas, Arcadia
Date	22 March 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of various metal objects, of money from the collection box and objects dedicated to Divine worship
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	136.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Mikro Seirini, Grevena
Date	Between 20 and 24 March 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Primary interrogation. The perpetrators were arrested for forming a criminal organization and committing aggravated theft in churches in the Grevena area

No	137.
Location	Church of Metamorfosis Sotiros, Salamina
Date	23/24 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 bronze bell
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	138.
Location	Cemetery of Zografou
Date	24 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 big bronze cross from a tomb
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	139.
Location	Church of Metamorfosis Sotiros, Kokkinovrysi, Aetolia-Acarmania
Date	26 March 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	140.
Location	Chapel of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Pelasgia, Stylida
Date	Between 23 and 27 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of 2 icons (dating back to 1893) from the iconostasis and of 1 portable icon

Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

№	141. (cf. incident 115)
Location	Church of Aghios Spyridon, Piraeus
Date	29/30 March 2022
Brief description	Theft of metal pipes from the exterior of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	142.
Location	Church of Aghios Paisios (Dendroekklisia), Aghia Varvara, Konitsa
Date	30 March 2022
Brief description	Attempted theft of money and damage to an iron cabinet outside the chapel and to a small part of the tree
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	143.
Location	Church of Aghioi Tessarakonda, Daimonia, Lakonia
Date	March 2022
Brief description	Destruction of a door
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)



No	144.
Location	Monastery Aghiou Pnevmatos, Kissos, Aghios Vasileios, Rethymno
Date	1 st April 2022
Brief description	Theft of decorative objects from the interior of the Monastery
Perpetrator/s	1 national and 1 Italian national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	145.
Location	Cemetery of Metamorfosis Sotiros, Patras
Date	1 st April 2022
Brief description	Removing pots with flowers from a tomb
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	146.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Marmari, Euboea
Date	2 April 2022
Brief description	Theft of money and other objects
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	147.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Panteleimon, Evosmos, Thessaloniki
Date	3 April 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	148.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Mouzakaioi, Ioannina
Date	3 April 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	149.
Location	Chapel of Metamorfosis Sotiros, National Road of Pagondas-Spatharaioi, Samos
Date	Between 1 st March and 4 April 2022
Brief description	Theft of a 1 metal bell and 1 bronze candelabra
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	150.
Location	Municipal Cemetery Plateos, Kalamata
Date	4 April 2022
Brief description	Theft of 40 vigil lamps from tombs, and damage
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

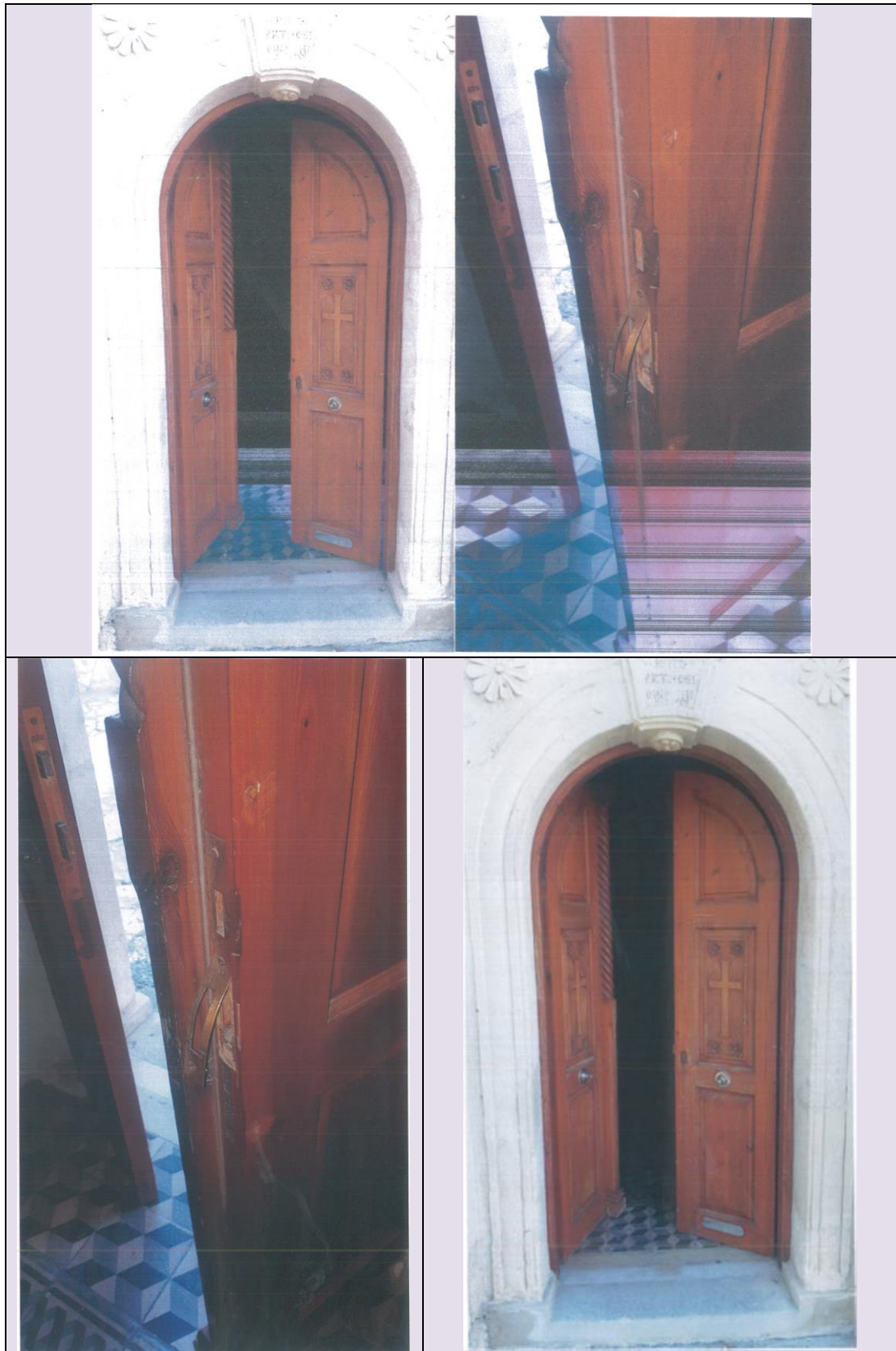
No	151.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Katsikia, Aghios Nikolaos, Lasithi
Date	5/6 April 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box and theft of valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	152.
Location	Church of Aghios Myron, Pissides, Aghios Nikolaos, Lasithi
Date	6/7 April 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	153.
Location	Cemeteries of Evosmos, Thessaloniki
Date	9 April 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 osteotheca with bones from the ossuary
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	154.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Acharnes, Attica
Date	9 April 2022
Brief description	Entry from an unsecured window and theft of a speaker
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	155.
Location	Parish Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Kavousi, Ierapetra, Lasithi
Date	Between 25 March and 11 April 2022
Brief description	Break-in
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation
(Photos: Holy Eparchial Synod of the Church of Crete)	




No	156.
Location	Church of Aghia Triada, Perivolakia, Rafina, Attica
Date	11 April 2022

Brief description	Break-in through a window, theft of money from the collection box and damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	157.
Location	Church of Panagia Odighitria, Kritsa, Lasithi
Date	11/12 April 2022
Brief description	Break-in, breaking-into the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	158.
Location	Cemetery of Zografou, Athens
Date	13 April 2022
Brief description	Theft of bronze crosses and attempted theft of bronze vigil lamps from tombs
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	159. (cf. incident 162)
Location	Church of Panagia Giatrissa, Kokkinorachi, Sparta
Date	13 April 2022
Brief description	Destruction of the doors of the Church. The perpetrators escaped after the alarm was activated.
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation
(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)	



No	160.
Location	Cemetery of Kalyvia, Attica
Date	14 April 2022
Brief description	Theft of bronze vigil lamps
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	161.
Location	Church of Aghios Panteleimon, Athens
Date	15 April 2022
Brief description	The perpetrator entered the Church, stood in front of the Sanctuary in front of the congregation and shouted "Allah is great" in his native language. Worshippers present in the Church carried the perpetrator outside the Church, but were unable to immobilize him
Perpetrator/s	1 Syrian or Palestinian national
Police/procedural actions	On April 20, 2022 the perpetrator was arrested by the police officers conducting a search at the rear of the Church. A dossier was formed against him for violation of articles of the Penal Code 191A "Insulting Symbols or Places of Special National or Religious Importance", 169 "Insubordination" and 200 "Disruption of Religious Assemblies" and he was taken to the Prosecutor's Office of Athens
Comments	According to the Parish priest in charge, this incident is the first to occur within the Church, which however faces an acute problem in the surrounding area as they are noted: gatherings with the use of loud music during worship services, gatherings of people in the stairs of the church, mainly foreigners, who, with their general behavior, create a problem for the attendance of worshippers, frequent vandalism and damage to the exterior of the premises caused by the use of graffiti, balls, etc., occupation of public areas around the Church, use of drugs or even incidents of prostitution, as

	<p>complained by local residents, parishioners of the Church,</p> <p>extensive pollution of the staircases and the external areas of the Church, which is noted by the clergy as well as the staff of the Church with food, consumables, syringes, condoms, clothing, etc.</p> <p>The above conditions have created a very unpleasant situation, complicating the operation of the Church, which, it should be noted, is a monument of architecture and decoration and attracts, even under these conditions, a large number of Orthodox believers of all nationalities, but also people with a prayerful disposition from other denominations.</p> <p>In view of the above, according to the relevant information from the competent Directorate of Athens of the Hellenic Police, the following measures are taken:</p> <p>the patrolling in the area of the Church is carried out on a daily basis with the pedestrian and seasonal patrols, as well as the other ongoing actions of the Aghios Panteleimon Police Station.</p> <p>In addition, the area has been included in the Operational Plan of the Patrols Sub-Directorate, which assigns police forces and means (patrols, control crews, missions) and the Security Directorate of Athens has given the appropriate orders - instructions to the existing Services for the implementation of effective police controls and the strict application of the legislation in force, in each case, in order to prevent crime and enhance the sense of security of citizens.</p>
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No	162. (cf. incident 159)
Location	Church of Panagia Giatrissa, Kokkinorachi, Sparta
Date	13 April 2022
Brief description	Destruction of the doors of the Church. The perpetrators escaped after the alarm was activated.
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	163.
Location	Church of Zoodochos Pigi, Hydra
Date	16 April 2022
Brief description	Destruction of entrance door locks
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	164.
Location	Cemetery of Zografou, Attica

Date	18 April 2022
Brief description	Breaking of the upper part of the cross and excavating a tomb
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	165.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Kato Lapsistas, Ioannina
Date	18/19 April 2022
Brief description	Break-in, damage to the entrance door and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	166.
Location	Cemetery Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Dassyllo Grevena
Date	Between 15 and 21 April 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	167.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Elliniko, Attica
Date	21 April 2022
Brief description	Damage to the glass panes of the room in front of the Church, removal from the main gate of one Greek flag, one 30 meter rope with small Greek flags and one 30 meter rope with small flags of Orthodoxy
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	168.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Panteleimon, Evosmos, Thessaloniki
Date	22 April 2022
Brief description	Attempted theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	169.
Location	Chapel of Prophitis Ilias, Neraida, Stylida
Date	22 April 2022

Brief description	Theft of 2 old icons (dating back to 1896) from the Iconostasis
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

№	170.
Location	Parish hall of the Church of Aghios Fanourios, Houmeri, Heraklion
Date	22 April 2022
Brief description	Break-in, breaking-into the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

№	171.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Amygdalies, Grevena
Date	Between 7 and 23 April 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

№	172. (cf. incident 113)
Location	Church of Osiomartyr Paraskevi, Artemida, Attica
Date	24 April 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box and the Filoptochos Fund
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrators were identified

№	173.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Kapsia, Mantinea, Arcadia
Date	24 April 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 Pakistani national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

№	174.
Location	Church of Metamorfosis Sotiros, Karitsa, Lake Plastira, Karditsa
Date	Between 1 st and 25 April 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of 1 generator
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	175.
Location	Cemetery, Aghios Georgios, Missolonghi
Date	24/25 April 2022
Brief description	Damage to a family tomb
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	176.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Athens
Date	25 April 2022
Brief description	Damage to the marble shrine located in the exterior of the Church, near the main entrance
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	177.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Dimitrios, Agnandero, Mouzaki, Karditsa
Date	25 April 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	178.
Location	Church of Aghios Spyridonas, Pallini, Attica
Date	26/27 April 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of a window railing
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	179.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Kyriaki, Nea Michaniona, Thessaloniki
Date	27 April 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of a safe and damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	180.
Location	Church of Ypapanti Kyriou, Peristeri, Attica
Date	28 April 2022
Brief description	Theft of an icon and offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	181.
Location	Chapel of Zoodochos Pigi, Vainia Ierapetra, Lasithi
Date	28/29 April 2022

Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

№	182.
Location	Monastery of Panagia Kladormi, Fourka, Konitsa, Ioannina
Date	29 April 2022
Brief description	Entry to the Church, no theft
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

№	183.
Location	Church of Metamorfosis Sotiros, Artemida, Attica
Date	Between 20 and 30 April 2022
Brief description	Attempted theft of money from the collection box, which was empty
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrators were identified

№	184.
Location	Church of Aghios Myron, Aghios Myron, Heraklion
Date	30 April 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the parish office and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of one of the two perpetrators

№	185.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Pendamodi, Aghios Myron, Heraklion
Date	30 April 2022
Brief description	Break-in, no theft, because the alarm system sounded
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of one of the two perpetrators

№	186.
Location	Cemetery Church of Aghios Athanasios, Mikrokambos, Kilkis
Date	April 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of a bell
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

№	187.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Aitoliko, Aetolia-Acarnania
Date	2 May 2022

Brief description	Breaking of the entrance lock and break-in of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	188.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Mastro, Aetolia-Acarnania
Date	Between 1 st and 3 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	189.
Location	Church of Aghia Triada, Perivolakia, Rafina, Attica
Date	2/3 May 2022
Brief description	Breaking of a window railing, damage to the interior of the Church, throwing an icon to the floor, breaking an icon from the iconostasis and theft of a valuable votive offering, theft of money from the collection box. The alarm system of the Church was out of order
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	190.
Location	Cemeteries of Anastasis Kyriou, Pylaia, Thessaloniki
Date	5 May 2022
Brief description	Removal of a marble cross from a tomb
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	191.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Mardati, Kritsa, Lasithi
Date	5 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the Church's office window and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	192.
Location	Church of Panagia Odighitria, Kritsa, Lasithi
Date	5/6 May 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the door of the parish office and theft of a metal box with money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	193.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Kloni, Makrakomi, Fthiotis
Date	7 May 2022
Brief description	Broken glass panes of the entrance and attempted theft of valuable objects
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	194.
Location	Church of Aghios Myron, Aghios Myron, Heraklion
Date	9 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the parish office, next to the Church and theft of the safety box containing money
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of one of the two perpetrators

No	195.
Location	Cemetery of Schisto, Perama, Attica
Date	10 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of objects from a tomb
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	196.
Location	Cemetery Church of Aghioi Taxiarches, Palaiokastros, Samos
Date	Between 5 and 11 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of a bell
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	197.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Pyrgos, Iliia
Date	Between 7 and 12 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from a safety box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	198.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Almyros, Magnesia
Date	12 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	199.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Efxeinoupoli Almyrou, Magnesia
Date	14 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	200.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Giannitsochori, Ilia
Date	14 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	201.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Panteleimon, Pefkia, Chalkoutsi, Oropos, Attica
Date	13/14 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of an icon with its offerings, which was found later in the sea near Kamari
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	202.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Panteleimon, Pyrgos, Samos
Date	Between 22 April and 15 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 bronze chandelier
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	203.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Palaio Faliro, Attica
Date	16 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the Philoptochos Fund
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	204.
Location	Church of Timios Stavros, Moraitochori, Vathy, Samos
Date	Between 9 and 17 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of a brass bell
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	205.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Analipsi, Boeotia

Date	17 May 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the external fencing. Theft of metal objects (door, grates from manholes, radiators)
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	206.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Aspra Spitia, Ilia
Date	17 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	207.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Skoutera, Aetolia-Acarmania
Date	18 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	208.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Varlaam, Ioannina
Date	Between 15 and 20 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money and a power generator
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	209.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Varlaam, Ioannina
Date	Between 15 and 20 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money and a power generator
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	210.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Aidonia, Grevena
Date	Between 15 and 20 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

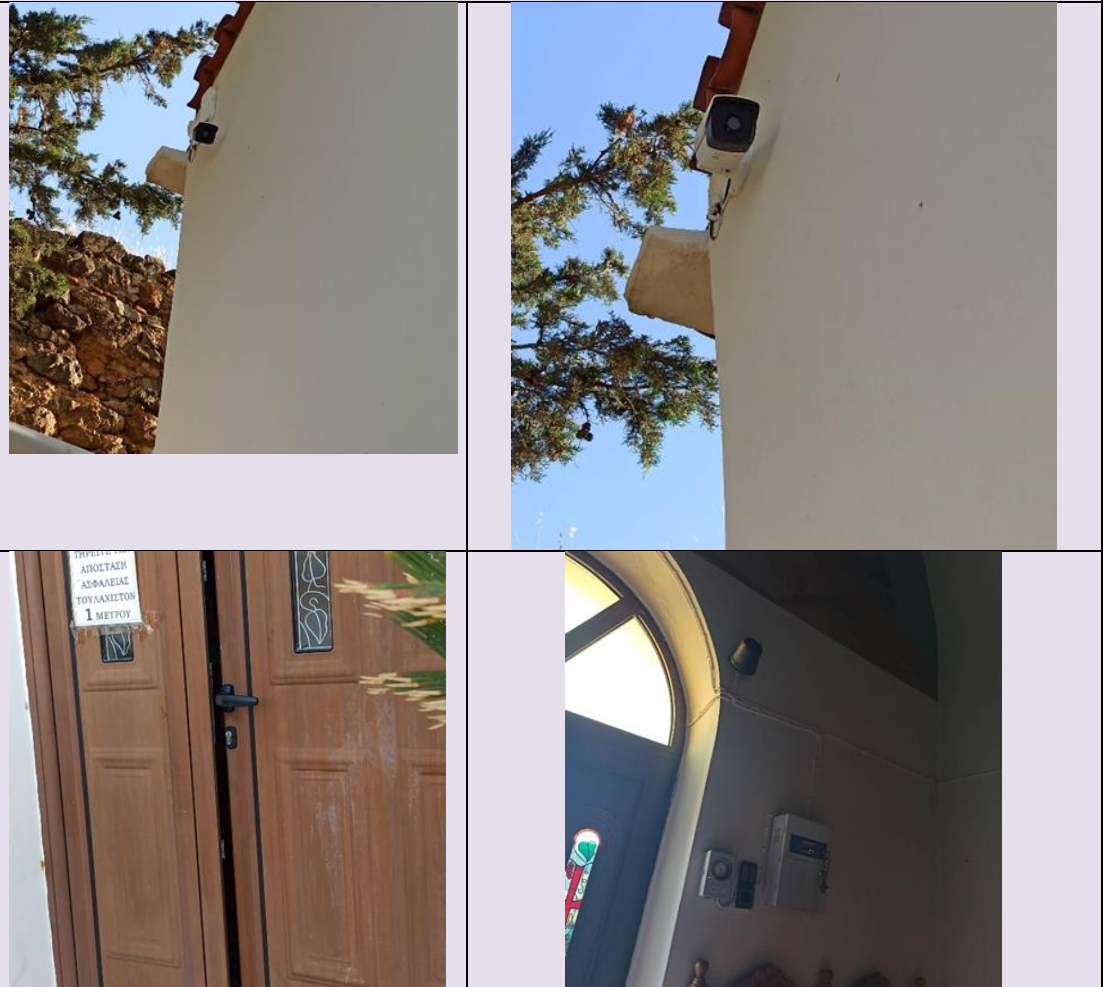
No	211.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Georgios, Stavroupoli, Thessaloniki
Date	21 May 2022

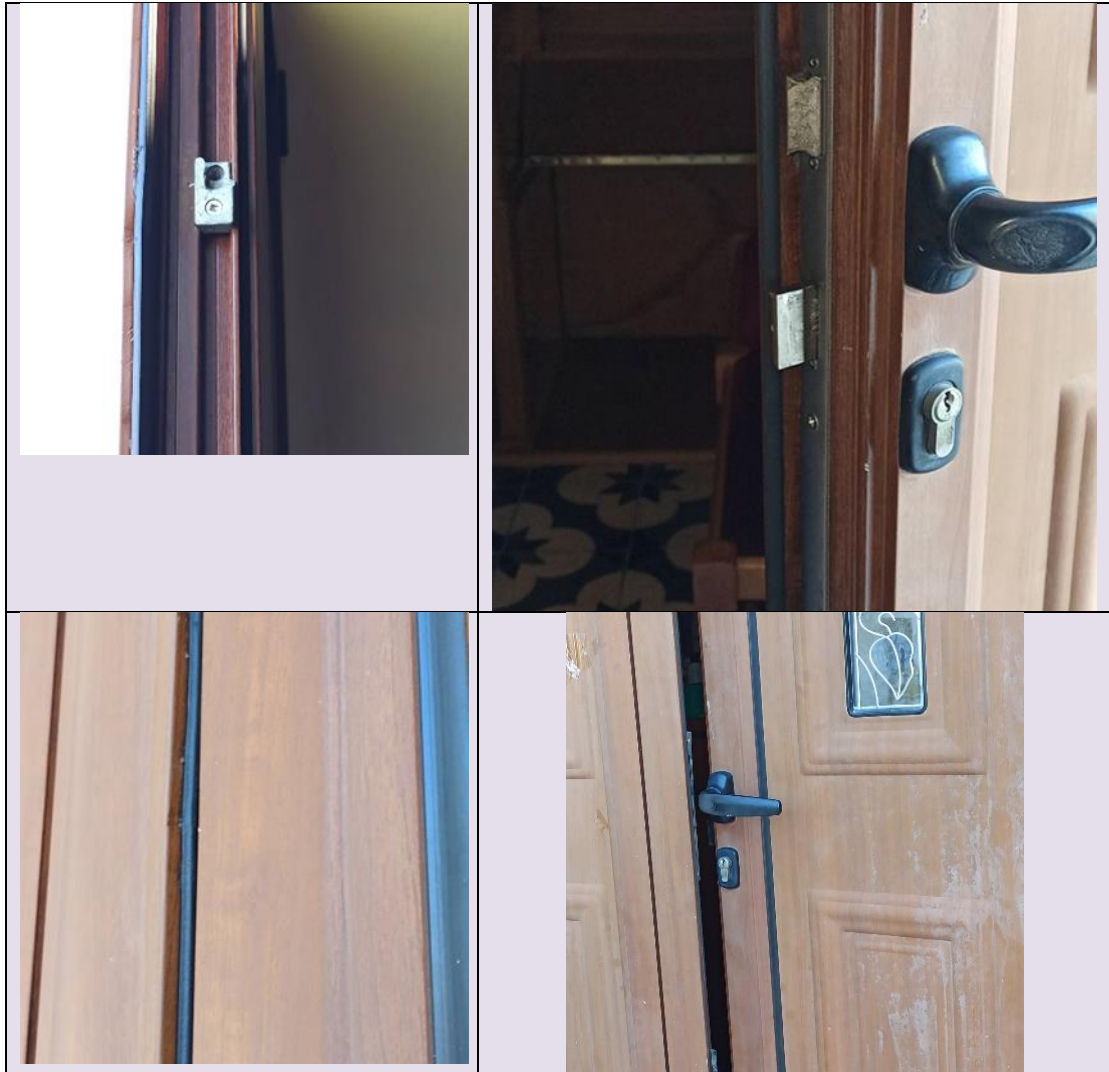
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

№	212.
Location	Church of Issodia of Theotokos, Nea Alatsata, Heraklion
Date	22 May 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the door and attempted break-in of the collection box. Activation of the alarm upon the perpetrator's entry and recording of the event by security cameras
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator

№	213.
Location	Church of Aghios Kyrillos, Gortyna, Heraklion
Date	22/23 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in and attempted theft
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

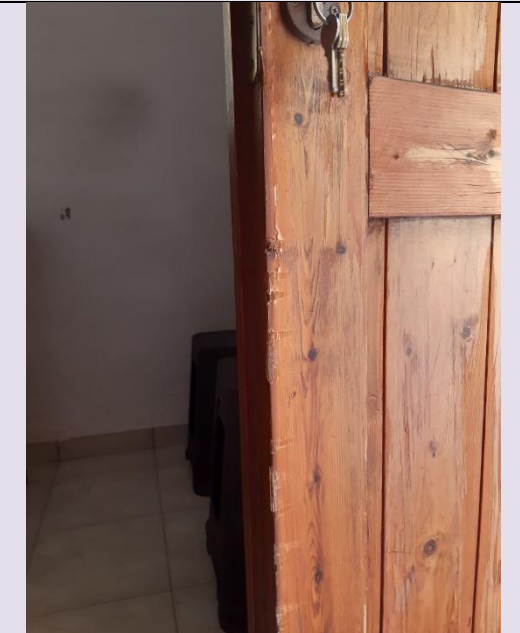
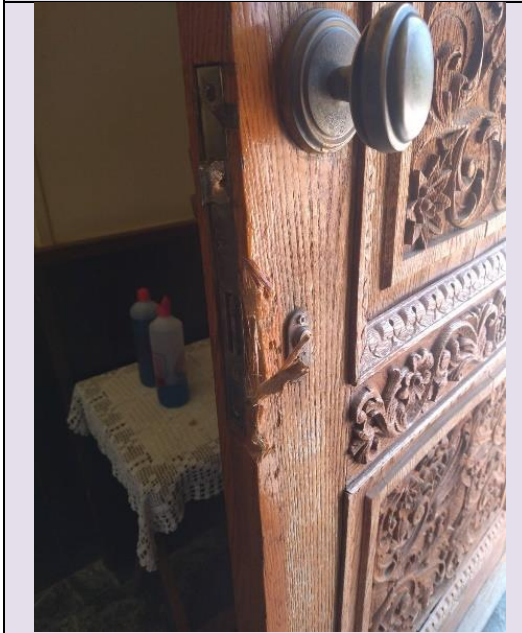
(Photos: Holy Eparchial Synod of the Church of Crete)





No	214.
Location	Church of Aghios Titos, Tympaki, Faistos, Heraklion
Date	22/23 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier
(Photos: Holy Eparchial Synod of the Church of Crete)	





No	215.
Location	Chapel, Serres
Date	24 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	2 national women
Police/procedural actions	Arrest in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	216.
Location	Municipal Cemetery of Palaio Faliro, Attica
Date	25 May 2022
Brief description	Attempted removal of a statue from a tomb
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	217.
Location	Cemetery Church, Lefkochori, Ilia
Date	25 May 2022
Brief description	Theft of vigil lamps and incense burners from tombs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	218.
Location	Cultural Centre of the Metropolitan Church of Megali Panagia, Neapolis, Lasithi
Date	26 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the windows and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	219.
Location	Metropolitan Church of Megali Panagia, Neapolis, Lasithi
Date	26 May 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in and damage to the doors
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	220.
Location	Church of Pammegistoi Taxiarches, Poros, Grevena
Date	Between 23 and 28 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and

	committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.
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No	221.
Location	Church of Aghia Anastasia, Peristeri, Attica
Date	28 May 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in
Perpetrator/s	1 unidentified woman
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	222.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Aghios Kosmas, Grevena
Date	30 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area

No	223.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Kyparissi, Grevena
Date	30 May 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area

No	224.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Paraskevi, Sernikaki, Fokida
Date	30 May 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the safe and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	225.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Lazaros, Kavallari, Lagkadas, Thessaloniki
Date	May 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the collection box and material damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

No	226.
Location	Chapel of Prophitis Ilias, Drakontio, Lagkadas, Thessaloniki
Date	May 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the collection box and material damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

No	227.
Location	Chapel of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Monolofos Oraiakastrou, Thessaloniki
Date	May 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the collection box and material damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

No	228.
Location	Chapel of Koimisis of Theotokos, Monolofos Oraiakastrou, Thessaloniki
Date	May 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the collection box and material damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

No	229.
Location	Chapel of Timios Prodromos, Koleni, Kissamos, Chania
Date	Beginning of June 2022
Brief description	Break-in, damage, and theft of a microphone installation
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	230.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Ioannis Theologos, Kotsiana, Kissamos, Chania
Date	Beginning of June 2022
Brief description	Break-in and damage, no theft
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	231.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Panteleimon, Kissamos, Chania
Date	Beginning of June 2022
Brief description	Break-in and damage, no theft
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	232.
Location	Church of Aghioi Theodoroi, Magoula, Pyrgos, Ilia
Date	2 June 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator on 8-8-2022

No	233.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Oleni, Pyrgos, Ilia
Date	2 June 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator on 8-8-2022

No	234.
Location	Church of Aghia Marina, Didymoteicho
Date	3 June 2022
Brief description	Cutting of the metal doors of the collection box which was built-in, (possibly using an angle grinder), theft of money and re-welding of the outer door to make it appear closed
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	235.
Location	Cemetery, Aleospita, Gorgopotamos, Lamia
Date	Between 1 st and 3 June 2022
Brief description	Theft of an undetermined number of metal flower stands, vigil lamp bases and incense burners from tombs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	236.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Inoi, Ilia
Date	5 June 2022
Brief description	Theft of votive offerings from an icon
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	237.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Ampelonas, Pyrgos, Ilia
Date	6 June 2022
Brief description	Attempted entry, which was noticed by residents
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator on 8-8-2022

No	238.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Inoi, Ilia
Date	6 June 2022
Brief description	Entry to the warehouse and the bell tower of the church, no theft
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator on August 8, 2022

No	239. (cf. incident 1)
Location	Church of Aghios Pavlos, Omonoia, Athens
Date	8 June 2022
Brief description	Burning of a plastic chemical toilet of a construction site next to the entrance staircase of the Church, above the power substation of the Public Power Corporation and breaking of crystals in the underground hall of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Intervention of the Fire Brigade

No	240.
Location	Cemetery Church of Aghios Lazaros, Katerini
Date	9 June 2022
Brief description	Theft of various metal ecclesiastical objects from tombs using a sharp object (penknife) and a tool (sledge hammer)
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	241.
Location	Church of Panagia Alexiotissa, Patras
Date	9 June 2022
Brief description	Theft of two laptops from the priests' office
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	242.
Location	Church of Aghia Foteini, Nea Smyrni, Attica
Date	10 June 2022
Brief description	Molotov cocktails thrown near the chapel of the Church, resulting in a small fire
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	243.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis Theologos, Skiadas, Erymanthos, Achaea
Date	9/10 June 2022

Brief description	Break-in through the main door of the Church, entry and theft of an undetermined amount of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	244.
Location	Cemetery Church of Prophitis Ilias, Epanomi Thessaloniki
Date	13 June 2022
Brief description	Cutting of a railing and breaking-into a window, theft of a gold-plated Artophorion from the Altar, 2 gold-plated vigil lamps and a sum of money from the collection box. Theft of a bronze candelabra weighing about 60-70 kg from the exterior of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	245.
Location	Church of Prophitis Ilias, Kastoria
Date	Between 1 st May and 13 June 2022
Brief description	Theft of an old portable icon dating back to 1870
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	246.
Location	Church of Aghia Pelagia, Karlovasi, Samos
Date	12/13 June 2022
Brief description	Attempted entry and damage to the main entrance
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	247.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Potami, Karlovasi, Samos
Date	12/13 June 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the main entrance, theft of an icon, olive oil and money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	248.
Location	Cemetery Church of Aghios Georgios, Agrinio
Date	15 June 2022
Brief description	Theft of money
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	249.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Tsamantas, Filiata, Thesprotia
Date	Between 11 and 18 June 2022
Brief description	Break-in, damage and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	250.
Location	Church of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Vathy, Gorgomylos, Preveza
Date	Between 12 and 19 June 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the main entrance, entry into the Church and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	251.
Location	Church of Aghioi Anargyroi, Episkopi Messinis, Messinia
Date	19 June 2022
Brief description	Entry to the Church repeatedly and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	252.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis, Akra, Tegea, Arcadia
Date	20 June 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the lock of a door. Broken glass panes, theft of 2 bronze candelabra, 1 bronze candlestick and 1 vacuum cleaner from the storage room of the church
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	253.
Location	Private Chapel, Koropi, Attica
Date	22 June 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of a window and damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	254.
Location	Cemetery Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Achinos, Styliida, Fthiotida
Date	24 June 2022

Brief description	Theft of 7 icons from the iconostasis
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	255.
Location	Church of Prophitis Ilias, Achinos, Stylida, Fthiotida
Date	24 June 2022
Brief description	Theft of 5 vigil lamps
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	256.
Location	Chapel of Genethlia of Theotokos, Pelasgia, Stylida, Fthiotida
Date	24 June 2022
Brief description	Theft of 2 icons from the iconostasis
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	257.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Ioannis Prodromos, Koleni, Kissamos, Chania
Date	28 June 2022
Brief description	The lock of the entrance and a window of the church was broken. The perpetrators were noticed by a passerby and fled on a two-wheeled motorcycle. No items were taken
Perpetrator/s	2 Pakistani nationals
Police/procedural actions	One of the two perpetrators was arrested. The dossier was submitted to the competent authorities

No	258.
Location	Church of Aghia Eirini Chrysovalantou, Efkarpia, Thessaloniki
Date	28 June 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 external air conditioning unit, 1 car battery, about 20 meters of cable, 1 gasoline container and 1 large gas tank from the newly built church
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier and referral of the perpetrators to the competent Public Prosecutor

No	259.
Location	Church of Prophitis Ilias, Pyrgos, Iliia
Date	28 June 2022
Brief description	Break-in
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator on 8-8-2022

No	260.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Aghios Ioannis, Pyrgos, Ilia
Date	28 June 2022
Brief description	Break-in
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator on 8-8-2022

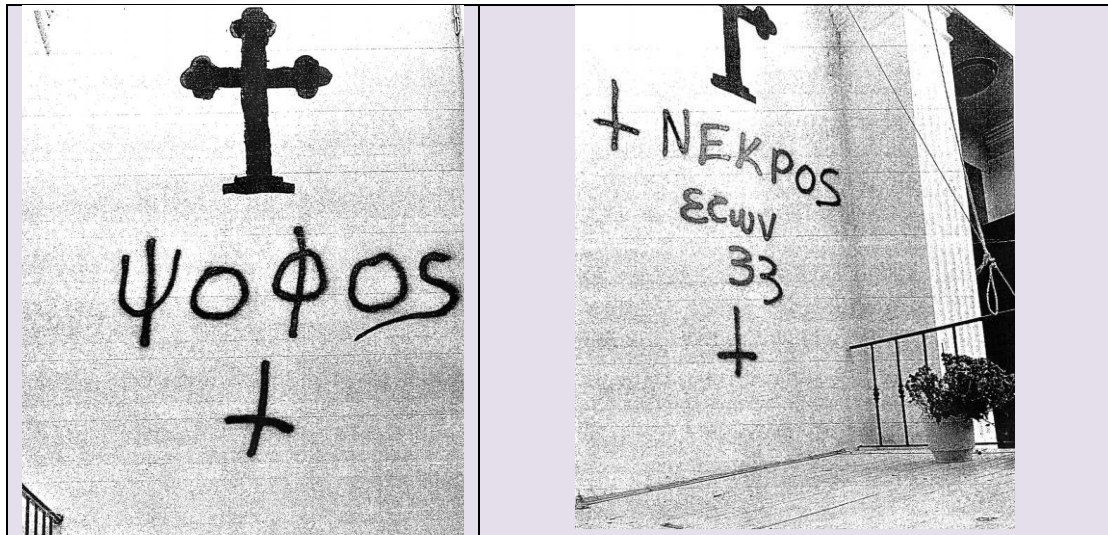
No	261.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Latzoi, Pyrgos, Ilia
Date	28 June 2022
Brief description	Break-in
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator on 8-8-2022

No	262.
Location	Church of Prophitis Ilias, Koutsochera, Pyrgos, Ilia
Date	28 June 2022
Brief description	Break-in
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator on 8-8-2022

No	263.
Location	Church of Apostolos Pavlos, Kerasona, Preveza
Date	28/29 June 2022
Brief description	Theft of votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	264.
Location	Cemetery of Markopoulo, Attica
Date	1 st July 2022
Brief description	Break-in of a storage room within the fenced area of the cemetery and theft of tools used for the needs of the cemetery
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	265.
Location	Cemetery Chapel of Koimisis of Theotokos, Aghioi Anargyroi, Attica
Date	1 st July 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the Filoptochos Fund and painting of slogans and symbols
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint
(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)	



No	266.
Location	Cemetery Church of Anastasis of Lazaros, Ellassona
Date	Between 30 June and 2 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in, breaking the lock of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	267.
Location	Chapel of Aghioi Anargyroi, Koropi, Attica
Date	2 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in, no theft
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	268.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Spilaio, Grevena
Date	2/3 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	269.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Elefthero, Grevena
Date	2/3 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and

	committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.
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No	270.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Rafina
Date	4 July 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	271.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Chalandritsa, Erymanthos, Achaea
Date	8 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the main door of the Church, entry and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	272.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Katarraktis, Erymanthos, Achaea
Date	Between 3 and 9 July 2022
Brief description	Breaking the entrance and theft of money from the collection box as well as all the keys of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	273.
Location	Chapel of Theotokos, Kifisia
Date	9 July 2022
Brief description	Theft of a sacred vessel, money from the collection box, cleaning supplies and a quantity of olive oil
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	274.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Archontiko, Pella
Date	Between 1 st and 10 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in, and theft of 3 bronze candelabra and 1 bell of about 80 kg
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	275.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Paiania, Attica
Date	12 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in and damage to the entrance. The collection box was empty, no theft
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified

Police/procedural actions	Dossier
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No	276.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Mpoura, Spata, Attica
Date	12 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in and damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	277.
Location	Church of Aghia Marina, Porto Rafti, Attica
Date	13 July 2022
Brief description	Damage by spray-painting slogans on public walls and spaces including the exterior wall of the Church: "TO HELL WITH FAMILY RELIGION AND PATRIS", "NO SANCTUARY AND NO SACRED THINGS", "FREEDOM TO YIANNIS MICHAELIDES"
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	278.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Georgios, Lagouta, Heraklion
Date	14 July 2022
Brief description	Theft of a bell
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	279.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Fanourios, Thana, Perpatari, Arkadia
Date	14 July 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the windows of an adjacent chapel storeroom and theft of 1 baptismal font, breaking of the storeroom glass panes and attempted theft of an electric generator. The perpetrators were noticed by a resident and fled
Perpetrator/s	3 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	280.
Location	Private Church of Aghia Eirini, Zachareika, Karlovasi, Samos
Date	14 July 2022
Brief description	Theft of 2 bronze candelabra
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	281.
Location	Church of Aghios Tryphonas, Karlovasi, Samos
Date	14 July 2022

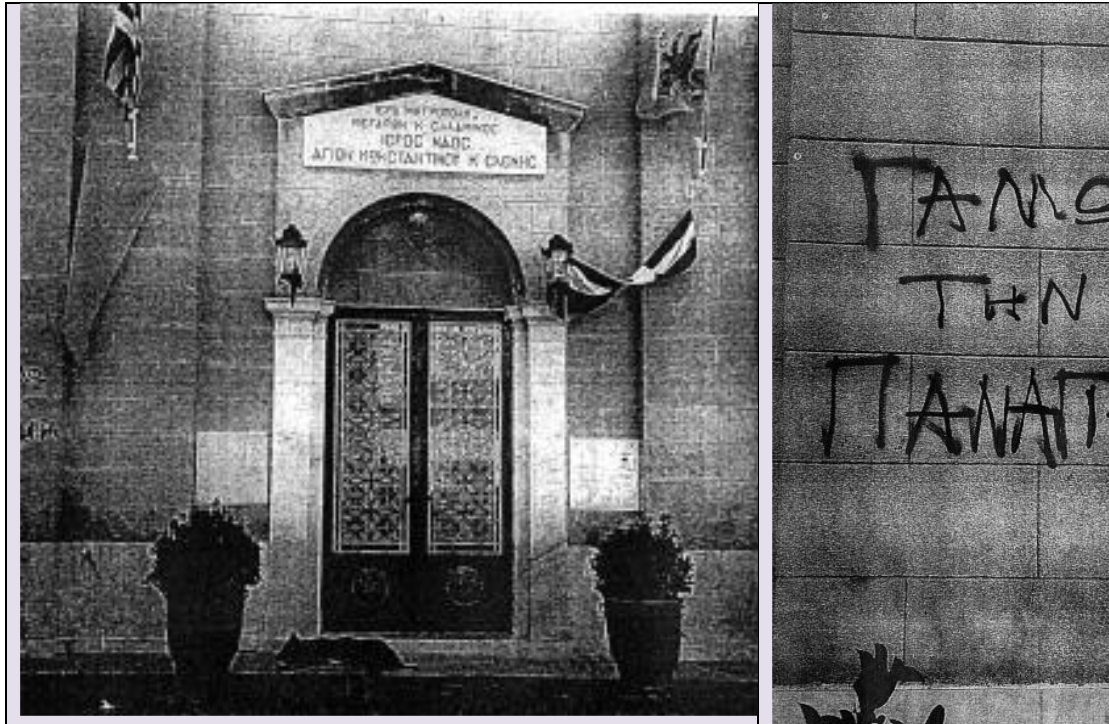
Brief description	Broken glass panes, theft of sacred vessels and other objects dedicated to Divine worship
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	282.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Nea Kerdylia Thessaloniki
Date	17 July 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in and damage of 3 security cameras
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	283.
Location	Metropolitan Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Chalkida
Date	17 July 2022
Brief description	Painting of slogans and blasphemies on the north and west side of the church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)





No	284.
Location	Private Church of Aghia Marina, Kokkino Metochi, Chania
Date	18/19 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in through a window, theft of a gold-plated cross and an icon, which was found in the courtyard
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified

Police/procedural actions	Complaint
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No	285.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Melissia, Aigialeia, Achaea
Date	19/20 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in, theft of valuable votive offerings and money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	286.
Location	Chapel of Timios Prodromos, Pyrgadikia, Chalkidiki
Date	19/20 July 2022
Brief description	Theft of metal ecclesiastical objects
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	287.
Location	Church of Aghios Spyridonas, Pallini
Date	21 July 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box and the Filoptochos Fund
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	288.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Dafnes, Aigialeia, Achaea
Date	21 July 2022
Brief description	Theft of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	289.
Location	Church of Pammegistoi Taxiarches, Kalathos, Rhodes
Date	21 July 2022
Brief description	Theft of objects intended for Divine worship and their disposal in a waste bin. Inscription in the courtyard of the Church in white paint of the phrase: "JEHOVAH GOD GODDESS"
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	290.
Location	Church of Metamorfosis Sotiros, Aravissos, Giannitsa
Date	23 July 2022

Brief description	Theft of 2 bronze candelabra
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	291.
Location	Church of Aghios Konstantinos, Rethymno
Date	24 July 2022
Brief description	Theft of a handbag
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	292.
Location	Church of Aghios Andreas, Oasi Aigeiras, Achaea
Date	26/27 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	293.
Location	Church of Aghioi Apostoloi Petros and Pavlos, Chrysanthio Aigeiras, Achaea
Date	26/27 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	294.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Kritharakia, Grevena
Date	26/27 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	295.
Location	Cemetery Church of Aghios Ioannis Prodromos, Sarakina, Grevena
Date	26/27 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	296.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Trikorfo, Grevena
Date	26/27 July 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	297.
Location	Church of Prophitis Ilias, Oros Karvouni, Pandroso, Samos
Date	Between 20 and 31 st July 2022
Brief description	Damage to the main door of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	298.
Location	Skinourio Kathisma (Hermitage), Paradeisi, Kos
Date	July 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the door and destruction of the casing and lock
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	299.
Location	Chapel of Timios Stavros, Asfendi, Kos
Date	July 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the main door
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	300.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Georgios of Bey, Asfendi, Kos
Date	July 2022
Brief description	Break-in
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	301.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Farkadona, Trikala
Date	July 2022
Brief description	Damage inside the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	302.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Marina, Maroulas, Rethymno

Date	July 2022
Brief description	Theft of two chairs and a quantity of olive oil
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

№	303.
Location	C' Cemetery of Athens, Nikaia, Attica
Date	1 st August 2022
Brief description	Theft of a metal incense burner and a metal vigil lamp
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	304.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Athanasios, Ioulida, Kea
Date	Between 30 July and 2 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	305.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Agalaioi, Grevena
Date	2/3 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

№	306.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Heraklion
Date	2/3 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of 10 silver pendant crosses
Perpetrator/s	1 national (a minor) and 1 unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

№	307.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Malia, Heraklion
Date	3 August 2022
Brief description	Broken glass panes and theft of 8 pendant crosses
Perpetrator/s	3 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Immediate detection. The perpetrators were arrested. Referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office, return of the stolen goods

№	308.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Dimitrios, Gerakas
Date	4 August 2022

Brief description	Theft of all vigil lamps
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	309.
Location	Municipal Cemetery of Elassona
Date	5 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of 15 copper vigil lamps from tombs
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office. In a house search, 13 more copper vigil lamps were found, which were confiscated

№	310.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Georgios, Gerakas, Attica
Date	6 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of all vigil lamps
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	311.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Graikas, Krestena, Ilia
Date	6 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	312.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Thessaloniki
Date	7 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from a collection box from the interior of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation


№	313.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Koula, Serres
Date	8 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and attempted entry which was noticed by patrolling police officers
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

№	314.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Ioannis, Aghios Ioannis, Stylida
Date	8 August 2022
Brief description	Theft from the Iconostasis of 4 big antique icons
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified


Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation
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№	315.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Gryllos, Krestena, Ilia
Date	8 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of an undetermined amount of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	316.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Cheimadio, Pyrgos, Ilia
Date	8 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator for suspicious activity around the Church and a confession. As it emerged from the preliminary investigation, the perpetrator from 01-06-2022 to 28-06-2022 had carried out the break-in of 8 more Churches in the wider area of the Municipalities of Pyrgos and Ilida

№	317.
Location	Church of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Kerasovo, Preveza
Date	9 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the window and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint
(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)	

№	318.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Assos, Preveza
Date	9 August 2022

Brief description	Break-in through the window and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint
(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)	

Nº	319.
Location	Church of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Leventochori, Kilkis
Date	10 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	2 Bulgarian nationals
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrators were arrested in the act. Referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

Nº	320.
Location	Cemetery Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Perivolia, Chania
Date	10/11 August 2022
Brief description	Breaking of the door and theft of the Filoptochos Fund
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

Nº	321.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Droumpa, Perivolia, Chania
Date	10/11 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and destruction of the main door
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

Nº	322.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Koropi, Attica
Date	11 August 2022

Brief description	Break-in, no theft
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	323.
Location	Church of Prophitis Ilias, Episkopeio, Syros
Date	11 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	4 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	324.
Location	Church of Gennisis of Timios Prodromos, Dokimi, Aetolia-Acarmania
Date	12 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the Filoptochos Fund
Perpetrator/s	3 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	325.
Location	Church of Aghia Triada, Kleio, Lesvos
Date	13/14 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	326.
Location	Church of Aghios Fanourios, Marmaras, Varipetro, Chania
Date	13/14 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	327.
Location	Church of Aghia Marina, Marmaras, Varipetro, Chania
Date	13/14 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	328.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Potistiria, Varipetro, Chania
Date	13/14 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	329.
Location	Chapel of Panagia Dexia, Thessaloniki
Date	14 August 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of the collection box, which was noticed by police officers
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrators were arrested in the act. Referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	330.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Mikro Seirini, Grevena
Date	Between 13 and 16 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	331.
Location	Church of Aghios Spyridonas, Pallini
Date	16 August 2022
Brief description	Breaking the lock of a door and the glass panes, breaking-into the Filoptochos Fund and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	332.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Artemida, Attica
Date	16 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrators were identified

No	333.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Lippa, Ioannina
Date	16 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the main door and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	334.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Sellades, Arta
Date	16 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of copper lighting tubes
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	335.
Location	Church of of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Mandra, Attica
Date	18 August 2022
Brief description	Inscription of abusive slogans
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	336.
Location	Monastery of Aghia Xeni, Plagiari, Thessaloniki
Date	18 August 2022
Brief description	Breaking of a window and theft of 2 large gold crosses, 1 large silver cross and money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	337.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Triada, Epanomi Thessaloniki
Date	18 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 bronze candelabra and attempted break-in of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	338.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Argyrios, Epanomi, Thessaloniki
Date	18 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 bronze candelabra and attempted break-in of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	339.
Location	Cemetery Church of Aghia Triada, Aghios Sostis, Tripoli, Arcadia
Date	18 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box by breaking the security lock and theft of an undetermined amount of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

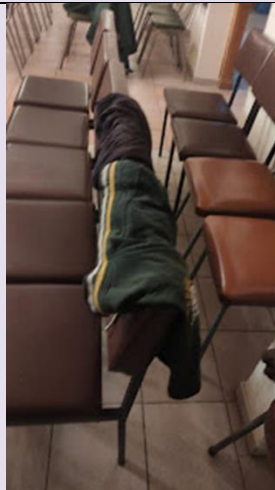
No	340.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Anna, Kontodespoti, Messapia, Euboea
Date	20 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box

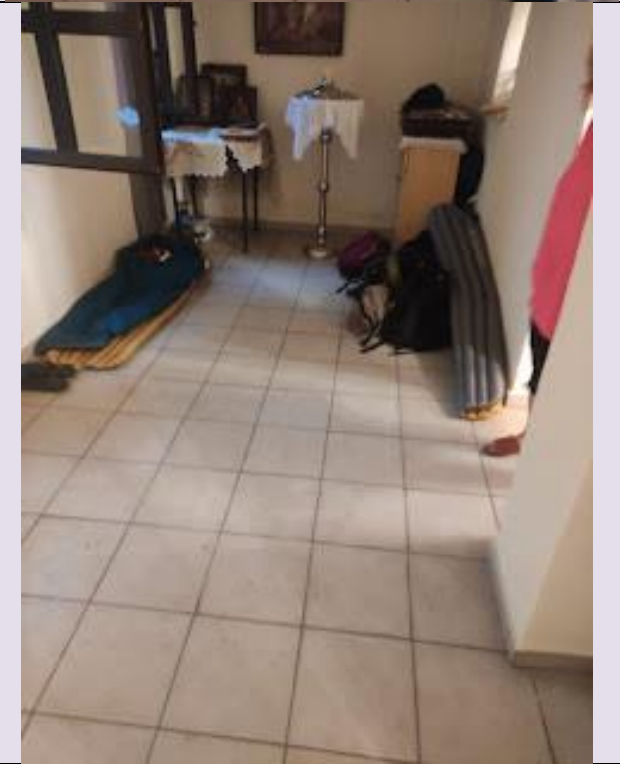
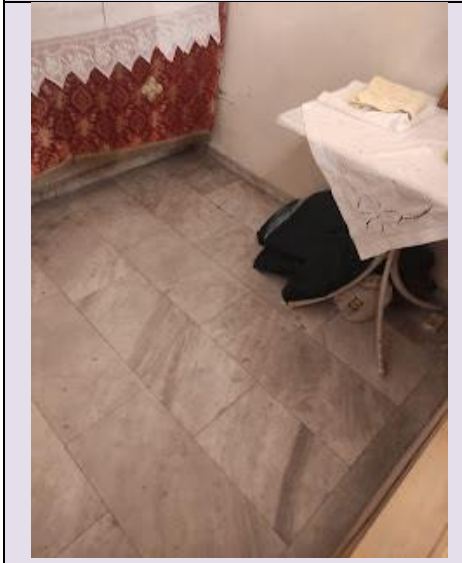
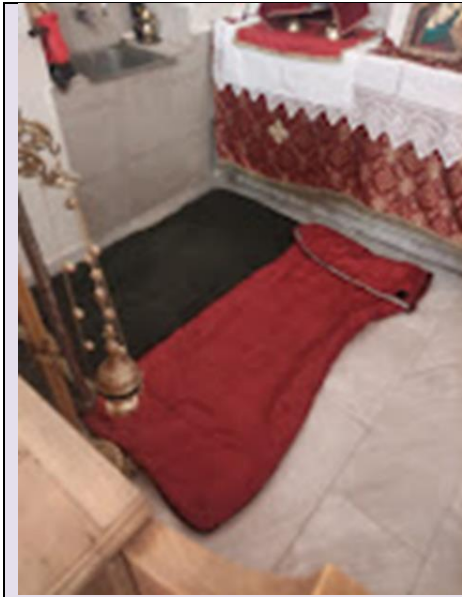
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

No	341.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Aghios Georgios, Chounista, Aetolia-Acarmania
Date	22 August 2022
Brief description	Broken glass panes, breaking-into the main door, investigation of the premises and theft of 1 bronze candelabra and 1 metal baptismal font
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	342.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis Prodromos, Therma, Samothraki
Date	26 August 2022
Brief description	Occupation and desecration of the interior of the Church
Perpetrator/s	5 unidentified foreigners
Police/procedural actions	The perpetrators were removed
Comments	<p>Statement of the Metropolis of Alexandroupolis on the occupation of the Church of Therma in Samothraki:</p> <p><i>“We regret the decline caused in Samothraki by a peculiar type of tourism which, apart from disrespecting the private and public properties, it no longer respects neither the sanctities nor the sacredness of the local tradition of the inhabitants. The photographs of the occupied and desecrated Church of Aghios Ioannis Prodromos in Therma are an example of a situation that has been going on for years and continues its destructive work in an uncontrollable manner.</i></p> <p><i>The Metropolis”</i></p>

(Photos: Metropolis of Alexandroupolis)





No	343.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Karditsa
Date	26 August 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the gate and attempted entry into the Church, damage to the exterior of the Church with spray-painting over the peristyle of the

	slogans “210 ONLY ZAB” and in another place about two metres away from the previous slogan: “ZAB”
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office. Burglary tools were found in the perpetrator's possession in a backpack and were seized

No	344.
Location	Monastery of Koimisis of Theotokos, Paplinou, Vainia, Ierapetra, Lasithi
Date	Between 21 st and 26 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of vessels, 13 icons, votive offerings, and other objects dedicated to Divine worship
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	345.
Location	Church of Metamorfosis Sotiros, Voukolies, Kissamos, Chania
Date	27 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and damage, no theft
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	346.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Fanourios, Neapoli, Agrinio
Date	27 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in, no theft, broken door of the Sanctuary and damage to a window of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	347.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Sochos, Thessaloniki
Date	28 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 metal baptismal font, 1 metal chandelier and 1 metal candelabra
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	348.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Stavros, Grevena
Date	Between 15 and 29 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and

	committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.
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No	349.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Athanasios, Epanomi, Thessaloniki
Date	29 August 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box which was witnessed by citizens and the police were called
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	350.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Moraitika, Kerkyra
Date	29 August 2022
Brief description	Break-in, theft of money and valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	351.
Location	Church of Aghios Panteleimon and Aghios Charalambos, Xanthi
Date	30 August 2022
Brief description	The perpetrators were arrested by police officers as they were found hiding inside the Church under the Altar, no theft
Perpetrator/s	5 nationals (minors)
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	352.
Location	Chapel of Aghioi Raphael, Nikolaos and Eirini, Xanthi
Date	30 August 2022
Brief description	Attempted breaking-into the gate and damage
Perpetrator/s	5 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest

No	353.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Florina
Date	31 st August 2022
Brief description	Breaking of a window in the adjoining lodge of the Church, entry, breaking-into a metal cabinet and theft of a box with a sum of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	354.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Georgios, Lagouta, Heraklion
Date	31 st August 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 bell and 3 candleholders
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	355.
Location	Cemetery Chapel of Koimisis of Theotokos, Aghioi Anargyroi, Attica
Date	31 st August 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box outside the ossuary
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	356.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Amygdalies, Grevena
Date	August 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	357.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Raphael, Nikolaos and Eirini, Maroulas, Rethymno
Date	August 2022
Brief description	Theft of chairs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

No	358.
Location	Skinourio Kathisma (Hermitage), Paradeisi, Kos
Date	August 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the door and destruction of the casing and lock
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	359.
Location	Church of Aghia Anna, Maroulas, Rethymno
Date	Summer 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the safe, breaking of the lock and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

No	360.
Location	Chapel of Prophitis Ilias, Maroulas, Rethymno
Date	Summer 2022
Brief description	Theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

No	361.
Location	Chapel of Timios Stavros, Kos
Date	Summer 2022
Brief description	Attempted arson in the courtyard
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	362.
Location	Shrine in front of the Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Kos
Date	Summer 2022
Brief description	Damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	363.
Location	Shrine of the Chapel of Panagia Faneromeni, Kos
Date	Summer 2022
Brief description	Break-in
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	364.
Location	Chapel of Zoodochos Pigi – Panagia Tsoukalaria, Platani, Kos
Date	Summer 2022
Brief description	Exterior damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	365.
Location	Church of Aghios Charalambos, Zakynthos
Date	31 st August / 1 st September 2022
Brief description	Break-in entry and theft of objects dedicated to Divine worship, 1 icon and 2 relics from the Sanctuary
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	366.
Location	Church of Genethlia of Theotokos, Kalochori, Alexandria, Veria
Date	1 st September 2022

Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	367.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Fanourios, Thiva
Date	1 st September 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 Albanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	368.
Location	Church of Aghios Efthymios, Korinthos
Date	1 st /2 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in, breaking-into the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	369.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis Prodromos, Dasaki, Grevena
Date	1 st /2 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	370.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Dasyllio, Grevena
Date	1 st /2 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	371.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Dasyllio, Grevena
Date	1 st /2 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals

Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.
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№	372.
Location	Offices of the Metropolis of Ilion, Acharnes and Petroupolis
Date	3 September 2022
Brief description	Malicious inscription, with oil paints and spray, of anti-ecclesiastical slogans at the main entrance of the offices of the Metropolis and the surrounding walls
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

№	373.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Pentapoli, Serres
Date	5 September 2022
Brief description	Breaking of a window and attempted entry into the Church, which was abandoned for an unknown reason. The perpetrator confessed and stated his intention to break into the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

№	374.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Philadelphia, Attica
Date	6 September 2022
Brief description	Entry into the Church after the end of Mass and attempt to remove 1 of the heads located at the top of the columns. The perpetrator, when noticed, responded with insults and threats and left. He reappeared again holding a hammer with which he hit the main door of the Church and then he moved in a threatening manner towards an employee of the Church with the intention of hitting him
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. Arrest of the perpetrator

№	375.
Location	Church of Ypapanti Sotiros, Artemida, Attica
Date	6 September 2022
Brief description	Damage to the collection box, the Filoptochos Fund and the donation cash desk of the Church, and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrators were identified

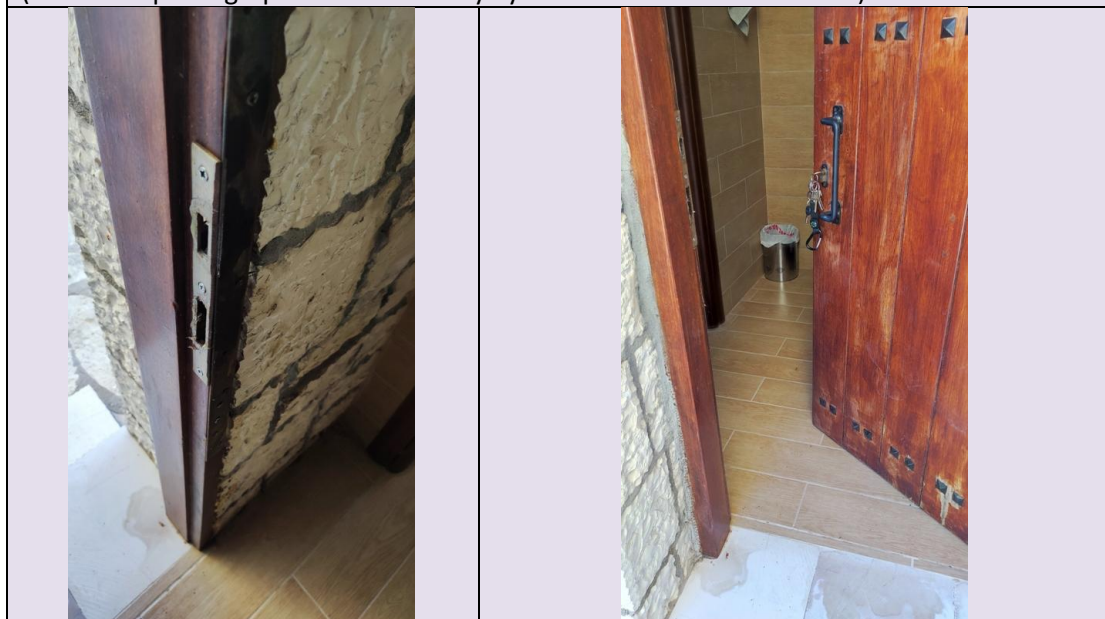
No	376.
Location	Cemetery Church of Aghios Georgios, Agrinio
Date	7 September 2022
Brief description	Theft of money
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	377.
Location	Church of Aghios Christoforos, Kalamitsi, Grevena
Date	6/7 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	378.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Eleousa, Arta
Date	7 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in, no theft
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	379.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Rokka, Arta
Date	8 September 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the WC door of the Church, no theft
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)



No	380.
Location	Church of Aghia Aikaterini, Kalochori, Alexandria, Veria
Date	Between 1 st and 9 September 2022
Brief description	Broken lock and main entrance door and theft of 2 metal candelabra
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	381.
Location	Church of Panagia Katafygiotissa, Anavyssos, Attica
Date	9 September 2022
Brief description	Theft of 4 cameras and 2 speakers
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	382.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Alexandros, Thessaloniki
Date	9 September 2022
Brief description	Theft of 3 paper icons and candles, burning of 2 of them and disposal of all objects on the road
Perpetrator/s	1 national (a woman)
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	383.
Location	Chapel of the Church of Panagia Kantouniotissa, Zakynthos
Date	Between 28 August and 11 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in, theft of votive offerings and money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	384.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Zakynthos
Date	Between 28 August and 11 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	385.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Larissa
Date	10/11 September 2022
Brief description	Damage caused by throwing paint on all the main entrance doors and inscription of the slogans "MY BODY. MY CHOICE"
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified

Police/procedural actions	Dossier
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No	386.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Vissarion, Larissa
Date	10/11 September 2022
Brief description	Damage caused by throwing paint on all the main entrance doors and inscription of the slogans "MY BODY. MY CHOICE"
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	387.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Kalamitsi, Grevena
Date	Between 6 August and 11 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	388.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Ancient Corinth
Date	11/12 September 2022
Brief description	Breaking of the door and theft of money from the collection box and the Filoptochos Fund
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	389.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Argyro, Aliveri
Date	12 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the window, broken glass panes and theft of icons
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	390.
Location	Church of Analipsis Kyriou and Aghios Vasileios, Spata, Attica
Date	12/13 September 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box and of valuable votive offerings from an icon
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrators were identified

No	391.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Ilioupoli, Attica
Date	12/13 September 2022

Brief description	Damage with black spray paint on the main entrance, on a wall alongside and on the paving of the Church, reading: "GET YOUR HANDS OFF OUR BODIES", "TRAGOPAPES" as well as the sign of anarchy
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	392.
Location	Church of Metamorfosis, Volos
Date	15 September 2022
Brief description	Inscription of insulting slogans on the walls of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	393.
Location	Metropolitan Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Volos
Date	16 September 2022
Brief description	Painting of slogans with the symbol of the anarchists on the facade of the Church and the bell tower
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)



No	394.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Arkalochori, Heraklion
Date	18 September 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 icon and money from the collection box

Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	395.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Nikodimos, Prophitis Volvis, Thessaloniki
Date	19 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in, removal of metal liturgical objects and damage to 3 stained glass windows
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	396.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios. Kastrochori, Pyrgos, Perivolia, Chania
Date	Between 18 and 20 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in. Theft of a stereo amplifier and money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	397.
Location	Church of Taxiarchis Mpatzaklis, Thymiana, Chios
Date	20/21 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in of an auxiliary room-office and theft of money and valuable votive offerings from a metal box
Perpetrator/s	1 national and 1 Egyptian national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	398.
Location	Church of Hosia Xenii, Thessaloniki
Date	21 September 2022
Brief description	Theft of 2 garden taps, by the side of the Church, of a small monetary value and damage to the water supply pipe
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

№	399.
Location	Cemetery, Achinos, Stylida, Fthiotida
Date	21/22 September 2022
Brief description	Entry to the fenced area of the cemetery and theft of various bronze objects (vigil lamps, incense burners, flower pots and other objects) from the tombs and ossuaries, damaging them in the process of removal
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	400.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis Prodromos, Neo Souli, Serres
Date	23 September 2022
Brief description	Broken glass panes of the main door, theft of money from the collection box and material damage to the door and the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	401.
Location	Church of Hosios David, Kyparisi, Atalanti
Date	25 September 2022
Brief description	Broken window glass panes, no theft
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	402.
Location	Chapel of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Nea Raidestos, Thessaloniki
Date	26 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of metallic ecclesiastic artifacts
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	403.
Location	Pilgrimage Church of Panagia Plataniotissa, Plataniotissa, Achaea
Date	26 September 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national and 1 Albanian national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	404.
Location	Church of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Samoniva, Souli, Thesprotia
Date	Between 1 st August and 27 September 2022
Brief description	Destruction of the sign of the donors using red paint
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	405.
Location	Church of Panagia Lamia, Dilinata, Kefalonia
Date	Between 25 and 27 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in, no theft
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	406.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Paraskevi, Aghia Paraskevi, Thessaloniki
Date	26/27 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of 3 candelabras, 1 chandelier and 1 bell
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	407.
Location	Church of Prophitis Ilias, Dilinata, Kefalonia
Date	26/27 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	408.
Location	Cemetery Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Chrysovitsa, Ioannina
Date	28 September 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the ossuary and possible theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	409.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Moschochori, Pieria
Date	29/30 September 2022
Brief description	Theft of 2 bronze candelabra
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	410.
Location	Church of Ypsosis of Timios Stavros, Koronouda, Kilkis
Date	September 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

No	411.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Amygdalies, Grevena
Date	1 st October 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and

	committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.
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No	412.
Location	Church of Aghia Triada, Amygdalies, Grevena
Date	1 st October 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	413.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis Chrysostomos, Preveza
Date	1 st October 2022
Brief description	Damage to the central shrine by setting fire to its cover
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	414.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Mikrokomi, Thessaloniki
Date	Between 25 September and 2 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the window and theft of 2 floor standing bronze vigil lamps and 1 large bronze candelabra weighing about 100 kilos
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	415.
Location	Church of Aghios Fanourios, Kaminia, Peiraias
Date	3 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	416.
Location	Metropolitan Church of Evangelistria, Patras
Date	5 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of sacred vessels and other objects dedicated to Divine worship from the Sanctuary
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

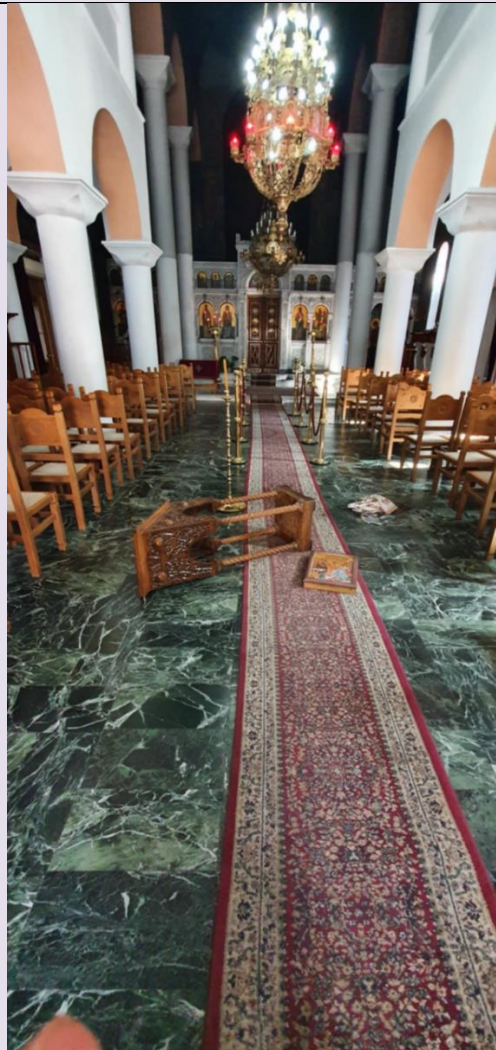
No	417.
Location	Chapel, Kedros, Sofades, Karditsa
Date	Between 4 and 6 October 2022

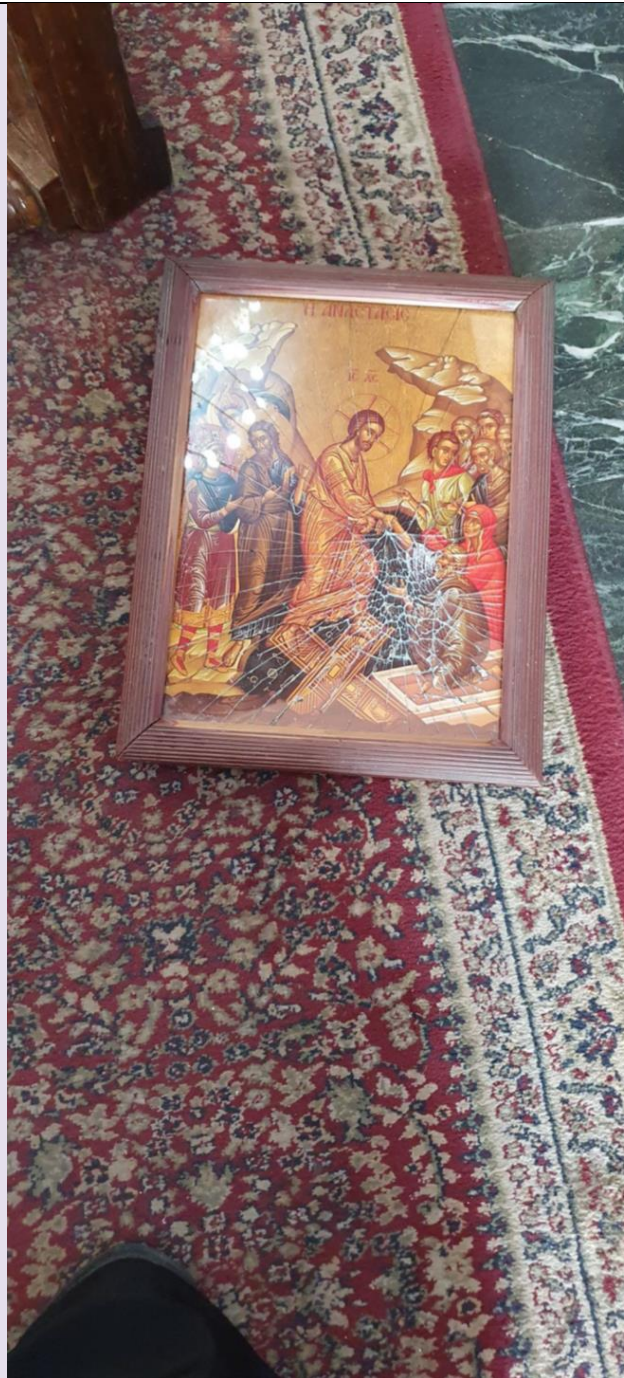
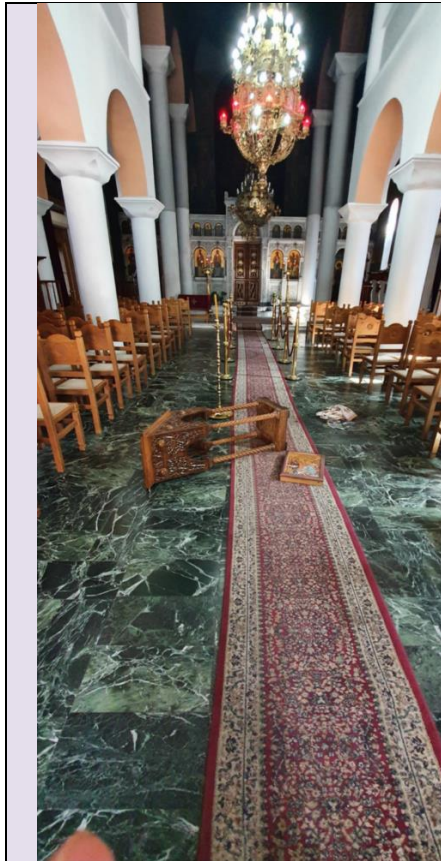
Brief description	Damage of an undetermined value to the main door of the chapel
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrator was identified

No	418.
Location	Church of Aghioi Theopatores Ioakeim and Anna, Peristera, Thessaloniki
Date	7 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of 7 large candelabra and 2 central chandeliers
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	419.
Location	Church of Aghios Vasileios, Preveza
Date	8 October 2022
Brief description	Damage to the central shrine by setting fire to its cover
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

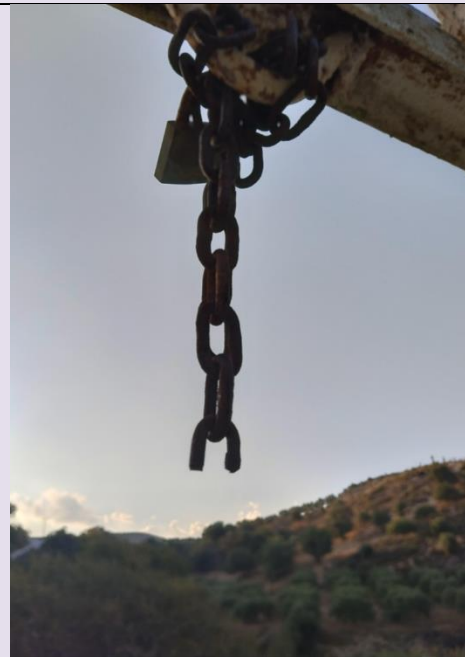
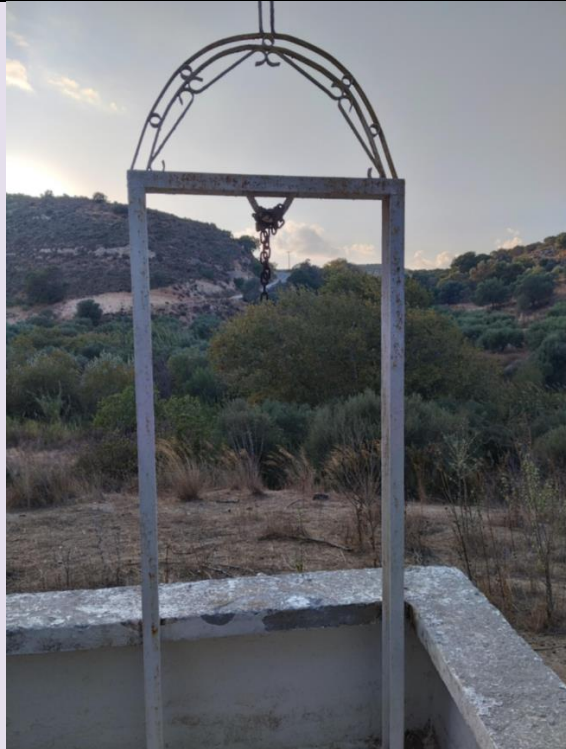
(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)





No	420.
Location	Chapel of Zoodochos Pigi, Valis, Gortyni, Heraklion
Date	Between 6 and 9 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of a bell
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

(Indicative photographic material:
Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)



No	421.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Malesiada, Aetolia-Acarnania
Date	9 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	422.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Kyriaki, Livadi, Themi, Thessaloniki
Date	Between 6 and 10 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 aluminium door, 10 meters of the iron bars of the fence and 1 small bell
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	423.
Location	Chapel of Prophitis Ilias, Livadi, Themi, Thessaloniki
Date	Between 6 and 10 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 bell
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	424.
Location	Chapel of Aghioi Raphael, Nikolaos and Eirini, Livadi, Themi, Thessaloniki
Date	Between 6 and 10 October 2022
Brief description	Damage to a bell
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	425.
Location	Cemetery Church of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Pidima, Kalamata, Messinia
Date	10 October 2022
Brief description	Damage and removal of tiles of the roof of the Church, entry to the Church and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	426.
Location	Church of Panagia, Aetos, Karystos
Date	11 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the window and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	427.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Georgios, Avgi, Lagkada; Thessaloniki
Date	Between 7 and 12 October 2022
Brief description	Entrance to the courtyard, theft of 2 bells from the bell tower, entrance into the chapel, theft of the central chandelier and breaking of 2 windows of the chapel's storerooms

Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	428.
Location	Church of Aghia Varvara, Draka, Zakynthos
Date	Between 8 and 12 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in, theft of money and damage to the windows of the Church and the seat of Aghia Varvara
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	429.
Location	Church of Hosia Xeni (Old Church of Hosia Xeni and Aghios Nektarios), Thessaloniki
Date	12 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of microphone equipment
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	430.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Dimitrios, Sochos, Lagkada, Thessaloniki
Date	Between 12 and 14 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 bronze chandelier
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

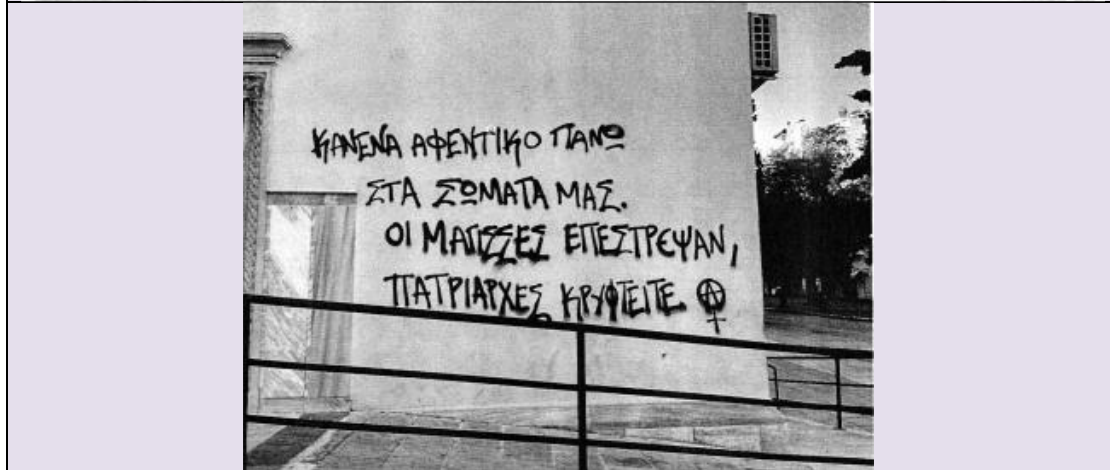
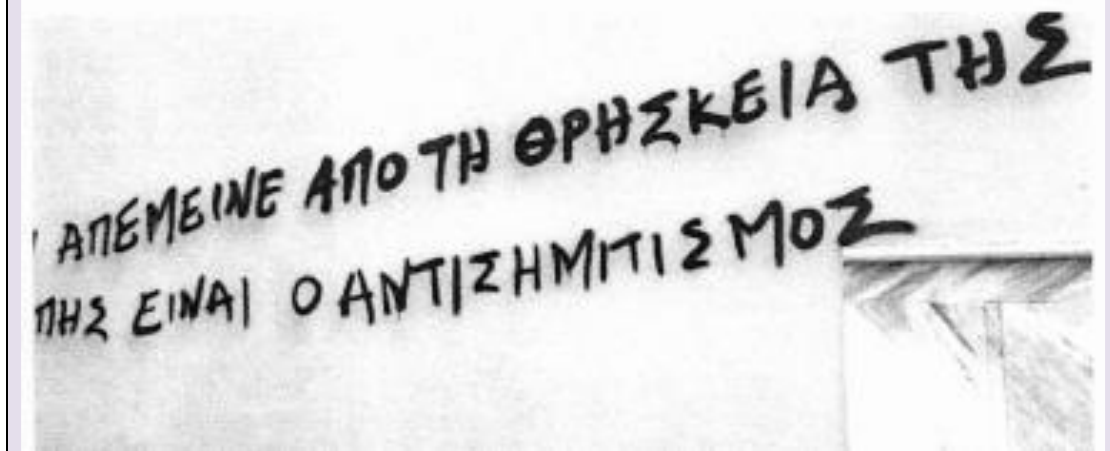
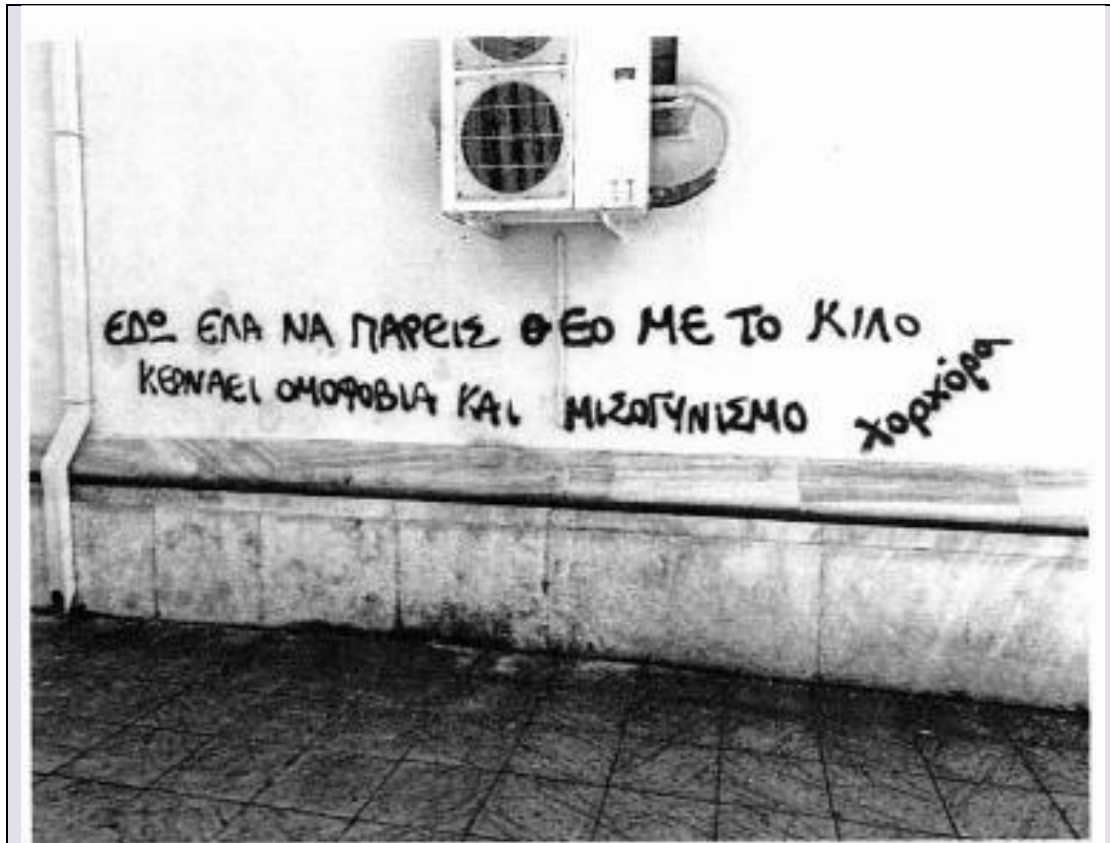
No	431.
Location	Cemetery, Sochos, Thessaloniki
Date	Between 12 and 14 October 2022
Brief description	Removal of 3 bronze faucets
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	432.
Location	Church of Zoodochos Pigi, Ermitsi, Sofades, Karditsa
Date	14 October 2022
Brief description	Damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	433.
Location	Church of Metamorfosis Sotiros, Volos
Date	14 October 2022
Brief description	Writing insulting slogans on the walls of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)





No	434.
Location	Cemetery Chapel of Koimisis of Theotokos, Cemetery of Marathonas, Attica
Date	14 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in, destruction of a wooden collection box and theft of a metal safe
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	435.
Location	Church of Aghios Myron, Aghios Myron, Heraklion
Date	Between 10 and 15 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of a safe
Perpetrator/s	3 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of one of the perpetrators

No	436.
Location	Church of Aghios Panteleimon, Drama
Date	16 October 2022
Brief description	Damage to the entrance, by throwing black and red paint and writing with red paint on a wall along the entrance the phrase: "GET YOUR HANDS OFF OUR BODIES"
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	437.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Nea Kerdylia, Thessaloniki
Date	17 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in, no theft
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	438.
Location	Church of Aghios Spyridonas, Pallini
Date	18 October 2022
Brief description	Attempted theft of money from the Philoptochos Fund, which was empty
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	439.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Dasochori, Sofades, Karditsa
Date	18 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the door and theft of money from a metal box
Perpetrator/s	1 national

Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office
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No	440.
Location	Church of Aghios Vasileios, Spata, Attica
Date	Between 16 and 19 October 2022
Brief description	Attempted theft of money from the collection box, which was empty
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. The perpetrators were identified

No	441.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Savvas, Sochos, Thessaloniki
Date	20 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of a bell, entry into the chapel and theft of an icon
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	442.
Location	Chapel of Genethlia of Theotokos, Avgi, Thessaloniki
Date	Between 8 September and 21 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of a bell from the bell tower, entry into the chapel and theft of the central chandelier, 1 bronze vigil lamp and 2 candleholders
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	443.
Location	Chapel of Aghioi Apostoloi, Sochos, Thessaloniki
Date	Between 12 and 21 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of 4 bronze chandeliers
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	444.
Location	Cemetery, Palamas, Fthiotida
Date	Between 16 and 21 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of bronze objects from about 65 tombs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	445.
Location	Chapel of Prophitis Ilias, Sochos, Thessaloniki
Date	20/21 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of a bell
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	446.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Christophoros, Sochos, Thessaloniki
Date	20/21 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of a bell
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	447.
Location	Chapel of Koimisis of Theotokos, Avgi, Thessaloniki
Date	21 October 2022
Brief description	Entry into the courtyard and theft of a bell from the bell tower, then entry into the Chapel and theft of the central chandelier
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	448.
Location	Private Chapel of Aghios Spyridonas, Kourouklata, Kefalonia
Date	Between 21 September and 22 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of votive offerings and bronze objects
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	449.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi (lodge), Grevena
Date	21/22 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	450.
Location	Church of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni (Konstantopouleio-eugireio), Patras
Date	23 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 bag, 1 purse and a sum of money from inside the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	451.
Location	Church of Aghios Panteleimon, Loutro, Sofades, Karditsa
Date	23 October 2022

Brief description	Break-in, breaking-into the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	452.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Georgios, Kolchiko, Lagkada, Thessaloniki
Date	24/25 October 2022
Brief description	Entry into the courtyard, breaking into the entrance door of the Church and theft of 7 chandeliers
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	453.
Location	Church of Aghia Triada, Poros, Grevena
Date	25 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	6 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Main investigation. The perpetrators were arrested for setting up a criminal organization and committing a large-scale theft of churches in the Grevena area.

No	454.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi, Troianata, Kefalonia
Date	Between 15 and 26 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	455.
Location	Cemetery of Skamnos, Fthiotida
Date	Between 25 and 27 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of bronze vigil lamps, flowerpots and censers from about 60 tombs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	456.
Location	Monastery of Taxiarches, Naoussa
Date	Between 26 and 28 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of 2 bronze candlesticks and 1 bell weighing 60 kg
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	457.
Location	Church of Aghia Triada, Naoussa
Date	Between 26 and 28 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 bronze bell weighing 30 kg
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	458.
Location	Church of Prophitis Ilias, Naoussa
Date	Between 26 and 28 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of 2 old bronze chandeliers, 5 bronze heavy weight candle bases and money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	459.
Location	Church of Evangelistria, Pessada, Kefalonia
Date	27/28 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	460.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis, Fokata, Kefalonia
Date	27/28 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the side door of the Church and theft of valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	461.
Location	Church of Panagia Theotokos, Demoutsantata, Kefalonia
Date	27/28 October 2022
Brief description	Break-in through a window of the Church and theft of money and votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	462.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Niseloudi, Alexandria
Date	28/29 October 2022
Brief description	Theft of objects dedicated to Divine worship, theft of ecclesiastical objects, lamps and microphones
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	463.
Location	New Church of Aghios Christophoros, Agrinio

Date	Between 28 and 31 October 2022
Brief description	Breaking of the door of the church office and window rails, breaking and destruction of a safe, theft of money and valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	4 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	464.
Location	Church of Zoodochos Pigi, Petroto, Thessaloniki
Date	October 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the collection box, damage and theft of sacred vessels
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	465.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Vamvakias, Thessaloniki
Date	October 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the collection box, damage and alarm violation
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	466.
Location	Chapel of Panagia Zoodochou Pigis, Monagri, Asfendi, Kos
Date	October 2022
Brief description	Destruction of the door and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	467.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Dimitrios, Mavroneri, Kilkis
Date	October - November 2022
Brief description	Damage to the door of the Church, no signs of forced entry and entry into the premises
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	468.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Veria
Date	31 st October / 1 st November 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	469.
Location	Seat of the Metropolis of Fthiotida, Lamia
Date	1 st November 2022

Brief description	Damage to the wall behind the Bishop's throne with the inscription of the slogans "ABORTION FOR THE UNBORN PRIESTS" and "THE STATE, THE MEDIA AND THE CHURCH REPRODUCE PATRIARCHY" and the symbol of Anarchy (the letter A in a circle)
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	470.
Location	Metropolitan Church of Evangelismos of Theotokos, Lamia
Date	1 st November 2022
Brief description	Damage to the wall of the Church with the inscription of the slogans "BURN THE CHURCHES" and "GET YOUR HANDS OFF OUR BODIES" and the symbol of Anarchy (the letter A in a circle)
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	471.
Location	Church of Zoodochos Pigi, Vitoli, Makrakomi, Fthiotida
Date	1 st November 2022
Brief description	Broken glass panes of the entrance and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	472.
Location	Church of Hosia Xeni, Thessaloniki
Date	2 November 2022
Brief description	Attempted theft of a microphone
Perpetrator/s	1
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	473.
Location	Cemetery Church of Aghios Athanasios, Dasolofos, Farsala
Date	Between 22 October and 3 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of 8 icons from the Altar
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	474.
Location	Cemetery, Karya, Ypati, Fthiotida
Date	5 November 2022
Brief description	Theft of 13 vigil lamps from tombs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	475.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Livadi, Kassandreia, Chalkidiki
Date	Between 30 October and 6 November 2022
Brief description	Theft of a chandelier
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	476.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Varvara, Varvara, Chalkidiki
Date	Between 5 and 8 November 2022
Brief description	Damage, theft of 2 bronze candelabra and money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	477.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Livadi, Kassandreia, Chalkidiki
Date	7/8 November 2022
Brief description	Theft from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	478.
Location	Church of Aghios Tryphonas, Stenimachos, Naoussa
Date	8 November 2022
Brief description	Theft of 4 bronze candlesticks and money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	479.
Location	Church of Aghios Tryphonas, Trilofos, Veria
Date	8 November 2022
Brief description	Theft of a bell
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	480.
Location	Church of Genethlia of Theotokos, Aigani, Tempi, Larissa
Date	8 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	481.
Location	Church of Aghios Gerasimos, Lechaio, Korinthia
Date	8 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in through a window, breaking of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	482.
Location	Church of Genethlia of Theotokos, Kalochori, Alexandria, Imathia
Date	9 November 2022
Brief description	Theft of 2 bronze candelabra and 1 bronze candleholder
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest in the act and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	483.
Location	Chapel of the Monastery of Aghios Georgios, Lachanias, Rhodes
Date	16 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the warehouse of the Church, theft of money from the collection box, breaking of the battery/thermal cell of the photovoltaic system. Attempted theft of panels and 6 of the 12 batteries
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	484.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Paraskevi, Galateia, Eordaia
Date	16/17 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	485.
Location	C' Cemetery of Athens, Nikaia, Attica
Date	17 November 2022
Brief description	Removal of the compressor of the external cooling and heating system unit from the interior of the morgue and damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	486.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios Oplon, Kato Patisia, Athens

Date	18 November 2022
Brief description	Attempted theft of a two-headed eagle effigy
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	487.
Location	Monastery of Genethlia of Theotokos, Stana, Monastiraki, Agrafa, Evrytania
Date	18/19 November 2022
Brief description	Removal of the iron protective railing, breaking of a window of the Catholicon of the Monastery and theft of valuable votive offerings, worth about 8,000€, from the miraculous Icon. The Icon was found discarded in the courtyard of the Monastery, and damage was caused to the main door. Estimated value of damage, approximately 1,250€
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

Indicative photographic material (Source: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)



№	488.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Thermo
Date	19 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	489.
Location	Church of Aghios Nektarios, Thermo
Date	19 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the main entrance, searching the Church and causing extensive damage to the collection box and the doors, no theft of money or other objects dedicated to Divine worship

Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	490.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Pournara Aghias Sophias, Thermo
Date	19 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in through a window, searching the Church and causing extensive damage to the collection box and the doors, no theft of money or other objects dedicated to Divine worship
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	491.
Location	Cemetery, Mantasia, Domokos
Date	Between 17 and 20 November 2022
Brief description	Theft of bronze vigil lamps cases from about 20 tombs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	492.
Location	Church of Aghia Triada, Giannota, Elassona
Date	Between 19 and 21 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the door of the Church causing damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	493.
Location	Cemetery, Xiriotissa, Lamia
Date	24 November 2022
Brief description	Placement of glue on 4 locks of the cemetery and breakage of Plexiglas that was on the premises
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	494.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Anna, Ilion
Date	24 November 2022
Brief description	Breakage and theft of a bell
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	495.
Location	C' Cemetery of Athens, Nikaia, Attica
Date	25 November 2022
Brief description	Damage to ossuaries and theft of tools, railings and marbles

Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	496.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Mpampalio Aetolia-Acarmania
Date	25 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in, searching and messing of the premises, and damage
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	497.
Location	Church of Aghios Raphael, Kassandreia
Date	26/27 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in of an exterior collection box possibly using a wheel and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

№	498.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Ano Volimes, Zakynthos
Date	27 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in, broken glass panes of 2 icons from the cathedra and theft of valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

№	499.
Location	Church of Aghios Athanasios, Kymi
Date	28 November 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

№	500.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Varvara, Ano Askos, Lagkada, Thessaloniki
Date	November 2022
Brief description	Theft of bells
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

№	501.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Ioannis, Ano Askos, Lagkada, Thessaloniki
Date	November 2022
Brief description	Theft of bells

Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	502.
Location	Chapel of Hosios Porfyrios, Heraklion, Lagkada, Thessaloniki
Date	November 2022
Brief description	Break-in, theft of 9 bronze candelabra, 6 bronze candlesticks and crystal crushing
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	503.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Stylianos, Paradeisi, Kos
Date	November 2022
Brief description	Destruction of the shrine
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	504.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Georgios Thiriavli, Zia, Kos
Date	November 2022
Brief description	Destruction of the door and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	505.
Location	Chapel of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Megali Volvi, Thessaloniki
Date	November 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box, theft of vigil lamps, material damage and crystal crushing
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	506.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Raphael, Megali Volvi, Thessaloniki
Date	November 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box, theft of vigil lamps, material damage and crystal crushing
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	507.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Athens
Date	2 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of objects dedicated to Divine Worship
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	508.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Varadatos, Roditis, Kozani
Date	Between 1 st and 3 December 2022
Brief description	Broken entrance lock and theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	509.
Location	Church of Aghios Tryphonas, Athens
Date	3 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of objects dedicated to Divine Worship
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	510.
Location	Church of Pammegistoi Taxiarches, Pelopi, Lesvos
Date	4/5 December 2022
Brief description	Break-in through a window of the Church and breaking into the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	511.
Location	Church of Aghia Triada, Valanida, Elassona
Date	5/6 December 2022
Brief description	Break-in through a window of the Church, breaking the lock of the collection box and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	512.
Location	Private Church of Aghia Triada, Vilia, Attica
Date	Between 1 st September and 7 December 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into a Church located within a country house plot, entry and theft of 1 bronze candelabra, 1 censer with its holder, 4 hanging bronze vigil lamps, 1 icon, 1 candle, 1 bronze cross and 2 bronze candlesticks from the Altar and 1 silver icon from the Sanctuary
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	513.
Location	Chapel of Aghioi Anargyroi (Glebe of the Monastery Assomaton Petraki), Athens
Date	7 December 2022
Brief description	Writings on the wall of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified

Police/procedural actions	Complaint
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№	514.
Location	Church of Panagia, Omonoia
Date	9 December 2022
Brief description	Damage by throwing paint at the main entrance of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	515.
Location	Church of Aghios Georgios, Kypseli
Date	10 December 2022
Brief description	Damage caused by writing slogans
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	516.
Location	Chapel of Prophitis Ilias, Theios Mountain, Vathy, Samos
Date	Between 6 and 12 December 2022
Brief description	Attempted breaking into the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	517.
Location	Cemetery of Ilion, Attica
Date	11/12 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of 50 bronze frames from ossuaries/Theft of bronze vases
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

№	518.
Location	Cemetery, Lefka, Domokos
Date	11/12 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of 35 metal vigil lamps, 35 metal flower pots and censers from tombs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

№	519.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis Hostos, Heraklion
Date	12 December 2022
Brief description	Theft from the office of the Sanctuary of 1 metal box with money
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrator and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	520.
Location	Church of Aghios Theodoros, Vathy, Samos
Date	13 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of 1 wireless headset (bluetooth) from a drawer of an office of the Cultural Center of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	521.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Tzompana, Nerokouros, Chania
Date	13/14 December 2022
Brief description	Break-in
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	522.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis, Akra, Tegea, Arcadia
Date	14 December 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Arrest of the perpetrators and referral to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office

No	523.
Location	Church of Aghios Spyridonas, Vonitsa, Aetolia-Acarnania
Date	14 December 2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the office of the Church, causing damage, no theft of money or objects
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	524.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Marina, Pelopi, Lesvos
Date	15/16 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	525.
Location	Cemetery, Makrolivado, Domokos
Date	Between 10 and 17 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of bronze cases for candles from about 40 tombs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	526.
Location	Church of Panagia Soumela, Kastania, Veria
Date	18 December 2022
Brief description	During the veneration of the Icon of Panagia Soumela occurred a theft of 1 silver-plated effigy of a baby crib in which there were various votive offerings of the believers and 1 icon of Theotokos, which was near the Icon of Panagia Soumela.
Perpetrator/s	1 national (a woman)
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	527.
Location	Cemetery, Tavri, Alexandroupoli
Date	18 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of vigil lamps, crosses, frames etc. from the tombs
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	528.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Kimisi, Hrakleia, Serres
Date	19 December 2022
Brief description	Break-in through a window, damage and theft of sound equipment, 2 gold plated crosses and valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	529.
Location	Church of Aghia Triada, Grizano, Trikala
Date	20 December 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of 4 icons
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	530.
Location	Church of Panagia Vrochotini, Monastiraki, Aetolia-Acarmania
Date	22 December 2022
Brief description	Damage to the north entrance of the Church and theft of 5 metal pendant crosses
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	531.
Location	Chapel of Aghia Eirini Chrysovalantou, Triada Messapion, Chalkis
Date	Between 2 October and 23 December 2022

Brief description	Break-in of the main entrance of the Chapel and theft of 3 icons from the iconostasis and the counterweight of the candelabra
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	<i>Unavailable data</i>

No	532.
Location	Church of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Sfikia, Veria
Date	22/23 December 2022
Brief description	Break-in through a window, theft of sacred vessels and damage to a wooden cabinet and 1 gold-plated holy Chalice
Perpetrator/s	4 nationals
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	533.
Location	Church of Aghios Ioannis Hostos, Heraklion
Date	23 December 2022
Brief description	Breaking into the door of the Sanctuary, theft of a sacerdotal cross and the collection box of the Filoptochos Fund
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Upon activation of the security system, the police were alerted and the perpetrator was arrested in the act with the stolen goods. The Priest did not request the criminal prosecution of the perpetrator, which was done ex officio by the Hellenic Police. He was sentenced to 2 years of probation

No	534.
Location	Chapel of Pammegistoi Taxiarches, Komnina, Fthiotida
Date	Before Christmas 2022
Brief description	Theft of 2 icons from the iconostasis and 1 gold-plated icon
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	535.
Location	Church of Panagia, Railway Station, Domokos, Fthiotida
Date	Between 8 and 24 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of a bell
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	536.
Location	Glebe of Issodia of Theotokos – Nea Ierousalim Kouvara of the Monastery of Aghios Ioannis Kinigos
Date	24 December 2022 (date on which the incident was noticed)
Brief description	Entry into the Monastery's Catholicon, robbing the Altar and removing the entire solid volume of the wax mold that contained the holy reliquary
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	<i>Unavailable data</i>



No	537.
Location	Church of Chrysostomos Smyrnis, Drama
Date	24 December 2022
Brief description	Damage to the entrance of the Church with spray paint and a broken window by throwing a stone in the nave of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	538.
Location	Chapel of Theotokos, Pournari, Fthiotida
Date	24 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of a bell
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	539.
Location	Church of Pammegistoi Taxiarches, Filia, Lesvos
Date	24 December 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	540.
Location	Church of Aghios Dimitrios, Grammenitsa, Arta
Date	24/25 December 2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in
Perpetrator/s	1 national
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	541.
Location	Church of Aghios Nektarios, Preveza
Date	25 December 2022
Brief description	Break-in through the WC window of the Church, entry, breaking-into the Church's office door, no theft. The collection box and 2 other boxes were opened but no money was stolen
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified

Police/procedural actions	Complaint
(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)	
	

No	542.
Location	Cemetery Chapel, Vouliagmeni, Attica
Date	26 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of money from the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	543.
Location	Church of Aghios Petros, Kalyvia, Attica
Date	27 December 2022
Brief description	Damage to window railings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	544.
Location	Church of Genethlia of Theotokos, Raftanaioi, North Tzoumerka
Date	Between 18 and 30 December 2022
Brief description	Break-in of the main door of the Church, theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	545.
Location	Church of Aghia Paraskevi Pramanta, North Tzoumerka
Date	29/30 December 2022
Brief description	Breaking into the safe. Theft of money and valuable votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	546.
Location	Church of Koimisis of Theotokos, Melissourgoi, Central Tzoumerka
Date	29/30 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	547.
Location	Church of Aghios Nikolaos, Melissourgoi, Central Tzoumerka
Date	29/30 December 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	548.
Location	Church of Aghios Thomas, Tsopela, Ioannina
Date	30 December 2022
Brief description	Theft of money
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation

No	549.
Location	Church of Pammegistoi Taxiarches, Ipsilometopo, Lesvos
Date	December 2022
Brief description	Break-in and theft of the collection box
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	550.
Location	Monastery of Aghios Dimitrios Drymos Vonitsas
Date	December 2022
Brief description	In the early morning hours perpetrators broke into the monastery. They hit the elderly nun, destroyed the collection box, took a sum of money and fled. It was probably a gang, which had visited the Monastery in the previous days as pilgrims
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	551.
Location	Chapel of Aghios Stylianos, Paradeisi, Kos
Date	December 2022
Brief description	Destruction of a shrine
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	552.
Location	Skinourio Kathisma (Hermitage), Paradeisi, Kos
Date	December 2022
Brief description	Break-in and damage to the casing and lock of the door
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	553.
Location	Monastery of Prophitis Ilios, Sympetron, Kos
Date	2022
Brief description	Break-in and complete damage of a door
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	554.
Location	Church of Aghioi Pantes, Paradeisi, Kos
Date	2022
Brief description	Attempted break-in and damage to the doors of the Church
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	555.
Location	Church of Aghioi Pantes, Paradeisi, Kos
Date	2022
Brief description	Theft of a Byzantine flag
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	556.
Location	The Shrine of the Chapel of Aghioi Anargyroi near Antagora Stadium, Paradeisi, Kos
Date	2022
Brief description	Vandalism and destruction of the shrine due to an attempted break-in
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	557-560. (4 incidents within the year)
Location	Church of Ypapanti Kyriou (^{11th} century) of the Monastery of Panagia Kastrianon, Palaio Pyli, Kos
Date	2022
Brief description	Destruction of the doors of the Church, damage to the marbles and illegal cutting of wood on the archaeological site
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	561-562. (2 incidents during the year)
Location	Church of Assomatos, Palaio Pyli, Kos
Date	2022
Brief description	Breaking-into the doors of the Church and damage to window blinds (mosquito nets)
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Complaint

No	563.
Location	Chapel of Panagia Xaristi, Parish of Aghios Dimitrios Mistros, Dirfyos, Euboea
Date	2022
Brief description	A fire occurred in the courtyard of the Chapel caused by an unknown cause. The wooden shed, 10 tables and 50 chairs burnt down
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	-

(Indicative photographic material: Holy Synod of the Church of Greece)



No	564.
Location	Chapel of Koimisis of Theotokos, Krya Nera, Kastoria
Date	2022
Brief description	Theft of 2 icons from the iconostasis
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	-

In addition to the above, the following incidents, the exact number of which has not been determined, came to the attention of the Service:

Holy Metropolis of Aetolia-Acarnania:

Inscription of slogans by unidentified perpetrators on the external walls of the **Church of Aghios Georgios Mataragkas and various chapels** periodically during the year. These incidents were reported to the relevant Police Department.

Holy Metropolis of Thessaloniki:

- Throughout the year at the **Pilgrimage Church of Aghios Dimitrios Poliouchos** thefts of microphones from the lecterns and repeated attempts to steal money from the collection

boxes by unidentified perpetrators occurred, incidents which were not reported to the Police.

- Throughout the year in the **Chapel of the Monastery of Koimisis Theotokou** near the Church of Panagia Dexia there were repeated damages and theft of money by unidentified perpetrators, incidents which were not reported to the Police.
- Throughout the year at the **Holy Cathedral and Pilgrimage Church of Sophia Theou** the following occurred:
 - trafficking and use of drugs in the courtyard of the Church, vandalism of the courtyard fence and the walls of the courtyard with spray paint (writing slogans, graffiti, etc.),
 - the courtyard and the surrounding area of the Church is turned into a garbage dump and a place for various needs (e.g. public urinal, dog park, etc.) and delinquent behaviour (e.g. drug use, deposit of stolen goods),
 - theft of microphones from the lecterns.

Groups of 50 people or more are mentioned as perpetrators, while, according to the Metropolis of Thessaloniki, following telephone and written communication with the competent police and municipal authorities, no action has been taken.

Holy Metropolis of Ilion, Acharnon and Petroupoleos:

- At regular intervals throughout the year **in all chapels** inside and outside the settlement the following incidents are noted, with perpetrators mainly Roma from the wider area, for which the Fili Police were informed verbally:
 - theft of olive oil
 - breaking into the collection boxes of the chapels
 - theft of part of the candles for resale
 - causing material damage, such as breaking glass panes and painting on the walls.
- Throughout the year in the outdoor area of the **Cemetery of Aghios Ioannis Theologos Church** material damage to the cars of the owners visiting the Cemetery is caused by Roma. For these incidents, the Fili Police is informed verbally and written complaints have been made both by the owners of the cars and by the Church.

Holy Metropolis of Kos and Nisyros:

Throughout the year there were noted:

- 1) frequent desecration of archaeological sites in the town and villages of Kos, where the important early Christian basilicas of the island are located,
- 2) repeated breaking-into the main entrance and the collection box of the parish Church of Theia Analipsis at Zipari in Kos,
- 3) repeated breaking and destruction of the door of the Chapel of Aghios Georgios of Mavrokambia of the parish Church of Theia Analipsis at Zipari in Kos,
- 4) repeated breaking of the door of the Chapel of Aghios Ioannis at Hostos Zipariou in Kos,
- 5) repeated destruction of the door of the Cemetery Church of Hosios Christodoulos at Zipari in Kos,
- 6) frequent destruction of the door of the Church of Aghios Antonios in Paleo Pyli, Kos.

Holy Archdiocese of Crete:

In the **Church of Koimisis Theotokou "Panagitsa"** at Mastampas in Heraklion, significant damage to the marble of the staircases, to the external handrails, graffiti with indelible spray

paint on doors, porches and walls, deliberate and excessive pollution of courtyards, entrances and walls, as well as engaging in acts that offend public decency. Residents complain that all this happens until 4 a.m.

Checks and recommendations are made by the police, but after a while the phenomena are repeated, sometimes to a greater extent. In previous years, written complaints and meetings between different organizations and the police were held, but after a while the result was the same.

Holy Metropolis of Petra and Chersonissos:

In the Chapel of Aghios Loukas of the Parish of the settlement of Aghia Pelagia Meramvellou, thefts of small amounts of money from the collection box by unidentified perpetrators occurred at regular intervals.

Holy Metropolis of Lambi, Sivritos and Sfakia:

Occasionally there are minor incidents of theft in some of the parishes, without any official complaint.

d. Addendum

i. Charts and Maps of incidents

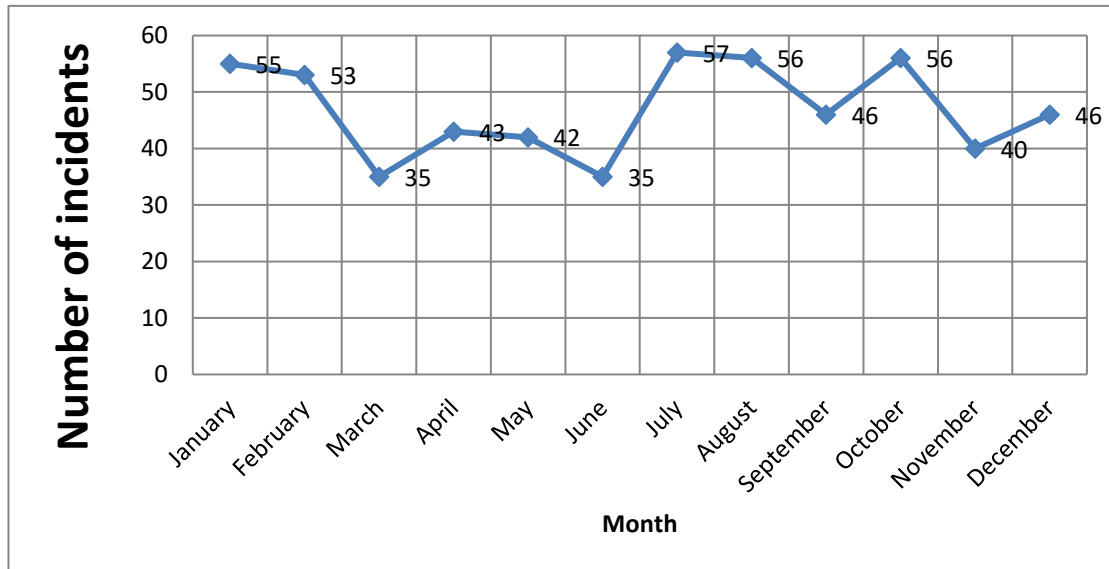


Figure 1: Incidents by month

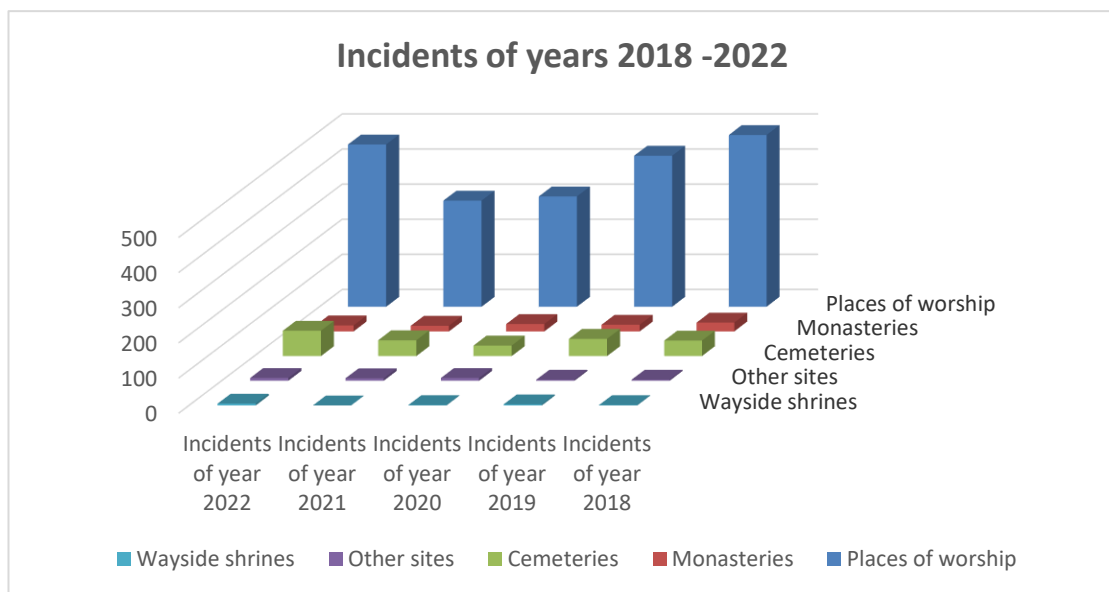


Figure 2: Comparative presentation of incidents by site

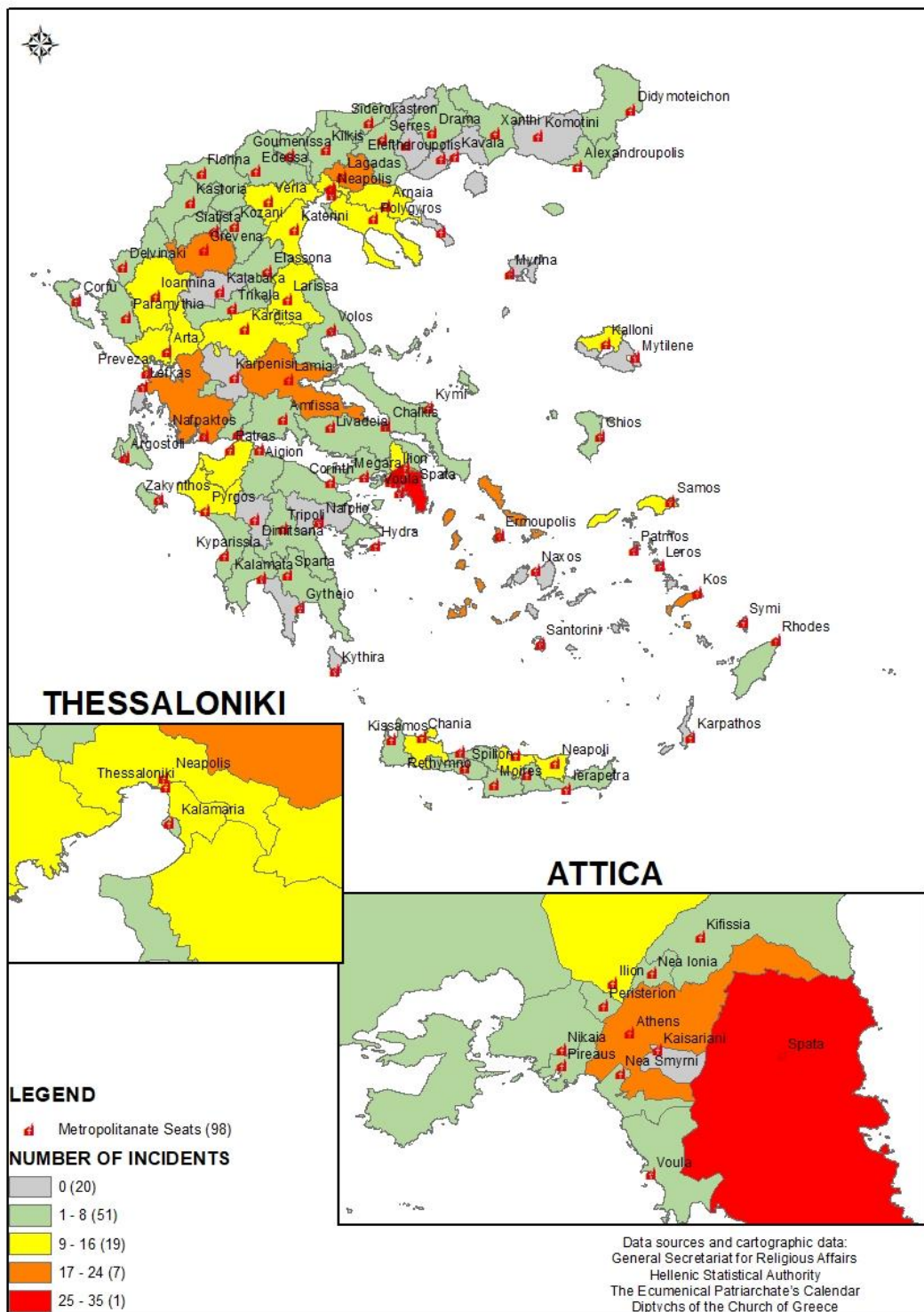
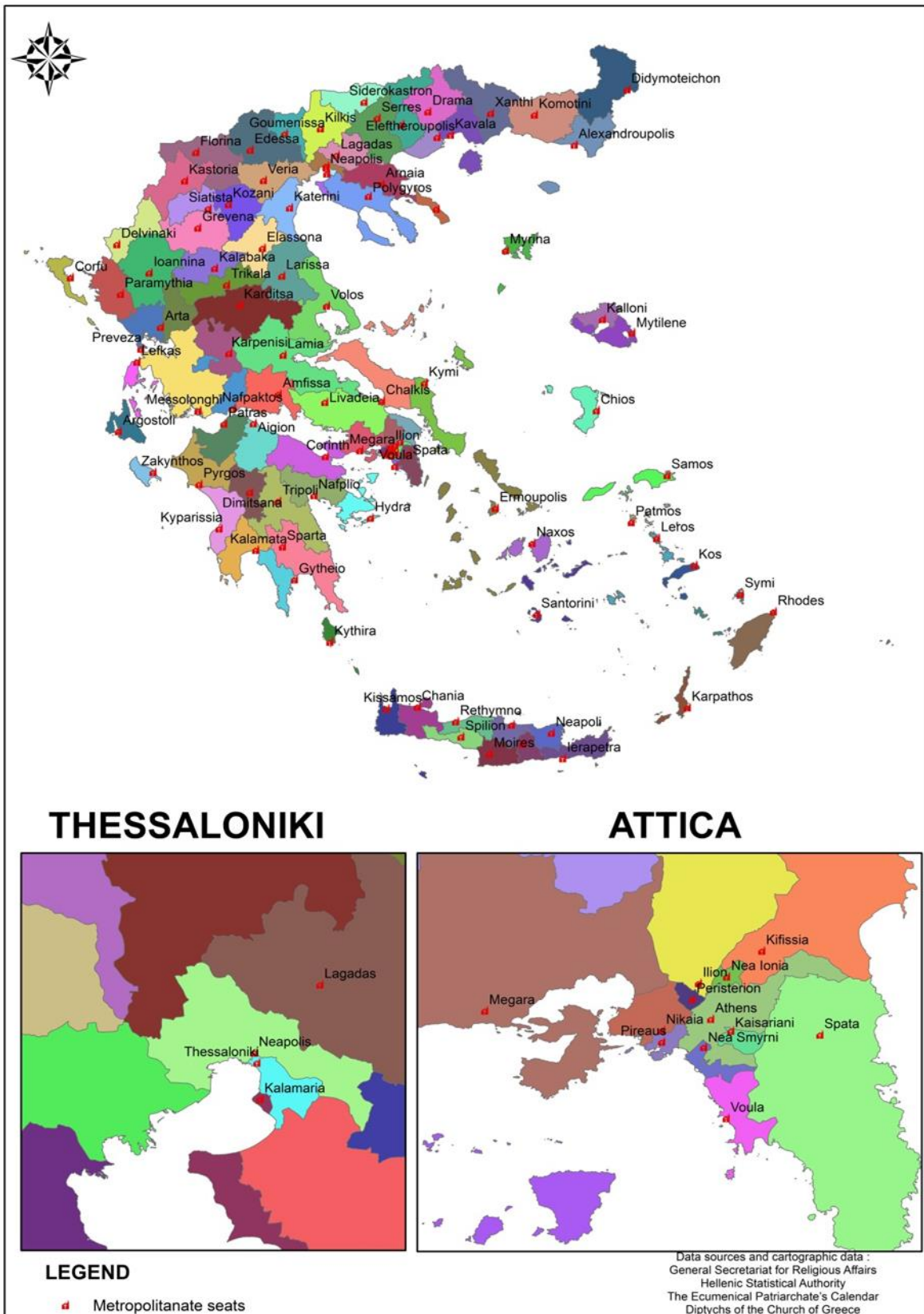


Figure 3: Incidents by Holy Metropolis

ii. Map of Holy Metropolises of the Orthodox Church of Greece



iii. Numerical Data on the Orthodox Church in Greece

CHURCH OF GREECE		SEAT	No of PARISHES	No of MONASTERIES
1	Holy Archdiocese of Athens	Athens	145	8
2	Aetolia and Acarnania	Missolonghi	215	19
3	Alexandroupolis	Alexandroupolis	61	3
4	Argolis	Nafplion	78	7
5	Arta	Arta	97	4
6	Chalkis	Chalkis	145	12
7	Chios, Psara and Inousses	Chios	109	16
8	Demetrias and Almyros	Volos	142	14
9	Didymoteichon, Orestias and Soufli	Didymoteichon	106	3
10	Drama	Drama	107	3
11	Dryinoupolis, Pogoniani and Konitsa	Delvinaki	96	3
12	Edessa, Pella and Almopia	Edessa	140	8
13	Elassona	Elassona	61	9
14	Eleia and Oleni	Pyrgos	220	4
15	Eleftheroupolis	Eleftheroupolis	39	4
16	Filippoi, Neapolis and Thasos	Kavala	95	4
17	Florina, Prespai and Eordaia	Florina	119	8
18	Fokis	Amfissa	110	6
19	Fthiotis	Lamia	245	18
20	Glyfada, Elliniko, Voula, Vouliagmeni and Vari	Voula	20	1
21	Gortys and Megalopolis	Dimitsana	148	15
22	Goumenissa, Axiopolis and Polykastron	Goumenissa	48	2
23	Grevena	Grevena	97	1
24	Ierissos, Aghion Oros and Ardamerion	Arnaia	52	3
25	Ilion, Acharnai and Petroupolis	Ilion	47	3
26	Ioannina	Ioannina	249	11
27	Kaisariani, Vyron and Ymittos	Kaisariani	9	3
28	Kalavryta and Aigialeia	Aigion	162	14

29	Karpenision	Karpenision	97	4
30	Karystia and Skyros	Kymi	95	5
31	Kassandraia	Polygyros	79	6
32	Kastoria	Kastoria	123	8
33	Kefalinia	Argostoli	153	7
34	Kerkyra, Paxoi and Diapontioi Nisoi	Kerkyra	183	17
35	Kifisia, Amarousio and Oropos	Kifisia	63	11
36	Kitros, Katerini and Platamon	Katerini	84	6
37	Korinthos, Sikion, Zemenon, Tarsos and Polyfengos	Korinthos	164	17
38	Kythira and Antikythira	Chora of Kythira	31	1
39	Lagadas, Liti and Rentina	Lagadas	61	6
40	Larissa and Tyrnavos	Larissa	119	6
41	Lefkas and Ithaki	Lefkas	66	4
42	Lemnos and Aghios Ephstratios	Myrina, Lemnos	37	0
43	Mani	Gytheion	114	5
44	Mantineia and Kynouria	Tripoli	157	13
45	Maroneia and Komotini	Komotini	71	4
46	Megara and Salamis	Megara	32	15
47	Mesogaia and Lavreotiki	Spata	64	8
48	Messinia	Kalamata	224	9
49	Methymna	Kalloni, Lesvos	37	3
50	Monemvassia and Sparta	Sparta	142	7
51	Mytilini, Eressos and Plomariion	Mytilini	72	4
52	Nafpaktos and Aghios Vlasios	Nafpaktos	94	2
53	Nea Ionia, Philadelphia, Heraklion and Chalkidon	Nea Ionia	22	2
54	Nea Krini and Kalamaria	Kalamaria	21	1
55	Nea Smyrni	Nea Smyrni	19	0
56	Neapolis and Stavroupolis	Neapolis	54	3
57	Nikaia	Nikaia	40	1
58	Nikopolis and Preveza	Preveza	131	4
59	Paramythia, Philiata, Geromerion and Parga	Paramythia	150	3
60	Paronaxia	Naxos	44	4

61	Patrai	Patrai	189	9
62	Piraeus	Piraeus	30	1
63	Peristerion	Peristerion	18	1
64	Poliana and Kilkis	Kilkis	120	3
65	Samos, Ikaria and Korsoi	Samos	117	18
66	Serrai and Nigrita	Serrai	118	5
67	Servia and Kozani	Kozani	96	5
68	Siderokastron	Siderokastron	69	7
69	Sisanion and Siatista	Siatista	87	11
70	Stagoi and Meteora	Kalabaka	71	15
71	Syros, Tinos, Andros, Kea and Milos	Ermoupolis	129	13
72	Thira, Amorgos and Nisoi	Thira	33	3
73	Thessalotis and Fanariofersala	Karditsa	234	14
74	Thessaloniki	Thessaloniki	43	2
75	Thevai and Levadeia	Levadeia	113	23
76	Trikki, Gardiki and Pyli	Trikala	128	5
77	Triphylia and Olympia	Kyparissia	159	6
78	Veria, Naousa and Kampania	Veria	110	8
79	Xanthi and Peritheorion	Xanthi	86	4
80	Hydra, Spetsai and Aigina	Hydra	52	12
81	Zakynthos and Strophades	Zakynthos	61	4
82	Zichnai and Nevrokopion	Nea Zichni	69	5
TOTAL			8,137	566
CHURCH OF CRETE		SEAT	No of PARISHES	No of MONASTERIES
1	Holy Archdiocese of Crete	Heraklion	127	9
2	Arkalochori, Kastelli and Viannos	Arkalochori	91	4
3	Gortyna and Arcadia	Moirai	108	6
4	Ierapytni and Sitia	Ierapetra	86	5
5	Kissamos and Selino	Kissamos	80	3
6	Kydonia and Apokoronos	Chania	108	6
7	Lambi, Syvritos and Sfakia	Spili Rethymnis	78	6
8	Petra and Cherronisos	Neapolis	80	11
9	Rethymno and Avlopotamos	Rethymno	101	10

TOTAL			859	60
ECCLESIASTICAL PROVINCES OF THE DODECANESE		SEAT	No of PARISHES	No of MONASTERIES
1	Karpathos and Kasos	Apereion, Karpathos	20	4
2	Kos and Nisyros	Kos	24	7
3	Leros, Kalymnos and Astypalea	Leros	36	7
4	Rhodes	Rhodes	64	9
5	Symi, Tilos, Chalki and Kastellorizo	Symi	18	5
6	Patriarchal Exarchate of Patmos	Patmos	10	4
TOTAL			172	36
GRAND TOTAL:			9,168	662
			Grand Total of Parish and Monastery Churches: 9,830	

iv. Historical religious sites of the Orthodox Church

In Greece, a number of Christian Churches of the Byzantine period (330-1453) have been preserved, dating from the early Christian era (4th-7th century), such as the Acheiropoietos Monastery and the Latomos Monastery in the city of Thessaloniki, the pre-Byzantine period (mid 7th century to mid 9th century), the middle Byzantine period (mid-9th century to the fall of Constantinople by the Crusaders in 1204) and the late Byzantine period (1204 to the fall of Constantinople by the Ottomans in 1453). The following period, the post-Byzantine period from 1453 to 1830, also has some remarkable cultural monuments and, by extension, Christian Churches in Crete (before the Ottoman conquest) and the Ionian Islands (which were never conquered by the Ottomans).

A considerable number of these Churches have been recorded and are presented by the competent Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports on the "[Odysseus](#)" website, which contains information on three hundred and fifty (350) [Christian places of worship](#), which constitute cultural monuments. In addition, Aghion Oros (Mount Athos), Meteora, the Paleochristian and Byzantine Monuments of Thessaloniki, the Holy Monastery of Daphni, the Holy Monastery of Hosios Loukas, Nea Moni of Chios, and the Holy Monastery of Saint John the Theologian in Patmos have been declared World Heritage Sites and are protected as such, in accordance with the treaty signed between Greece and UNESCO in 1981.

Unfortunately, a significant part of the Byzantine Christian churches and monasteries of Athens were destroyed and looted, especially during the Regency period (1833-1835) and then during the reign of Otto. Thus, after the publication of the "Declaration on the Independence of the Greek Church" (**Royal Decree of 23-7/1-8 1833**), a series of decrees dissolved those monasteries (almost 400) that had no more than six monks²⁰ and confiscated their property. The **Royal Decree of 27-5/9-6 1836 (A' 22)** stipulated that the movable and immovable property of the dissolved monasteries would be sold for the construction of a

²⁰ See Sp. Troianos §2.1.4. (Σπ. Τρωιάνου έ.α., §2.1.4.)

university, while the ruined parish churches (including the private ones), including the land on which they were located, would be given to the municipalities, to be sold by auction and the money should be used for welfare projects. This policy, which to a certain extent was combined with the transfer of the capital of the State from Nafplio to Athens (Royal Decree of 18-30/9/1834, A' 36) and the attempt to rebuild it, had devastating consequences for the preservation of the Byzantine churches of Athens, the majority of which were demolished in order to sell off their respective plots of land and to serve the urban planning of the city.

The Church of Greece was never compensated for the destruction and confiscation of the Churches, Monasteries and their properties.

2. Catholic Church in Greece

a. Introduction

By the **London Protocol (№ 3) of February 3, 1830**, signed by the three Great Powers, France deposited to the hands of the “future Sovereign of Greece” the right to protect the Catholics subjected to the Sultan. The Protocol established that the new State should guarantee the religious freedom of Catholic Christians and recognize the property of the Catholic Church in Greece: “... *the Catholic religion should enjoy in the new State the free and public exercise of its worship, that its property should be guaranteed to it, that its bishops should be maintained in the integrity of the functions, rights and privileges, which they have enjoyed under the protection of the Kings of France...*”.

The Greek Senate by its **Memorandum of April 10, 1830** accepted this concession mentioned in the Protocol (№3) because it was in accordance with the laws of the new State, but made this conditional upon the acceptance by the “Great Powers” that “*the Greek religion shall be the prevailing religion*” of the Greek independent State. The Greek claims were fully accepted as shown by the interpretive provision of **Article 2 of the Protocol (№ 33) of the London Conference (July 1, 1830)** “*The privileges granted to Catholics by the Protocol of February 3, 1830 may not impose to the Greek Government any requirement which could harm the prevailing religion*”.

The Greek Orthodox Church was recognized as prevailing religion in the Ionian Islands according to the “**Constitutional Chart of the United States of the Ionian Islands**” but a special protection was granted to the Catholic Church. Article 3 of Chapter I on *General Organization* states that: “The established religion of these states is the orthodox Greek religion; but all other forms of the Christian religion shall be protected, as hereinafter stated”. Article 3 of Chapter V on *Ecclesiastical Establishment* states that: “The roman catholic religion shall be specially protected, and all other forms of religion shall be tolerated”.

Article 4 of Law N’ of 1864 “On the ratification of the Treaty between Great Britain, France and Russia on the Union of the Ionian Islands to the Kingdom of Greece” (Official Government Gazette A’ 25) established the following, regarding the position of the Catholic Church in the Ionian Islands: “*The union of the United States of the Ionian Islands to the Kingdom of Greece shall in no wise invalidate the principles established by the existing legislation of those Islands with regard to freedom of worship and religious toleration; accordingly the rights and immunities established in matters of religion by Chapters I and V of the Constitutional Charter of the United States of the Ionian Islands, and specifically the recognition of the Orthodox Greek Church as the dominant religion in those Islands; the entire liberty of worship granted to the established Church of the protecting Power; and the perfect toleration promised to other Christian communions shall, after the union, be maintained in their full force and effect. The special protection guaranteed to the Roman Catholic Church, as well as the advantages of which that church is actually in possession shall be equally maintained; and the subjects belonging to that communion shall enjoy in the Ionian Islands the same freedom of worship which is recognized in their favor by the Protocol of the 22 January (3rd February), 1830. The principle of entire civil and political equality between subjects belonging to different creeds, established in Greece by the same protocol, shall be likewise in force in the Ionian Islands.*”

Following the introduction of the Civil Code in 1946, the question which emerged concerning the legal personality of the Catholic Church and of its establishments in Greece, was solved by **Article 13 of Law 4301/2014**. According to this, the Catholic Church in Greece is recognized as Ecclesiastical Legal Person governed by Private Law and the religious communities (Dioceses, Parishes, Monasteries) inextricably linked to it are recognized as Religious Legal Persons

governed by Private Law and amount to 227 in total. Among those, there are 82 Parishes and 47 Monasteries (see Addendum, Table ii).

Currently, the Catholic Church in Greece has **231 places of worship**.

The State of its own volition has been paying the salaries, since 1958, of fifteen (15) religious teachers of the Catholic denomination serving in the Cyclades.

b. Incidents

No incidents were reported.

c. Addendum

i. Statistical presentation

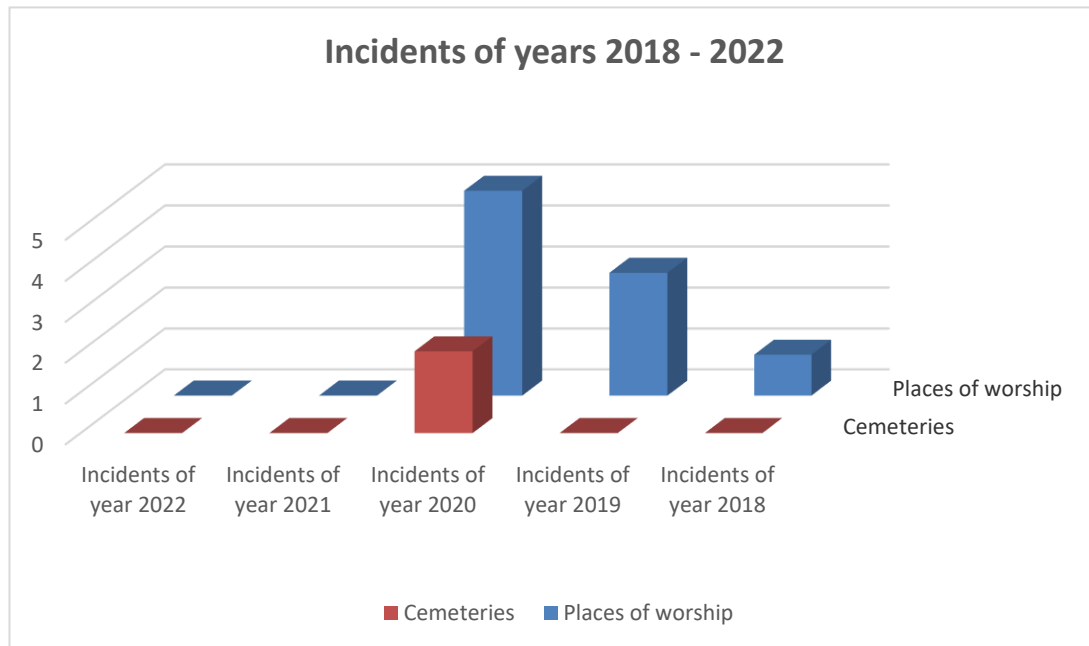


Figure 4: Comparative presentation of incidents 2018-2022, by site

ii. Number of Parishes and Monasteries of the Catholic Church in Greece

Archdiocese/Diocese	Number of Parishes according to Law 4301/2014	Number of Monasteries according to Law 4301/2014
Catholic Archdiocese of Naxos, Tinos, Andros and Mykonos	28	4
Catholic Archdiocese of Kerkyra, Zakynthos, Kefalonia	7	5
Catholic Archdiocese of Athens	17	18
Catholic Archdiocese of Rhodes	3	3
Catholic Diocese of Syros	15	4
Catholic Diocese of Thira	1	1
Catholic Diocese of Crete	3	2
Catholic Diocese of Chios	1	0
Apostolic Vicariate of Thessaloniki	4	8
Exarch of Byzantine Rite	2	2
Ordinariat of Armenian Rite	1	0
Total	82	47

iii. Catholic Dioceses in Greece

Source: [website](#) of the Catholic Church in Greece and Press Office of the Bishop's Conference of the Catholic Hierarchy in Greece.



Catholic Archdiocese of Naxos - Tinos - Andros- Mykonos, Religious Legal Person. It is also the Metropolis of the entire Aegean.

Seat in Tinos.

It includes the islands of Naxos, Paros, Antiparos, Koufonisia, Donousa, Sxoinousa, Amorgos, Tinos, Mykonos, Andros and Delos.

Catholic Archdiocese of Kerkyra, Zakynthos and Kefalonia, Religious Legal Person. It is also the Metropolis of the Ionian Islands.

Seat in Kerkyra

It includes the islands of Kerkyra, Paxoi, Antipaxoi, Lefkada, Ithaki, Kefalonia, Zakynthos and the region of Epirus.

Catholic Holy Archdiocese of Athens, Religious Legal Person.

Seat in Athens.

It includes the regions of central Greece and Euboea and Skyros, the Peloponnese, the islands of Argosaronikos, Kythira and Antikythira.

Catholic Archdiocese of Rhodes, Religious Legal Person.

Seat in Rhodes.

It includes the Dodecanese.

Catholic Diocese of Syros, Religious Legal Person.

Seat in Syros.

The islands of Cyclades: Syros, Gyáros, Kea, Kythnos, Serifos, Sifnos, Milos and Kimolos.

Catholic Diocese of Thira (Santorini), Religious Legal Person.

Seat in Thira.

It includes the islands of Thira, Thirassia, Ios, Anafi, Folegandros and Sikinos.

Catholic Diocese of Crete, Religious Legal Person.

Seat in Chania.

It includes the entire island of Crete.

Catholic Diocese of Chios (Lesvos-Samos), Religious Legal Person.

Seat in Chios.

It includes the islands of Chios, Psara, Oinousses, Lesvos, Lemnos, Samos, Ikaria and Fourni.

Apostolic Vicariate of Thessaloniki, Religious Legal Person.

Seat in Thessaloniki

It includes Macedonia, Thrace, Thessaly, the islands of Northern Sporades (except Skyros), Thassos and Samothraki.

Exarch of Byzantine Rite, Religious Legal Person.

Seat in Athens.

Ordinariat of Armenian Rite, Religious Legal Person.

Seat in Athens.

3. Other Christian Religious Communities

By Article 13 (5) of Law 4301/2014 the following Ecclesiastical or Religious Legal Persons governed by private law were recognized:

1. Anglican Church as Religious Legal Person located in Athens.
2. Ethiopian Orthodox Church as Religious Legal Person located in Athens.
3. Coptic Orthodox Church as Ecclesiastical Legal person located in Acharnes, Attica with 2 Religious Legal Persons.
4. Armenian Orthodox Church as Ecclesiastical Legal Person located in Athens with 9 Religious Legal Persons.
5. German speaking Evangelical Church as Religious Legal Person located in Athens.
6. Greek Evangelical Church as Ecclesiastical Legal Person located in Athens with 8 Religious Legal Persons.
7. Assyrian Orthodox Church as Religious Legal Person located in Aigaleo, Attica.
8. Armenian Evangelical Church in Greece as Religious Legal Person located in Piraeus.

In addition to the above Christian communities which are recognized as legal persons ex lege, the following entities have acquired the status of Religious Legal Person by the issuing of the relevant judgment following the publication of Law 4301/2014:

No	Legal name	Decision number
1	Holy Metropolis of Attica and Boeotia of the Church of True Orthodox Christians of Greece, Religious Legal	165/2015, Court of First Instance in Thebes
2	Holy Metropolis of Piraeus and Salamina of the Church of True Orthodox Christians of Greece, Religious Legal Person	2457/2015, Court of First Instance in Piraeus
3	Free Apostolic Church of Pentecost, Kifissia, Religious Legal Person	2749/2015, Court of First Instance in Athens
4	Free Apostolic Church of Pentecost, Athens, Religious Legal Person	2842/2015, Court of First Instance in Athens
5	Metropolis in Greece of the Armenian Orthodox Apostolic Church, Religious Legal Person	1279/2016, Court of First Instance in Athens
6	Fellowship of Evangelical Churches, Religious Legal Person	2908/2017, Court of First Instance in Athens
7	Holy Metropolis of Thessaloniki of the Church of True Orthodox Christians of Greece, Religious Legal Person	8711/2017, Court of First Instance in Thessaloniki
8	Holy Metropolis of Oropos and Fyli of the Church of True Orthodox Christians of Greece, Religious Legal	2569/2018, Court of First Instance in Athens
9	Free Apostolic Church of Pentecost, Nikaia, Religious Legal Person	2699/2019, Court of First Instance in Piraeus
10	Evangelical Church of Thessaloniki, Religious Legal Person	3353/2019, Court of First Instance in Thessaloniki
11	Charismatic Christian Church, Religious Legal Person	738/2020, Court of First Instance in Athens
12	Holy Metropolis of Talantio and Lokrida of the Old Calendar, Exarchate of Continental Greece, Religious Legal Person	113/2021, Court of First Instance in Lamia

Additionally, religious places (houses of prayer) of various other Christian communities exist and operate either with the legal personality in force before Law 4301/2014 was enacted, that is of civil-law partnership or association, or without legal status, since this is not necessary for issuing a permit for a house of prayer.

According to the latest available information (**June 2023**), there are **six hundred twenty-nine (629)** worship places of Christian Religious Communities which include those of **the Anglican Church (4), the Coptic Orthodox Church of Egypt (4), the Armenian Orthodox Church (10), the Ethiopian Orthodox Church (1), the German speaking Evangelical Church in Greece (3), the Greek Evangelical Church (38), the Fellowship of Greek Free Evangelical Churches (47), the Evangelical Church of Thessaloniki (2), the Fellowship of Evangelical Churches (8), the Christian Assyrian Church (1), the Armenian Evangelical Church (1), the Free Apostolic Church of Pentecost (91), the Apostolic Church of Pentecost (17), the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) (3), the Adventist Church (8), the Jehovah’s Christian Witnesses (106), the True Orthodox Christians (Old Calendarists) (198)** and other religious groups with a smaller number of adherents.

During the year **2022**, **fourteen (14)** applications for an authorization to establish and operate a house of prayer or temple were submitted, **three (3)** were accepted and **eleven (11)** were pending as of December 31, 2022 due to incomplete supporting documents.

It is also noted that **five (5)** authorizations to establish and operate houses of prayer were revoked in the year **2022** due to their discontinuance.

The following incidents were reported:

True Orthodox Christians (Old Calendarists)

No	1.
Location	Church of Aghia Eirini Chrysovalantou, Piraeus
Date	31 st March 2022
Brief description	Removal of the cover of the Altar and theft of votive offerings
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

Jehovah’s Christian Witnesses in Greece

No	1.
Location	An informal place of worship, Polikastro Kilkis
Date	10 August 2022
Brief description	Spray-painting of the symbol of the cross on 2 doors
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	The incident was reported to the local Police Department, but no charges were filed
(Photos: Jehovah’s Christian Witnesses in Greece)	



No	2.
Location	An informal place of worship, Tripoli, Arcadia
Date	1 st October 2022
Brief description	Unauthorized entrance to the courtyard and inscription on the front of the building, using red spray paint, of 3 slogans of religious and fan content
Perpetrator/s	1
Police/procedural actions	The incident was reported to the local Police Department, but no charges were filed
(Photos: Jehovah's Christian Witnesses in Greece)	



B. Judaism

1. Introduction

A concise and comprehensive overview of the route of Greek Jews can be found in the article *The Jewish community in Greece, the oldest community in Europe* by Victor Eliezer²¹:

“The first Greek Jew known by name was “Moschos, son of Moschion the Jew”, a slave identified in an inscription dated approximately 300 – 250 B.C. found in Oropos, a small coastal town 40 km from Athens.

It could be assumed that as a result of frequent Jewish movement through Greece, a Jewish Community was eventually established. This community is believed to have grown further after the Hasmonean uprising (142 B.C.) when many Jews were sold into slavery in Greece. In the early Christian era, the fact that Paul the Apostle, upon his arrival in Greece, preached in the Jewish Synagogues in Athens, Corinth, Veria, Kavala (Philippus) gives proof of the existence of many Jewish Communities in this Country. These Greek Jews were known as Romaniote and had developed their own customs and language (Judeo-Greek). Remnants of this unique tradition survived to our days.

From the end of the 14th century Jewish refugees emigrated from Spain and Portugal to the Greek mainland and adjacent islands. Mainly in Thessaloniki, the Jews known as the Shephardim introduced their own language (Judeo-Espagnol) and customs. During the 16th-18th centuries, Thessaloniki had one of the largest Jewish communities in the World and a solid rabbinical tradition.”

The [Jewish Museum of Greece](#) has played a leading role in preserving and enhancing “2,300 years of History and Tradition of the Jews of Greece”.

In 2018, the Jewish Museum of Greece published in Greek and in English a monumental scientific publication entitled *“Corpus Inscriptionum Judaicarum Graeciae (CIJG): Corpus of Jewish and Hebrew Inscriptions from Mainland and Island Greece (late 4th century BCE – 15th century)”*. This compilation is the result of a scientific program that was implemented in cooperation with the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and was launched in 2010 under Minister P.Geroulanos.

With regard to the nature and action of the Jewish Museum of Greece, Mr. M. Matsas, President of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Museum of Greece states:

“In cooperation with the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, the Jewish Museum of Greece has evolved into a unique educational center in Greece²² since it:

²¹ Eliezer Victor (2017, May 4). *The Jewish community in Greece, the oldest community in Europe*. European Jewish Press.

²² The Hellenic Parliament rewarded the significant work of the Jewish Museum of Greece in terms of research, publications, exhibitions, culture and education, and recognized it as equal to public research centers and the scientific research conducted by the Jewish Museum as part of the overall research effort of Greece (Law 4310/2014 article 3, Official Government Gazette A' 258).

- *organizes training seminars throughout Greece addressed to educators with a view to enabling them to acquire the cognitive skills and optimal teaching methods to teach the Holocaust*
- *co-organizes school contests on the Holocaust rewarding the winners with an educational visit to the Auschwitz Museum*
- *participates in the project carried out by the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, recently, by the Hellenic Parliament on establishing in the Auschwitz Museum a permanent Greek National Exhibition of the Holocaust in Greece*
- *implements far-reaching projects, such as publishing the Corpus of all inscriptions recording and corroborating the history of Greek Judaism”.*

As a result of the [long history](#) of Greek Judaism, before World War II, Jewish communities existed in 28 Greek cities (Didymoticho, New Orestiada – Soufli, Alexandroupolis, Komotini, Xanthi, Kavala, Drama, Serres, Thessaloniki, Veria, Kastoria, Florina, Trikala, Larissa, Volos, Chalkis, Athens, Patra, Agrinio, Ioannina, Preveza, Arta, Kerkyra, Zakynthos, Chania, Rhodes and Kos). There were 77,377 Greek Jews and the greater concentration of population was in Thessaloniki.

After the Holocaust and the mass extermination of 65,000 Jews in death camps (especially in Auschwitz) and the immigration of many survivors to Israel, the number of Greek citizens of Jewish religion has been reduced significantly and the majority live in Athens.

Currently, there are 8 active Jewish communities in Greece (Athens, Thessaloniki, Larissa, Volos, Ioannina, Trikala, Chalkis, Kerkyra). Since 1970²³ the communities of Rhodes, Veria, Kavala and Karditsa remain inactive under a Managing Committee appointed by the Minister of Education because they total less than 20 families, according to Emergency Law 367/1945 (Official Government Gazette A’ 143) as amended by Law Decree 301/1969 (Official Government Gazette A’ 195).

Eleven (11) Synagogues operate currently in the active Jewish communities for the religious needs of their members. Two (2) Synagogues operate in Athens, three (3) in Thessaloniki, one (1) in Larissa, one (1) in Volos, one (1) in Ioannina, one (1) in Trikala, one (1) in Chalkis and one (1) in Kerkyra. Three (3) Synagogues operate in the inactive Jewish communities: one (1) in Rhodes, one (1) in Kavala and one (1) in Veria. In Crete, the only remaining Synagogue is the Etz Hayyim Synagogue in Chania.

2. Legal framework

By the **30-4-1890 Royal Decree** (Official Government Gazette, A’ 101) *“Regarding the approval of the Statute of the Israelite Brotherhood in Athens”*, the Statute of the said Brotherhood was approved and published in the Official Government Gazette.

By **Law 2456/1920** (Official Government Gazette, A’ 173), adopted under the premiership of Eleftherios Venizelos, it has been laid down that Jewish communities are *“Legal persons governed by public law”*²⁴.

²³ See Moses Konstantinis [“Jewish Communities of Greece after the Holocaust”](#), p. 32

²⁴ See [Press Release](#) by the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs of January 12, 2015 regarding the Legal personality of the Jewish Communities and the Jewish Schools “Communiqué by the Secretary General for Religious Affairs, G. Kalantzis, on the legal personality of Jewish Communities and the Central Board of Jewish Communities, of Jewish schools and their taxation”

Under the dictatorship of Metaxas, **Emergency Law 2544/1940** (Official Government Gazette A' 287) has been adopted, by which the Jewish communities maintain their legal personality governed by public law with certain changes on the appointment of their Managing Board.

By **Law 2/1944** (Official Government Gazette, A' 6 republished in number A' 14), the Greek State was the first European state, and even before the end of World War II, to return Jewish property confiscated by the Nazis to its legitimate owners. This grand act of justice highlights both the democratic identity of the Government of National Unity and the determination of the Greek State to guarantee the presence of Greek Jewish Holocaust survivors.

By **Emergency Law 367/1945** (Official Government Gazette, A' 143) the Jewish Communities have been formed again by the Greek State aiming at guaranteeing their existence. This Emergency Law has been adopted because the losses that the communities had suffered by the Nazis had made the implementation of Law 2456/1920 problematic. The Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports supervises these organizations under **Presidential Decree 353/1997** (A' 239).

By **Emergency Law 846/1946** (Official Government Gazette A' 17), the Greek State was the first European state to forfeit its right to escheat Greek Jews' property in the absence of heirs (entire families had been exterminated in Nazi concentration camps). All this property had been granted to a legal person "*aiming at looking after and rehabilitating the Jews of Greece*".

By the **Decree "Establishing the Organization for care and rehabilitation of Greek Jews (O.P.A.I.E)" of March 29, 1949** (Official Government Gazette, A' 79) the legal person provided for by Emergency Law 846/1946 has been laid down.

By **Law 1657/1951** (Official Government Gazette, A' 20) the Central Board of Jewish Communities in Greece which had been temporarily established by Emergency Law 367/1945 "becomes permanent". Additionally, on the basis of a decision taken by the 2/3 of its members, the Central Board of Jewish Communities acquires the right to levy a contribution from the Jewish communities' income in order to cover operational costs. This levy represents an extra burden for the Jewish communities, similarly to the burden of the Holy Metropolises of the Church of Greece for the operation of the Holy Synod of the Church of Greece.

By **Decree Law 301/1969** (Official Government Gazette, A' 195), adopted under the dictatorship of G. Papadopoulos, the Central Board of Jewish Communities in Greece which had been established by Emergency Law 367/1945 and continued to operate since then, is considered "Legal person governed by public law" since its establishment, therefore since 1945.

By **Presidential Decree 234/1989** (Official Government Gazette, A' 110) "Amendment and Addendum of the Statute of the Jewish Community of Athens" Presidential Decree 182/1978 (Official Government Gazette, A' 40) "*Regarding the Statute of the Jewish Community of Athens*" was repealed. The provisions of these Presidential Decrees lay down, inter alia, the resources of this community, including the membership contributions ("*petsia*") designated in Law 2456/1920 and they may not in any case substitute for or exempt the Jewish communities members from mandatory payment of taxes to the Greek State, in the same way as this is required for all Greek citizens.

Article 122 of **Law 2961/2001** (A' 266) maintained in force "*the provisions on the taxation of Israeli marriage contracts (ketubah) and property of Israelis lost during the war and leaving no heirs*".

By **Law 3218/2004** (Official Government Gazette, A' 12), January 27²⁵ was designated as "*Remembrance Day for the Greek Jewish Martyrs and Heroes of the Holocaust*" to honor Greek Jews murdered by German Nazis. In the case of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace the total elimination of Greek Jews who lived there was caused by the Bulgarian occupation authorities, ally of Nazi Germany. Pursuant to the provisions of this law, **Presidential Decree 31/2005** (Official Government Gazette A' 51) was issued on "Organizing commemoration events on January 27, Remembrance Day for the Greek Jewish Martyrs and Heroes of the Holocaust".

By **Law 3943/2011** (Official Government Gazette A' 66) the Greek State settled the legal dispute between the Jewish community of Thessaloniki and the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Greek State which was pending since 1961. By Article 45 (10) of this Law, the Greek State "*undertook to pay to the Jewish community of Thessaloniki the sum of 9,943,697€ in two instalments expiring in the fifth and tenth year after the entry into force of this Law*".

By **Law 4018/2011**, Article 13 (Official Government Gazette A' 215) on "*Restoration of Holocaust victims who originally had the Greek nationality*", it was established that "*Greek citizenship is granted again to citizens of Israel, who were born by May 9, 1945 and are still alive, if they originally had the Greek nationality by birth and lost it in any way*". It is also established that "*the direct descendants of those who shall acquire the Greek nationality [...] may apply for the Greek citizenship as descendants of a Greek citizen*". By **Law 4461/2017**, Article 109 (Official Government Gazette A' 38), "*the right of acquisition of the Greek citizenship is extended also to direct descendants of citizens of Israel or other countries born in Greece by May 9, 1945 who died before acquiring the Greek nationality*".

Law 4071/2012 (A' 85) ensured the operation of the Jewish Schools as they were exempted from the general regulation according to which the salaries of seconded public employees are paid by the institutions to which they are seconded and not by the State. With this regulation, the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports continued to pay the salaries of the seconded teachers in the Israelite schools.

According to **Law 4178/2013** (A' 174), if there are urban planning violations (arbitrary constructions) or changes of use in the Synagogues, the Jewish Communities can legalize them with the same procedure as provided for state properties and without paying the fines applicable to private individuals. The same procedure was provided for the Churches of the Orthodox Church and the Mosques of the Muslim minority in Thrace.

By **Law 4223/2013** (A' 287), the Jewish Communities were exempted from paying property tax on Synagogues and other properties of public benefit purpose (as is the case for all legal places of worship of the religious communities in Greece).

By the **Joint Ministerial Decision** of the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs **2/52141/AYEP/2013** (B' 1370/2013), the Jewish Communities, although they are Legal Entities under Public Law, were exempted from accounting and internal financial management procedures provided for the other L.E.P.L., because they are non-profit, public benefit organizations with a religious purpose.

By **Law 4235/2014** (A' 32) Jewish Communities maintain all benefits of L.E.P.L., but they have the full right of autonomous government (while for other L.E.P.L. the internal organization is

²⁵ On January 27, 1945, the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp of the Nazis was liberated by the soviet army. On November 1st, 2005, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted Resolution A/RES/60/7, designating January 27th as an annual international Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust in order to mark the sixtieth year of the defeat of the Nazi regime and to honor the courage and commitment of the soldiers who deliberated the concentration camps.

designated by the State). Additionally, the regulations voted for L.E.P.L. after the entry into force of Law 4235/2014 shall not apply to Jewish Communities, unless it is expressly provided for that they regard them. The same regulation applies to the Orthodox Church.

Law 4285/2014 (A' 191), as an amendment to **Law 927/1979** *"On condemning acts or actions aimed at racial discrimination"*, to include among the punishable acts provided for therein the approval, trivialization or malicious denial of the Holocaust²⁶.

By **Law 4310/2014**, Article 3 (A' 258) the Jewish Museum of Greece was recognized as a research center whose *"research is part of the country's overall research effort"*.

By **Law 4415/2016** (A' 159) the Hellenic Parliament re-established the regulations of Law 4071/2012, which had been repealed in 2015 in the context of the implementation of the Economic Adjustment Program for Greece.

By **Law 4461/2017**, Article 109 (A' 38) the right of acquisition of the Greek citizenship was extended also to *"direct descendants of citizens of Israel or of other countries, born in Greece by May 9, 1945 who died before acquiring the Greek nationality"*.

By **Presidential Decree ΥΣ98/2017** *"Approval of the special urban planning study of the Real Estate Property owned by GAIA OSE SA "ΓΑΙΑ ΟΣΕ ΑΕ" for the creation of a Holocaust Museum in the area of the Thessaloniki Commercial Station, in the Municipality of Thessaloniki, Regional unit of Thessaloniki"* the relevant study was approved.

By the Circular **176169/Θ1/19-10-2018** *"Procedure for the recognition of a place of worship, existing before 1955, of a formal or informal form of organization, religion and denomination of religious communities"* by the Secretary General for Religious Affairs the problem of the non-existence of permits regarding houses of prayer for the Synagogues and more generally the places of worship of the historical religious communities in Greece was resolved.

By **Law 4547/2018**, Article 114 (A' 102) the Holocaust Museum of Greece in Thessaloniki was established.

By **Law 4559/2018**, Article 49 (A' 142) it is stipulated that the Jewish Museum of Greece may receive grants from the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs for the implementation of research, educational and training programs concerning, among other things, the fight against racism and antisemitism.

By **Decision 114/11-02-2019** of the Secretary General for Religious Affairs, the definition of antisemitism was adopted as it was set out at the Plenary meeting of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), in the context of catering for the needs for planning and implementing actions and initiatives of the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs on combating antisemitism.

By **Law 4607/2019**, Article 66 (A' 65) the grant for the construction of the Holocaust Museum of Greece by the Greek State in the amount of 8,000,000 euros was established.

²⁶ Article 2 par. 1 of Law 927/79, as in force: "Whoever intentionally, publicly, orally or through the press, via the Internet or by any other means or manner, condones, trivializes or maliciously denies the existence or gravity of crimes of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, the Holocaust and crimes of Nazism that have been recognized by decisions of international courts or the Greek Parliament and such conduct is directed against a group of persons or a member of a group of persons identified on the basis of race, colour, religion, genealogical background, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender characteristics or disability, when such conduct is manifested in a manner that may incite violence or hatred or involves a threatening or abusive nature against such a group or its member, shall be punishable by the penalties provided for in paragraph 1 of the preceding Article."

By the Prime Minister's **Decision 8/11/2019** the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definitions of antisemitism and Holocaust denial were adopted.

By par. δ of Article 1 of the **Prime Minister's Decision Y 13/2020** (B' 664) "*the supervision of the realization of the Greek Holocaust Museum and the national activities of the Greek Presidency of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) in the year 2021*" were added to the responsibilities of the Vice President of the Government.

By **Law 4772/2021**, Article 27 (A' 17) it was laid down that the Central Board of Jewish Communities in Greece and the Jewish Communities in Greece were subject to the favorable conditions for supporting owners for non-collection of rent for immovable property due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

By **Law 4795/2021**, Article 53 (A' 62) the issue of the administrative bodies' mandates of the Jewish Communities due to the exceptional conditions caused by the pandemic COVID-19 was resolved, in accordance with the request of the Central Board of Jewish Communities in Greece.

By **Law 4801/2021**, Article 43 (A' 83) issues of property exchange between the Hellenic Railways Organization "ΟΣΕ" and the Municipality of Thessaloniki and urban planning regulations for the construction of the Holocaust Museum as well as the ownership of the construction project by the Jewish Community in Thessaloniki were resolved.

By **Law 4972/2022**, Article 176 (A' 181) the donations intended for the construction of the Holocaust Museum of Greece were exempted from VAT (Value-Added Tax).

By the Presidential Decree **17/18-11-2022** "*Modification of the Presidential Decree YΣ98/2017 "Approval of the special urban planning study of the Real estate Property owned by GAIA OSE SA "ΓΑΙΑ ΟΣΕ ΑΕ" for the creation of the Holocaust Museum in the area of the Thessaloniki Commercial Station, in the Municipality of Thessaloniki, Regional unit of Thessaloniki"*(A.A.Π. 293)" (Δ' 850) the urban planning study for the construction of the Holocaust Museum in Thessaloniki was approved.

By **Law 5043/2023**, Article 79 (A' 91) a special exemption from VAT (Value-Added Tax) for the supply of goods and services under a donation contract for the purpose of the erection, construction, repair and extension of places of worship or religious monuments or places of accommodation and operation of charitable institutions belonging to the Central Board of Jewish Communities or Jewish Communities) was established.

In **2014 a Memorandum of Cooperation** between the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs and the Jewish Museum of Greece was signed, while in **2017 a trilateral Memorandum of Understanding** was signed between the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs, the Jewish Museum of Greece and Yad Vashem.

In the framework of the Memorandum of Cooperation with the Jewish Museum of Greece dated 22-1-2014, the following Ministerial Decision 42856/02/14-3-2018 was initially published "*Student Contest – Educational Program on Teaching about the Holocaust Remembrance in Greece*" (B' 950), which has recently been replaced by the Joint Ministerial Decision 149452/02/3-11-2020 (B' 5066) with the same subject, in accordance with Article 1 of which: "*The General Secretariat for Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs [...] may organize, on the recommendation of the Institute of Educational Policy, an annual student contest for the creation of digital audiovisual works (films) on the subject of historical aspects of the Holocaust, for the participation in an educational program including a visit to the State Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland*".

Also, on July 2, 2018 a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, the Jewish Museum of Greece and the

international organization OSCE/ODIHR aiming at providing security to Jewish communities and organizations as well as identifying, recording and fighting racist and antisemitic crime and organizing a pilot training program for members of the Hellenic Police Divisions and Services.

Other actions of the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs for the awareness of the school community against antisemitism, which took place in 2022, are the following:

- On February 25-27, 2022: *“The International Conference on the Holocaust, Genocides, and Mass Atrocities: Remembering the Past to Safeguard the Future”* took place in Kalamata, Greece. The Conference was co-organized by the General Secretary for Religious Affairs and the Holy Metropolis of Messinia (Church of Greece) with the support of the Embassy of the United States of America in Athens and the Fulbright Foundation of Greece within the framework of the Greek Presidency of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA).
- On March 1, 2022, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the Mémorial de la Shoah, the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, the Jewish Museum of Greece and the Mohammed Ali Research Center regarding training on the Holocaust and Genocides for teachers and University students.
- On April 29-May 2, 2022, the International Conference of the Olga Lengyel Institute entitled *“Local History-A starting point to understand the world”* took place in Timisoara (Romania) with the participation of two (2) Greek teachers, who presented the projects of international cooperation they had developed during the school year 2021-2022.
- The Embassy of the United States of America in Greece and the State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs organized an International Visitors Leadership Program - On Demand entitled *“Sharing best practices on Holocaust Education”*, with the support of the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs. Eight (8) Greek teachers from schools all over the country (secondary, primary, public, private and vocational high schools) participated in the program. The General Secretariat for Religious Affairs cooperated with the Embassy in the selection of teachers and financed part of the program (internal travel). The project was conducted from 14 to 25 May 2022 in the United States of America.
- On July 5-7, 2022, the first face-to-face/in situ seminar on the Holocaust was held in Kavala on the topic *“The Holocaust as a starting point: Greece, Bulgaria and North Macedonia dialogue”* with the participation of teachers from Greece, the Republic of North Macedonia and Bulgaria. The seminar was organized by the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs in cooperation with the Mémorial de la Shoah, the Institute Mohammed Ali (Kavala), the Holocaust Memorial Center for the Jews (North Macedonia) and the Bulgarian History teachers’ Association and was attended by 13 educators from Greece.
- On December 5-7, 2022, the seminar *“The Holocaust and mass atrocities: Comparing to single out”* addressed to university students was held in Athens. The seminar was organized by the Mémorial de la Shoah in cooperation with the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs and the Political Philosophy Research Laboratory of the Faculty of Philosophy of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.
- On December 6-8, 2022, the seminar *“Never again? Comparing the Holocaust, Genocide and Mass Atrocities in the XX and XXI centuries”* addressed to university students was held in Athens. The seminar was organized by the Mémorial de la Shoah in cooperation with the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs and the Institute of International Relations of Panteion University.

- The Olga Lengyel Institute in cooperation with the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs provides grants (of €250 each) to schools that organize educational programs on the Holocaust. The amount is intended for covering needs on logistics related to the implementation of these programs. For school year 2021-22, eight (8) grants were allocated.
- The General Secretariat for Religious Affairs requested from the Institute of Educational Policy “ΙΕΠ” the approval for the international educational program, organized by Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School in Chicago, USA, entitled “*The Face of Resilience*”, so that it could be implemented in the 7th High School of Thessaloniki by 1st grade Lyceum students. By the 68/16-12-2021 positive opinion of the Institute of Educational Policy, the program took place during the school year 2021-2022. Fourteen (14) groups of students from different countries of Europe and from the USA worked together through the educational platform Edmodo, in order to create a movie on the subject of the Holocaust.
- In the school year 2021-2022, the educational action CONVOI 77 was implemented in schools in Thessaloniki and at the Medresse (Islamic Religious School) of Xanthi. More than 200 classes of students from 19 different countries are already participating in this educational action, attempting to reconstruct the biographies of 272 persons who were initially detained in the Drancy camp in France and then deported to Auschwitz, travelling with the Convoy 77 mission.

In line with the proposals of the European Union, former Vice President Mr. Panagiotis Pikrammenos announced on 7/10/2022 the decision of the Greek government to proceed with the preparation of the National Action Plan against Antisemitism (NAPA). The announcement was made at the conference co-organized by the Greek delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) and the Municipality of Ioannina on the occasion of the Greek presidency of the IHRA on the topic “*Combating Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial and Distortion in the Digital Sphere*”. The General Secretariat for Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports has undertaken its elaboration.

3. Incidents

For the purposes of this Report, Synagogues, referred to above, Jewish cemeteries, Jewish schools and Memorials to honor the Greek Jews murdered in the Holocaust are included in the sites of religious interest of the Jewish Communities in Greece.

Only one (1) incident was recorded concerning the desecration of the Monument at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, which is dedicated to the former Jewish cemetery of Thessaloniki, by a fascist symbol and the swastika, i.e. symbols of an ideology that led to the Holocaust and the murder of 6 million of our fellow human beings:

No	1.
Location	Jewish Monument, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
Date	29 December 2022
Brief description	Spray-painting in red on marble surfaces of the symbol of the Celtic cross and the symbol of the anchored cross (swastika)
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation
Comments	Statement by KISE:

"KISE CONDEMNS THE DESECRATION OF THE MONUMENT AT THE ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI

The Monument dedicated to the Jewish cemetery and located at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki was, once again, the target of heinous vandalism. The swastika was imprinted on the monument marking the sanctity of the site, one of the oldest Jewish cemeteries in Europe - which was completely destroyed in 1942 by the Nazis and their collaborators - and the annihilation of the country's largest Jewish community, Thessaloniki, in the Holocaust. At the same time, the marble dedication of the Monument was desecrated with a fascist symbol.

With the stigma of the horrific Nazi swastika and fascist-inspired graffiti, 2022 is leaving, a year in which no incidents of desecration of Jewish space were recorded. We condemn the unholy act of the vandals, followers of intolerance and antisemitism who express their hatred and fanaticism by desecrating the memory of the deceased Jews of Thessaloniki. No tolerance for antisemitism!

We call on the authorities to ensure the immediate arrest of the perpetrators and their bringing to justice.

Athens, 29 December 2022

The Central Board of Jewish Communities in Greece"

[Press Release by the Jewish Community in Thessaloniki](#)

[Post by the former Minister of Education and Religious Affairs on social media, 29.12.2022](#) (see Addendum)

(Photos: The Central Board of Jewish Communities in Greece)





4. Addendum

a. Statistical presentation

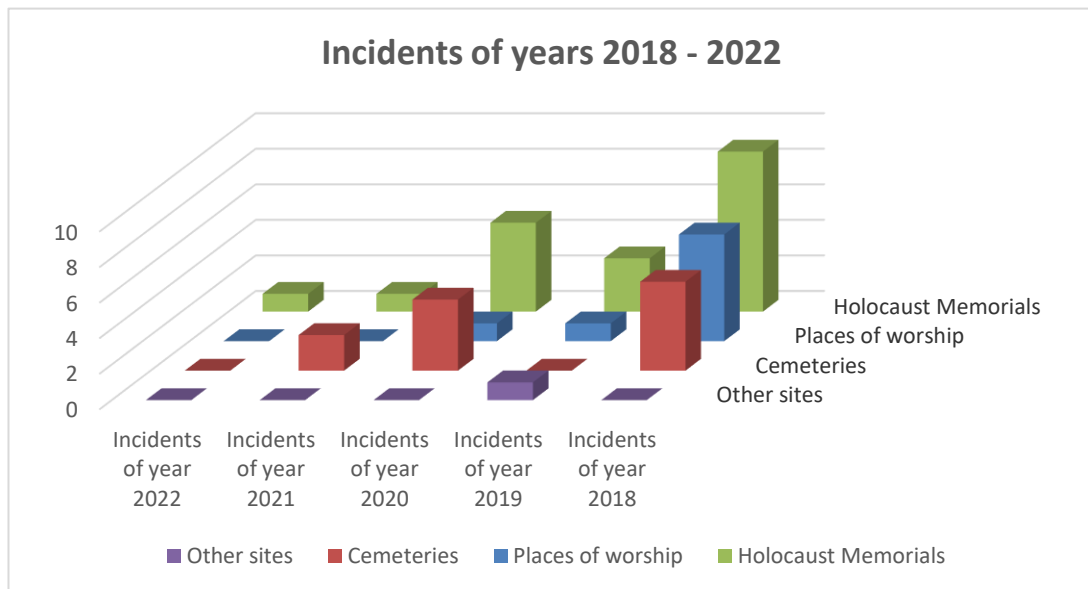


Figure 5: Comparative presentation of incidents 2018-2022, by site

b. Post by the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs on a social network, 29.12.2022



Niki Kerameus: *“We unequivocally condemn the vandalism of the monument of the old Jewish cemetery of Thessaloniki. Such unlawful acts that express antisemitism and intolerance have no place in our country, a modern, European, law-abiding state that respects and protects religious freedom”.*

C. Islam

1. Muslim Minority in Thrace

a. Introduction

Articles 37 to 45 (Section E “*Protection of Minorities*”) of the **Treaty of Lausanne** ratified by Decree Law “*On ratification of the Lausanne Peace Treaty*” (Official Government Gazette A’ 238/1923) establish the legal framework for the protection of populations which were not included in the “*Convention Concerning the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Populations*” that is to say, the Greek Orthodox Christians in Istanbul and the Muslims in Thrace.

In particular, in Article 2 of the Convention concerning the exchange of Greek and Turkish populations, it is laid down that: “*The following persons shall not be included in the exchange provided for in Article 1: a) The Greek inhabitants of Constantinople, b) The Muslim inhabitants of Western Thrace. All Greeks who were already established before the 30th October, 1918, within the areas under the Prefecture of the City of Constantinople, as defined by the law of 1912, shall be considered as Greek inhabitants of Constantinople. All Muslims established in the region to the east of the frontier line laid down in 1913 by the Treaty of Bucharest shall be considered as Muslim inhabitants of Western Thrace*”.

Therefore, the minority in Thrace is a religious minority. It consists of Greek citizens of Muslim religion and it is governed by the Constitution and the laws of the Hellenic Republic and by a special national and international legislation which is determined by a long historical, political and geographical development in full respect of the specific religious and cultural characteristics of Muslim Greek citizens in Thrace who are protected by the Constitution and Greek legislation, as all Greek citizens, and are subject to the same legal obligations and requirements which apply to all citizens equal before the national law.

The State of its own volition has been paying the salaries, since 2013, of one hundred and twenty (120) teachers of the Islamic religion.

b. Muftiates in Thrace

The Muftiate of Didymoticho, the Muftiate of Xanthi and the Muftiate of Komotini are separate public service structures equivalent to General Directorates and they are under the authority of the Minister of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports. Operational expenditures are charged to the budget of the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports. The financial and management audits of the Muftiates are carried out by the General Directorate for Financial Audits of the Hellenic Ministry of Finance, in accordance with the provisions in force, following a joint decision by the Minister of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports and the Minister of Finance.

The Hellenic Parliament passed by a large majority **Law 4964/2022** (A’ 150), which in Part C entitled “*Modernization of the Muftiates in Thrace*” (Articles 137-157) includes regulations for the current operation and organization of the Muftiates, putting an end to a pending issue of more than 30 years.

Law 4964/2022 (A’ 150), the product of extensive research and consultation with Muslim religious ministers has filled an important gap in Greek legislation on a number of issues of key importance for a significant group of our fellow citizens:

Law 4964/2022 (A' 150):

1. provided, for the first time, a modern and comprehensive legal framework for the Muftiates and Muftis in Thrace, fully compatible with the Constitution, but also with the country's international obligations, as defined by the Lausanne Treaty, the ECHR (European Convention on Human Rights), but also the case law of the CoE and the ECHR (European Court of Human Rights)
2. resolved a number of problems that had been identified in practice and which, either due to ambiguity of provisions that were previously in force, or simply due to a change of circumstances, complicated the situation and essentially prevented the proper functioning of the Muftiates, the service of the religious needs of the Muslim minority in Thrace, the effective management of its religious affairs, and the proper exercise of the Muftis' judicial powers.
3. established a complete framework for the organization and operation of the Muftiate, with authorization to issue Presidential Decrees, with provisions for covering expenses for their work, their accommodation, security, the transfer of human resources, travel, printed publications, the creation of websites, etc.. In this way, the financial independence of the institution is decisively promoted, while at the same time the overall work of Muftiates and Muftis is facilitated, the impact of the work on the local community is broadened and their image and prestige is enhanced, locally, regionally and on a national scale.
4. contrary to what was the case until its adoption, no longer emphasizes the person of each Mufti, but the institution of the Muftiate, as a public service, exactly so that the services to the citizen are not recorded as a follow-up of a person, but as coming from an institution, the good functioning of which the State promotes, strengthens and guarantees.
5. Included provisions to protect the prestige of the Muftis on an individual level, with provisions for the living arrangements of their families, but also for the protection of the Muftis themselves, through the establishment of incompatibilities, in order to limit the risk of reproaches against them and to avoid any questioning of their morality.
6. established financial support, as well as the possibility to serve as Counselors to the competent Ministry, also for those who have served as Muftis and have left. In this way, the State shows that it assists, trusts and invests in those who have played such an important role.
7. described, for the first time, the triple status of the Mufti in our country, since, unlike in other EU member states (where the sacred Islamic law-Sharia is not applied at all), here the Mufti is a religious minister, he has judicial powers and he is the head of a public service (civil servant). It is the co-existence of these three qualities in the same person that imposes a separate responsibility on the State in relation to the manner of his selection and functioning.
8. introduced important innovations in relation to the selection process for Muftis, all of which work in favour of their widest possible acceptance as persons of increased prestige, with special ties to the citizens they are called upon to serve. The key person in the selection process is no longer the Coordinator of the Decentralized Administration of Macedonia and Thrace (as the successor of the Prefect), but the Locum Tenens Mufti. The contribution of a numerically and qualitatively enlarged Advisory Committee is of decisive importance. It consists of 33 members of the Muslim minority who are selected, without any involvement of the State, through a public drawing of lots and who are drawn from the teachers of the Undergraduate Program of Islamic Studies or the Medresses (Islamic Religious Schools) in Thrace, the Imams, the Islamic Religion teachers and eminent theologians. The Advisory

Committee examines the candidatures and decides whether or not each candidate is qualified to assume the duties of the Mufti. It then submits to the Minister of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports the alphabetical list of those who are adequate, and it is on the proposal of the latter that the Mufti is appointed by Presidential Decree.

9. retained all the positive changes that had been adopted in relation to **Law 1920/1991 (A' 11)** and in particular the optionality of recourse to the Mufti for personal law issues of members of the Muslim minority in Thrace ([Law 4511/2018 \(A' 2\)](#)). **Law 4511/2018** was an extremely important step in the direction of equality and democratic rights, with full respect for the identity, religious faith and specific characteristics of the Muslim minority in Thrace, and was implemented with broad consensus of all parties (except the party "Golden Dawn").

All of the above innovations and a number of individual regulations described in detail in the Law, contribute to the creation of an institution that operates with guarantees of legitimacy, transparency, independence and effectiveness, headed by persons of prestige, whom the State guarantees to provide with excellent conditions for the performance of their duties, with adequate financial and logistical support. And all this, with full respect for the principles of Islam, the International Treaties and the EU's legislation in force.

For the procedural rules in cases under the jurisdiction of the Mufti, the following [Presidential Decree 52/2019 \(A' 90\)](#) shall continue to apply on "*Procedural rules on cases under the jurisdiction of the Muftis in Thrace - Establishment, organization and operation of the Directorate for cases under the Mufti's jurisdiction at the Muftiates in Thrace*". The scope of the Presidential Decree is a) to establish necessary rules of procedure on cases under the jurisdiction of the Mufti and issuing of the Mufti's ruling and b) to regulate matters of organization and operation of the Directorate for cases under the Mufti's jurisdiction, as well as procedures for filling vacancies of staff (permanent employees, employees on private law contracts of indefinite duration or political appointees) at the Muftiates.

c. Mosques in Thrace

The Muslims in Thrace exercise their religious duties in mosques numbering **over 260** in the area. **The Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports has satisfied all requests for building works for repair or extension of old mosques as well as for building new ones.** It is noted that the repair and conservation of historical mosques is funded by the Hellenic Ministry of Culture.

Moreover, by **Article 27 of Law 4067/2012 (A' 79)** special provisions were established for simplifying urban planning procedures which are laid down for the repair or building of mosques in buildings located in a Waqf in Thrace.

The Greek State has demonstrated special attention to resolve longstanding problems regarding mosques, in particular in the mountain areas of Thrace, due to lack of property titles and urban planning for almost all of them. By **Article 48 of Law 4178/2013 (A' 174)**, urban planning matters regarding mosques were solved. These matters concern mosques located in areas within legal settlements but without street planning, or they concern the issuance of building permits or permits to repair mosques (currently only allowed in areas with an approved urban plan), or generally in legalizing existing buildings and architectural parts such as minarets, which have been built in the past but without a corresponding permit.

Additionally, the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs taking into account the Muslim minority in Thrace, the large number of the existing Islamic worship places (Mosques, Tekkes, Masjids, Jems, Cemevis), certain cases of malfunction in carrying out repairs or constructions of extensions or annexes at the existing places of prayer, as well as the dense cultural richness of the wider area in recent years, set up in April 12, 2016 a “Committee for resolving planning matters for mosques of the Muslim minority in Thrace”(Online Publication Number ΩΕΣ64653ΠΣ-ΝΤΓ). Members of this Committee were the Secretary General for Religious Affairs, the Head of the Directorate for Religious Administration of the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs, a representative of each Muftiate of the Muslim minority in Thrace, a representative of each Waqf Managing Committee of the Muslim minority in Thrace, a representative of the Decentralized Administration of Macedonia-Thrace, a representative of the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a representative of the Hellenic Ministry of the Environment and Energy, and a representative of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports.

As part of the work of this Committee, it appeared appropriate for the jointly competent Ministries (the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, the Hellenic Ministry of the Environment and Energy, and the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports) to issue a joint circular with a view to gathering, codifying and grouping the existing legislation, clarifying the authorization procedure with a detailed list of the necessary supporting documents and urban studies where appropriate (i.e. to demolish an existing building and to build a new one, to construct an annex building, to make small-scale repairs and deviations of building height etc.) for the benefit of all parties concerned.

Following the one-year cooperation of the three competent Ministries, the Building Services of Thrace and the Department for traditional agglomerations and listed buildings of the Directorate of the Environment and Culture of the Hellenic Ministry of Interior/Sector Macedonia-Thrace, a circular was issued on the “Authorization procedure for issuing a building permit to Islamic places of prayer/worship in Thrace (Mosques, Tekkes, Masjids, Jems, Cemevis)” (Online Publication Number 78ΘΓ4653ΠΣ-Z3X), **the provisions of which were updated and incorporated into the joint circular [“Circular on Islamic places of worship in Thrace \(Mosques-Tekkes-Masjids-Jems/Cemevis\) \(Ref. Number: 105510/Θ1/31.08.2021 Online Publication Number: 6ΘX646MTΛΗ-0Y6\)”](#)**.

An explicit reference is made in this circular regarding the obligation to protect the cultural heritage as derived from international conventions²⁷ and the national regulatory framework²⁸. In particular, in order for modern monuments to be integrated in a protection scheme, the competent bodies should designate them as such, since it is through this designation procedure that the protection scheme is activated. Especially in Thrace, where the majority of the Islamic places of prayer/worship are almost a hundred years old, it is necessary to clarify on a case-by-case assessment, if the place of prayer/worship is subject to the provisions of Law 3028/2002 “On the Protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage in general”.

d. Alevis of Thrace

The Committee of Alevi Muslims of Thrace submitted to the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs their “Confession of Faith and Application for permit for religious practice of the Alevi Muslims of Thrace” requesting a permit to operate the Tekke of Roussa in Evros prefecture as place of prayer for Alevis.

²⁷ UNESCO Convention of 1972, Granada Convention of 1985

²⁸ Constitution of Greece, articles 24 (1) and (6); Law 3018/2002

According to the information prescribed in this application, Alevism is an independent branch of Islam. The fundamental characteristics of Alevism which arise from the general interpretation of the Quran are:

- Love and respect to all people,
- Tolerance for other religions and ethnic groups,
- Respect for work and workers,
- Equality between men and women,
- Monogamy.

Religious practice takes place in sites called Jem or Cemevi and Tekke (Meydan Evi) and not in Mosques. The Alevi religious minister, Dede, leads the religious services.

According to the Committee of Alevi Muslims of Thrace, at present there are approximately 3,500 Alevis in the prefecture of Evros in particular, as well as in the prefecture of Rodopi.

Every year, ancestral “sacrifice rituals” are organized to honor and commemorate the tragedy of Hussein and to symbolize the persecutions of Alevis over time. The following feasts are organized:

- Annual Kurban in the Tekke of Roussa Mursala on November 8
- Kurban in a number of villages: Roussa, Goniko, Ourania, Mesimeri, Mikro Dereio, Sidirous, Hamilo, Ano Mikraki
- Kirk Kurban in Chloi, Rodopi prefecture
- Ali Baba Kurban in Ano Kambi, Rodopi prefecture
- Sinan Baba and Hassan Baba in Megalo Dereio
- Atmezar Kurban in Kehro, Rodopi prefecture
- Gaziler Kurban in Chloi, Rodopi prefecture
- Kiose Kioi Kurban in Spano, Evros prefecture and
- The feast “Hilia” that takes place every summer in the homonymous location (usually the first weekend of August) and includes wrestling competitions in which residents from the surrounding villages participate.

The Tekke of Roussa (Seyyid Ali Sultan Tekke) is the most important in the Balkans. It has a history of approximately seven centuries and has always been an assembly place for Dervishes (and in particular the Bektashi order). It is a monument of great religious and cultural value.

In addition, by Ministerial Decision 31811/01/19-3-2021 (Online Publication Number: ΩΔ4646MTΛH-15M), a permit to establish and operate a house of prayer (cemevi) was granted to the religious community under the name “Alevis of Megalo Derio”, thus making Greece one of the few countries in Europe which have recognized the Alevis as a distinct religious community.

2. Muslims outside Thrace

a. Mosques in Rhodes and Kos

In addition to the region of Thrace where the Treaty of Lausanne is in force, Islamic religious places operate in the Dodecanese and in particular in Rhodes and Kos.

In Rhodes there are [7 historical mosques](#); one of them operates on a daily basis as a Mosque and one operates as a Mosque during Ramadan and on Eid Al-Adha. In Kos there are 6 Mosques classified as [archaeological sites](#) and there is a Mosque operating on a daily basis.

Mosques and Islamic cemeteries are under the Managing Committees of the Managing Bodies of the Waqf in Rhodes and Kos respectively. Articles 117 “*Managing Bodies of the Waqf Properties of Kos and Rhodes*” and Article 118 “*Private Waqfs of Rhodes and Kos*” of **Law 4821 /2021** (A’ 134) resolved the long-standing problem since 1947 of the legal personality, administration and operation of the Managing Bodies of Waqfs in Rhodes and Kos and the Private Waqfs of Rhodes and Kos as until the enactment of this law the legislative framework that had been introduced during the Italian occupation of the Dodecanese with the **Decree 12/2-5-1929** by the Italian Governor of the Islands of the Aegean Islands²⁹ was still in force.

According to **Law 4821/2021**, the Management Boards of the Managing Bodies of the Waqf Properties of Kos and Rhodes are formed of five members and are set up by decision of the Minister of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports every two years. Their members are Greek Muslims, permanent residents of Rhodes or Kos, respectively. The Bodies may be subsidised by the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports.

Particular mention should be made to the funding by the Hellenic Ministry of Culture for restoring historical mosques in the area, such as the Reçep Pasha Mosque, the Sintrivan Mosque, the Mosque of Mehmet Aga, the Suleiman Mosque, the Murad Reis Mosque in Rhodes.

In particular, according to a recent (August 2023) update from the Office of the Secretary General of Culture, the Muslim monuments of Rhodes and Kos for which restoration studies have recently been approved or restoration projects are underway are the following:

RHODES

1) The Mosque of Reçep Pasha, Medieval City. It has been included in the projects of the Recovery and Resilience Fund. It includes two sub-projects, the self-commissioning and the maintenance and restoration works of the mosque's decoration. The latter has been put out to tender (approx. 500,000 euros). Additional studies for the annexes to the monument are in progress.

2) Murat Reis cemetery. It has been included in the projects of the Recovery and Resilience Fund. Exploratory excavation works have been carried out in some places and the architectural study of the mosque has been completed, while architectural studies for specific mausoleums are in progress. Structural studies of the mosque and the mausoleum of Mehmet Shekib Pasha are also underway. Tenders have been launched for the three sub-projects, for a total amount of 185,000 euros.

KOS

1) Defterdar Mosque. A restoration study has been carried out by the Managing Body of the Waqf property in Kos and the implementation of the project is underway by the relevant Directorate of Restoration of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture.

²⁹ Cf. decree by the Army Commander of the Dodecanese (Ref: 19/29-4-1947) as ratified by Resolution ΑΔ’ of the 4th Revisionary Hellenic Parliament (Official Government Gazette A’ 262/27-11-1947)

2) *Attik Mosque*. A restoration study has been carried out by the Managing Body of the Waqf property in Kos and approved by the Central Archaeological Council.

3) *Morouk Mosque (old town of Kos)*: A restoration study has been carried out by the Managing Body of the Waqf property in Kos and approved by the Central Archaeological Council.

4) *Mosque in Platani*. The restoration of the mosque is in progress by the South Aegean Region, which is financing it through a programmatic contract between the Hellenic Ministry of Culture, the South Aegean Region and the Managing Body of the Waqf property in Kos.”

With the support of the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs the Suleiman Mosque in Rhodes – which operates as a Museum- is made available each year to the Managing Body of the Waqf property in Rhodes for the Eid al-Fitr prayer (for the end of the fast of Ramadan) and the Eid al-Adha prayer (for the Sacrifice of Abraham). Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, the operation of the site continued with strict adherence to sanitary protocols to address the epidemiological risks³⁰.

By Acts **182953/01/22-11-2019** (Online Publication Number Ω5MY46MTΛH-ZΦ7), **182982/01/22-11-2019** (Online Publication Number 6X1H46MTΛH-BT2) and **182990/01/22-11-2019** (Online Publication Number Ω27Λ46MTΛH-0XN) issued by the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs, it was established that the Islamic places of worship “*Ibrahim Pasha Mosque*” (Managing Bodies of the Waqf property in Rhodes) as well as “*Defterdar Mosque*” and “*Hassan Pasha Mosque*” (Managing Bodies of the Waqf property in Kos), were operating legally.

The legal operation of the above sites was established in accordance with the provisions of the Circular **176169/01/19-10-2018** issued by the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs (Online Publication Number ΩA3Y4653ΠΣ-8B3) on “*Procedure for recognizing a worship place existing before 1955 (except for the ones under the jurisdiction, “klima”, of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ, as referred to in Article 3 of the Constitution)*”. Therefore, a matter remaining unaddressed for a long time was finally settled with regard to these places of worship, which have been operating without interruption for a long time to this day. Thus, the concern of the State to ensure the unhindered enjoyment of the constitutionally guaranteed rights of adherents and religious communities was demonstrated in practice.

Also, with the **19136/01/18.2.2021** Ministerial Decision (Online Publication Number: ΨT6A46MTΛH-BQZ) the Managing Body of the Waqf Property of Kos was granted approval for the temporary operation, the use as a place of worship, for the wedding-events hall due to the impossibility of using the existing mosque in the village of Platani in Kos.

Finally, pursuant to Law **4821/2021** (A’ 134), the joint Decision of the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs and the Minister of Finance **88878/01/19-7-2022** on the “*Regulation of the operation of the L.E.P.L. under the names “MANAGING BODY OF THE WAQF PROPERTY IN KOS” and “MANAGING BODY OF THE WAQF PROPERTY IN RHODES”* (B’ 3960/26-7-2022) was published.

The above Decision established the framework for the operation of the Managing Bodies and defined their mission and purpose (Articles 1 and 2). It also laid down their operating principles

³⁰ See Decision of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports A.Π. 179884/20-4-2022 (Online Publication Number Ω2ΨΞ4653Π4-07Ω).

and their Management (Articles 3 and 4). It defined the way in which the Managing Bodies operate and the responsibilities of the Management Boards (Article 5), the Chairman (Article 10) and the Management Consultant (Article 12) as well as the specific tasks that may be entrusted to the members (Articles 7 and 11) and their remuneration (Article 9). In addition, the place and time of the meetings of the Management Boards and the invitation of third parties to provide any necessary information or facilitate the functioning of the Management Boards (Article 6), the conditions of operation and decision-making (Article 7) were laid down. Finally, the rules on financial management, supervision, regular and extraordinary accountability and their competent bodies, the rules on the publicity of the acts of the bodies of the Managing Bodies, as well as any other details necessary for the proper functioning of the Managing Bodies were laid down (Articles 8 and 13).

b. Other Mosques in Greece

Other than the above-mentioned Mosques in Thrace, Rhodes and Kos there are at least 60 Islamic sites in Greece. Many of those have been restored, such as the Fethiye Mosque in the Roman Agora in Athens which is accessible as an exhibition gallery since August 2017, the [Yeni Mosque](#) in Mytilene, the Zincirli Mosque in Serres. Other mosques damaged due to the ravages of time are being restored, such as, for example, the Valide Mosque, the oldest mosque in Mytilene, with funding of € 1.2 million from the special development plan for the islands of the Aegean implemented by the Ephorate of Antiquities of Lesbos; the Beyazit Mosque in Didymoticho following the fire of March 22, 2017; the construction work on the Hünkar Mosque in Edessa.

Some Mosques operate as museums after their restoration, such as the Emir Zade Mosque in Chalkis, the Mosque of the Lower Fountain or Tzisdarakis Mosque in Athens and the Küçük Hassan Mosque in Chania.

An indicative list is included in the Addendum of this section.

The Hellenic Ministry of Culture seeks to ensure the preservation of the cultural heritage of Greece in which Islamic monuments are included. Additional efforts are made to that end and special publications have been edited in the past³¹.

c. Islamic Houses of Prayer

For the first time in 2013, applications for a permit to establish and operate an Islamic worship place were lodged and they were all satisfied, except for those whose supporting documentation was incomplete. In the year **2022, one (1) Islamic House of Prayer (“Al Ansar” Sunni Muslims)** was granted a permit and one (1) Islamic House of Prayer permit was revoked due to its discontinuation. **According to the current data (June 2023), the total number of Islamic Houses of Prayer throughout the country, excluding Thrace and the Dodecanese, is thirteen (13).**

³¹ The Ottoman Architecture in Greece – Collective work, December 2009 (Η ΟΘΩΜΑΝΙΚΗ ΑΡΧΙΤΕΚΤΟΝΙΚΗ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΛΛΑΔΑ – ΣΥΛΛΟΓΙΚΟ, Δεκέμβριος 2009)

Since 2011, the Greek State grants spaces to Muslims³² at the Peace and Friendship Stadium and at the Olympic Sports Athletic Center of Athens in order to ensure that Muslims are able to practice their religious duties during the Great Islamic Feast of Sacrifice (Eid Al Adha) marking the end of Ramadan and Abraham's sacrifice. In 2020, however, this procedure was suspended as part of the measures to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. After the opening of the Mosque of Athens on November 2, 2020, the reasons for the concession ceased to exist.

Additionally, a parade is performed annually in Athens by Muslims honoring the birth anniversary of the Prophet Muhammad (except for the years 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic of the coronavirus COVID-19); this event is authorized by the Greek authorities and protected by the Hellenic Police.

3. Mosque of Athens

By **Law 3512/2006** (A' 264) the necessary regulatory framework to establish and operate an Islamic Mosque in Attica was established for the first time in national legislation. The Mosque will be under public supervision, so Muslims residing in the Attica area (Greeks and non-Greeks) have the possibility to exercise their religious duties as dictated by their religion.

By the adoption of **Law 4014/2011** (A' 209), **Law 4327/2015** (A' 50), **Law 4414/2016** (A' 149) and **Law 4473/2017** (A' 78) several administrative and urban planning matters were settled and as a result the construction of the building of the Mosque of Athens and of the surrounding area of 16 acres was completed by mid 2019. On June 7, 2019, the building and the surrounding area were presented to the Muslims of Athens.

By Ministerial Decision **135952/01/11-8-2017** (Y.O.Δ.Δ. 401- Online Publication Number: 7FAB4653PΣ-1ΣΘ) the first Management Board of the Legal Entity of Private Law "*Administration Committee of the Mosque of Athens*" was appointed.

The Joint Ministerial Decision by the Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs and the Minister of Finance on "*Rules of Procedure of the Management Board of the Legal Entity of Private Law "Administration Committee of the Mosque of Athens"*" **151436/01/13-9-2018** was issued providing for, inter alia, the following:

- the possibility to set up, following a decision by the Management Board, non-remunerable religious committees of consultative nature composed of members or non- members of the Board for the better functioning of the Mosque. In particular, members of these committees may be public servants, Muslims legally residing in Attica, faculty members of Universities or graduates of the Undergraduate Programme of Islamic Studies of the Faculty of Theology of the School of Theology of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and religious ministers of Islamic worship places in Attica authorized by the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs (Article 17),
- the possibility to set up, following a decision by the Management Board, groups of volunteers composed of Muslims legally residing in Attica and members of the Muslim communities of Attica who wish to offer their services on a temporary basis and free

³² See the Press Releases of [17-5-2018](#) and [8-5-2019](#) of the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs on the subject: "*Muslims' religious practice at the end of Ramadan (Eid-al-Fitr)*" and the [16-8-2018](#) and [25-7-2019](#) Press Releases on: "*Performing prayer on Eid al Adha*" (Feast of the Sacrifice of Abraham).

of charge and to support the proper functioning of the Mosque of Athens especially during the periods of major Islamic holidays and for the increased needs of the adherents (Article 18),

- the daily functioning of the Mosque of Athens. Opening hours of the Mosque are: from thirty minutes before the time of the first prayer performed by the Imam to thirty minutes after the time of the last prayer performed by the Imam. During the holy Islamic month of Ramadan and the Feast of the Sacrifice of Abraham (Eid Al Adha), the Mosque of Athens shall operate twenty-four hours a day. All adherents may come freely at the Mosque during the opening hours and at the yearly prayer times in order to perform their religious practices (Article 19) and
- the procedure and conditions for making the Mosque available to individual Muslim communities of Attica for a limited period of time (Article 20).

On May 20, 2019 [the Presidential Decree 42/2019 \(A' 74\)](#) "Organization of the Legal Entity of Private Law "Administration Committee of the Mosque of Athens" was published. The Organization of the Legal Entity defines in particular, even in derogation of the provisions in force for the public sector, its structure and operation, the number, positions, categories, qualifications, status and duties of the staff employed, as well as their disciplinary law, the topics of studies, projects, leasing or renting of real estate and provision of services related to the operation and maintenance of the Mosque and the procurement of supplies, its financial management and its inclusion in the appropriate accounting management system and any other detail necessary for its regular operation and the achievement of its purpose.

Law **4589/19** (A' 13) Article 72 (1) regulates in detail matters regarding revenue from donations to the Legal Entity of Private Law and **Law 4610/19 (A' 70)** Article 217 regulates the matter of the Islamic Religious Minister (Imam)'s remuneration. By Ministerial Decision **149184/Θ1/3-11-2020**, a Religious Minister (Imam) was appointed at the Mosque of Athens.

Following the expiration of term of the Management Board of the Legal Entity of Private Law "Administration Committee of the Mosque of Athens", the new composition of the Management Board was appointed by Ministerial Decision 109537/Θ1/25-8-2020 (ΥΟΔΔ 697-Online Publication Number: 6ΨΞ446ΜΤΛΗ-BNE).

The Mosque of Athens began operating on Monday November 2, 2020, according to the relevant announcement made by the President of the Management Board of the Legal Entity of Private Law concerned:

"The Mosque began to operate today, November 2, 2020, in accordance with the legislation applicable regarding the places of worship, as referred to in Joint Ministerial Decision Δ1α/Γ.Π.οικ./67924 on social distancing and other measures taken in Greece to limit the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. (Official Gazette B' 4709/23-10-2020).

The Management Board of the Mosque of Athens will communicate the date of the inaugural ceremony when this will be possible depending on the developments in the fight against the pandemic".

The State of its own volition has undertaken the salary of the Imam of the Mosque of Athens.

With par. 1 of Article 350 of **Law 4957/2022** (A' 141), the mission of the Legal Entity of Private Law was reformulated, its position as a religious center of the Muslims of Attica was clarified and the relevant legislative framework was amended, in order to ensure increased credibility and transparency of the institutions, improved risk management and consequent improvement of the services provided.

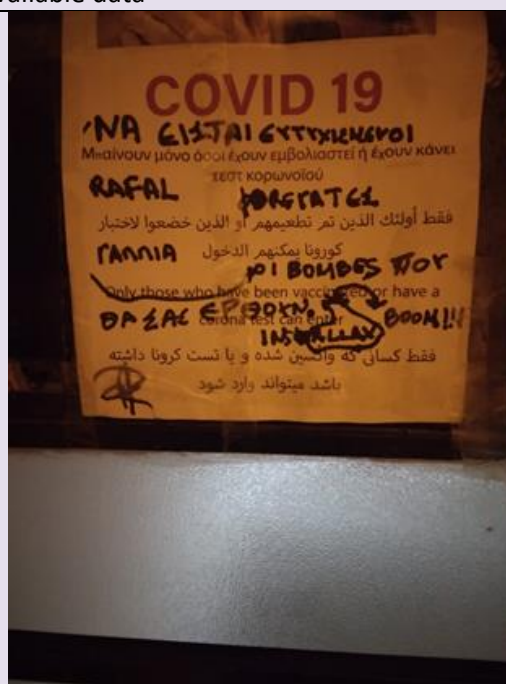
Finally, with par. 4 of Article 6 of **Law 3512/2006** (A' 264) as added by par. 7 of Article 350 of **Law 4957/2022** (A' 141), the “*Religious Committee of the Mosque of Athens*” was established. Its purpose is to assist in an advisory capacity the Management Board of the L.E.P.L. for the fulfilment of its objectives as defined in the founding law. The five full and deputy members were appointed for a one-year term of office by the Management Board's decision 5/30.1.2023 (Y.O.Δ.Δ. 131/17.2.2023).

4. Incidents

No	1.
Location	An informal house of prayer, Patisia, Attica
Date	23 January 2022
Brief description	Activation of an improvised explosive device resulting in a large explosion
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	2.
Location	Worship House “ <i>Sincerity Mosque</i> ” (Masjid Alichlas), Athens
Date	30 January 2022
Brief description	Painting of slogans with black marker at the entrance
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Unavailable data

Photos: Masjid Alichlas



No	3.
Location	Faik Pasha Mosque (Imaret), archaeological site, Arta
Date	Between 17 and 22 May 2022
Brief description	A case of clandestine excavation. Entry into the Mosque, excavation in 2 places in front of the holy monument (Mihrab) inside the archaeological site

	and repositioning of the soil, in order to cover the traces of the perpetrators
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Preliminary investigation






No	4.
Location	An informal place of prayer, Peristeri, Attica
Date	13 August 2022
Brief description	Damage to a building housing a shiite association
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	5.
Location	An informal place of prayer, Patisia
Date	4 September 2022
Brief description	Damage with spray paint
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	Dossier

No	6.
Location	Mosque "Eski Tzami", Komotini
Date	25 October 2022
Brief description	Breaking and burning of the mosque's notice board
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	No complaint was filed
(Photos: Managing Committee of the Islamic Property in the City of Komotini)	



No	7.
Location	Cemetery "Yenidze", Komotini

Date	27 November 2022
Brief description	Damage to 15 tombstones by breaking and throwing them on the ground
Perpetrator/s	2 nationals (women)
Police/procedural actions	Dossier. One of the two perpetrators was identified
(Photos: Managing Committee of the Islamic Property in the City of Komotini)	
	
	

No	8.
Location	Cemetery "Kahvetzi", Komotini
Date	27 November 2022
Brief description	Breaking and throwing tombstones on the ground
Perpetrator/s	Unidentified
Police/procedural actions	No complaint was filed

(Photos: Managing Committee of the Islamic Property in the City of Komotini)



5. Addendum

a. Statistical presentation

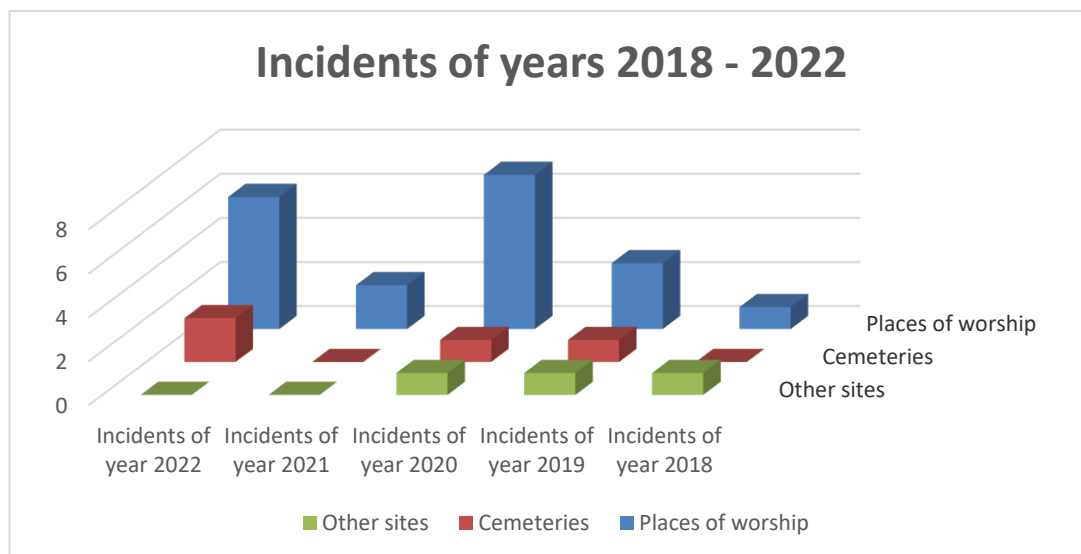


Figure 6: Comparative of incidents of years 2018-2022, by site

b. Circular $\Phi.8.2/23.7/8373/17-9-2021$ on non-attendance days for Minority Schools on Islamic holidays was issued by the Office for Minority Education of the Regional Directorate of Primary and Secondary Education of Eastern Macedonia - Thrace setting out six (6) days of Islamic holidays for Minority Schools in addition to the rest of national school holidays.

c. Answer of the Minister of Culture Ms. Lina Mendoni to the topical question of the MP Ms. Fotini Pipili, on the subject: "Conservation projects of the Ottoman baths in the Upper City of Kyparissia" (4H' [98th] session of the Parliament, Monday, 28 March 2022).

CHAIRMAN (Dimitrios Vitsas): [...]

We shall begin the debate on topical questions with the first topical question number 535/15-3-2022 by Mrs Fotini Pipili, Member of Parliament for A' Athens of the party New Democracy, to the Minister of Culture and Sports, on the subject: "Conservation projects of the Ottoman baths in the Upper Town of Kyparissia".

The Minister of Culture and Sports, Mrs Styliani Mendoni, shall reply.

Mrs Pipili, you have the floor for two minutes.

FOTEINI PIPILI: Madam Minister, I have been an investigative journalist, but also an author of books on the culture of aquatic wealth in Greece and beyond. So I have managed to gather an extremely important photographic, video and textual material, mainly from the Ottoman monuments in Greece, of which there are hundreds.

I make no secret of my satisfaction, for the twenty to twenty-five years since I began my research, to see the fervour and the scholarship with which the Hellenic Ministry of Culture over the years not only preserved them, not only highlighted them, but also paid attention to the use of the Ottoman monuments. These are consistent with religiosity in the past, but also with global civilization now.

So I was once again badly surprised that those wonderful little Ottoman baths, which are in the Upper Town of Kyparissia, but which are right next to the very well-preserved medieval open-air museum site, along with beautiful Ottoman fountains, etc., were forgotten.

So I thought at first to remind the Ministry to do something, because it is a unique composition, overlooking the endless blue of the Ionian Sea and it will complement the very nice, wonderful landscape.

In my second speech I will tell you why I am also asking you to give me official data on the interventions over time by the Greek state, through the Hellenic Ministry of Culture, precisely for the preservation and promotion of Ottoman monuments.

CHAIRMAN (Dimitrios Vitsas): Madam Minister, you have the floor.

STYLIANI MENDONI (Minister of Culture and Sports): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Madam MP, thank you for the question, because you are giving me the opportunity to elaborate on the initiatives and projects that the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports is carrying out for the protection, conservation, restoration and promotion of monuments dating back to the Ottoman period in Greece, all over Greece.

I should note that the law for the protection of antiquities and cultural heritage, namely Law 3028/2002 and in its codified form today, in Law 4858/2021, the monuments of all periods belonging to the Greek territory are treated in exactly the same way.

The Hellenic Ministry of Culture, as you have said, has over time been concerned with the promotion and protection of the Ottoman monuments in our country and is taking all necessary steps to make them accessible to the public. The care consists in the inclusion of projects on important Ottoman monuments in programs funded either from national resources, but mainly in co-financed programs, starting from the Third Community Framework, the two NSRFs, the Recovery Fund today, in order to finance the necessary studies and works for the maintenance, restoration and promotion of these monuments, following the relevant approvals of the competent bodies of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture. It is a difficult and often complex task, which requires the cooperation of all the services. But it is worth the effort.

I will now come to the specific question you raise about the Ottoman bath of Kyparissia.

The monument was discovered by the Ephorate of Antiquities of Messinia during the rescue excavation in the context of construction works for the demolition of an existing old house and the construction of a small hotel unit. It is a building of the late 16th century in which the warm room, a rectangular arched tank, a smaller stone-built tank and few traces of the foundations of other apartments of the bath are preserved.

Since the Ottoman bath was uncovered on private land, the Ephorate of Antiquities should either proceed to its expropriation or to its inclusion in the hotel unit under construction as a monument and exhibition space open to visitors.

According to the recommendations of the competent services of the Ministry and the opinion of the Central Archaeological Council, it was decided to erect the new building and to restore the monument by converting it into a cultural events site. The owner was obliged to prepare the study and submit it to the services of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture.

In the meantime, the ownership underwent a change. The first owner made a first study for his hotel without dealing with the bath, but in the meantime he sold the land. The new owners submitted a request right away for immediate measures for protection, cleaning of the monument and partial levelling work of the land, in order to proceed with the works of a detailed mapping of the monument, so that they could then prepare the necessary study together with the new building design.

Just a few months ago - in 2021 - the owners also requested permission to take samples of the mortar of the bath, which of course was given to them precisely so that they could carry out the study.

We are in the phase where the new owners are expected to submit the study.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Dimitrios Vitsas): Thank you, Madam Minister.

Here you are, Mrs Pipili, you have the floor.

FOTINI PIPILI: Thank you.

The second reason I mentioned the conservation of the Ottoman baths in Kyparissia and my reference in particular to the great work of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture over time to save dozens of monuments has to do with highlighting a reality that Greeks are not aware of, except for a few.

It is precisely this wealth and the protection that the Greek state has shown for the Ottoman monuments that is a very great diplomatic weapon in the face of constant pressure from neighbouring Turkey, which constantly accuses Greece of being indifferent to Islamic monuments and of demolishing them. When we say that Turkey is denouncing Greece, it is not denouncing Greece in the local press. The bad thing is that it is making substantial complaints to UNESCO, the Council of Europe and other global fora.

I am the Vice-Chairman of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly for the Committee on Culture. Mrs Mendoni, I will not hide from you - you know this - how proud I felt when the action of the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs, your action, but above all my presentation of the very large photographic archive that I have of the monuments that the Hellenic Ministry of Culture has highlighted, led after two meetings of the Committee on Culture to a unanimous condemnation of the conversion by the Erdogan regime of Aghia Sophia in Constantinople. And, most importantly, five months ago an insolent - I call him - Turkish national living in Smyrna had the audacity to send a letter to the Committee on Culture of the Council of Europe, saying that he is the President of the Association of the Turkish population of the Dodecanese in Rhodes and Kos.

I had to reply on behalf of Greece - again, in cooperation with the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs - but again, you can see that I showed this wealth of Islamic monuments, it was enormous. I sent them the ones from Rhodes and said to them: "Just from Rhodes, ladies and gentlemen, out of the 47 countries of the Council of Europe participating in the Commission".

And in fact, the one who dared to denounce us for not preserving the Ottoman monuments was humiliated. That is why I have asked for the list so that I can reopen the debate to the Committee on Culture in Strasbourg in April.

CHAIRMAN (Dimitrios Vitsas): Mrs Mendoni has the floor.

STYLIANI MENDONI (Minister of Culture and Sports): Thank you very much, Mr Chairman.

Mrs Pipili, you are absolutely right, we are aware of all the things you said about the complaints from the neighbouring country, but in the end they are also aware of how much work Greece is doing on the Ottoman monuments, regardless of whether they admit it or not.

The Hellenic Ministry of Culture has invested more than 50 million euros in the restoration and enhancement of monuments from the Ottoman period since 2000, that is, in the twenty-two years or so since then. And we are talking about monuments of all kinds: Mosques, Tekkes,

Türbes, Mausoleums, without making a distinction, any monument that is in danger and any that we can restore.

As I told you before, the Greek legal framework absolutely respects and treats in the same way all monuments that are on Greek territory, regardless of the period.

On the other hand, our country, as you are well aware, has signed all the international conventions and international treaties in this regard and therefore, the restoration of the monuments of all periods is an obligation which has been incorporated into the Greek legal order.

Also, as you said in your opening speech, we pay particular attention to the use that will be attributed, so that it does not offend and does not affect the original character of the monuments. Briefly, I will tell you, in response to the second part of your question, that we currently have fourteen projects underway on Ottoman monuments, included in the current NSRF for the period 2014-2021, with a total budget of about 8.5 million euros.

And we start from the Bayezid Mosque in Didymoteicho, after the devastating fire in 2017, the Arap Mosque in Drama, the Imaret in Komotini, the Fortress of Kale in Ierapetra, Crete, the Bezesteni in Larissa, the Vizir Mosque in Nafpaktos, the restoration work on the Ottoman castles of Igoumenitsa, Vonitsa, Nafpaktos, Mytilene in the upper castle which is the Ottoman part and the restoration of the Ottoman house in the lower castle, the Minaret in the Metropolis of Veroia, the Tekke of Hassan Baba in Tempi, the restoration of the Ottoman bath in the castle of Ioannina.

In addition, we have already included in the Recovery Fund five projects with a budget of 5,250,000 euros in the network of castles from Byzantium to Ottoman rule, including the castle of Kiafa, Ioannina, Parga: the restoration of the Bey Hammam, the Paradise Baths in Thessaloniki, the restoration of the Koursum Mosque in Kastoria, the Orta Mosque in Veria, the Velide Mosque in the city of Mytilene. At the same time, we are also maturing a series of studies in order to use the next tool, such as the Castle of Aslan and the İç Kale in the Castle of Ioannina.

The total number of the monuments of the Ottoman rule that have received the interventions of the competent services of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture, often in cooperation with some municipalities, exceeds one hundred and seventy and, as I said, has a budget of more than 50 million.

The updated list of monuments, according to the competent Directorate of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Antiquities, I am depositing it in the Minutes of the Parliament, as time does not allow me to list them.

(At this point, the Minister of Culture and Sports, Mrs Styliani Mendoni, deposited for the record the above-mentioned document, which is in the archives of the Secretariat Department of the Directorate of Shorthand and Minutes of the Parliament)

I shall close by saying that this large volume on Ottoman monuments which the Hellenic Ministry of Culture published in 2008 is being revised with a number of new entries, it will

obviously be translated into English and I hope that in 2022 the revised version will be published.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Dimitrios Vitsas): Thank you.

d. Announcement by the Cultural Association of Greece - Pakistan “PAK HELLENIC CULTURAL & WELFARE SOCIETY” for the EID AL ADHA celebration (11-7-2022):

“Today is a great celebration for Muslims worldwide. It is the celebration of Eid, which signifies sacrifice, peace, brotherhood, and love. We celebrated today all over Greece with the support and help, as always, of the Greek state, the Hellenic police, and all the officers who really show us their love and respect. They always help us whenever we ask for their cooperation and support in whatever issue arises. I wish everyone good health, good cooperation, and that we respect the morals, customs, and laws of the Greek state.

Thank you very much. Many happy returns.

The President
Cultural Association of Greece - Pakistan
Sayyed Mohammad Jamil”

ΠΑΚ ΗΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΚΑΛΩΣΗΝ ΕΤΕΡΟΤΗΤΑΤΟΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΑΣ - ΠΑΚΙΣΤΑΝ
PAK HELLENIC CULTURAL & WELFARE SOCIETY
ΠΑΚΙΣΤΑΝΟ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΤΙΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ (Π.Ε.Π.Ε.)

ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΗ
EID MUBARAK / ΕΪΝΤ ΜΟΥΜΠΑΡΑΚ

Σήμερα είναι μεγάλη γιορτή των μουσουλμάνων παγκοσμίως. Είναι η γιορτή του EID και σημαίνει θυσία, ειρήνη, αδελφότητα, αγάπη.

Γιορτάσαμε σήμερα σε όλη την Ελλάδα με τη στήριξη και τη βοήθεια όπως πάντα της Ελληνικής Πολιτείας, της Ελληνικής Αστυνομίας και όλους τους αξιωματικούς, οι οποίοι πράγματι μας δείχνουν την αγάπη τους και τον σεβασμό τους και πάντα μας βοηθάνε όποτε έχουμε ζητήσει τη συνεργασία τους και τη στήριξη τους σε ό,τι θέμα προκύψει.

Εύχομαι όλοι να έχουμε υγεία και να έχουμε καλή συνεργασία και εμείς να σεβόμαστε τα ήθη και τα έθιμα των Ελλήνων και τους νόμους του Ελληνικού Κράτους.

Ευχαριστώ πολύ. Χρόνια Πολλά

Πρόεδρος
Πολιτιστικός Σύνδεσμος Ελλάδας – Πακιστάν
Σαγιέντ Μοχαμμέντ Τζαμίλ



ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΤΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΑΣ – ΠΑΚΙΣΤΑΝ
PAK HELLENIC CULTURAL & WELFARE SOCIETY
ΠΑΚΙΣΤΑΝΟ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΤΙΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ (Π.Ε.Π.Ε)



Eid ul Azha prayers in the state owned “Mosque of Athens”

Thousand of Muslim worshippers attend the prayers in the mosque of Athens to celebrate the feast of sacrifice.



(Right to Left) **Ashir Haider** Member Administrative Board (I.T.A.) of the Mosque of Athens |
Ashud Ahmed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Bangladesh |
Abdul Kurnia Djundjuna Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Indonesia |
Syed Mohammad Jamil President Pak Hellenic Cultural & Welfare Society Greece |
Md. Khaled Counsellor & Head of Chancery Embassy of the Republic Bangladesh Athens.

e. Approval of the economic and technical study of the project: “RESTORATION OF THE BAYEZID MOSQUE”

“We decide

the approval of the financial and technical study for the project ‘Restoration of the Bayezid Mosque,’ with a study budget of €7,120,000.00 excluding VAT and a total expenditure of €8,828,800.00 including 24% VAT.

*The Minister of Culture and Sports
Lina Mendoni”*



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΜΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΑΘΛΗΤΙΣΜΟΥ
ΓΕΝΙΚΗ ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΣΗ ΑΝΑΣΤΗΛΩΣΗΣ,
ΜΟΥΣΕΙΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΤΕΧΝΙΚΩΝ ΕΡΓΩΝ
Δ/ΝΣΗ ΑΝΑΣΤΗΛΩΣΗΣ ΒΥΖ/ΝΩΝ
ΚΑΙ ΜΕΤΑΒΥΖ/ΝΩΝ ΜΝΗΜΕΙΩΝ

ΑΝΑΡΤΗΤΕΑ ΣΤΟ ΔΙΑΔΙΚΤΥΟ

Ταχ. Δ/νση : Τζιραίων 8-10
Ταχ. Κώδικας : 117.42 - Αθήνα
Πληροφορίες : Αικατερίνη Κοντού
Τηλέφωνο : 210.32.51.688 - 90
Fax : 210.32.50.448

ΚΟΙΝ: 1) Γραφείο Υπουργού
Πολιτισμού και Αθλητισμού
2) Γραφείο Γενικού Γραμματέα
Πολιτισμού
3) ΓΔΑΜΤΕ
4) ΕΦΑ Εβρου
5) ΕΔΕΠΟΛ
6) Ευγένιο Γιαλιά
Αρχιτέκτων Μηχανικός
email: egjalias@gmail.com

ΘΕΜΑ: Έγκριση οικονομοτεχνικής μελέτης
του έργου: «ΑΠΟΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΤΕΜΕΝΟΥΣ
ΒΑΓΙΑΖΗΤ»

Α Π Ο Φ Α Σ Η

Έχοντας υπόψη :

1. Τις διατάξεις:
 - α. του Ν. 4858/2021 «Κύρωση Κώδικα νομοθεσίας...πολιτιστικής κληρονομιάς» (ΦΕΚ 220/Α/19-11-2021).
 - β. του Π.Δ. 4/2018 «Οργανισμός Υπουργείου Πολιτισμού και Αθλητισμού» (ΦΕΚ 7/Α/22-1-2018), όπως τροποποιήθηκε και ισχύει με το Π.Δ. 32/2022 (ΦΕΚ 91/Α/09-05-2022).
 - γ. του Π.Δ. 70/22-9-2015 «Ανασύσταση των Υπουργείων Πολιτισμού και Αθλητισμού, Μεταφορών.....Ανάπτυξης και Τουρισμού» (ΦΕΚ 114/Α/22-9-2015).
 - δ. το Π.Δ. 83/2019 (ΦΕΚ 121/Α/9-7-2019) «Διορισμός Αντιπροέδρου της Κυβέρνησης, Υπουργών, Αναπληρωτών Υπουργών και Υφυπουργών».
 - ε. το άρθρο 10 «Σύσταση και κατάργηση Γενικών και Ειδικών Γραμματειών/Ενιαίων Διοικητικών Τομέων στο Υπουργείο Πολιτισμού και Αθλητισμού» του Π.Δ. 84/2019 (ΦΕΚ 123/Α/17-7-2019) «Σύσταση και κατάργηση Γενικών Γραμματειών και Ειδικών Γραμματειών/Ενιαίων Διοικητικών Τομέων Υπουργείων»,
 - στ. της υπ' αριθμ. ΥΠΠΟΑ/ΥΠΟΥΡΓΟΣ/397848/12/22-07-2019 (ΦΕΚ 485/Υ.Ο.Δ.Δ./26-07-2019) Κοινής Απόφασης του Πρωθυπουργού και της Υπουργού Πολιτισμού και Αθλητισμού «Διορισμός Μετακλητού Γενικού Γραμματέα Πολιτισμού στο Υπουργείο Πολιτισμού και Αθλητισμού»,
 - ζ. Τον Ν. 4622/2019 «Επιτελικό Κράτος: οργάνωση, λειτουργία και διαφάνεια της Κυβέρνησης, των Κυβερνητικών οργάνων και της κεντρικής δημόσιας διοίκησης».
 - η. του Π.Δ. 263/1987 «Όργανα που αποφασίζουν ή γνωμοδοτούν και ειδικές ρυθμίσεις σε θέματα έργων που εκτελούνται από το Υπουργείο Πολιτισμού» (ΦΕΚ 127/Α/9-7-1987).
 - θ. του Ν. 2947/2001 «Θέματα Ολυμπιακής Φιλοξενίας, Έργων Ολυμπιακής Υποδομής και άλλες διατάξεις» και ειδικότερα του άρθρου 19.
 - ι. του Ν.3207/2003 «Ρύθμιση θεμάτων Ολυμπιακής Προετοιμασίας κ.ά. διατάξεις» και ειδικότερα του

- άρθρου 10 παρ. 30.
- ια. του Ν. 4070/2012 «Ρυθμίσεις Ηλεκτρονικών Επικοινωνιών, Μεταφορών, Δημοσίων Έργων και άλλες διατάξεις» (ΦΕΚ 82/Α/10-04-2012).
- ιβ. του Ν. 4412/2016 «Δημόσιες Συμβάσεις Έργων, Προμηθειών και Υπηρεσιών (προσαρμογή στις Οδηγίες 2014/24/ΕΕ και 2014/25/ΕΕ)» (ΦΕΚ Α 147/8-8-2016), όπως τροποποιήθηκε και ισχύει.
- ιγ. της Υ.Α. ΔΝΣγ/οικ.35577/ΦΝ 466/4-5-2017 «Κανονισμός Περιγραφικών Τιμολογίου Εργασιών για δημόσιες συμβάσεις έργων» (ΦΕΚ Β 1746/19-5-2017).
- ιδ. του Ν. 4782/2021 «Εκσυγχρονισμός, απλοποίηση και αναμόρφωση του ρυθμιστικού πλαισίου των δημοσίων συμβάσεων, ειδικότερες ρυθμίσεις προμηθειών στους τομείς της άμυνας και της ασφάλειας και άλλες διατάξεις για την ανάπτυξη, τις υποδομές και την υγεία» (ΦΕΚ 36/α/9-3-2021) και ειδικότερα του άρθρου 142.
2. Την υπ' αριθ. ορωτ. ΥΠΠΟΑ/364003/27-7-2022 Απόφαση έγκρισης των αποτελεσμάτων της Α' και Β' φάσης του Ερευνητικού Προγράμματος: «ΔΙΕΡΕΥΝΗΣΗ ΜΕΘΟΔΩΝ ΑΝΑΛΥΣΗΣ, ΚΑΤΑΓΡΑΦΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΤΕΚΜΗΡΙΩΣΗΣ ΤΗΣ ΑΡΧΙΤΕΚΤΟΝΙΚΗΣ, ΣΤΑΤΙΚΗΣ, ΚΑΤΑΣΚΕΥΑΣΤΙΚΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΔΥΝΑΜΙΚΗΣ ΣΥΜΠΕΡΙΦΟΡΑΣ ΛΙΘΙΝΩΝ ΚΑΤΑΣΚΕΥΩΝ ΜΕ ΞΥΛΙΝΟ ΦΟΡΕΑ ΣΤΕΓΑΣΗΣ, ΔΙΑΤΥΠΩΣΗ ΠΡΟΤΑΣΕΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΛΥΣΕΩΝ ΑΝΑΚΑΤΑΣΚΕΥΗΣ ΤΗΣ ΞΥΛΙΝΗΣ ΣΤΕΓΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΑΠΟΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗΣ ΤΟΥ ΛΙΘΟΚΤΙΣΤΟΥ ΚΕΛΥΦΟΥΣ ΤΟΥΣ, ΜΕ ΕΦΑΡΜΟΓΗ ΣΤΟ ΤΕΜΕΝΟΣ ΒΑΓΙΑΖΗΤ ΔΙΔΥΜΟΤΕΙΧΟΥ», για την αποκατάστασή του.
3. Την υπ' αριθ. πρωτ. 188464 ΕΞ 2022 /22-12-2022 Απόφαση ένταξης του έργου με τίτλο «SUB. 1.30 Αποκατάσταση Τεμένους Βαγιαζήτ» (κωδικός ΟΠΣ ΤΑ 5190265) στο Ταμείο Ανάκαμψης και Ανθεκτικότητας.
4. Την υπ' αριθ. πρωτ. ΥΠΠΟΑ/142465/24-03-2023 Απόφαση έγκρισης της Ηλεκτρομηχανολογικής Μελέτης για το Τέμενος Βαγιαζήτ στο Διδυμότειχο Έβρου, στο πλαίσιο του έργου αποκατάστασής του.
5. Την Οικονομοτεχνική μελέτη του έργου «Αποκατάσταση Τεμένους Βαγιαζήτ» όπως συντάχθηκε από τον κ. Ευγένιο Γιαλιά, Αρχιτέκτονα Μηχανικό, προϋπολογισμού μελέτης επτά εκατομμυρίων εκατόν είκοσι χιλιάδων ευρώ και τριών λεπτών (7.120.000,00 €) χωρίς Φ.Π.Α. και συνολικής δαπάνης οκτώ εκατομμυρίων οκτακοσίων είκοσι οκτώ χιλιάδων οκτακοσίων ευρώ (8.828.800,00 €) με Φ.Π.Α. (24%).

Αποφασίζουμε

Την έγκριση της Οικονομοτεχνικής Μελέτης του έργου «Αποκατάσταση Τεμένους Βαγιαζήτ», προϋπολογισμού μελέτης επτά εκατομμυρίων εκατόν είκοσι χιλιάδων ευρώ και τριών λεπτών (7.120.000,00 €) χωρίς Φ.Π.Α. και συνολικής δαπάνης οκτώ εκατομμυρίων οκτακοσίων είκοσι οκτώ χιλιάδων οκτακοσίων ευρώ (8.828.800,00 €) με Φ.Π.Α. (24%).

ΕΣΩΤ. ΔΙΑΝΟΜΗ :

1. Τμήμα ΜΒΜΜ, ΔΑΒΜΜ
2. Τμήμα Έργων, ΔΑΒΜΜ
3. Τμήμα ΥΠ.Α., ΔΑΒΜΜ
4. Αικατερίνη Κοντού, ΔΑΒΜΜ

Η ΥΠΟΥΡΓΟΣ
ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΜΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΑΘΛΗΤΙΣΜΟΥ

ΛΙΝΑ ΜΕΝΔΩΝΗ

f. Announcement by the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs regarding the [performance of religious duties by Muslims during Ramadan and the celebration of the end of the fast of Ramadan \(Eid al Fitr\) \(1-4-2022\)](#)

“The General Secretariat for Religious Affairs wishes Muslims that the month of Ramadan be a month of love, charity and good deeds.

Public health protection measures against the coronavirus for all places of worship, including Mosques, have been set out in the Joint Ministerial Decision (17567/24-3-2022, B’ 1454). The measures will be updated by issuing a relevant Joint Ministerial Decision, depending on the recommendations of the National Committee for the Protection of Public Health against the coronavirus COVID-19.

Any interested organizations or associations in areas of the country where there are no designated places of prayer for Muslims are invited to contact the local municipalities in order to be allocated enclosed areas for prayer in accordance with the protection measures against coronavirus in force at the time.

In order to better inform services, institutions and individuals who may be involved in providing facilities to our Muslim fellow citizens during Ramadan, it is recalled that during the fast (approximately from sunrise to sunset) it is not allowed to eat or drink any food or liquid (there are exceptions provided in detail) while the prayer times are not common for the whole territory but are differentiated. Indicatively, the prayer times in six (6) regions of the country, as brought to the attention of the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs by the Mosque of Athens, the Muftis of Thrace and the Muslim religious ministers of the authorized places of worship, are mentioned.

Attached are the prayer times during the month of Ramadan:

[Ramadan Athens Hours](#)

[Ramadan Athens Hours Shiites](#)

[Ramadan Didymoteicho Hours](#)

[Ramadan Komotini Hours](#)

[Ramadan Xanthi Hours](#)

[Ramadan Kos Hours](#)

[Ramadan Rhodes Hours](#)





Photographs from the celebration of the Fast of Ramadan (Eid al Fitr) (Source: Mosque of Athens)

g. Indicative list of Islamic monuments in Greece³³

The Hellenic Ministry of Culture is implementing a multidimensional project for the restoration and promotion of Muslim monuments with national and community resources. Many of these monuments are now open to the public, hosting remarkable exhibitions. At present, remarkable projects are underway at important Muslim monuments, funded by national resources or co-funded programmes (NSRF, Recovery and Resilience Fund) and in several cases in cooperation with local authorities.

The following updated (until August 2023) list includes the most important Muslim monuments of the Greek territory, which are either currently open to the public or in which work is being carried out or planned in order to make them open to the public as soon as possible and obviously does not constitute an exhaustive list of Muslim monuments in Greece.

Stereia Ellada

Athens, Fethiye Mosque (Mosque of the Wheat Bazar)

Athens, Mosque of the Lower Fountain (Tzisdarakis)

³³Source: Department of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Antiquities of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture

Athens, Medresse (Islamic Religious School, Aioulou and Pelopida st.)

Athens, Küçük Mosque, Mousaiou square, Plaka

Livadia, Gazi Omer Bey Mosque

Chalkis Emir Zade Mosque and fountain

Palaeochora Karystos, Minaret in the Church of the Transfiguration of Our Saviour

Nafpaktos, Fethiye Mosque

Nafpaktos, Vezir Mosque and ottoman fountains

Nafpaktos, Baths at the Vezir Mosque area (18th century)

Peloponnese

Nafplio, Trianon or Old Mosque of the Constitution square

Nafplio, “Vouleftiko” Mosque

Nafplio, Medresse (Islamic Religious School)

Nafplio, Catholic church (“Fragoklisia”), Mosque

Argos, Church of Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni, Mosque

Corinth, Akrokorinthos, Mosque

Corinth, Ancient Corinth, Mausoleum (known as “Tekke”)

Monemvassia, Castle of Monemvassia, Mosque

Pylos, Niokastro, Mosque (or Church of the Transfiguration of our Savior)

Kyparissia, Mosque

Epirus

Ioannina, Castle, Aslan Pasha Mosque

Ioannina, Castle, İç Kale, Fethiye Mosque

Ioannina, Medresse (Islamic Religious School) Aslan Pasha, Castle

Ioannina, Cookhouse Aslan Pasha, Castle

Ioannina, Castle, Library of the Castle

Ioannina, Castle, North East Acropolis, Bath

Ioannina, Castle, access to the North East Acropolis (master plan completed, 2022)

Ioannina, Kalousiani, Cesme Mosque

Ioannina, Veli Pasha complex [Mosque, Medresse (Islamic Religious School), cookhouse]

Arta, Imaret Mosque (Faik Pasha)

Arta, Faik Pasha Türbe

Arta, Feyzullah Mosque

Konitsa, Kato Konitsa, three Türbes

Thesprotia, Doliani, an arched building, probably a mosque, on the southern tower of the ancient fortification

Thessaly

Larissa, 31 August st., Yeni Mosque

Larissa, Bajrakli Mosque

Elassona, Varosi, Mosque

Tempi, Hasan Baba Tekke

Asprogeia, Farsala, Durpali Sultan Tekke, Dervish Monastery

Trikala, Aghios Konstantinos, Osman Shah (Koursoum) Mosque

Trikala, General Sarafis st., Medresse (Islamic Religious School)

Macedonia

Thessaloniki, Hamza Bey Mosque

Thessaloniki, Rotonda, Minaret

Thessaloniki, Yeni Mosque (Old Archaeological museum)

Thessaloniki, Aladja Imaret Mosque

Thessaloniki, Terpsithea square, Mausoleum Musa Baba

Kavala, Ibrahim Pasha Mosque

Kavala, Halil Bey Mosque and Medresse (Islamic Religious School)

Kavala, Imaret

Serres, Ahmet Bey Mosque (Aghia Sophia)

Serres, Mustafa Bey Mosque

Serres, Zincirli Mosque

Drama, Dikastirion square Mosque (Arap Mosque)

Drama, Mosque Agamemnonos and Armen st. (Santirvan Mosque)

Kato Nevrokopi, Exohi, Mosque

Drama, Mosque of Xiropotamos, Church of Aghia Triada (former Mosque)

Drama, former Mosque, Church of Aghios Nikolaos

Giannitsa, Mausoleum Gazi Evrenos

Giannitsa, "Mescit" or Türbe Ahmet Bey

Giannitsa, Ahmet Bey Mosque or Sheikh Ilahi Mosque

Giannitsa, Iskender Bey Mosque

Veria, Orta Mosque

Veria, Mahmud Çelebi Mosque

Veria, Musa Çelebi Medresse (Islamic Religious School) Mosque

Veria, Minaret, Old Metropolis- Eski Metropol, Hünkar Mosque

Veria, Northwestern addition and Minaret of the Mosque of the Old Metropolis

Edessa, Yeni Mosque

Edessa, Hünkar Mosque

Kastoria, Medresse (Islamic Religious School) and Library Ahmet Pasha

Kastoria, Kursum Mosque

Katerini, Abdullah Pasha Tekke

Kilkis, Messia, Aghioi Konstantinos and Eleni Church (an ottoman mausoleum inside)

Stageira, Archaeological site of the medieval town of Sidirokafsia, Complex of the small bath and Mosque

Thrace

Xanthi, Genisea, Mustafa Pasha Mosque

Xanthi, Mosque in Myki

Xanthi, Genisea, Kasaba Mosque

Xanthi, Selino, Kütüklü Baba Tekke

Komotini, historical center, Yeni Mosque

Komotini, Imaret

Komotini, Eski Mosque

Komotini, Tekke Pos-Pos

Komotini, Serdar and Tabakhane Mosques

Komotini, Kayali Mosque and Medresse (Islamic Religious School)

Komotini, Selvili Mosque

Didymoteicho, Mehmet Çelebi Mosque

Didymoteicho, Oruç Pasha Mausoleum

Evros, Soufli, Rousa, Tekke

North-East Aegean

Lesvos, Mytilene, Valide Mosque

Lesvos, Mytilene, Yeni Mosque

Lesvos, Mytilene, Veli Pasha Medresse (Islamic Religious School)

Lesvos, Mytilene, Kastro, Tekke

Chios, Metzite Mosque

Chios, Kara Ali Cemetery

Chios, Osmaniye Mosque

Chios, Castle, Bajrakli Mosque or Hamidiye Mosque

Dodecanese

Rhodes, Medieval Town, Suleiman Mosque

Rhodes, Medieval Town, Ibrahim Pasha Mosque

Rhodes, Medieval Town, Reçep Pasha Mosque

Rhodes, Medieval Town, Mustafa Mosque

Rhodes, Medieval Town, Hamza Bey Mosque

Rhodes, Medieval Town, Mehmet Agha Mosque

Rhodes, Medieval Town, Sindrivan Mosque

Rhodes, Medieval Town, Ali Hilmi Pasha Mosque

Rhodes, Medieval Town, Imaret

Rhodes, Murat Reis complex, cemetery, Mosque, Tekke

Kos, Gazi Hassan Pasha Mosque

Kos, Defterdar Mosque

Kos, Hassan Pasha Mosque

Kos, Moruk Mosque

Kos, Atik Mosque

Kastellorizo, Mosque

Crete

Heraklion, Vezir Mosque

Heraklion, Three Men Tekke

Heraklion, Mihrab, Abdurrahman Agha Mosque

Heraklion, Nea Alatsata, Tekke Mosque

Heraklion Prefecture, Inadiye, Candia Nova

Chania, Venetian Castle, Küçük Hasan Mosque (Yiali)

Chania, Minaret of Hünkar Mosque

Chania, Dervish Tekke

Rethymno, Ibrahim Sultan Mosque

Rethymno, Gazi Hussein Pasha Mosque

Rethymno, Kara Mousha Pasha Mosque

Rethymno, Valide Sultana Mosque

Rethymno, Veli Pasha Mosque complex

Rethymno, Mikrasiaton square, Türbe

Ierapetra, Mosque and fountain

D. Other Religions

According to the information available to the Directorate of Religious Administration, the existing legally authorized worship places of other religious communities are as follows: **Buddhist (4), Hindu (3), Baha'i (6), Hellenic Ethnic Religion (1), Ancient Hellenic Religion (1) and Scientology (1).**

No incidents have been reported against sites of other Religions.

However, an incident of break-in was reported at the **Military Indian Cemetery** in Thessaloniki on **May 6, 2022**. Specifically, unidentified perpetrators broke the locks of the fence doors and of the storage room door of the Military Indian Cemetery and removed a large number of posies, roses and bushes from the interior, while damaging the irrigation system by breaking the injectors and cutting the hoses. The incident was the subject of a preliminary investigation.

About 384 Hindus, 107 Muslims, 26 Sikhs, and 1-3 Christian Indian soldiers of the British Army, who were killed during the First World War, are resting in the said cemetery. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission³⁴ is responsible for the care of the site.

³⁴ <https://elinepa.org/el/the-indian-cemetery-of-salonica/>



III. GEOGRAPHICAL DISPLAY & STATISTICAL PRESENTATION



A. Geographical display of incidents by Religious Community

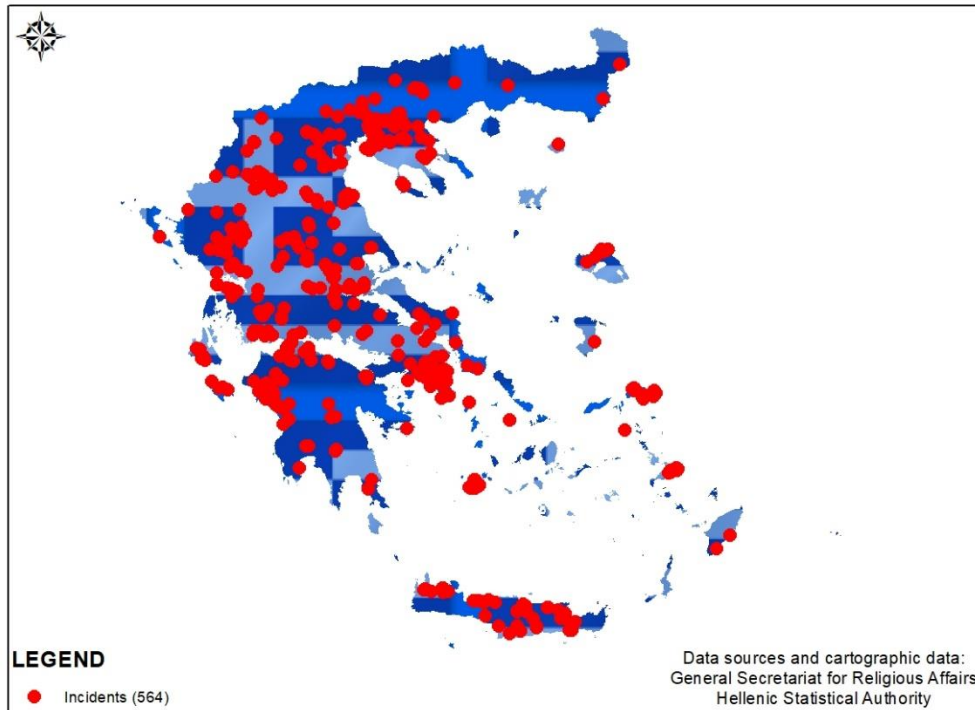


Figure 7: Orthodox Church

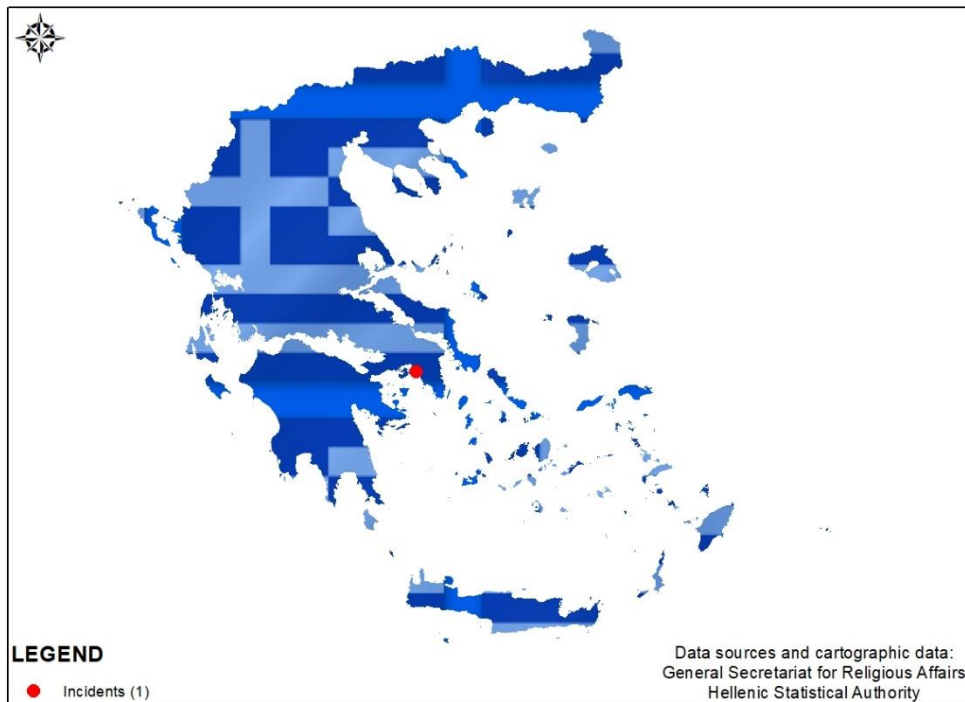


Figure 8: True Orthodox Christians (Old Calendarists)

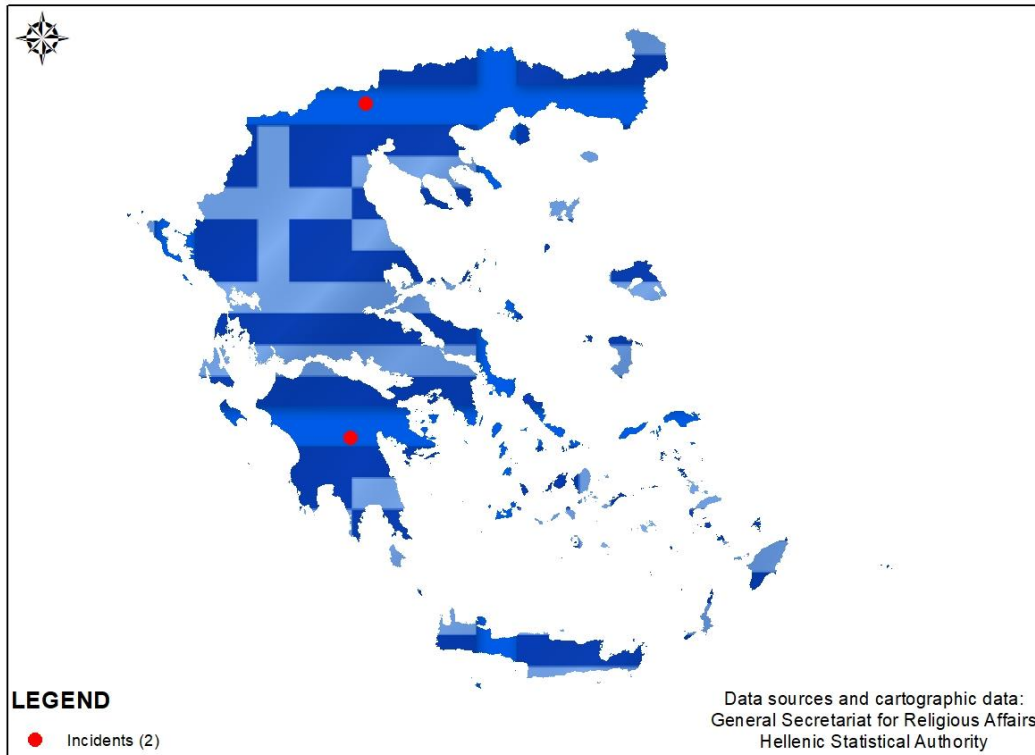


Figure 9: Jehovah's Christian Witnesses

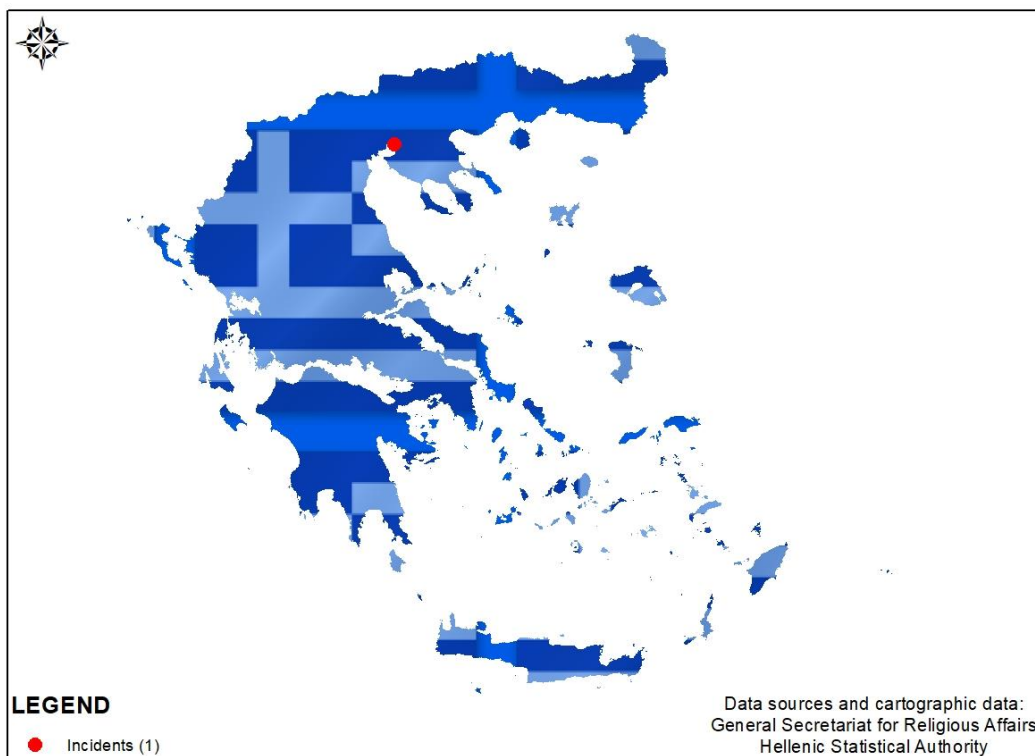


Figure 10: Judaism

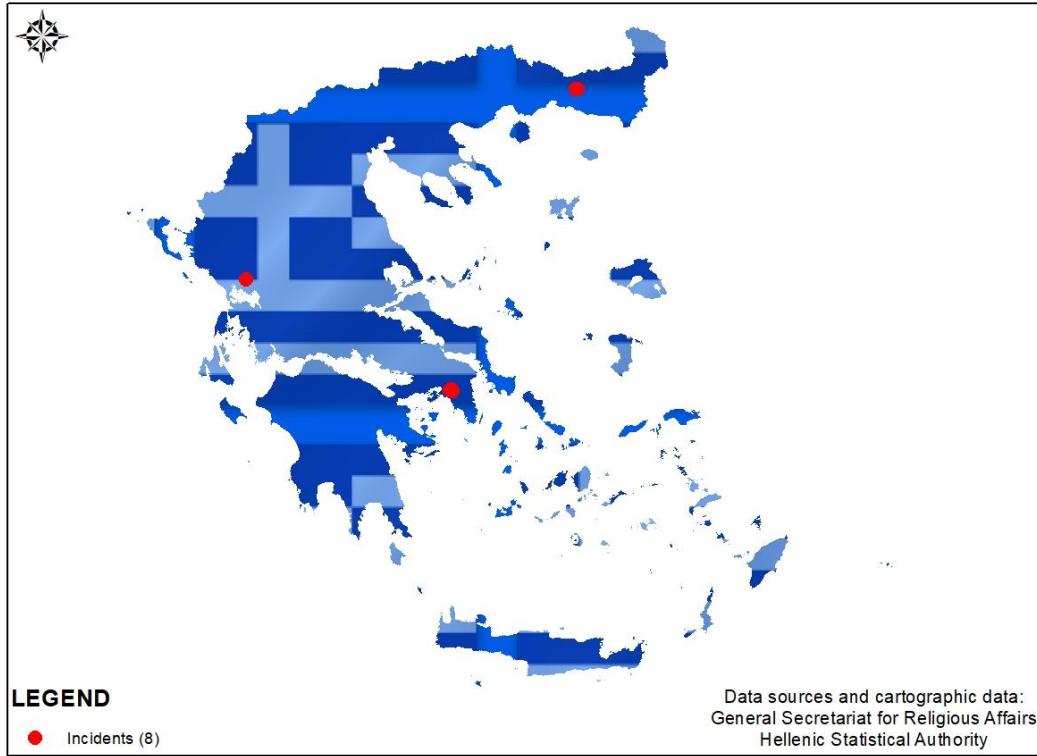


Figure 11: Islam

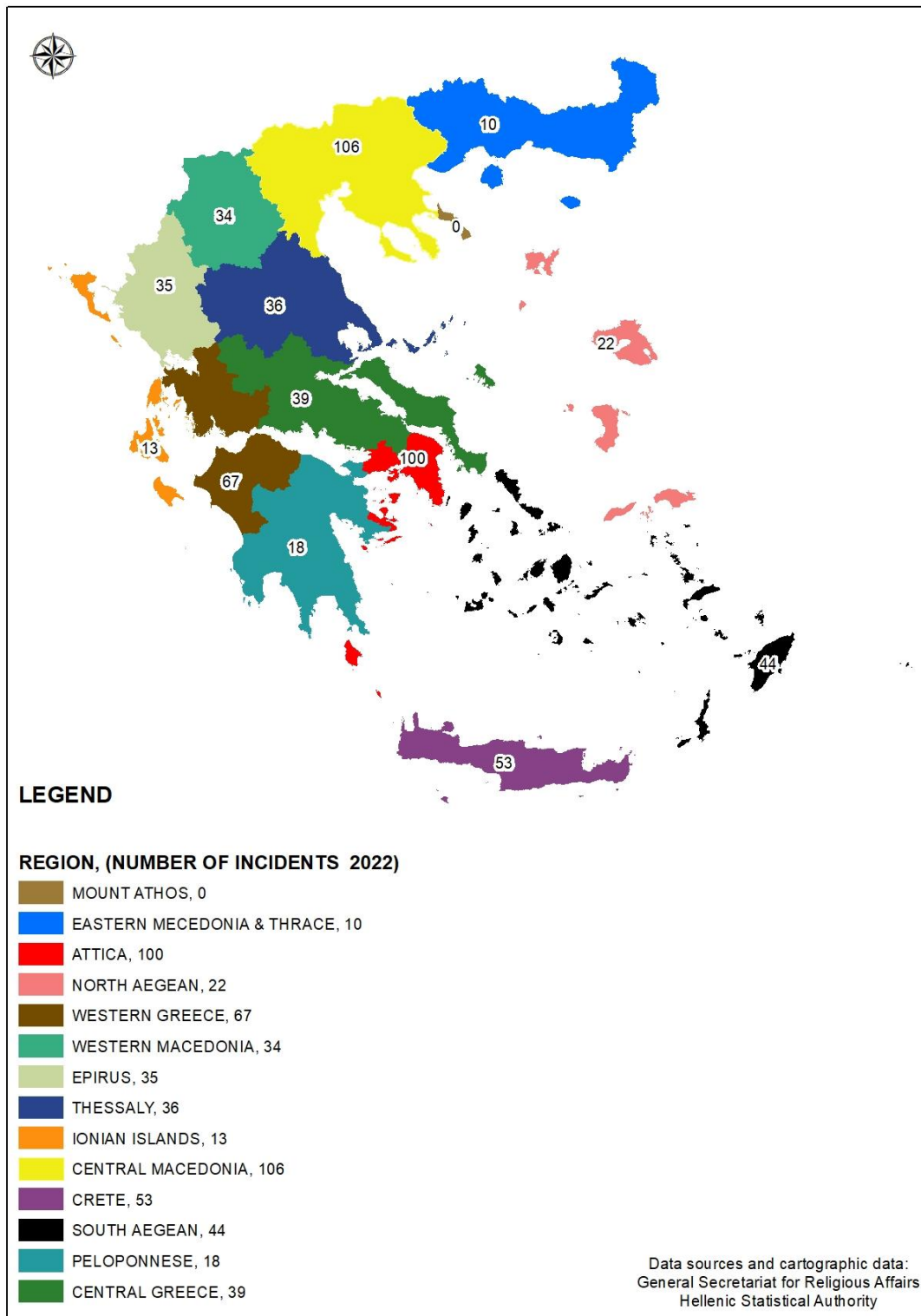


Figure 12: Geographical display of the total number of Incidents against all Religions by Administrative Region

B. Statistical presentation of total number of incidents

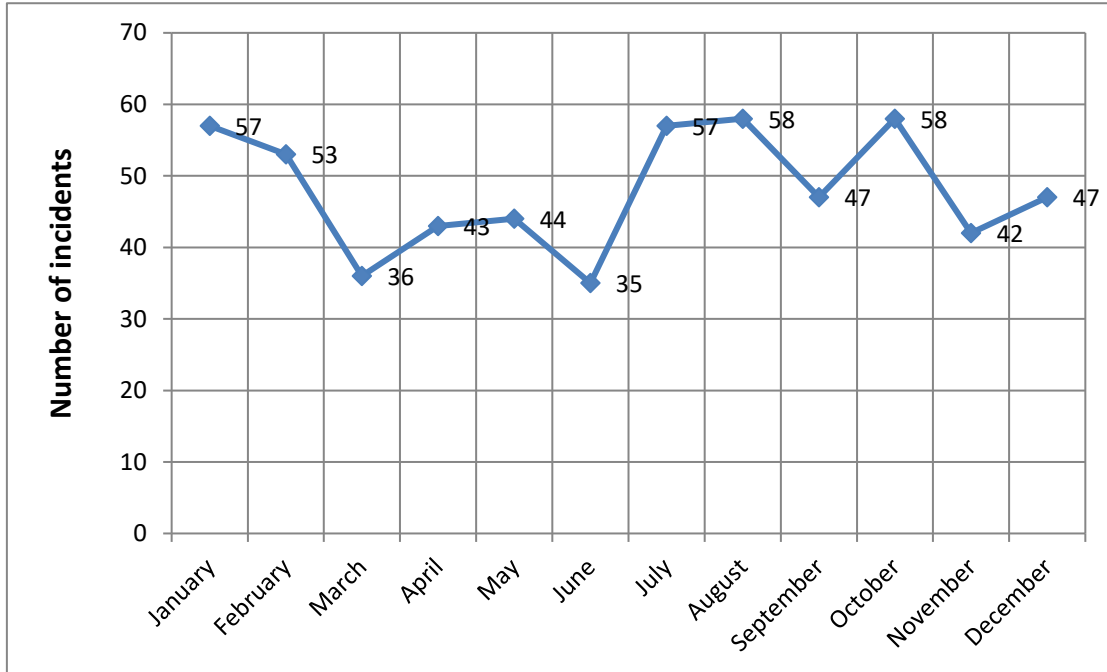


Figure 13: Total number of incidents against all Religions by month

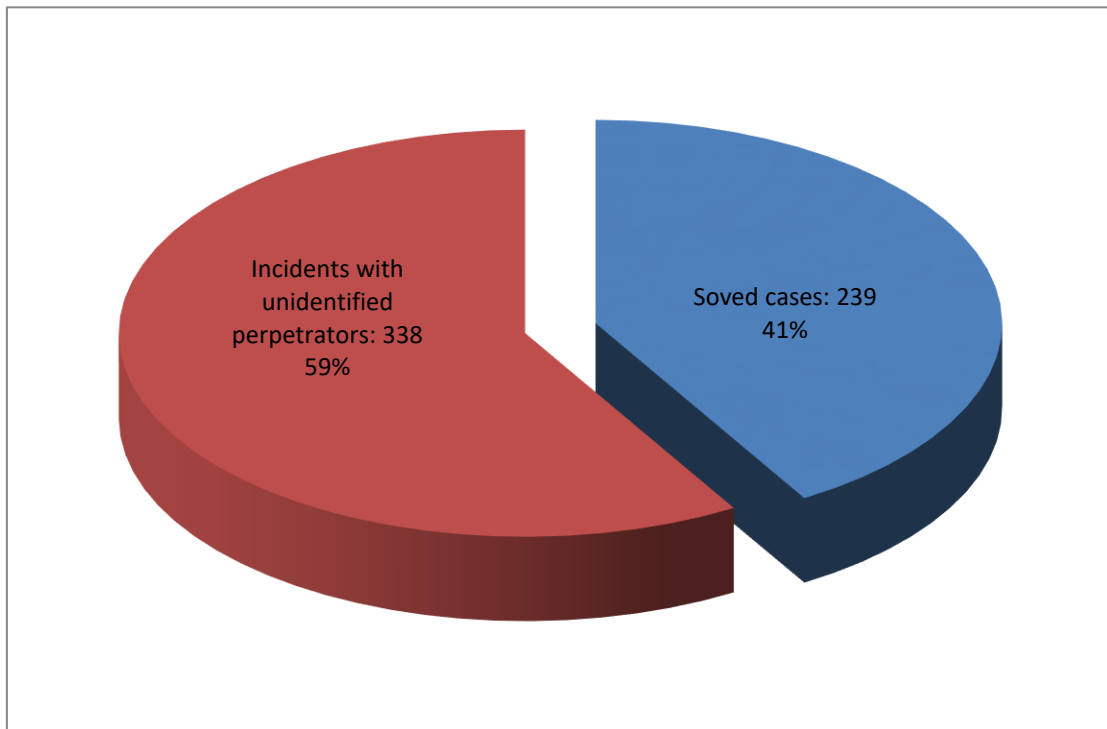


Figure 14: Solved and unsolved cases of incidents of all Religions

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