

The Dialogue Between the Holy Synods of the Church of the
True Orthodox Christians of Greece and the Orthodox
Ecclesiastical Community in Resistance

Eighth Joint Communiqué

On Thursday, September 6/19, 2013, at around 5:00 p.m., the eighth Joint Deliberation of the Committees for Dialogue Between the Church of the True Orthodox Christians of Greece and the Orthodox Ecclesiastical Community in Resistance took place in Galatsion, Athens, in the hall of the Church of St. Spyridon.

All of the appointed members of the committees were present, except for His Grace, Bishop Ambrose of Methone, who was absent abroad.

At the outset, the discussion focussed yet again on the “Chronicle” concerning the reaction of the Orthodox against the parlous course of ecumenism in Greece and, especially, against the calendar innovation, primarily during the 1960s, and specifically between 1958 and 1971.

The committee of the Church of the True Orthodox Christians of Greece, after conducting research in the archives of the historic offices of the Holy Synod on 32 Hodos Kaningos [Canning Street], Athens, presented the data that they had unearthed (as much as could emerge, of course, given the restricted period of years assigned for research). They read the most important passages from proceedings, encyclicals, epistles, and publications germane to the issues under investigation, thereby resolving many issues that had perplexed the Synod in Resistance, especially those bearing on the Consecrations in 1960 and 1962 and subsequent developments in the life of the Holy Synod.

Finally, there was a substantive dialogue concerning ways of overcoming the variance between the two sides. Specific proposals for advancing the cause of union were submitted anew by the representatives of the Synod in Resistance for further consideration by the Church of the True Orthodox Christians of Greece, and there was a renewed resolve to complete the “Chronicle” of anti-ecumenism, to undertake a theological critique of ecumenism (its nature and exponents), to investigate the issue of whether the ecumenists are within or outside the Church, and to study

the nature of the union being sought between the Church of the True Orthodox Christians of Greece and the Orthodox in resistance.

This extremely interesting deliberation lasted for about five hours and was conducted in a spirit of edifying coöperation and mutual respect. The next Joint Deliberation will be held on Thursday, October 18/31, 2013 at the Holy Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, near Phyle, Athens.

*From the Joint Secretariat of the Committees for Dialogue
Galatsion and Phyle
September 10/23, 2013*

