



Beirut, Lebanon, 2 – 5 June 2017

OFFICIAL VISIT OF I.A.O. DELEGATION

An official visit of a delegation of the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy (I.A.O.), headed by the Secretary General, member of the Hellenic Parliament, Mr. Andreas Michailidis, the member of the Bulgarian Parliament, Mr. Vasil Antonov, member of the I.A.O. International Secretariat, the member from the Lebanese Parliament and Rapporteur of the I.A.O. Committee on Regulation, Mr. Ghassan Moukheiber, as well as the I.A.O. Advisors, Dr. Kostas Mygdalis and Prof. Valery Alekseev, was realized in Beirut, Lebanon from 2 to 5 of June 2017.

During the visit, the I.A.O. delegation conducted meetings with the President of the Republic of Lebanon Mr. Michael Aoun, the Prime Minister of Lebanon, Mr. Saad Rafik Hariri, the President of the Lebanese Parliament, Mr. Nabin Berri, the Primates of the Churches in Lebanon and His Holiness Patriarch John, Patriarch of Antioch and All the East.

In addition, a meeting was held with the Parliamentary Committee for Foreign Affairs, with the presence of other MPs-members of the Lebanese delegation to the Parliamentary Union of the Islamic Cooperation (PUIC).

Moreover, a meeting was arranged with representatives of Christian groups and Christian refugees from Iraq and Syria, where they had the opportunity to express their worries and their difficulties.

Throughout all meetings with the political leaders, the Secretary General, MP Mr. Andreas Michailidis highlighted that the I.A.O. is aiming towards understanding and dialogue among people from different religious, cultural and social beliefs and their coexistence in an environment of understanding and respecting each other.

He also stressed that the I.A.O. has condemned from the very beginning the tragic event of the kidnapping of the two Metropolitans and their disappearance and has declared its support towards all efforts for a positive result.