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## **Voice of the Ecumenical Orthodox Patriarch Was Finally Heard Worldwide**

[Ξένες γλώσσες / In English](#)



Life in the patriarchate of the supreme heads of the Orthodox Church in Istanbul was never easy during the past few decades, especially with the closing of the Halki Seminary in Heybeliada in 1971.

The ecumenical Greek patriarch is the leader of the world's 300 million Orthodox, who live in Greece, the Balkan countries and Russia.

After the Roman Catholic Church, the Orthodox Church is the most influential, and presently, although its patriarch lives abased in his shell, under the thumb of the Republic of Turkey, he still remains rich with the church's past glory going back 1,700 years.

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