



their flock.

The Serbian and Antiochian Churches regret that the dispute between the Patriarchates of Antioch and Jerusalem has not yet been resolved and has not been considered in a timely fashion by all the other Orthodox Churches.

The Serbian and Antiochian Churches express their great concern about the dangers of division and separation that threaten the Local Orthodox Churches in our present day. These are the result of unilateral decisions which are impacting the basis of consensus and of fraternal relations between these Churches.

The two Churches confirm that the strengthening of the unity of the Orthodox Church is a matter of great importance. This unity is expressed through conciliarity, consultations and decision-making processes based on the traditional canonical order of Orthodox Church and consensus between the Orthodox Churches. The important decisions, for instance, related to the granting of autocephaly, should be based on the principle of consensus.

It is also written in the statement that the dangerous situation in the Orthodox world, resulting from the situation in Ukraine cannot continue as it may bring about a lasting division in the Orthodox Church.

Therefore, and given the urgent need to avoid further escalation in the current crisis, the Serbian and Antiochian Patriarchs appeal to Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople to restore the fraternal dialogue with the Orthodox Church of Russia in order to, with the fraternal assistance and participation of all the other primates of the Local Orthodox Churches, resolve the conflict between the Patriarchates of Constantinople and Moscow.

An intention was expressed to make an irenic visit of Patriarch Irinej of Serbia to the canonical territory of the Patriarchate of Antioch.

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