

THE PRIME MINISTER OF ROMANIA VISITS THE PATRIARCHATE

On Thursday afternoon, April 13/26, 2018, the Prime Minister of Romania Mrs. Viorica Dăncilă visited the Patriarchate, escorted by the Staff of the Embassy of Romania in Tel-Aviv and by the clergy representatives of the Romanian Patriarchate in Jerusalem.

The Prime Minister and her escorts were received warmly by H.H.B. our Father and Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos and Hagiotaphite Fathers. At this visit the Prime Minister thanked His Beatitude for the welcoming reception for herself, as well as for the Bishops, the clergy and the Romanian pilgrims.

His Beatitude replied: "An important part of the mission of the Patriarchate is the welcoming and care of the pilgrims of the Holy Land, and of the pilgrims from Romania, with which there has been a good relationship since the days of Patriarch Dositheos, also with His Beatitude the Patriarch of Romania Daniel, a beloved brother in Christ, Whom we have visited in Romania".

In ratification of His words, His Beatitude offered the First Lady of Romania, Prime Minister Viorica Dăncilă the honorary distinction of the medal of the Grand Commander of the Order of Knights of the Holy Sepulchre.

Emotional, the Prime Minister thanked His Beatitude and offered Him a philatelic album of exquisite Romanian art.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister thanked His Beatitude for everything, and escorted by Geronda Secretary-General, Most Reverend Archbishop Aristarchos of Constantina and other Hagiotaphite Fathers, visited the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the All-holy Tomb, the Horrendous Golgotha, and the Sacristan's Office where she venerated the Sacred Wood.

From Secretariat-General

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