WIRE Orthodox

UNCLASSIFIED // OPEN SOURCE | Wednesday, 11 November 2026 (Great Martyr Menas; Martyrs Victor, Vincent and Stephanida; St Theodore the Studite) | Vol. 2026-315 | As of 110745 EST NOV 26

BLUF. WIRE Orthodox holds at **ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS (=)**. The Kyiv appeal court heard the Upper Lavra case on 10 November and adjourned it to 12 November at 12:30, so ORT-18 (final ruling by 12 Nov) now turns on a single sitting tomorrow. A Russian drone struck the roof of a building of the Sviatohirsk Lavra in Donetsk region on 10 November, per the regional administration. Ukrainian prosecutors served an in-absentia suspicion notice on a Russian Orthodox Church priest in Bryansk for supplying Russian troops. In Jordan, the victims' families' lawyer says the State Security Court is expected to rule in the Karak church-attack case on 15 November. In Cyprus, the Archbishop's window for former Metropolitan Tychikos closes today with no meeting reported. WIRE World Instability holds the Russia–Ukraine war at Potential Crisis (=). No calls resolved; one new call (ORT-21).

0. WIRE Orthodox Dashboard

TOPIC	CRISIS LEVEL	DOM. INDICATOR	KEY DRIVER (today)	TREND
ORTH-T4 Orthodoxy and geopolitics	ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS	SIGNIFICANT	War between majority-Orthodox nations (WI EU-T1 Potential, =); Sviatohirsk Lavra hit	=
ORTH-T1 Church and state; pressure on Orthodox Christians	ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS	ABNORMAL	Lavra appeal adjourned to 12 Nov; ROC priest charged in absentia; Karak verdict 15 Nov	=
ORTH-T2 Inter-Orthodox relations / schism	ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS	ABNORMAL	Cyprus: Tychikos window closes 11 Nov, no meeting; Corfu metropolitan urges Moscow–Phanar dialogue	=
ORTH-T3 Holy Land and Ecumenical Patriarchate	NO CRISIS	ROUTINE	Bartholomew at St Menas, Ypsomatheia	=
ORTH-T5 Spiritual reading	NOT SCORED	—	St Menas; St Theodore the Studite (1,200 years); Luke 12:48–59	—

Indicator: ROUTINE | ABNORMAL | SIGNIFICANT | EXTREME **Crisis level:** NO CRISIS | ENV. FOR CRISIS | POTENTIAL | PROBABLE | IMMINENT

Family level = highest topic level. Roll-up per WIRE_METHOD §1a. This assessment takes no political side; it scores pressure on the Church's freedom, unity and flock.

Level change since 10 Nov: none. Trend change: none.

Moved indicators (vs 10 Nov). None crossed a threshold. New inputs within band: Sviatohirsk Lavra strike (T4 war damage to church property, within the standing SIGNIFICANT); Bryansk priest suspicion notice (T1, ABNORMAL, =).

I. ORTH-T1 CHURCH AND STATE; PRESSURE ON ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS | ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS

Ukraine, Lavra. The Northern Commercial Court of Appeal continued the UOC monastery's appeal over use of the Dormition Cathedral and Refectory Church on 10 Nov; a third party's representative was removed from the video link for interrupting the judge (Espreso, 10 Nov). The court adjourned to 12 Nov at 12:30, according to the UOC's attorney as reported by UOJ/spzh, a UOC outlet (UOJ/spzh). ORT-18 stays open. **Ukraine, prosecutions.** The Chernihiv Regional Prosecutor's Office served an in-absentia suspicion notice under Art. 111-2(1) of the Criminal Code (aiding the aggressor state) on a Russian Orthodox Church cleric living in Russia, who heads the Bryansk diocese's department for liaison with Russia's Emergencies Ministry. Investigators say that in 2024–2026 he delivered food, equipment, computers and household goods to Russian troops and posted videos of himself performing religious rites during these visits while backing the "special military operation" (Prosecutor General's Office, 10 Nov; Ukrinform, 11 Nov). This is an ROC cleric, not a UOC one, and bears on T4 as much as T1. **Jordan.** The State Security Court held its third hearing in the Karak (Humud village) church-attack case on 11 Nov; the lawyer for the victims' families said a verdict is expected on Sunday, 15 Nov, after the public prosecutor's closing arguments at the previous sitting (Ammon News, 11 Nov). No new arrest (ORT-16), named organization (ORT-09) or further attack (ORT-08). **Indicators.** UOC legal status ABNORMAL (=).

Middle East Christian security ABNORMAL (=). Roll-up: ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS (=). **Analyst Comment.** A Lavra ruling tomorrow is possible but not the base case: the court still has third parties to hear and has adjourned at every sitting since August. The desk holds ORT-18 near its logged 30%. The Karak verdict is the first judicial close to the deadliest attack on a church in Jordan in this file.

II. ORTH-T2 INTER-ORTHODOX RELATIONS AND THE SCHISM | ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS

Cyprus. The ten-day window the Archbishop set on 1 Nov for a meeting with former Metropolitan Tychikos of Paphos ends today. The latest report, from 9 Nov, said calls and messages to Tychikos had gone unanswered and nothing would be done before the deadline (Reporter). The Archbishop said on 1 Nov that if there was no response the Holy Synod would meet again (Philenews). No new report on 10–11 Nov was found. **Moscow and the Phanar.** Metropolitan Nektarios of Corfu (Church of Greece) called for "meaningful dialogue" between the Russian Church and Constantinople to restore unity, per TASS as relayed by the Russian daily Vzglyad (Vzglyad, 8 Nov). No Moscow or DECR response to Bartholomew's 22 Oct remark was found (ORT-04, due 15 Nov). **Indicators.** Rival jurisdictions ABNORMAL; public polemic ABNORMAL; breaks in communion ROUTINE. Roll-up: ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS (=). **Analyst Comment.** One Greek hierarch's call is not a policy shift, and it reached the public through Russian state media. The next real signal in Cyprus is whether a Synod date is announced after today. The desk holds ORT-13 at about 10–15% and ORT-15 as likely.

III. ORTH-T3 HOLY LAND AND THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE | NO CRISIS

Phanar. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew presided at Great Vespers on 10 Nov for the feast of St Menas church in Ypsomatheia, Istanbul, and spoke of a "martyrdom of conscience" endured by the Christians of Constantinople (Orthodox Times, 11 Nov). **Holy Land and Sinai.** Nothing new found; Sinai agreement still unsigned (ORT-07 open). **Indicators.** ROUTINE. Roll-up: NO CRISIS (=). **Analyst Comment.** Nothing new on Jerusalem property, Halki or the Phanar's legal status.

IV. ORTH-T4 ORTHODOXY AND GEOPOLITICS | ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS

War. See WIRE World Instability, EU-T1 (Potential Crisis, dominant indicator Significant, =): the Abu Dhabi trilateral ended without a ceasefire. A Russian "Molniya" drone hit the roof of a building of the Holy Dormition Sviatohirsk Lavra (UOC) in Donetsk region, per the head of the Donetsk Regional Military Administration; the building and damage were not specified and no casualties were reported (Interfax-Ukraine, 10 Nov; UOJ/spzh). **Indicators.** War between majority-Orthodox nations SIGNIFICANT (standing); religious justification ABNORMAL (=; the Bryansk case alleges a priest blessing troops on camera, a prosecution claim, not an official church statement); church-state legislation ROUTINE. Roll-up: ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS (=). Override −1 from a mechanical Significant-to-Potential reading: the war itself is scored in WI EU-T1; T4 scores the Church's entanglement, which stays at one standing Significant indicator plus Abnormal/Routine church-specific scores. **Analyst Comment.** Two monasteries of the UOC, Komyshuvakha last week and Sviatohirsk now, were hit by Russian weapons, while Ukrainian courts and prosecutors press both the UOC and Russian clergy. The flock is under pressure from both directions.

V. ORTH-T5 SPIRITUAL READING OF THE DAY | NOT SCORED

Spiritual Reflection. This section is not analysis and not evidence. Today the Church remembers the Great Martyr Menas of Egypt, the Martyrs Victor, Vincent and Stephanida, St Theodore the Studite, and St Martin of Tours (OCA). The Gospel warns, "You can discern the face of the sky and of the earth, but how is it you do not discern this time?" and counsels, "When you go with your adversary to the magistrate, make every effort along the way to settle with him" (Luke 12:56, 58; OCA). Courtrooms fill this file today, in Kyiv, Amman and, soon perhaps, a synod hall in Nicosia. The Lord does not ask us to win the case, but to seek peace along the way while there is still road left.

VI. PREDICTIONS

- **Resolved today:** none. ORT-18 stays open for the 12 Nov sitting.
- **New: ORT-21** (75%, likely): Jordan's State Security Court issues a verdict convicting at least one defendant in the Karak church-attack case by 22 Nov.
- **Open:** ORT-01 (40%), ORT-02 (25%), ORT-03 (70%), ORT-04 (30%, due 15 Nov), ORT-07 (55%), ORT-08 (10%), ORT-09 (45%), ORT-10 (35%), ORT-13 (70%; desk now ~10–15%, due 15 Nov), ORT-15 (75%), ORT-16 (30%), ORT-17 (45%), ORT-18 (30%, due 12 Nov), ORT-19 (45%), ORT-20 (55%), ORT-21 (75%).

VII. GAPS AND UNVERIFIED

- **Lavra:** the 12 Nov adjournment rests on the UOC attorney's Telegram as relayed by UOJ; court register not checked directly.

- **Sviatohirsk:** which building was hit and the damage are not yet public.
- **Karak:** the 15 Nov verdict date comes from the victims' lawyer, not a court notice.
- **Cyprus:** no official Archdiocese statement since 1 Nov; no reporting found for 10–11 Nov.
- **Corfu:** Metropolitan Nektarios's remarks come via TASS/Vzglyad; original text not read.
- **Not collected:** Forum 18/USCIRF, Türkiye property, Morphou/Atlanta/Athos/ecclesia.gr homilies.

Sources

Espreso (10 Nov); UOJ/spzh (10–11 Nov); Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine (10 Nov); Ukrinform (11 Nov); Interfax-Ukraine (10 Nov); Ammon News (11 Nov); Reporter (9 Nov); Philenews (1 Nov); Vzglyad citing TASS (8 Nov); Orthodox Times (11 Nov); OCA readings (11 Nov); WIRE World Instability (EU-T1, 11 Nov).

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