

BOOK RELEASE: For Immediate Distribution

**The Institute for Religious Freedom
and Human Rights Publishing
announces the release of:**

“Ecumenical Patriarchate of Orthodox Christianity UNDER SIEGE”
by Christos Papoutsy

**Demand that the Turkish Government
Tear down their Walls of Religious Discrimination.**

This newly published book, the only one of its kind, covers the complete history of the Theological School established on October 1, 1844 through 1971, when the school was closed by the Turkish Government. Despite occasional promises by the Turkish authorities to reopen the facility, the school has remained closed.

It took over two years of worldwide research to uncover and document the complete story covering the history of the Halkitou Monastery from 809-811 to the establishment of the Theological School in 1844 to the closing in 1971 in the effort to reopen through 2010.

This book reviews the violations of the Lausanne Treaty signed by Turkey and Greece in 1923, establishing the rights of minorities in Greece and Turkey set forth in Article 37 agreeing to Freedom of Religion which Turkey has violated hundreds of times. The book covers the history of the Holy Trinity Patriarchal and Stavropigio Monastery and the Theological School.

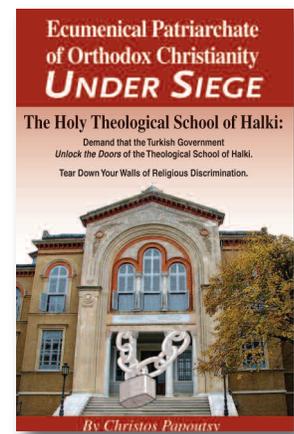
Included in this publication is a treasure trove of history of the facilities, world class Library, and all the Abbots. It also provides the complete history and documentation of most of the resolutions, partitions, surveys, and statements from governments and churches from around the world.

It also explores the legal possibilities for the CALL OF ACTION against the government of Turkey for its closure of the Halki School of Theology.

In an attempt to understand some of the Turkish government’s philosophies and points of view toward the continual closure of the Holy Theological School of Halki, the author includes materials to present a fair and balanced version.

This publication is part of a more general effort to make available to the public archival and current materials offering a complete picture of the entire history through 2010.

This publication on the specific subject of the history, closing, and post closing of the Holy Theological School of Halki and offers value for discussion on broader themes such as a foundation for additional research. This publication of primary sources can serve as an excellent starting point for future research and discussion, since the school’s important internationally make it a particularly suitable subject for religious, political, legal, and diplomatic topics.



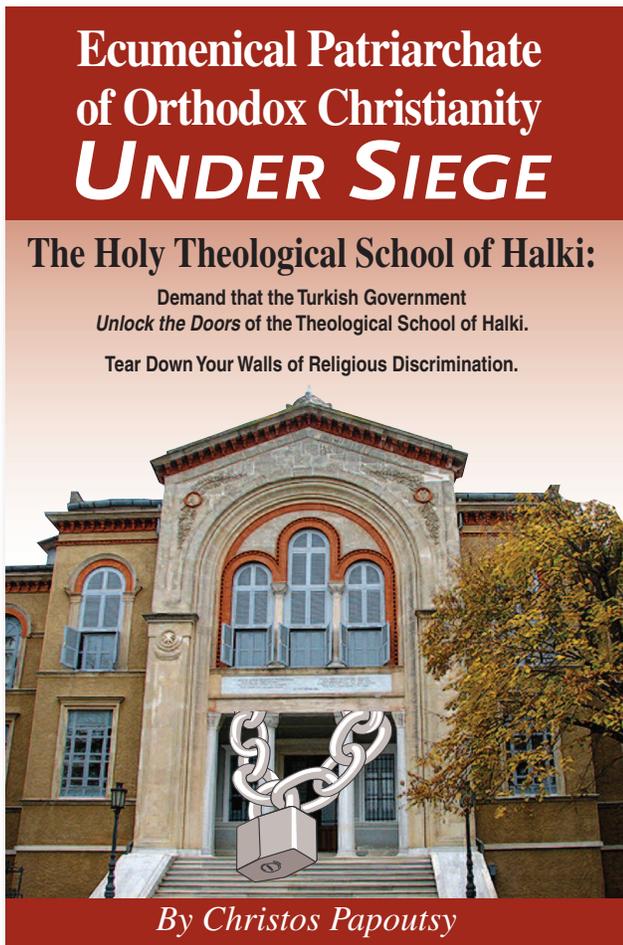
The closure of Halki occupies an important position within a broader, global discussion on religious discrimination and freedom. Above all, it is the author's hope that readers will have a clearer understanding of the history of the Holy Trinity School and Halki and the plight of the "Ecumenical Patriarchate of Orthodox Christianity Under Siege."

Ultimately, the author believes it is incumbent upon all of us, members of the world community, to become educated about matters of prejudice and repression and to support their elimination everywhere.

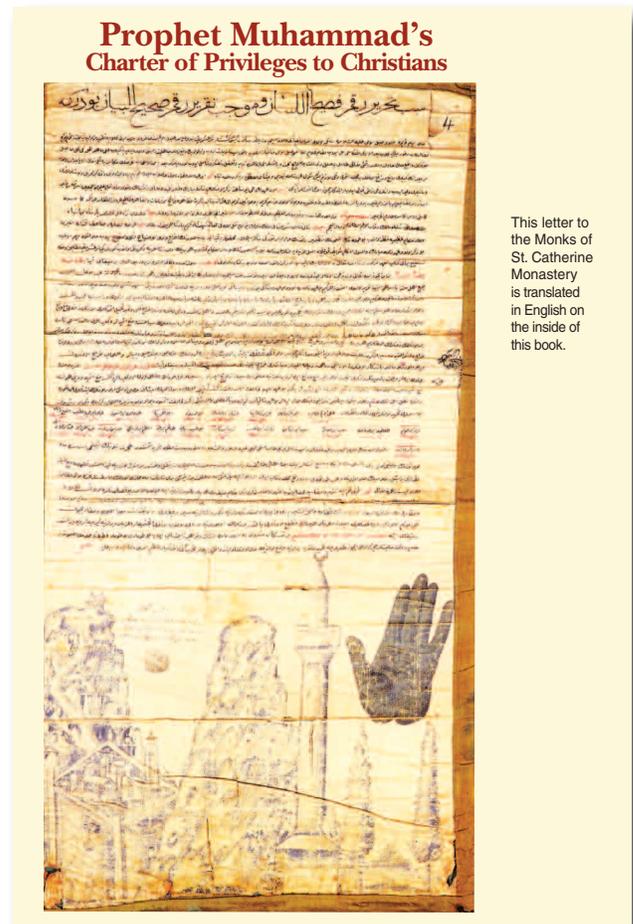
***Finally, the author's message to the Turkish Government:
Tear Down Your Walls of Religious Discrimination.***

This newly released book can be purchased online at www.amazon.com.

***To schedule a book presentation by the author,
email to PapcoHolding@papcoholdings.org***



Front Cover



Back Cover



**Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew Holds Private Discussions
with President Obama
– Istanbul, Turkey**

“Freedom of religion and expression lead to a strong and vibrant civil society that only strengthens the state, which is why steps like reopening the Halki Seminary will send such an important signal inside Turkey and beyond. An enduring commitment to the rule of law is the only way to achieve the security that comes from justice for all people.”

*– Extract from the speech of the United States President
Barack Obama before the Turkish parliament 6 April 2009.*

The Giant of Public Opinion Awakened!™

On December 20, 2009,
Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew
appeared on a CBS 60 Minutes segment on
Orthodox Christianity (www.60minutes.com).

