



✠ BARTHOLOMEW, BY THE MERCY OF GOD, ARCHBISHOP OF
CONSTANTINOPLE, NEW ROME AND ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH

MESSAGE

By

His All Holiness

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

For the Scout Conference of "Desmos"

(Athens, October 15-17, 2010)

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Beloved scout members of "Desmos" and conference participants,

It is with sincere delight that we have been informed of your forthcoming conference organized by the International Link of orthodox Christian Scouts at the Inter-Orthodox Center of Penteli Monastery in Athens between October 15-17, 2010.

This is the 2nd Ecumenical Encounter convened by "Desmos" following the successful gathering two years ago in Canterbury, England, in an effort to draw together representatives of Scouts from the Roman Catholic, Protestant, Anglican, and Orthodox Churches.

Your aim in seeking to establish and maintain an ongoing spiritual conversation with young and responsible members of society is truly admirable, and we wholeheartedly bless your intent to discuss such topics as dialogue with youth, Christianity and the environment, as well as ways and means of returning our youth to the Church.

Conversation and communication are perhaps the two keys to securing greater understanding, global peace, and religious tolerance in an age when the planet is plagued by misunderstanding, tension, and ecological degradation. Indeed, our generation knows that it cannot possibly succeed in reversing the troubling trends of our world without involving the education and participation of our youth, the generation that will inherit the world that we leave behind.

May the grace of God kindle your hearts. May the light of God inspire your discussions. And may the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

At the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the 28th of September 2010

Your fervent supplicant before God

✠ BARTHOLOMEW

Archbishop of Constantinople,
New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch