
Coronavirus Covid-19: Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church willing to turn churches into hospitals in case of emergency

(Bratislava) – Ukraine's pace of COVID-19 infections is moderate so far (73 positive cases on 24 March). However, looking at how the situation is evolving in severely affected European countries, the Churches are getting ready for a possible sudden worsening of the crisis. The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC) is prepared to ensure truly close collaboration with doctors and healthcare workers. According to His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, this cooperation includes allowing churches to be used as hospitals in case of emergency. As he stated in one of his recent homilies, the UGCC will do everything possible to prevent reaching a point where doctors would have to decide who should live and who should die due to a lack of medical centres. He compared the current situation to the days of Maidan, when all parishes, churches and monasteries were open as medical care facilities. "If necessary, all churches and worship places will be turned into hospitals where we will save human lives together with you", said the UGCC leader, assuring Ukraine's doctors and healthcare workers of the Church's support and closeness.

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