Agreement concerning the Situation within the Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands and Slovakia (Metropolis of Austria, Vienna, 6th February 2015)

On the initiative of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, represented by Metropolitan Emmanuel of France and Metropolitan Arsenios of Austria, the official representatives of the Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands and Slovakia, Archbishop Simeon of Olomouc and Brno and Archbishop Juraj of Michalovce and Košice, together with their respective delegations gathered in the Metropolis of Austria in order to find a common and acceptable solution to overcome the crisis within the Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands and Slovakia, as a follow up to the meeting of the 16th of January 2015.

Having heard the positions of both delegations separately and together, the meeting ended in proposing the following points on which both sides agreed, in the hope to contribute to the solution of the canonical crisis within the Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands and Slovakia:

a) Archbishop Rastislav of Prešov and Slovakia shall be recognized as the Primate of the whole Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands and Slovakia by Archbishop Simeon of Olomouc and Brno.

b) Archbishop Simeon of Olomouc and Brno shall return to the Holy Synod as its full member.

c) The procedure of the election of Hegumen Michael Dandar as Archbishop of Prague and the Czech Lands by the Eparchial Assembly shall be confirmed by the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands and Slovakia, in order to proceed to his consecration.

d) The procedure of the election of Fr. Isaias Slaninka as auxiliary bishop to Archbishop Simeon of Olomouc and Brno by the Eparchial Assembly shall be confirmed by the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands and Slovakia, in order to proceed to his consecration.

The undersigned representatives state hereby their wish and intent to help in the implementation of this proposed solution, in order to overcome the crisis within the Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands and Slovakia. This agreement is effective upon the decision of the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.

Vienna, 6th February 2015

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