

Summary of the letter issued by a council in Bithynia (*Dok 3*)

Reference	<i>Dok. 3; Urk. 5</i>
Incipit	[ὀρθῶς δοξάζουσι κοινωνῆσαι]
Date	319-320
Ancient source	Sozomen, <i>H.E.</i> 1.15.10
Modern editions	<i>GCS</i> 50:34 <i>AW</i> 3.1:12

While not stated specifically, the Bithynian council mentioned by Sozomen must have been called and chaired by Eusebius of Nicomedia, one of Arius's early supporters. The date is uncertain, but Brennecke places it early in the controversy.

The Greek text below is from the edition of J. Bidez and G.C. Hansen, *Sozomenus. Kirchengeschichte* (*GCS* 50 [Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 1960], 34. The translation is by Glen Thompson.

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καὶ σύνοδον ἐν Βιθυνία συγκροτήσαντες γράφουσι τοῖς ἀπανταχῆ ἐπισκόποις ὡς ὀρθῶς δοξάζουσι κοινωνῆσαι τοῖς ἀμφὶ τὸν Ἄρειον, παρασκευάσαι δὲ καὶ Ἀλέξανδρον κοινωνεῖν αὐτοῖς.	Having contrived a council in Bithynia, they wrote to all the bishops, instructing them to fellowship with the Arian group as having proper beliefs, and to pressure Alexander to fellowship with them as well.
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