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OFICINA DE PRENSA DE LA SANTA SEDE



BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIEGE  
PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHLIS

# **BOLLETTINO**

SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE

N. 190330a

Saturday 30.03.2019

## **Apostolic Trip of His Holiness Francis to Morocco (30 to 31 March 2019) – Departure from Rome and Telegrams to Heads of State**

### **Departure from Rome**

### **Telegram to the President of the Italian Republic**

### **Telegrams to Heads of State during the flight from Rome to Rabat**

### **Departure from Rome**

This morning Pope Francis departed for Morocco, to commence his 28th international apostolic trip.

Before leaving the Domus Sanctae Marthae, Pope Francis met with a group of Moroccan migrants hosted in Italy by the Sant'Egidio Community. They are two families, each one with two children; two young women; and a boy. The group was accompanied by the Apostolic Almoner, His Eminence Cardinal Konrad Krajewski. Then, after leaving the Vatican, he transferred by car to Rome-Fiumicino International Airport, where at 10.57 he departed on board an Alitalia A320 bound for Rabat.

The aircraft carrying the Holy Father landed at Rabat-Salé International Airport at 13.52.

### **Telegram to the President of the Italian Republic**

Upon leaving Italian territory, the Holy Father Francis sent the following telegram to the President of the Italian Republic, Hon. Sergio Mattarella:

HIS EXCELLENCY  
HON. SERGIO MATTARELLA  
PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC  
QUIRINAL PALACE 00187 ROME

AS I DEPART FOR MY APOSTOLIC TRIP TO MOROCCO, TO MEET THAT NOBLE POPULATION, SHARING MOMENTS OF PRAYER AND COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AND ENCOURAGING INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE, I WISH TO ADDRESS TO YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND TO THE DEAR ITALIAN NATION, MY CORDIAL GREETING, WHICH I ACCOMPANY WITH SINCERE WISHES THAT ITALY MAY MAINTAIN AT A HIGH LEVEL THE ETHICAL AND SPIRITUAL VALUES OF THE PERSON AND OF SOCIAL CO-EXISTENCE, SEEKING WITH CONCERTED EFFORT SOLUTIONS INSPIRED BY SOLIDARITY.

FRANCISCUS PP.

### **Telegrams to Heads of State during the flight from Rome to Rabat**

During the flight to Rabat, while flying through French and Spanish airspace, the Holy Father Francis sent the following telegrams to the respective Heads of State:

#### ***Overflight France***

HIS EXCELLENCY EMANUEL MACRON  
PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC  
PARIS

AS I FLY OVER FRANCE ON MY WAY TO MOROCCO FOR AN APOSTOLIC VISIT, I EXTEND CORDIAL GREETINGS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND YOUR FELLOW CITIZENS. I PRAY FOR THE GIFTS OF PEACE AND HARMONY IN THE NATION AND I GLADLY INVOKE GOD'S BLESSINGS UPON YOU ALL.

FRANCISCUS PP.

#### ***Overflight Spain***

HIS MAJESTY FELIPE VI  
KNIG OF SPAIN  
MADRID

AS I ENTER SPANISH AIRSPACE ON MY JOURNEY TO MOROCCO, I EXTEND CORDIAL GREETINGS TO YOUR MAJESTY, THE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY, AND THE PEOPLE OF SPAIN. I INVOKE DIVINE BLESSINGS UPON YOU ALL, ASKING ALMIGHTY GOD TO GRANT THE NATION THE GIFT OF WELL-BEING AND PEACE.

FRANCISCUS PP.

