



SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE **BOLLETTINO**

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Holy See Press Office Communiqué: Audience with the President of the Republic of Colombia

This morning, Monday 22 October 2018, the Holy Father Francis received in audience, in the Vatican Apostolic Palace, the President of the Republic of Colombia, H.E. Mr. Iván Duque Márquez, who subsequently met with His Eminence Rev. Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin, accompanied by Rev. Msgr. Antoine Camilleri, under-Secretary for Relations with States.

During the discussions, which took place in a cordial atmosphere, satisfaction was expressed for the good bilateral relations. In such a context, the contribution of the Holy See and the local Church in the peace process and in favour of the reconciliation of the Colombian people was evoked. In addition, the importance of constant dialogue between the Church and the State to face current social challenges was underlined, with special reference to matters of mutual interest such as the protection of life, the fight against corruption and drug trafficking, the promotion of legality and care for the environment.

Finally, there was a fruitful exchange of views on the political and social situation of the region, with special attention to migrations.