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SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE

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Apostolic Trip of Pope Francis to Bulgaria and North Macedonia (5 to 7 May 2019) – Departure from Rome and Telegrams to Heads of State during the flight from Rome to Sofia

This morning Pope Francis began his 29th International Apostolic Trip, to Bulgaria and North Macedonia.

At 6.20 he left the Vatican and transferred by car to Rome-Fiumicino International Airport where, at 7.10, he departed for Sofia on board an Alitalia A321.

The aircraft carrying the Holy Father landed at Sofia International Airport at 9.50 local time (8.50 in Rome). During the flight, the Holy Father sent telegrams of greeting to the President of the Italian Republic, Sergio Mattarella, and the Heads of State of the countries through whose airspace the aircraft passed: Croatia (Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović) Bosnia and Herzegovina (Milorad Dodik), Montenegro (Milo Đukanović) and Serbia (Aleksandar Vučić).