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POPE FRANCIS IN PORTUGAL FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY

Pilgrim of Hope in Lisbon city of encounter



Pope Francis arrived in Lisbon, Portugal, on Wednesday morning, 2 August, to begin his 42nd Apostolic Journey abroad.

As is customary, the Pope sent telegrams to the Heads of State of the countries over which he flew on his way from Rome to Lisbon: President Sergio Mattarella of Italy, President Emmanuel Macron of France and King Felipe VI of Spain.

Addressing journalists and other members of the press aboard the ITA Airways flight with him, the Holy Father joked about the trip, saying he would return "more rejuvenated".

The papal plane left Rome at around 8 a.m., local time, and landed in Lisbon's Figo Maduro Air Base at 9:43 a.m., local time. There began the Pope's five-day journey, which includes several World Youth Day celebrations and a visit to the Marian sanctuary in Fatima.

The President of the Republic of Portugal, H.E. Mr Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, warmly greeted the Pope on the tarmac. After a brief welcome in the VIP lounge of the air base, the President and the Pope were driven to the *Palácio Nacional de Belém* for the first public events of the trip.

On Wednesday morning, before leaving Rome, Pope Francis had



THIS WEEK

Angelus

The cry of millions
who suffer hunger rises
up to Heaven

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Sisters Project

Walking together with
the Gospel of Creation

M. MERCY VERNYUY ON PAGE 11

Athletica Vaticana

Cycling in Glasgow

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Creative pathways for peace

By ANDREA TORNIELLI

While the risk of getting accustomed to the war that has broken out in the heart of Christian Europe with Russia's aggression against Ukraine, is present, some do not tire, combining prophecy and realism, of calling for peace by reminding nations and peoples – and Europe in particular – of their responsibilities.

Right at the beginning of his trip to Portugal, where he arrived to celebrate World Youth Day, Pope Francis spoke about the role of the Old Continent, expressing the hope that it will not forget its identity but will be capable of proposing creative pathways for peace and diplomatic solutions instead of accepting the idea of the inevitability of war and the arms race.

The Successor of Peter noted how "planetary injustice, wars, climate and migration crises (...) run faster than our ability, and often our will, to confront these challenges in a united way".

But he added that "Lisbon may suggest a change of pace" since it was here, in 2007, that the eponymous Reform Treaty of the European Union was signed, stating that the Union "in its relations with the rest of the world contributes to peace, security, the sustainable development of the Earth, solidarity and mutual respect among peoples, free and fair trade, the elimination of poverty and the protection of human rights".

Pope Francis said that the "world needs Europe, the true Europe: it

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welcomed a group of 15 people at his Vatican residence in Casa Santa Marta. Among them were young men and women currently living in a rehabilitation community who, for this reason, were unable to travel to Lisbon for World Youth Day. Also present were three grandparents with their grandchildren. Like the recently celebrated World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, this gathering in the Pope's home highlighted the bond between generations, which are called to support and learn from one another.

On Monday evening, 31 July, Pope Francis paid a visit to the Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome, to pray before the icon of Our Lady *Salus Populi Romani*, entrusting to her his trip and the many young people participating in World Youth Day.

FOR COVERAGE OF THE FIRST
THREE SPEECHES OF THE POPE
IN LISBON SEE PAGES 2-8