



# The Holy See

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APOSTOLIC JOURNEY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS  
TO PANAMA ON THE OCCASION OF THE 34th WORLD YOUTH DAY **GREETING TO  
JOURNALISTS ON THE FLIGHT TO PANAMA** *Papal flight*  
*Wednesday, 23 January 2019* [\[Multimedia\]](#)

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**Msgr. Mauricio Rueda:**

Good morning. I have the pleasure of presenting to you the new *ad interim* spokesman of the Holy See, Dr. Alessandro Gisotti. I am sure that many of you already know him. So, in this, his first journey as spokesman, let us welcome him.

**Alessandro Gisotti:**

Holy Father, good morning. Here we are, for this occasion. Good morning to you all, *y Buenos días a los colegas de Panamá que viajan con nosotros*. Once again we cross the Atlantic, Holy Father, just as on the occasion of your first International trip, for a World Youth Day. *Y la juventud del Papa La espera a Panamá*, the youth of the world! Over to you, Holy Father...

**Pope Francis:**

Good morning! It is a pleasure to be here with you. I thank you very much for coming, and would like to thank you in advance for the work you will do.

Today's flight is the first [with reference to his international trips] in which a colleague is missing, one I liked very much: Alexej Bukalov, of *Tass*. A man of great humanity, that humanity that is not afraid of the human, down to its lowest level, and is not afraid of the divine, up to the highest. A man who was capable of making a synthesis in the style of Dostoyevsky. I am sure he will be missed by us all. And now, I invite you to observe a moment of silence and then a prayer for him. Our Father... *Requiem aeternam...*

And now, I greet you, to start this journey.

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