Beat: News

The safety of Pope Francis

Is the pope a target in Egypt

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USPA NEWS - Is Pope Francis a Target in Egypt after the Palm Sunday massacre against Christians in Egypt is a major concern and reason for concern for the Vatican ahead of Pope Francis' s trip on April 28-29: an ecumenical visit to the Copts but also an interreligious trip, to meet

the grand imam of Cairo's al-Azhar Sunni university, Ahmed el-Tayeb. Pope Francis' trip will also have geopolitical implications, considering the evolving situation throughout the Middle Eastern region.
The Vatican explained that the trip is not considered particularly challenging from a security point of view: most of the Pope's meetings will be institutional and will take place in strictly controlled locations.
In addition, the April 29 Mass

Mass will be celebrated by Francis in a closed stadium in Cairo, before about 30,000 faithful: security will be guaranteed.

Coptic Christians belong to an ancient and numerically large Church - it counts between 9 and 10 million believers - and they are able to make their voice publicly heard and to demand respect for their rights.
They are targeted by extremists for having supported, along with the Al Azhar Muslims, President al-Sisi, who pledged to defend them.
Pope Francis' trip will therefore focus on "blood ecumenism,“considering that Christians of various denominations today similarly fall victim to persecution.
The Pope of Rome will present himself rather as a brother to Coptic Pope Tawadros, and to Islam as a friend who condemns

violence, rather than as a Western leader who came to invoke protection for the Christian minority.

But surely what took place on Palm Sunday the safety of the Pope of Rome should be at the front of the mind set of all involved, it is important because of recent events. the number one priority is his holiness safety I think that the powers to be should be reassuring to the people of the church the they have looked at all major concerns to where the Holy father might be at risk on the trip.

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