



July 22, 2011

Dear World Youth Day Participant,

On behalf of United States Embassy Madrid, I extend a warm welcome to each American coming to Madrid to participate in the World Youth Day celebration. Spain is a wonderful country, and I trust you will have a memorable and safe time during your visit.

The organizers and volunteers planning World Youth Day are working hard to ensure that every aspect of the event runs smoothly. Your safety is a key factor in the success of this event. With that in mind, I strongly encourage each of you to register with the Embassy on-line, at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov), and to read the Country Specific Information on Spain provided on the website.

As you prepare for your visit, I would like to share some safety tips:

- Keep in close contact with your group, and follow the instructions of your organizer. A buddy system can help keep an eye on one another.
- Drink plenty of water, and be aware of the heat and sun during the day.
- Keep your passport in a safe place, and carry a photocopy only.
- Beware of pickpockets on the streets or on public transportation. They often work in pairs while one tries to distract you by creating a diversion.
- Do not discuss travel plans or personal matters within earshot of strangers.
- Feel free to contact the U.S. Embassy (91-587-2200) if you have an emergency or need consular assistance (e.g., replacement of a lost passport).

All of us at the United States Embassy hope that your visit for this historic event is a wonderful and fulfilling experience. We want you to stay safe and to enjoy all that this country and city have to offer. Once again, I welcome you to Spain and wish you the best during your visit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan D. Solomont". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alan D. Solomont