## Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 117,795 and 2,408 Deaths in 2017

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**Posted:** 08/11/17**Themes: Geneva** – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, reports that Humanitarian Emergencies, Missing Migrants, Refugee and Asylum Issues 117,795 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 9 August, with almost 83 per cent arriving in Italy and the remainder divided between Greece, Cyprus and Spain. This compares with 264,381 arrivals across the region through 9 August 2016.

## MEDITERRANEAN DEVELOPMENTS

	I JANUARY - 9 AUGUST 2017		I JANUARY - 9 AUGUST 2016	
Country of Arrival	Arrivals	Deaths	Arrivals	Deaths
Italy	96,861	2,242 (Central Med. route)	100,328	2,714 (Central Med route)
Greece	12,191	45 (Eastern Med.	161,232	383 (Eastern Med. route)
Cyprus	358 (as of 8 July)	route)	345	
Spain	8,385	121 (Western Med. route)	2,476 (as of 30/06/16)	97 (Western Med. route)
Estimated Total	117,795	2,408	264,381	3,194

Data on deaths of migrants compiled by IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre.

All numbers are minimum estimates.

Arrivals based on data from respective governments and IOM field offices.

IOM Rome reported Thursday that according to official figures of the Italian MOI, 96,861 migrants have arrived by sea to Italy this year, which is a 3.46 per cent drop from the same period in 2016 (see chart below).

Arrivals by sea in Italy  January - December 2017/2016/2015  (source: Italian Ministry of Interior)				
	2017	2016	2015	
January	4,468	5,273	3,528	
February	8,971	3,828	4,354	
March	10,853	9,676	2,283	
April	12,943	9,149	16,056	
May	22,993	19,925	21,231	
June	23,524	22.371	22,877	
July	11,459	23,552	23,210	
August	1,648 (as of 9 Assent)	21,294	22,610	

IOM Libya reported Thursday that on 9 August 143 migrants (including 18 women and two children), a majority from Nigeria, Senegal, Mali and Guinea Conakry, were rescued at sea off Azzawyah by the Libyan Coast Guard. IOM press officer Christine Petré added her office is still waiting for data from reports surfacing

regarding a rescue operation Thursday. So far in 2017, she added, 12,838 migrants have been rescued in Libyan waters.

IOM Athens reported Thursday that 478 migrants and refugees arrived at various Greek locations (Samos, Lesvos, Chios, Rhodes, Megisti) during the three days (7-9 August). According to the Hellenic Coast Guard, during the reporting period there were two incidents off the islands of Chios and Rhodes that required search and rescue operations; the Hellenic Coast Guard managed to rescue the 80 migrants to the respective islands.

The total number of arrivals by sea to Greece as of 9 August, is 12,191. This compares with 161,232 at this time last year.

IOM Spain's Ana Dodevska reported the total number of new sea arrivals to Spain has risen to 8,385; adding that as to arrivals by land, there were these recent crossings through the border point in El Tarajal, Ceuta: 74 people on 31 July and 187 people on 7 August.

Deaths off Spain through 9 August are at 121 men, women and children, compared with 97 during the same period last year. For all of 2016, IOM's Missing Migrants Project (MMP) reported 128 deaths in Spanish waters of migrants seeking to enter Europe by sea. There was one death off the coast of Ceuta this week.

This latest fatality in the region brings the total for the Mediterranean in 2017 to 2,408. Although this figure trails the number of deaths (3,194) recorded at this time last year, it nonetheless marks the fourth consecutive year migrant deaths in the Mediterranean Sea have exceeded 2,400.

Worldwide, the IOM Missing Migrants Project (MMP) reports that there have been 3,501 fatalities in 2017 through 9 August, which is nearly 100 deaths since IOM's report of 2 August (see chart below). The Mediterranean region continues to account for well over half of all fatalities worldwide; however, IOM reported a surge in deaths this week in the Horn of Africa region where over the last two days MMP has reported 70 fatalities in the Gulf of Aden in two incidents.

Additionally, there were seven deaths this past week at the Syrian/Turkish border.

Global Migrant Deaths Jan I – August 6 (Source: Missing Migrants Project)					
REGION	2017	2016			
Mediterranean	2,408	3,194			
Europe	35	28			
Middle East	52	87			
North Africa	265	965			
Horn of Africa	173	114			
Sub-Saharan Africa	136	57			
Southeast Asia	45	67			
South Asia	1	0			
East Asia	-1	3			
North America		0			
US/Mexico	242	224			
Central America	46	80			
Caribbean	96	58			
South America	0	16			
TOTAL	3,501	4,893			

visit: http://migration.iom.int/europe

Learn more about the Missing Migrants Project at: http://missingmigrants.iom.int

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