



Regional mixed migration summary for March 2015 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Puntland, Somalia, Somaliland and Yemen.

Terminology: Throughout this report the term migrant/refugee is used to cover all those involved in the mixed migration flows (including asylum seekers, trafficked persons, smuggled economic migrants, refugees). If the case load mentioned refers only to refugees or asylum seekers or trafficked persons it will be clearly stated.

Country	Events /trends /data /analysis
<p>Yemen</p>	<p><i>As the security situation in Yemen deteriorated, several aid agencies providing assistance to migrants and refugees in Yemen have had to scale back their activities and evacuate their international staff from the country. DRC's Bab El Mandab transit centre was temporarily closed for security reasons and its patrolling activities suspended during this reporting period. Data on arrivals via the Arabian Sea from Puntland/Somaliland had not been received by the date of publishing and were not included in this month's update.</i></p> <p>Deteriorating security situation triggers displacement: In March 2015, the conflict between Houthi's and the Yemeni Government intensified. On 26th March, Saudi Arabia, backed by a coalition of other countries commenced air strikes on Houthi positions in Sanaa, Aden, Taiz and Sa'ada. The Yemen president fled to Saudi Arabia on 27th March whilst the UN and international NGO staff were evacuated. The UN Office of the High Commission on Human Rights reported 311 civilian fatalities between 26th March and 7th April with thousands of civilians estimated to have fled their homes.</p> <p>On 30th March, Mazraq IDP camp in Northern Yemen was hit by a coalition airstrike and IOM reported at least 45 civilian fatalities.</p> <p>Internal Displacement: Initial unverified estimates placed the number of internally displaced persons at 100,000 as of 1st April 2015 adding to the existing number of IDPs which stood at over 330,000 in December 2014. Displaced people relocated from major cities, prime targets for the air campaign, to surrounding villages and rural areas. In Northern Yemen, 300 families reportedly fled Sa'ada for Haradh. An assessment by the Yemen Red Crescent on 31st March 2015 in a Sana'a neighbourhood revealed that 40 of 120 families had been displaced. Displacement also reportedly occurred in conflict-affected areas of Al Dhale'e where at least 63,000 people moved into neighbouring Districts; Sa'ada, in which 15,700 people moved to neighbouring governorates; and Hajjah, where IDPs are reported to have fled into surrounding areas.</p> <p>Red Sea Arrivals: In spite of the serious security situation in Yemen, mixed flows of refugees and migrants continued to arrive on Yemen's shores up to the end of March 2015. During this period, 3,359 migrants/refugees arrived in Yemen via the Red Sea (Djibouti) on 79 boats comprising of 3,127 Ethiopians, 232 Somalis (56 Somali and 402 Ethiopian females).</p> <p>Modalities of travel: The partial closure of airports and sea blockades made efforts by individuals to leave challenging and while a number of foreign governments took steps to evacuate their nationals from Yemen, whether by sea or air, some were unable to do so. UNHCR also reported that many individuals trying to leave Yemen were prevented from doing so by fuel shortages and high fees charged by boat operators. Despite the partial closure of ports and runways, IOM reported that significant numbers of individuals crossed the Gulf of Aden via boats and charter flights during this reporting period and as of 8th April 2015, an estimated 4,919 mixed migrants had arrived in Somalia, Djibouti and Ethiopia.</p> <p>Maritime Zone: In early March 2015, the Yemeni authorities established a maritime security zone along the country's 2,500 kilometre-long coastline. Its purpose was to deter irregular immigrants from entering Yemen. The zone encompassed close to 30% of Yemen's territorial waters. It was intended for Coast Guard personnel to patrol this security zone around the clock, however the unit lacked equipment and funds to effectively carry out this mandate. In addition to this challenge, the imposition of Saudi-led naval blockades on Yemen's ports since 30th March 2015, makes it unclear if the maritime zone is still being patrolled by Yemen Coast Guards.</p> <p>Migrant Vulnerability: According to the information and reports collected by the DRC team in March 2015, 2,120</p>

	<p>migrants (including 268 women) were reportedly abducted from the total of 3,359, representing an alarming 63% of all arrivals along the Red Sea coast, and including many female migrants. Migrants reported that traffickers built small huts along the Red Sea coast (particularly around Al Jadid) to temporarily hold recently-landed migrants before transferring them to unknown mountainous locations in Ta'iz. Migrants who were abducted and released by traffickers reported having undergone torture and sexual assault. UNHCR reports further indicated that refugees in Yemen were in increasingly vulnerable situations as a direct result of their areas being directly affected by the armed conflict as well as potential recruitment by armed groups. The lack of search and safety operations in the Red Sea and the Arabian sea was a risk for individuals attempting to leave via boat.</p> <p>Call for no returns to Yemen: With 14 out of Yemen's 22 governorates affected by air strikes or armed conflict, UNHCR issued a position paper to governments calling on all countries to allow civilians fleeing Yemen access to their territories. The advisory also urged governments around the world to suspend forcible returns to the country.</p>
<p>Djibouti</p>	<p>New Yemeni Arrivals: As of 9th April 2015, IOM reported 4,260 arrivals, comprising of Yemeni and non-Yemeni nationals, including returning Djibouti nationals, Somalis and Ethiopians. Not all Yemeni arrivals claimed asylum, with some subsequently leaving Djibouti for other countries. Out of these arrivals, UNHCR registered 317 Yemeni refugees during this period. Djibouti's coast guard directed Yemeni nationals to Obock in the north of the country, which the government designated as the location for a refugee camp whilst returning migrants from Djibouti and Ethiopia were sent to the Port of Djibouti in the capital. With the deteriorating security situation in Yemen, numbers of arrivals are expected to rise with UNHCR establishing an estimated planning figure of 5,000 new arrivals from Yemen over the next three months and 30,000 in the next six months.</p> <p>Refugees and Asylum seekers: In March 2015, UNHCR conducted a verification exercise to ascertain the registered number of refugees and asylum seekers in Djibouti- both urban and camp-based. As of 18th March 2015, there were 14,907 registered refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>Migrant vulnerabilities: Migrants were reported to be living in difficult living conditions in Obock facing challenges such as shortages of food, water and shelter. Numerous migrants remained in Djibouti for several weeks trying to get temporary jobs to gain money to pay smugglers for the sea crossing whilst many others resorted to begging for money and/or food in the streets of Djibouti.</p>
<p>Somaliland</p>	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 1st April 2015, IOM reported that 270 migrants/refugees, mostly Somali and Yemeni nationals, arrived in Somaliland from Yemen at Berbera and Lughaya ports.</p> <p>Yemen Task Force for Somalia Established: On 1st April 2015, IOM, UNHCR, OCHA and other agencies established a Taskforce for Somalia based in Nairobi. The taskforce, coordinating emergency and humanitarian responses to potential Somali returnees from Yemen, put forward an estimated initial planning figure of 100,000 mixed migrant arrivals expected in Somalia over the next six months. This contingency planning figure was established for the four Ports of Entry: Berbera, Bosasso, Mogadishu and Kismayo and likely be increased as the potential for large numbers of potential mixed migrants from Yemen exists.</p>
<p>Somalia (South Central)</p>	<p>Somali Refugees in Yemen: The Federal Government of Somalia sent an official communiqué requesting assistance from IOM for the evacuation of Somali nationals, including refugees and irregular and regular migrants, from Yemen. Discussions between IOM and UNHCR were subsequently initiated to determine the most appropriate course of action. As of January 2015, 244,204 Somali refugees were hosted in Yemen.</p> <p>Refugees and asylum seekers: In March 2015, there were 965,147 Somali refugees in the Horn of Africa region hosted mainly in Kenya, Ethiopia, Yemen, Eritrea, Djibouti and Uganda. Within Somalia, there were 2,742 registered refugees and 9,478 registered asylum seekers hosted mainly in the Northern regions.</p> <p>Voluntary return Pilot Project: 227 individuals voluntarily returned to Somalia in March 2015 under UNHCR's pilot voluntary returns project. This makes a total of 2,049 individuals who returned to Somalia between 8th December 2014 and 31st March 2015. The returning refugees under UNHCR's pilot project were evenly distributed between male and female (1051 Females and 998 Males). The pilot targets an initial group of up to 10,000 Somali refugees who wish to return to Somalia.</p>

	<p>Internally Displaced Persons: As of March 2015, approximately 1.1 million people out of the total estimated Somali population of 12.3 million were internally displaced. Over one third of the IDPs resided close to the capital Mogadishu in the Banadir region. UNHCR estimated that 893,000 IDPs lived in south-central Somalia, 130,000 in Puntland and 84,000 in Somaliland. The IDP populations in Somaliland and Puntland also included a mix of new and long-term IDPs, most of them living in urban and peri-urban areas with 51% of all IDPs being female.</p>
<p>Puntland</p>	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 9th April 2015, there were 389 arrivals from Yemen in Bosasso and UNHCR anticipated an increase in the number of both returnees and asylum seekers/refugees and migrants- of different nationalities- including Yemenis, returning Somalis and Ethiopians. UNHCR and international NGOs including DRC and IOM made arrangements to set up reception centres for the expected returnees and asylum seekers/migrants.</p> <p>Migrants in Bosaso: In March 2015, approximately 5,000 migrants (most of Ethiopian nationality) were reported to be stranded in Bossaso due to the deteriorating security situation in Yemen and increased border controls by Yemeni authorities.</p> <p>Migrant Detention: In March 2015, the Mixed Migration Task Force reported that 100 Ethiopian migrants in Bosasso were apprehended and detained by authorities. Reportedly, the individuals were all economic migrants and none sought asylum.</p>
<p>South Sudan</p>	<p>Reneging on the Peace Agreement: On 24th March 2015, the United Nations Security Council expressed its “profound disappointment” at the failure of all parties in South Sudan to conclude an agreement that would bring the country closer to resolving the ongoing conflict. The Council also underlined its intent to impose sanctions to encourage all parties to accelerate efforts in forming a Transitional Government of National Unity and to “take effective and comprehensive steps” to end all acts of violence. Days later, on 26th March 2015, South Sudan’s National Legislative Assembly voted to extend President Salva Kiir’s term in office by three years from 9 July 2015 to 9 July 2018. The Parliament also extended its own term by three years.</p> <p>Refugees and Asylum Seekers: In March 2015, there were 647,049 South Sudanese refugees in the region hosted mainly in Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya and Uganda. South Sudan hosted 257,673 registered refugees within its territory and 1.5 million internally displaced persons.</p> <p>South Sudanese movements to Uganda: As the conflict in South Sudan remains unresolved, Uganda continued to receive refugees, asylum seekers and forced migrants from South Sudan with new asylum seekers arriving daily. Approximately 20-100 South Sudanese individuals are received daily at border entry points in Northern Uganda. As of March 2015, Uganda hosted nearly 160,000 registered South Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers.</p>
<p>Sudan</p>	<p>Sudanese Fatalities in the Mediterranean: Reports in the media stated that over 45 people from Sudan lost their lives in the Mediterranean after their vessel capsized. The individuals were reportedly en route to Italy via El Zawya on the Libyan coast. A spokesman for the Association of Darfuri in Libya, reported that that most of the group, who paid large sums of money to be smuggled to Europe, were from Darfur whilst others were other from other parts of Sudan and other African countries.</p>
<p>Eritrea</p>	<p>Asylum Trends: The increase in the number of Eritrean asylum-seekers observed in recent years continued into 2014, reaching unprecedented levels. In its March 2015 Asylum Trends report, UNHCR noted that Eritrea was one of the five top source countries of asylum seekers in 2014 amongst a group of 44 industrialised countries. The figure was at its highest with 48,400 new asylum applications registered during the year, thereby more than doubling compared to 2013 (22,300 claims). The report further notes that after Syria, Eritrea was the second largest source country of individuals arriving in Europe by sea via Italy.</p>

	<p>European Union plans to approve multi-million euro aid package: The European Union announced plans to approve the granting of a multi-million development grant to Eritrea to spend on energy and other sectors. An EU official stated that there were hopes of stemming the exodus of Eritreans attempting the dangerous journey to Europe through addressing social and economic exclusion in Eritrea.</p> <p>UN Human Rights Council Oral Update on Eritrea: In March 2015, Mike Smith, Chairperson of the Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in Eritrea gave an oral update to the Human Rights Council during its 28th Session. He highlighted the fact that human rights abuses and poor economic prospects were driving hundreds of Eritreans out of the country every day. These abuses include forced manual labour, forced military conscription and compulsory national service for all Eritrean citizens seventeen years and above with no provision for conscientious objection. The period of national service continues to be frequently extended indefinitely, with minimal salaries and no choice over the nature of work assigned and conscripts faced harsh penalties for evasion, including arbitrary detention and torture and other ill-treatment. Mr Smith's update corroborates research on causes or main drivers of migration from Eritrea. Click here to read the statement.</p>
<p>Ethiopia</p>	<p>Refugees and Asylum Seekers: In March 2015, Ethiopia was host to 682,761 refugees from South Sudan, Somalia, Sudan and Eritrea. South Sudanese made up largest percentage of refugees this period compared to March 2014 when Somali refugees were the largest nationality.</p> <p>Movements from South Sudan: The cumulative figure of new arrivals from South Sudan to Ethiopia as of 31st March 2015 was 199,348 which brought the total number of registered South Sudanese refugees in March 2015 was 263,248. An average of 60 South Sudanese refugees arrived per day in Gambella Region through Pagak, Akobo, and Burbiey entry points.</p> <p>Secondary movement: Eritreans hosted in Ethiopia are increasingly transiting southwards through Benishangul-Gumuz Region towards South Sudan with the aid of smugglers, with the intention of obtaining jobs in Juba. During this period, 105 Eritrean refugees were arrested and those interviewed by UNHCR claimed to have paid between USD 1,000 to USD 2,500 to smugglers to get them to South Sudan.</p> <p>Returns from Djibouti and Yemen: IOM assisted 159 stranded Ethiopian migrants return from Djibouti to the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa. The returnees included 131 individuals stranded in Djibouti en route to Yemen and 28 people evacuated to Djibouti from Yemen by sea due to the ongoing conflict. The group included 5 women evacuated from Yemen, and 37 unaccompanied minors stranded in Djibouti. Of the returnees, 131 travelled by road and the remainder by air. On arrival in Addis Ababa, the unaccompanied minors were transferred to a centre for family tracing and reunification.</p> <p>Relocation of Refugees: In March 2015, UNHCR began relocating more than 50,000 South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia from flood-prone areas in the Gambella region ahead of the rainy season expected to start in late April. The relocation from the flood prone Western part of Ethiopia was in readiness for the rains expected in late April from Leitchuor and Nip Nip refugee camps in the Gambella region.</p> <p>Anti-Trafficking Policy: The Ethiopian Government started the process of drafting a National Action Plan to combat trafficking in persons. The process is led the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs supported by IOM and its implementation is expected to take place between September 2015 and September 2020. The strategic response of the Ethiopian government is expected to be based on four pillars of i) Prevention, ii) Prosecution, iii) Protection and iv) Partnership. The US State Department's 2014 Trafficking in Persons report cited Ethiopia as a source, destination and transit country for trafficking.</p>
<p>Kenya</p>	<p>Dadaab Refugee Camp Security Incident: On 1st April 2015, three armed men mounted an attack in Hagadera refugee camp, killing one civilian and injuring three security guards. Consequently, UN agencies limited their activities to essential services for a week. Activities in the other four Dadaab camps were not affected.</p> <p>Terror attack on Kenyan University: On 2nd April 2015, an attack was carried by armed men on Garissa University College resulting in over 150 fatalities, mostly students. The siege ended the same day, after four of the attackers were killed. The Somali-based militant group, Al-Shabaab, claimed responsibility for these attacks and five men were subsequently arrested by Kenyan security forces and a bounty placed for the arrest of the</p>

suspected organizer.

In the aftermath of the attack, members of Parliament and government officials from north-eastern Kenya called for the closure of the Dadaab refugee camp, with claims that the camp is used to recruit and harbor al-Shabab members. The UNHCR run Dadaab camp is hosted in Garissa County and located about 95km from Garissa town and one of Kenya's largest refugee camps. As of 31st March 2015, it hosted 351,446 refugees- most of whom were Somali. More information on the implications for refugees and migrants will be detailed in the April RMMS report.

Refugees and Asylum seekers in Kenya: As of 1st March 2015 Kenya hosted 584,989 registered refugees and asylum seekers with the highest number (over 70%) coming from Somalia whilst South Sudanese and Ethiopian refugees came second and third respectively.

Border control: The Kenyan Government announced plans to build a new road, additional border crossings and barriers along its 700 km border with Somalia in an attempt to thwart attacks from the militant group, Al Shabaab. Government officials [said](#) that the project would begin in 2015 but were ambivalent about the expected completion date. It was not immediately clear whether the planned new road would run the full length of the border with Somalia.

Lawmakers visit UNHCR Refugee Camp: Members of the Kenya Parliamentary Human Rights Association visited Dadaab refugee camp in March 2015. The mission comprised of five members of parliament who sought to collect views to help in the development of a proposed amendment of the Kenyan Refugee Act.

Migrant Detention: In March 2015, 148 refugees/irregular migrants were held in two detention centres in Garissa County. The individuals had been arrested around Garissa town and charged with the offence of unlawful presence outside the designated camp areas. 16 irregular Ethiopian migrants en route to South Africa were arrested in Nairobi and charged with the offence being in the country illegally. This brings the total of irregular Ethiopian migrants reported by media to be detained in Kenya between February and March 2015 to 127.

The Kenya Migration Profile, 2015: IOM and the Government of Kenya's Department of Immigration Services launched the country's first migration profile in March 2015. The report recognises Kenya as a significant source, transit and destination hub for migrants in Sub-Saharan Africa and highlights gaps in addressing this challenge such as the failure to mainstream migration into development plans and policies and provides recommendations on how this can be done. Please contact [IOM Kenya](#) for hard copies of the report.

Regional Labour integration: The Kenyan government announced that it would harmonise its labour laws to allow East Africans get work permits with ease in line with new legislation passed by the East African Legislative Assembly in 2014. Under this new law, the East African countries are mandated to permit East African citizens to work in any of the region without paying fees for work permit, allowing for free labour movement within member states. Migration practitioners claim that it is likely to be a while before all five EAC member states fully adhere to free movement of labour. Afraid that their labour markets will be flooded, majority have adopted a protectionist approach to migration.

Israel

Forced repatriation of asylum seekers: In March 2015, Israel's interior Minister announced that the country would begin the deportation of asylum seekers from Eritrea and Sudan to unnamed third countries in Africa, reported by both Israeli and regional [media sources](#) to be Uganda and Rwanda. In March 2015, a local refugee and migrant NGO received reports of 7 Eritrean citizens being held in Holot detention centre whose asylum requests were rejected and who received a deportation notice, which did not specify where they would be going. Asylum seekers from Sudan and Eritrea face deportation to third countries or face unlimited imprisonment in Israel under a new Interior Ministry policy which has been criticised by human rights organisations. As of 31st March 2015, an estimated 42,000 Eritrean and Sudanese asylum seekers/migrants were in Israel.

Human rights report on deported asylum-seekers: A new [report](#), in Hebrew, was released by two human rights organisation in Israel, based on interviews with asylum-seekers held at detention centres, alleging that some of the asylum seekers who left Israel under the government's 'voluntary departure' framework in 2013 and 2014 had been jailed and tortured on their return to Sudan. Additional testimony in the report indicates that the third countries to which Israel sends asylum-seekers do not provide protection, legal status or assurance of safety for the new

arrivals.

**Other
Regional
news**

Detention of Irregular Migrants from the Horn of Africa in Cairo: Egyptian media [reported](#) the arrest and detention 40 irregular migrants in Cairo attempting to cross over into Italy via the Mediterranean city of Kafr al-Sheikh. The detainees included 35 Somalis, 4 Sudanese, and 1 Yemeni woman. Reports claim that they had each paid \$2,500 to smugglers to facilitate their journey.

Saudi Arabia's 'zero-tolerance' policy on irregular migrants: Following the Saudi government's zero-tolerance policy announcement issued in early March 2015, there have been media [reports](#) of Saudi police allegedly arresting 1,250 illegal immigrants daily on average in Makkah region. Since the start of the Saudi military campaign against Houthi's in Yemen, Saudi border officials [claim](#) to have prevented 24,506 people from entering Saudi Arabia and arrested 399 smugglers.

Rescue of stranded Migrants in the Mediterranean Sea: The Italian coastguard [rescued](#) 1,500 mixed migrants stranded in the Mediterranean sea in on 5th April 2015. The highly perilous crossing of the Mediterranean on overcrowded, rickety boats claimed around 3,000 lives in 2014.

EU establishes a Joint Operational Team to combat irregular migration in the Mediterranean: Hosted at Europol headquarters in The Hague, the Joint Operation Team will tackle organised criminal groups which facilitate the journeys of migrants by ship across the Mediterranean Sea to Europe. This team is expected to combine intelligence resources and national capabilities to carry out coordinated and intelligence-driven actions against the organized criminal groups facilitating irregular migration, in close cooperation with INTERPOL and Frontex.

Joint database on unsafe migration by sea: As a follow up to the outcomes of the inter-agency High-level Meeting to Address Unsafe Mixed Migration by Sea, International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and International Organisation for Migration (IOM) officials met in Geneva to discuss matters pertaining to the setting up of a joint database to better manage the flow of information on incidents associated with unsafe and irregular mixed migration.

Situational Update on Migration to Europe: In January and February 2015, [Frontex](#) reported that 7,834 mixed migrants departed from Libya via the Mediterranean for Europe, a 42% increase from the same period in 2014. The rise in numbers defies seasonal lows typical for the winter season which is the most hazardous time to cross the Mediterranean Sea to Italy. Also worth noting is the change in the composition of the nationalities of migrants leaving Libya, namely an increase in sub-Saharan migrants and a drop in the number of Syrians.

EU Border Talks: The European Union examined new ways to reinforce border patrols amidst calls for its 28 member countries to provide more funds and resources for the border agency Frontex. Even as thousands of people make the risky Mediterranean crossing in search of a better life, the agency has no mandate for search and rescue work at sea and lacks the ships and planes required to do this. More than 276,000 irregular migrants entered Europe in 2014 with Libya as the main point of departure for migrants.

Media sources also reported that EU's migration commissioner, Dimitris Avramopoulos, planned to visit Egypt, Tunisia, and Morocco to explore the possibility of creating a zone to address smuggling and irregular migration. His proposed visit comes in the wake of a reported Italian-led plan to set up off-shore migrant reception centres in these countries in an effort aimed at stemming the movement of hundreds of thousands of people across the Mediterranean.

Bulgaria constructing a wall along Turkey border: Bulgaria has commenced the building of a wall on its border with Turkey with government officials [citing](#) fears of increased irregular migrants in the summer months. In 2012, heightened security was implemented along the Greek border with Turkey, including the building of a fence, the result of which was that the mixed migration flow from Turkey changed towards the Bulgarian border.

Syrian Refugee Camp overrun by ISIL: The UNHCR-run Yarmouk refugee camp located in Northern Syria hosting approximately 18,000 refugees, the majority of whom were Palestinian, was invaded by the militant group, the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). The militants took control of close to 90% of the camp, resulting in thousands of refugees fleeing the camp, heavy fighting and casualties. The camp was constructed during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war for Palestinian refugees fleeing the conflict.

**New
Research,
reports or
documents**

UNHCR Asylum Trends 2014: This report summarizes patterns and trends in the number of individual asylum claims submitted in Europe and selected non-European countries during 2014. The report covers the 38 European and six non-European States that provide monthly asylum statistics to UNHCR. Figures are mostly based on official asylum statistics, reflecting national laws and procedures. Click [here](#) to read the report.

Migration and Asylum Challenges in Eastern Africa: Mixed Migration Flows Require Dual Policy Approaches: Published by the Migration Policy Institute in March 2015, this brief aims to provide some basic facts about migration and displacement flows in the region, the main challenges they trigger and the EU and regional frameworks established to deal with them. Click [here](#) to read the paper.

The Development of EU Policy on Immigration and Asylum: Rethinking Coordination and Leadership, Elizabeth Collett, Migration Policy Institute: This policy brief addresses the underlying mechanisms of policymaking around migration and asylum at the European Union level and identifies areas in which the EU institutions must reform if they are to ensure that the policy solutions designed in Brussels have the desired effect on the ground. The brief highlights the need for stronger leadership and coordination on immigration policy—which still lacks a coherent, comprehensive approach beyond the Home Affairs domain—as well as for the allocation of resources, political and otherwise, to effect real change, both within the European Union and with third countries. The brief is available [here](#).

Children Deprived of Liberty: The UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, Juan E. Méndez, launched his thematic report on child detention during the 28th Session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. This is the first time that a thematic report of one of the UN Special Mechanisms has specifically addressed the torture and ill-treatment of child migrants in the context of immigration detention. The report reveals that the immigration detention of children is not only a violation of child rights, but also rises to the level of “cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment” in violation of the international prohibition on torture. The report is available [here](#).

The Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of Migrants in Irregular Situation: Published by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in March 2015, this study details the legal, policy and practical barriers irregular migrants face in the enjoyment of their rights, as well as trends and national policies. By examining the minimum human rights standards and promising practices, the publication provides key messages to support States and other stakeholders in ensuring irregular migrants can exercise their rights. Read the report [here](#).

Reception and Detention Conditions of applicants for international protection in light of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU: This study from the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) provides guidance to EU Member States and asylum practitioners on how the provisions of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights can be used to ensure a more rights based implementation of the standards contained in the Directive regulating the reception and detention of asylum seekers in the EU. The report looks at a number of areas covered by the Reception Conditions Directive, and its recast, including reception and detention conditions, health care and the special reception needs of persons seeking international protection and how these topics can be informed by the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. Click [here](#) to read the report.

This information sheet is distributed to over 1,200 agencies, academic institutions, donors, embassies, journalists, government officials / departments, international and multi-national organisations and related non-government organisations. Sources: Data is sourced from a wide variety of collaborators, partners, international and local organisations, media outlets and individuals in the region. The key refugee agency – UNHCR – and migration agency – IOM- are frequently the origin of specific refugee or migrant return-related data. RMMS is a unit/project within the Danish Refugee Council and also uses data and information generated by DRC activities. RMMS makes its own independent editorial decisions as to what sections and what data is included in this monthly update.