

# ITALY

November 2018

## Overview and developments

### Key Figures<sup>1</sup>

**23,011**

Sea arrivals

**3,485**

UASC sea arrivals

**2,137**

Dead and missing

**48,339**

Asylum applications

**94%**

Sea arrivals informed about their rights and the asylum procedure (Access team)

**826**

Referrals of persons with specific needs to appropriate services (Access team)

**1,050**

Visits to reception centres (Access team)

**241**

 Joint reception monitoring missions (Reception team)<sup>7</sup>

Between 1 January and 30 November 2018, **23,011 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea**. This is an 80 per cent decrease compared to sea arrivals in the same period last year, when 117,042 persons reached Italian shores. The number of monthly arrivals in November (980) is comparable with previous months, but is significantly lower than in November last year (5,600).

Departures from Libya have dropped significantly compared to last year: 56 per cent of refugees and migrants reaching Italian shores since the beginning of 2018 departed from Libya, compared to 91 per cent in the same period last year. Notably, in November 2018, there were more departures from Libya (511) than in previous months. The ten most common countries of origin of persons registered at Italian landing points between January and November 2018 are Tunisia, Eritrea, Iraq, Sudan, Pakistan, Nigeria, Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Guinea. **Unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) account for 15 per cent of sea arrivals** since the beginning of the year<sup>2</sup>.

On 7 November, seven refugees were resettled from Libya to Italy. Furthermore, fifty-one refugees and asylum-seekers, including women, children and vulnerable persons, arrived from Niger to Italy on 14 November, following evacuation from Libya to Niger. Evacuated persons originate from Cameroon, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan. The vast majority of them experienced detention and serious abuse in Libya, and were evacuated to Niger in the context of UNHCR's Emergency Transit Mechanism.

Between 1 January and 30 November 2018, **48,339 new asylum applications** were lodged in Italy, a 60 per cent decrease compared to the same period last year<sup>3</sup>. As of 30 November 2018, **141,851 adult asylum-seekers were accommodated in reception facilities** across the country<sup>4</sup>.

The conversion law on immigration and security was approved by both the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, following confidence votes. Prior to its approval, UNHCR Regional Representative for Southern Europe **expressed** concerns about the potential implications of the coming into force of the new law, and called for an approach favouring refugee inclusion. UNHCR also **reiterated** the importance for the new provisions to comply with the 1951 Geneva Convention on the Status of Refugees, as well as with international law and European standards<sup>5</sup>.

## Operational update - UNHCR Response<sup>6</sup>

**Access to territory and procedures.** In early November, UNHCR carried out outreach activities in Udine, near the Italy-Slovenia border, where significant numbers of land arrivals from Slovenia were reported. UNHCR liaised with local organisations and delivered information materials to be distributed to recently arrived asylum-seekers and refugees.

**Specific needs and SGBV.** In mid-November, UNHCR organised and co-facilitated a four-day workshop in collaboration with OIS (Osservatorio Internazionale Salute – International Observatory on Health), in Rome. The workshop was attended by approximately 40 doctors –including gynaecologists, obstetricians and paediatricians- and psycho-social support practitioners, and focused on the protection and care of asylum-seekers and refugees with specific needs. UNHCR delivered sessions on identification and referral of persons with specific needs, with a focus on SGBV survivors.

**Integration.** On 15-16 November, a national participatory workshop was organized by UNHCR partner **Teatro dell'Argine** in Bologna, in the context of the “Acting together #with Refugees” initiative. The workshop brought together 35 theatre companies working with asylum-seekers and refugees across 17 Italian regions. The workshop favoured an exchange on activities aimed at social integration, active participation and empowerment. Furthermore, UNHCR organized a two-day training on communication for refugees and stateless persons in Milan. The training included sessions on interview techniques, public speaking and engagement with students in schools. Eight refugees and one stateless person participated.

<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise specified, key figures refer to the 1 January – 30 November 2018 period.

<sup>2</sup> For further details and statistics, please refer to UNHCR updates including Sea Arrivals Dashboards and UASC Dashboards, available on the UNHCR data portal at <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean/location/5205>

<sup>3</sup> Ministry of Interior, I numeri dell'asilo, <http://www.libertaciviliimmigrazione.dlci.interno.gov.it/it/documentazione/statistica/i-numeri-dellasilo> (last access 21/12/2018)

<sup>4</sup> Ministry of Interior, Cruscotto statistico giornaliero, 30 November 2018, <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/63102> (last access 21/12/2018)

<sup>5</sup> See also Filippo Grandi, *Il decreto sicurezza e tutti i rischi di un'occasione persa*, <https://www.corriere.it/esteri/18-novembre-26/decreto-sicurezza-tutti-rischi-un-occasione-persa-dea3eed4-f174-11e8-8ec9-d371ed363eb6.shtml> (last access 21/12/2018)

<sup>6</sup> For information on UNHCR activities in Italy, see UNHCR, *What we do in Italy*, available at: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/65386> (last access 21/09/2018)

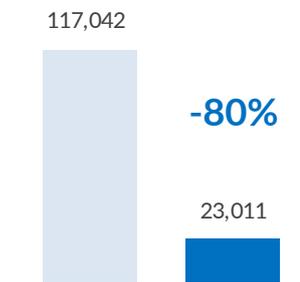
<sup>7</sup> Visits to reception centres (Access team) are carried out by UNHCR staff autonomously. Joint reception monitoring missions (Reception team) are carried out by UNHCR staff, jointly with Mol representatives and external auditors (Mireco).

### UNHCR teams in Italy:



### Sea arrivals in Italy

Jan - Nov, 2017-2018

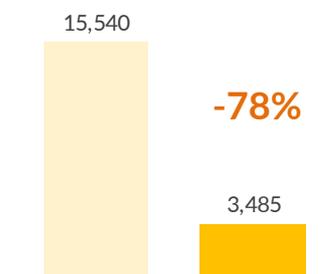


Jan - Nov 2017 Jan - Nov 2018

**Total 2017: 119,369**

### UASC arrivals in Italy

Jan - Nov, 2017-2018

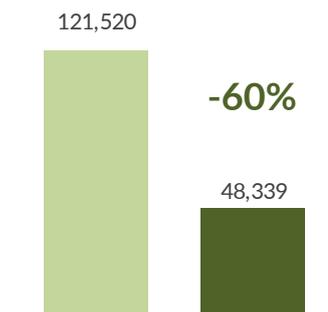


Jan - Nov 2017 Jan - Nov 2018

**Total 2017: 15,779**

### RSD first time applications

Jan - Nov, 2017-2018



Jan - Nov 2017 Jan - Nov 2018

**Total 2017: 126,560**

## External relations

- 7-8 November: attendance at [Integrating Cities](#) conference in Milan
- 15 November: launch of [Viaggi da Imparare](#) video contest for secondary schools
- 20 November: launch of book *Anche Superman era un rifugiato*
- 21 November: attendance at the opening of the [Mediterranean Dialogues](#) in Rome
- 28 November: [Christmas lights](#) campaign and fundraising concert for Syria in Milan
- 29-30 November: joint UNHCR, UNICEF and IOM mission to Ventimiglia



The book *Anche Superman era un rifugiato*



Vulnerable refugees evacuated from Libya arrive in Rome, 14 November 2018