



MONTHLY TREND REPORT

COVERING MIXED MIGRATION TO, THROUGH & FROM NORTH AFRICA

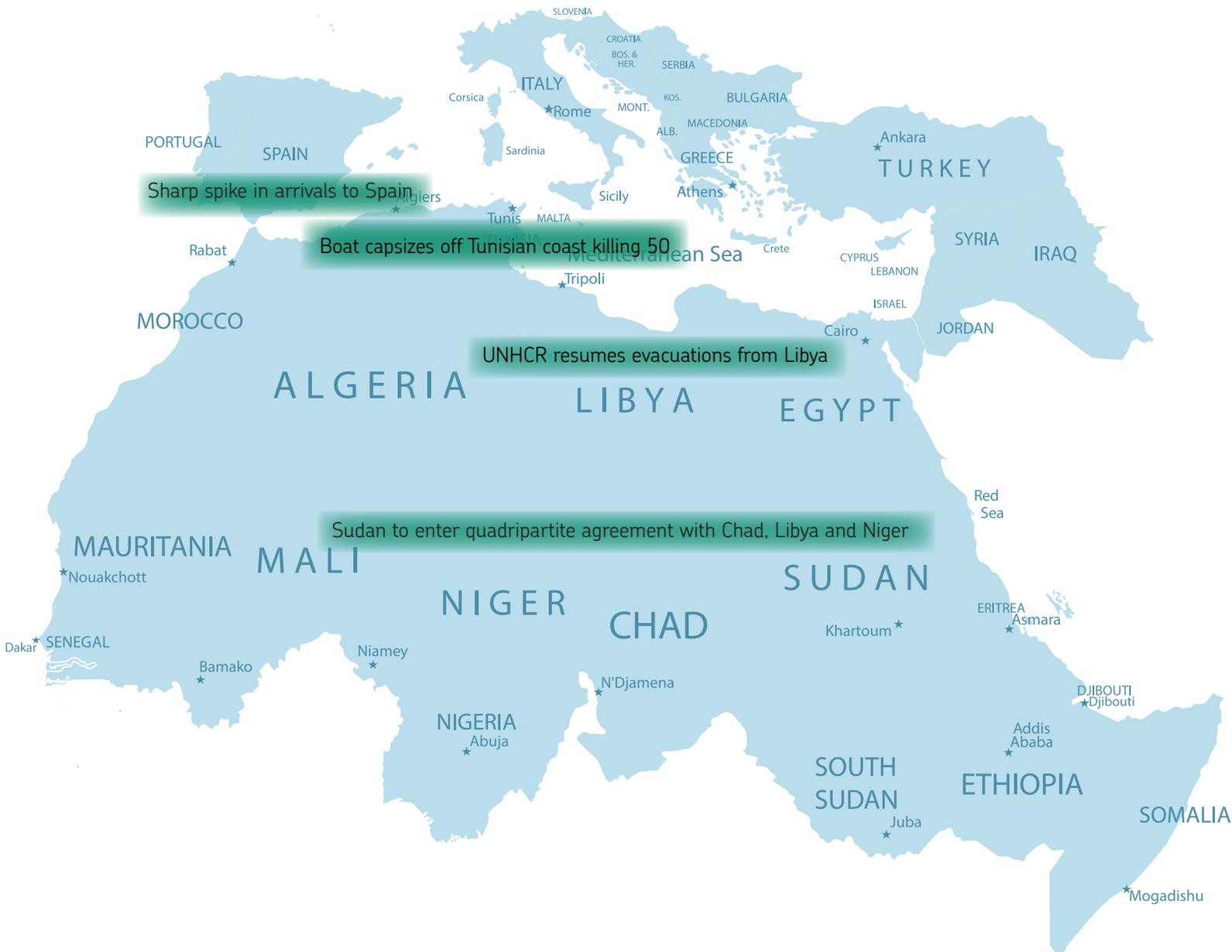
About: MHub is the regional knowledge hub and secretariat for the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force, comprising of DRC, IOM, OHCHR, RMMS, Save the Children, UNHCR, UNICEF and UNODC. It promotes a human rights-based approach to ensure the protection of people moving in mixed and complex flows to, through and from North Africa.

Terminology: Throughout this bulletin the terms migrant, refugee and asylum seeker are used together to cover all those comprising mixed migration flows. If the original source specifies a particular category, the relevant term will be used.

Scope: This bulletin covers mixed migration trends in Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Sudan, Tunisia, Greece and Italy.

Sources: Data is drawn from a wide variety of sources, including government, civil society and media.

HIGHLIGHTS



CONTACT

info@mixedmigrationhub.org



www.mixedmigrationhub.org



For updates on the Horn of Africa, visit [RMMS](#)

REGIONAL

Austria plans to use border guards in Africa

- Austria's Chancellor Sebastian Kurz has [called](#) for EU patrol guards to be sent the shores of North Africa to help prevent refugees, migrants and asylum seekers from departing to and reaching Europe through the Mediterranean. He has underlined the need to elicit agreements from the governments of Northern African countries to allow European border guards to operate there to prevent boats from taking off in dangerous journeys in the sea. He stated that this mandate would enable the Frontex authorities end the illicit trade in smuggling and trafficking in persons. These declarations are a good indicator for Austria's migration policy during its rotational presidency of the EU council that will begin starting this July. Kurz [is](#) already known for his stance against migration as well as refugees and asylum seekers.

EU Migration Commissioner assesses progress made and calls for more action

- Dimitris Avramopoulos, EU Migration Commissioner, [declared](#) in a conference in Brussels that while progress was made by EU countries in handling migration issues, much remains to be done. Commissioner Avramopoulos said that structural and Long-term solutions were necessary and that EU member states should take serious action concerning the return of failed asylum applicants and to help with addressing the gaps in the European border and coast guard. He further emphasized that there is an increase in the number of crossings along the Greek-Turkish border, the numbers are still considerably less than at the height of the 'migration crisis'. He also stressed that he is against the idea of building a wall border between Greece and Turkey because, for him, Europe will never become "Fortress Europe" and the unity is a key to handle the migration situation.

ALGERIA

Joint Spanish-Algerian action on migration

- Spain and Algeria's Interior ministers [signed](#) an agreement to form a joint investigative team to fight "illegal Migration" and prevent "Islamist terrorism". This agreement comes after Algeria managed to reduce the number of arrivals of undocumented Algerian migrants to Spain. The number of arrivals in the first trimester of 2018 dropped by 20% compared the same interval in 2017. The joint unit will have the mission of investigating human trafficking networks and training forces for the prevention of Algerians from disembarking irregularly to Spain. This agreement comes amid severe criticism of Algeria's policy of mass deportation of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers coming from Mali, Cameroon, and Algerian authorities forcing them to cross the desert to Niger in extremely difficult conditions.

Emerging migrant crisis in the deserts between Algeria and Niger

- Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers deported from Algeria are facing the heat of the desert without water and food to get to Niger said the IOM chief of Mission in Niger. IOM is providing shelter for 3,500 migrants in Niger. He stated that 1,500 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers had arrived in one single day walking with no transport in a temperature of 45c. An additional 7,000 are expected to arrive in Niger this year until June as per IOM statistics. Dozens of deaths have been reported due to the heat endured during the journey. One of the main reasons behind this crisis is the closing of the border between Niger and Libya. This led many migrants to head to Algeria, where authorities view migrants as a "threat to the national security".

OHCHR calls for an end to deportations

- After the collective expulsion of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers from Algeria, OHCHR has [called](#) on the Algerian government to stop these deportations. OHCHR said these expulsions are considered a violation of international human rights law. These declarations come after an OHCHR team visit to Niger where they interviewed 25 migrants on their circumstances of expulsion from Algeria. The spokeswoman of the UN human rights team reported that the interviews revealed that the expulsions were done on a collective basis with no individual assessments. Migrants were not able to take their belongings with them even money and passports.

Migrants report abuse and human rights violations

- Many migrants, refugees and asylum seekers who have been expelled from Algeria have reported that they were subjected to enslavement and abuse in Algeria. There [are](#) fears among aid agencies that these acts might be widespread in the country. Algeria started to become the gateway for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers trying to cross to Italy due to the increased risk of slavery and detention faced by those traveling through Libya. In interviews conducted by Reuters and Charity Catholic Relief Services and two NGOs, migrants deported from Algeria said they were sold and forced to work and have been enslaved by smugglers from their own nationalities. The Algerian government in reply to the OHCHR reports about the situation in Algeria said that they were taking the necessary measures to ensure the safety of its citizens and that the situation is far from the one in Libya.

EGYPT

Human trafficking and smuggling network referred to trial

- The Egyptian Chief Prosecutor has [referred](#) 40 defendants for trial for crimes of human trafficking and migrant smuggling. The accused were charged with various criminal offences ranging from facilitating irregular immigration and sex trafficking to falsifying official documents. Investigations into the case started following reports that a foreign ministry employee was involved in a human trafficking network. The suspects, if found guilty, could face up to 15 years prison term each.

Egyptian acquitted of the crime of human trafficking in Italy

- An Egyptian citizen based in Italy was [cleared](#) of the charge of human trafficking. The 27-year-old was arrested in 2014 over charges of facilitating 'illegal migration' to Italy. The accusations came after an investigation was made into an Italian-Egyptian smuggling group that facilitated the arrival of hundreds of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers to Italy from northern African and Middle Eastern countries.

No irregular embarkations from Egypt since 2016 according to officials

- The Egyptian Youth and Sports Minister Khaled Abdel Aziz said no Egyptian citizens were [observed](#) leaving Egypt by sea since 2016. The Egyptian Minister of Immigration, Nabila Makram, reported that in May 2016, there were around 2,500 Egyptian children in Italy after leaving home irregularly which exposed some of them to exploitation. The Egyptian Local Development Minister, Abu Bakr el-Gendi added that it is necessary to provide support to countries of origin in the provision of job opportunities that encourage youth to stay in their country of origin.

LIBYA

UN considers sanctions against a group of smugglers in Libya

- In the first move of its kind, the UN is [considering](#) imposing sanctions on migrant smugglers in Libya. A list was presented by 5 countries: the UK, US, Germany, the Netherlands and France with the names of six leaders of trafficking networks to the UN Security Council. The blacklist with the names of the traffickers includes two Eritreans and four Libyan nationals. The list was put on hold upon Russia's request for further investigation and more extensive evidence proving the involvement of the six individuals in the trafficking activities they are accused of.

Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers escape traffickers with many killed and wounded

- On 23 May, around 25 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers were [injured](#), many seriously, while trying to escape their captors west of the town of Bani Walid in Libya. During the attempt, more than one hundred migrants, refugees and asylum seekers managed to escape from their traffickers. Those hurt in the escape were transferred to the Bani Walid hospital. The escapees, who came from Eritrea, Somalia and Ethiopia, said that they were sold many times while in Libya. Wounded migrants, refugees and asylum seekers told MSF that other than the at least 15 people who were killed during the escape, there were still more than 40 people, most of them women, still left behind. They said they were held captive for a period of almost 3 years, during which they were subjected to torture and mistreatment and that many among them are unaccompanied minors.
- The survivors were transferred to detention centers in Tripoli where MSF medical teams are providing health care. Speaking on the latest incident, Christophe Biteau, MSF's Head of mission said, "All necessary measures must be taken to ensure patients can access the required treatment and to protect these extremely vulnerable people from further harm after surviving such atrocities. Arbitrary detention cannot be a solution. They are in urgent need of protection and assistance."

Amnesty International criticizes Europe's cooperation with Libya's coast guard

- Amnesty International reported that around 2,600 people who were intercepted at sea by Libyan authorities have been [transferred](#) to detention centers in Libya where they face torture and mistreatment. More than 7,000 migrants, refugees

and asylum seekers are held in Libyan detention centers. "The EU and its member states must reset their cooperation with Libya and condition any support to Libya, financial or otherwise, on the full cooperation of the Libyan authorities to respect the rights of refugees and migrants in the country. This must start with the release of those currently held in detention centers and the end to the automatic detention of refugees and migrants," said Heba Morayef, Amnesty International's Middle East and North Africa Director.

UNHCR resumes refugee evacuations

- UNHCR [evacuated](#) 123 vulnerable refugees from Tripoli and sent them to the capital of Niger, Niamey. This is the first group to be transferred to Niger after evacuation plans were halted in March. Speaking about the evacuations from Libya, the UNHCR's Special Envoy for the Central Mediterranean Situation, Mr. Vincent Cochetel said, "So this program is really about saving vulnerable individuals from further harm." UNHCR, with the support of the EU, is transferring vulnerable refugees, migrants and asylum seekers from detention centers in Libya to Niger or in some cases directly to other countries for resettlement such as Italy and Romania. Around 1,500 have been evacuated from Libya so far.

Libya reveals further measures to tackle irregular migration

- The Libyan Interior Minister, Mohamed El Mahrani, [announced](#) a plan to tackle irregular migration to and through Libya that involves all available branches of the Libyan security forces, both at sea and on land. The plan consists of activating desert patrols in the south and south-west of the country, as well as investigating passports and documents of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. According to the Interior Minister, additional training will be provided to coast guard personnel to carry out rescue operations in the Mediterranean. These measures are being taken due to expected increase in the numbers of migrants, refugees and of arrivals in the summer months. Such increases are expected due to improved weather and seafaring conditions.

High-level WHO mission visits Libya

- A high level WHO mission [visited](#) Libya between 4-7 May 2018, to promote universal health coverage that includes migrants and displaced people. The mission also provided an opportunity for WHO to establish and strengthen cross border and multi-country operations and collaboration between country offices

in states that share borders or that are involved in the regional movement of migrants, refugees and internally displaced people. The mission held several meetings with key stakeholders such as Libya's Minister of Health, the special representative of the UN secretary general in Libya and the Director General of DCIM. The mission also made visits to detentions centers

and community health centers. The mission put expanding the health coverage to people at detention centers as well as to migrants living in communities a priority. According to IOM, there are more than 700,000 international migrants in Libya, which together account for around 12% of the total population.

MALI

Malian migrant saves child in Paris

- A Malian migrant, Mamoudou Gassama, [saved](#) the life of a 4-year-old child in Paris. The child was hanging off the fourth-floor balcony of an apartment building and without a thought for his own safety, Mr. Gassama scaled the side of the building to deliver the child to safety. A crowd that had gathered on the streets below filmed Mr. Gassama and later shared the footage on social media. Mr. Gassama had arrived to France from Mali several months before the incident in question. Speaking about the incident, Paris Mayor, Anne Hidalgo, [said](#), "I told him that his heroic act is an example to all citizens and that the city of Paris will obviously be very keen to support him in his efforts to settle in France." On 28 May Mr Gassama [met](#) with France's President, Emmanuel Macron, who sought to congratulate and thank the young migrant. During the meeting, President Macron offered Mr Gassama the French citizenship. Speaking with the young migrant President Macron said, "We'll obviously be setting all your papers straight and if you wish it, we will start the process of naturalization so that you can become French."

IOM assists over 1,000 migrants along the Malian-Algerian border

- IOM [assisted](#) 1,135 Western African migrants in Gao, Mali. The migrants had been deported by Algerian authorities via Inkalid, in the Kidal region of Mali. The migrants were transferred to Gao where IOM, UNICEF, The Malian Red Cross and other civil society organizations provided them with housing and other much-needed assistance in the form of food and health care. As the IOM Centre in Gao can only house a maximum of 300 migrants, other cities are offering help and reaching their maximum capacity with the assistance of migrants in need of immediate support.

MOROCCO

Western Mediterranean Route

- [3,523](#) migrants, refugees and asylum seekers have crossed from Morocco to Spain by sea in the month of May bringing the total arrivals by sea for this year to 9,199. May's figure represents a sharp increase of over 200% from the figure for April. According to IOM figures, 20 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers died while attempting the crossing into Spain between 29 April and 30 May.
- An additional [414](#) migrants, refugees and asylum seekers crossed from Morocco into Spain via its land borders with Morocco (through Ceuta and Melilla) during the month of May, bringing the total of number of persons making this crossing this year to 2,415. The number of land crossings in May represent a 7% increase from those for April.

Spain rescues hundreds of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers during one weekend

- Spain's Maritime Rescue Service [rescued](#) hundreds of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers trying to cross the Mediterranean during the weekend of 26-27 May 2018, with growing fears that the country will not be able to handle the growing numbers of arrivals. Around 293 people were rescued from nine boats on Saturday and another 250 were rescued on Sunday from eight boats among which three boats, which were in bad condition, had sunk. UNHCR advised that urgent measures be taken in coordination with the central government, NGOs, border police and rescue services to assist Spain in helping people arriving at its shores.

UNCTAD lauds Morocco's migration policy

- UNCTAD, The United Nations Conference on Trade and development [applauded](#) Morocco's migration policy saying that it gives a model for other countries to follow. UNCTAD released a report on development in Africa underlining the benefits of migration to the continent and tackling the many myths surrounding it. The report underlined King Mohamed VI's words on the importance of addressing the challenges of migration and to find a way to harness it in regional development efforts. According to the report, regional cooperation on the challenges and developmental benefits of migration should be a top priority for national agendas and there is a pressing need for national actors to formulate a common vision for regional migration. The report further states that, far from straining employment conditions in receiving countries, intra-African migration is a catalyst for economic growth.

Joint Moroccan, CGEM and UN initiative to promote refugee integration

- On 18 May, the Moroccan government, the UN and the General Confederation of Enterprises of Morocco (CGEM) [signed](#) a tripartite agreement that aims to develop the professional skills of migrants and refugees in Morocco. The agreement falls under Morocco's national strategy for migration and asylum and the UN Global Compact for migration. According to the agreement the CGEM commits to promote the economic autonomy of vulnerable populations by working with refugees and providing them with job opportunities in the private sector.

IOM launches community stabilization project for Northern Niger

- In the beginning of May, IOM [launched](#) the project 'Community Stabilization Initiatives in Northern Niger (COSINN)' in Agadez. The project's objective is to contribute to the stabilization and recovery of the local community by supporting the local economy, improving access to basic socio-economic infrastructures and reinforcing social cohesion. "The community stabilization activities in the region step in to support communities, authorities, and the dialogue between them", said the program manager of IOM's community stabilization (CS) unit in Niger. In February alone, around 27,000 persons entered Niger which places yet more pressure on its already strained, limited capacity a situation which may lead to tensions between migrants, refugees and asylum seekers and the local, host community.

Sudanese nationals sent to Libya from Niger at risk of abuse according to Amnesty International

- Amnesty International has [said](#) that the more than hundred Sudanese nationals deported to Libya by Nigerien authorities now face risk of torture and mistreatment. The group of 145 individuals, including women and children, had fled Libya to stay in a displacement camp in Agadez where they had hoped to claim asylum. Authorities claimed that the deportation took place because the group "refugees but possible members of armed groups" in Libya, and therefore threatened the security of the country. Amnesty International heavily criticized the move and argued that it was a breach of international law especially given the deplorably unsafe conditions in Libya. "Authorities in Niger should make sure they honor their international obligations to protect the rights of all refugees or migrants and ensure they are not exploited and abused," said Gaetan Mootoo, Amnesty International's West Africa researcher.

SUDAN

Disarmament campaign helps return previously displaced populations

- The Wali of South Darfur has [claimed](#) that a large scale disarmament campaign has contributed to the return of 65,000 families to their villages. A disarmament campaign was launched in 2017 by authorities in Khartoum to collect all illegal weapons and unlicensed vehicles from civilians. A reintegration plan is underway to provide the returnees with the necessary services to support their return. A second and third phases are underway to help accommodate displaced persons who were unable to return to their villages. Despite the large disarmament campaign, insecurity is still felt by the returnees because of roaming militia men and abundance of weapons in the villages.

Sudan to enter quadripartite agreement with Chad, Libya and Niger on border security

- Four countries: Sudan, Libya, Chad and Niger, [signed](#) an agreement to protect and monitor their joint borders. The Libyan Foreign Minister, Mohammed El-Sayala, said that the agreement will enhance efforts of the four countries to protect their borders and he stressed the support and expertise his country is willing to share with the other countries to foster peace, security and development. The four countries have agreed to establish a cooperation mechanism for border security and the fight of organized crime.

TUNISIA

Boat carrying migrants, refugees and asylum seekers capsizes off Tunisian coast

- Almost 50 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers have [died](#) after their boat overturned near the eastern coast of Tunisia. Tunisia has increasingly become a key embarkation point for Tunisians as well as migrants, refugees and asylum seekers attempting to reach Europe. A rescue operation managed to save sixty-seven lives. The boat in question had a maximum capacity of 90 persons but was carrying around 180 persons.

Tunisian government objects to comments made by the Italian Interior Minister on migration from its shores

- The Tunisian government has called the Italian Ambassador to express "profound amazement for the remarks of the Italian interior minister regarding immigration." This was in response to the statement made by the Italian interior minister Matteo Salvini during his visit to a migrant reception center in Sicily, where he [accused](#) Tunisia of sending "convicts" by sea to Italy. The Tunisian government decried the remarks saying they "do not reflect the cooperation between the two countries in the management of immigration and indicate an incomplete knowledge of the various mechanisms of coordination that exist between the Tunisian and Italian authorities."

Arrivals to Greece

- 2,432 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers arrived to Greece by sea between 29 April and 30 May which represents a sharp increase from the previous month's figures. Figures for April had been the lowest monthly figures so far this year however. According to IOM figures there were 16 recorded deaths along the EMR.

Migration ministry to resist tribunal decision on asylum

- The Greek migration ministry has [filed](#) an appeal against a tribunal decision granting asylum to a second Turkish officer who left his country to Greece after the coup. The Ministry had also appealed the decision of the tribunal to grant asylum to another Turkish officer in December 2017. Turkey has called for the extradition of the 8 officers whom it branded as "traitors" but Greece's supreme court ruled against their return to Turkey.

Greece responds to developments along the Evros River and in the city of Patra

- A recent spike in arrivals of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers through the Evros border is leading the Greek ministry of migration to examine the possibility of [increasing](#) the capacity of migrant centers on the mainland. "We are targeting to at least try to relieve the situation on the islands within 90 days" said the Greek Minister of Migration, Dimitris Vistas.
- Meanwhile, in the Greek city of Patra, police forces initiated an operation to relocate dozens of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers who had set up makeshift camps in abandoned factories in the city. The operation comes after a 20-year-old Afghan man was shot by another of one of the camp's residents.

New asylum bill to tackle overcrowding on Greek islands

- The Greek Parliament has [passed](#) a new asylum bill to help improve asylum procedures by making them faster and simpler in order to contribute towards efforts to reduce the overcrowding of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers on Greek islands. The Greek government is also hiring more staff on the islands of Chios, Lesbos, Kos, Samos and Leros in order to speed up asylum procedures. The Greek Asylum Service has previously reported that it had received a little less than 60,000 asylum claims in 2017, an increase of 15% from the previous years. Human rights groups have expressed their concern on the above-mentioned bill, arguing that shortening the time of handling asylum applications may violate refugees' rights since it may place processing times ahead of the quality of assessments.

Rescue of 50 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers who had been held hostage

- Greek authorities [announced](#) on 9 May that they had rescued 50 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers who had been held hostage in northern Greece by two Pakistanis who were extorting money out of their families. Greek police added that the rescued were in bad physical condition and that they were underfed and dehydrated. The hostages were kept in an abandoned building in the city of Thessaloniki. The Police was alerted by the families of the hostages who received calls from the kidnappers.

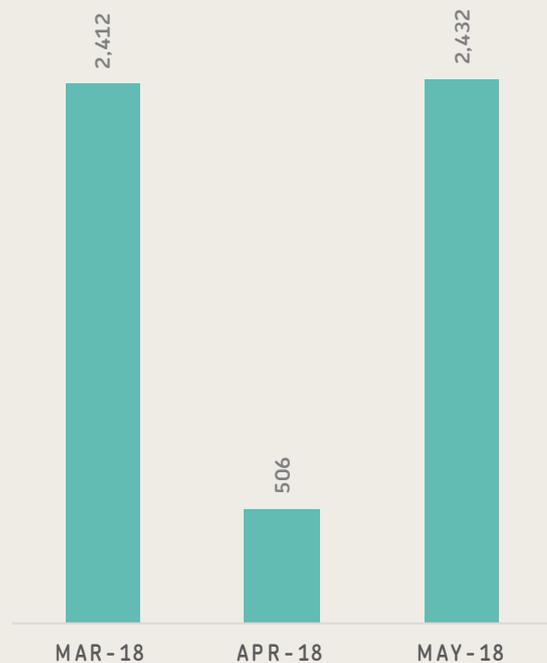
Rights group decries Greek return policies

- Amnesty International is [calling](#) on the EU to change its migration policy because of the harsh conditions faced by migrants, refugees and asylum seekers trapped in transit. These concerns come on the heels of announcements made by EU officials about the decrease in the numbers of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers taking the Central Mediterranean Route to Europe. While numbers have dropped along the Central Mediterranean, there has recently been an increase in the number of arrivals via the Eastern Mediterranean Route which has been presumed shut by the EU-Turkey deal. The human rights organization is accusing the EU of turning a blind eye to the abuses those on the move are facing. On the other hand, the EU Commission released a report showing the increased number of persons arriving through Greece's land borders with Turkey. "In view of the increased migratory pressure, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency stands ready to reinforce its presence on the land border between Greece and Turkey," said EU Officials.

Aid workers cleared of charges related to irregular migration

- A Greek court has [acquitted](#) three Spanish firefighters and two Danish men of charges of 'illegally' bringing migrants to Greece. The volunteers were arrested on an Aegean Sea island after returning from a rescue mission in 2016 that had been called off. Witnesses against the defense told the court that the defendants did not inform the authorities about the rescue mission but the judge dismissed the charges against the defendants who were facing up to 10 years in prison. The defendants "were only helping to save lives," said the lawyer for the defense.

**Arrivals by Sea, Greece
January 2018 - May 2018**



Arrivals to Greece

- 3,963 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers arrived to Italy by sea between 29 April and 30 May. This is a 20% increase in arrival figures from the previous month of April. 18 deaths were recorded along the Central Mediterranean Route during the same period.

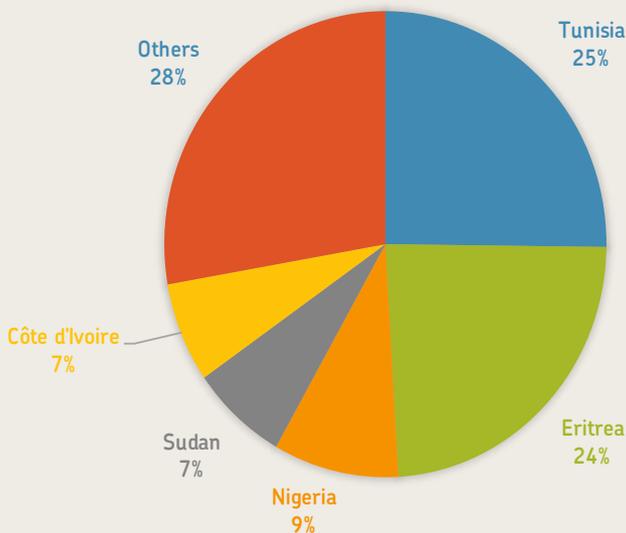
Italy’s coalition government vows to enact anti-immigrant measures

- Fears are [rising](#) among migrant communities in Italy from the rise of the far-right populist movement in the form of the Lega and Five Star Movement parties. The Lega and the Five-Star Movement established an alliance after they together won more than 50% of the vote. Matteo Salvini, the leader of the Lega party and the appointed interior Minister, together with Ligui Di Maio the leader of the Five Star Movement, announced a plan for the creation of detention centers in preparation for deporting 500,000 irregular migrants. The plan also includes a renegotiation of the Dublin agreement, the shutdown of the unregistered Roma Camp and the registration of Imams of mosques with the state. Italian President Sergio Mattarella would first need to approve the plans before its put before parliament for a vote. In the runup to the elections, Mateo Salvini promised a crackdown on irregular migration.

Nigerian migrants file lawsuit against Italy for its cooperation with the Libyan Coast Guard

- Seventeen Nigerian migrants who survived the deadly crossing of the Mediterranean have [filed](#) a lawsuit against Italy for supporting Libya’s efforts to return them back to North Africa. The migrants said that Italy violated several articles of the European Convention on Human Rights by exposing their lives to danger and to the possibility of torture and/or slavery if they had been returned to Libya. This is the first lawsuit against Italy of its kind and Italy had previously lost a case in the same court for handing migrants to Libyan authorities. “Using the Libyan Coast Guard as a proxy to turn back migrant boats is just a new way of camouflaging (Italy’s) strategy of fighting irregular migration in the Mediterranean by trapping them in what the Italian Foreign Ministry itself has qualified as ‘the hell’ of Libya,” said a legal advisor at the Global Legal Action Network.

**Arrivals by Sea to Italy, Main Countries of Origin
January 2018 - April 2018**



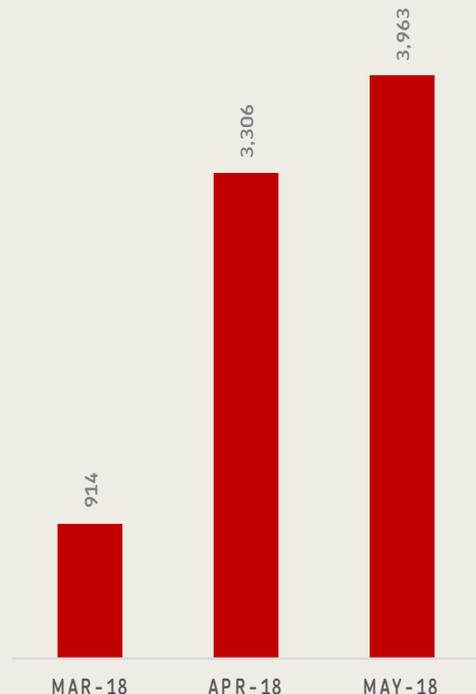
George Soros says Italy deserves compensation from the EU over migration

- The philanthropist billionaire George Soros has [said](#) that the EU should compensate Italy for the migrants, refugees and asylum seekers it has received on its territories. The comments came after the first visit of the Italian Interior Minister Mateo Salvini to one of the main arrival points. Speaking to the crowd in Sicily, Salvini had said “Enough of Sicily being the refugee camp of Europe. I will not stand by and do nothing while there are landings after landings.” This speech came after a boat heading to Italy capsized near the Tunisian shores. Salvini has promised to deport half a million of migrants. In an Italian newspaper, George Soros said that the rise and the win of the populist parties in Italy is the result of weak EU migration policy. He pointed specifically to the fact that many EU states shut their borders during the height of the ‘migration crisis’ in 2015 thereby trapping migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Italy and placing a tremendous burden on Italy at a time of economic hardship. “It follows from the voluntary principle that the problem ... cannot be addressed by forced resettlement, but only by the EU financially compensating Italy for the migrants that land there,” said Soros.

Matteo Salvini issues strong statements about

- Matteo Salvini, the recently appointed Italian Minister of Interior, [said](#) on his visit to the Sicilian port of Catania that Italy must stop being “the refugee camp of Europe”. This was Salvini’s first visit since his appointment. In his speech to the gathered crowd Salvini reaffirmed his position against allowing further arrivals to Italy and his commitment to ramping up deportation activities.

**Arrivals by Sea, Italy
January 2018 -May 2018**



RESEARCH OF INTEREST

[Understanding Contemporary human smuggling as a vector in migration: A field guide for migration management and humanitarian practitioners](#) - The Global Initiative

This report analyses the Human-smuggling industry trends and dynamics and gives a guide to policymakers and practitioners to understand how human smuggling works as a vector to migration and how formulate a more effective response.

[Libya: Health Care under Attack](#) - OHCHR

This briefing note shows the negative impact of continuing violence in Libya on the delivery of Health care in the country.

[Fraught with risk: Protection concerns of people on the move across West Africa and Libya](#) - Danish Refugee Council and Mixed Migration Center

This research paper discuss the dangers migrants and refugees are facing while crossing Libyan territory and West Africa. It maps high-risk locations and the availability of humanitarian protection assistance.

[Five Misconceptions About Migrant Smuggling](#) - EUI

This policy brief focuses on analyzing five of the famous misconceptions about migration smuggling.

MULTIMEDIA & EDITORIALS OF INTEREST

[Libya: The dangers refugees face fleeing](#) - MSF

Interview with Christophe Bideau MSF Head of Mission in Libya who analyses the situation of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in Libya and the steps taken by NGOs and officials to end clandestine prison and abduction for refugees.

[Europe's solution to migration is to outsource it to Africa](#) - EUobserver

This opinion piece discuss Migration as a top priority on the EU agenda and that more solutions should be given for the development of the source countries of migration not only to find solutions to fortify the borders.

[Niger: Europe's Migration laboratory](#) - News Deeply

An editorial describing the situation in Niger and the motives that push people to work as smugglers and what solutions can be offered to prevent people from working as smugglers.

[EXCLUSIVE: Refugees in Sudan allege chronic corruption in UN resettlement](#) - IRIN

Interviews with refugees in Sudan that claim they were exposed to corrupt process concerning their resettlement by UNHCR from people who say they work for the organization.

[The Five Myths about the Refugee Crisis](#) - The Guardian

An editorial discussing the main five myths about migration and analyzing their reliability.

*MHub does not vouch for the accuracy or reliability of articles in its Monthly Bulletin.