

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 157,020 in 2017; Deaths Reach 2,966

You are here

1. [Home](#) ›
2. [Press Room](#) ›
3. [Press Releases](#) ›
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Posted:

11/14/17

Themes:

Humanitarian Emergencies, Missing Migrants, Refugee and Asylum Issues

Geneva – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, reports that 157,020 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 12 November, with about 75 per cent arriving in Italy and the remainder divided between Greece, Cyprus and Spain. This compares with 341,215 arrivals across the region through the same period last year.

Mediterranean Developments

TOTAL ARRIVALS BY SEA AND DEATHS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN 2016-2017				
	1 JANUARY – 12 NOVEMBER 2017		1 JANUARY – 12 NOVEMBER 2016	
Country of Arrival	Arrivals	Deaths	Arrivals	Deaths
Italy	114,606	2,749 (Central Med. route)	164,872	3,793 (Central Med. route)
Greece	25,337 (as of 11/11)	59 (Eastern Med. route)	170,553	416 (Eastern Med. route)
Cyprus	1,028 (as of 03/11)		345	
Spain	16,049 (as of 13/11)	158 (Western Med. route)	5,445 (as of 30/09/16)	120 (Western Med. route)
Estimated Total	157,020	2,966	341,215	4,329
<small>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.</small>				

IOM Rome reported Monday (13 November) Italy's Ministry of Interior has registered 114,606 migrants arriving by sea so far, this year, which is down from 164,872 at this time in 2016. That is a 30.5 per cent drop-off over last year's totals at this time.

Arrivals by sea in Italy - Main Countries of Origin January – September 2017/2016 comparison <i>(Source: Italian Ministry of Interior)</i>		
Main Countries of Origin	2017	2016
Nigeria	17,100	27,172
Guinea	9,217	8,713
Bangladesh	8,870	5,818
Cote d'Ivoire	8,753	8,715
Mali	6,461	7,052
Eritrea	5,711	15,648
Gambia	5,649	8,745
Senegal	5,616	6,885
Sudan	5,569	8,550
Morocco	5,193	2,323
Ghana	3,719	4,099
Total All Countries of Origin	105,418	132,043

IOM Spain's Ana Dodevska reported Monday (13/11) total sea arrivals had topped 16,000, including 418 registered during the past weekend: 276 on Saturday and 142 on Sunday. She said the main ports of arrivals were Almeria, Tarifa, Malaga, Motril, Barbate and Algeciras.

IOM Athens' Kelly Namia reported Monday (13/11) of at least three incidents this weekend off the island of Lesbos that required search and rescue operations. The Hellenic Coast Guard rescued 148 migrants and transferred them to safety.

Almost 14,000 (13,932) men, women and children have entered Greece by sea from the waters of the Eastern Mediterranean since 1 August, or more migrants than entered during all of 2017's first seven months. Namia further reported that more than 1,500 migrants or refugees entered Greece by sea through November's first 11 days, bringing migrant sea arrivals to Greek territory to 25,337 for the year so far (See chart below).

Country	1 Jan – 31 Dec 2014	1 Jan – 31 Dec 2015	1 Jan – 31 Dec 2016	1 Jan – 11 Nov 2017
Greece	34,442	853,650	173,614	25,337

IOM Libya's Christine Petré reported Monday (13 November) the remains of two bodies were discovered by locals onshore at Al Maya, west of Tripoli, on 12 November. These latest fatalities are not part of the 2,966-figure cited above.

IOM's Missing Migrants Project reported the remains of three children were recovered over the last few days in the same area near Mantamados, on the north-eastern coast of Lesbos, Greece. In the Western Mediterranean, the remains of two young men were recovered from a beach on 9

November near Tangiers, Morocco. These deaths bring the total of fatalities in the Mediterranean in 2017 to 2,966, a figure that compares with 4,329 at this same point last year.

IOM Cyprus' Dimitrios Tsagalas reported new details of a boat arrival on 3 November with 176 migrants on board. The boat was spotted off Pyrgos in the Tylliria area in Paphos and was towed to Latchi harbour.

Initial media reports talked about 100 migrants; however, as IOM Cyprus confirmed with authorities, there were 176 people aboard: 175 Syrians and one Ethiopian. More specifically, there were 63 females (34 adults and 29 minors) and 113 men (83 adults and 30 minors), who travelled from Turkey to Cyprus. All migrants were transferred to Purnara Reception Centre.

With this incident, the total number of migrants who have arrived irregularly by boat in Cyprus is 1,028 people, or roughly three times 2016's total of 345 migrants (through nine months).

Worldwide, IOM's Missing Migrants Project (MMP) has recorded the deaths of 5,014 people migrating in 2017 – or a daily average of 16 men, women and children per day this year.

In addition to five new deaths reported in the Mediterranean, MMP recorded the deaths of two young men on the US/Mexico border: on 5 November, one man drowned while attempting to cross the Río Bravo near Nuevo Laredo in Mexico. Another drowning in the Río Bravo was recorded near Reynosa on 9 November. In Central America, two South Asian migrants died in a vehicle accident near Malpaisillo in Nicaragua, near the border with Honduras. Both were from India.

Missing Migrants Project data are compiled by IOM staff but come from a variety of sources, some of which are unofficial. To learn more about how data on missing migrants are collected, click [here](#).

Global Migrant Deaths Jan 1 – November 12 <i>(Source: Missing Migrants Project)</i>		
REGION	2017	2016
Mediterranean	2,966	4,329
Europe	83	49
Middle East	95	104
North Africa	467	1218
Horn of Africa	170	182
Sub-Saharan Africa	387	75
Southeast Asia	295	132
South Asia	1	0
East Asia	1	3
North America	1	0
US/Mexico	328	330
Central America	67	159
Caribbean	153	104
South America	0	31
TOTAL	5,014	6,716

Latest Mediterranean Update

infographic: http://migration.iom.int/docs/MMP/171114_Mediterranean_Update.pdf

For latest arrivals and fatalities in the Mediterranean, please visit: <http://migration.iom.int/europe>

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

For more information, please contact:

Joel Millman at IOM HQ, Tel: +41 79 103 8720, Email: jmillman@iom.int

Mircea Mocanu, IOM Romania, Tel: +40212115657, Email: mmocanu@iom.int

Dimitrios Tsagalas, IOM Cyprus, Tel: + 22 77 22 70, E-mail: dtsagalas@iom.int

Flavio Di Giacomo, IOM Italy, Tel: +39 347 089 8996, Email: fdigiacomio@iom.int

Kelly Namia, IOM Greece, Tel: +30 210 991 2174, Email: knamia@iom.int

Julia Black, IOM GMDAC, Tel: +49 30 278 778 27, Email: jblack@iom.int

Abby Dwommoh, IOM Turkey, Tel: +90 312 454 3048, Email: MediaIOMTurkey@iom.int

Christine Petré, IOM Libya, Tel: +216 29 240 448, Email: chpetre@iom.int

Ana Dodevska, IOM Spain, Tel: +34 91 445 7116, Email: adodevska@iom.int

Myriam Chabbi, IOM Tunisia, Tel: +216 28 78 78 05, Mobile: +216 71 860 312 ext. 109,

Email: mchabbi@iom.int