



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.

Scope: This bulletin covers mixed migration trends in Algeria, Egypt,

Libya, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Sudan, Tunisia, Greece and Italy.

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.

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

Improving economic conditions in North Africa essential to tackle root causes of migration

- On 8 April, the Maltese Finance Minister, Edward Scicluna, [stated in an informal meeting of EU economic and Financial affairs ministers](#) that improving the economic conditions in North Africa, reducing inequalities, and boosting private investment are important in tackling the root causes of migration. He acknowledged that strong North African countries are essential to decrease the flow of migrants as they are the transit countries through which many Sub Saharan Africans reach Europe. Furthermore, the vice-president of the EU commission, Valdis Dombrovskis, reiterated that cooperating with North African countries is of strategic interest to the EU in addressing the root causes of such migration.

IOM's International Dialogue on Migration 2017 held

- On 18-19 April, IOM held the [International Dialogue on Migration 2017 meeting](#). The theme of the meeting was "Strengthening International Cooperation on and Governance of Migration towards the Adoption of a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration in 2018". The International Dialogue on Migration provides the opportunity for States and other key actors of migration to exchange views and enhance the international cooperation on migration governance.

A group of Africans living in Europe launch a campaign to raise awareness on the dangers of irregular migration

- A group of Africans living in Europe visited Cameroon to [launch a campaign](#) to inform young people in Africa about the risks of "illegal" migration. The group, called "[No More Death in the Desert or on the Sea](#)", aims to raise awareness among young people in Africa about the dangers of illegal migration. The group plans to visit Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, Niger, Algeria and Libya and to screen a film based on the group leader's interview with African migrants telling the stories of their journey.

Relocation and Resettlement

- As of 12 May, 2,078 additional people [were relocated](#) from Greece and Italy to other EU member states, bringing the total number of relocations to 18,418. According to the EU commission, the current pace is still below what is needed to meet the targets. The EU Commission called on Hungary, Poland and Austria to abide by their obligations and start relocating migrants as they were the only EU member states not to share the responsibility.
- As of 12 May, [16,163](#) people were resettled to 21 countries. This number makes up more than two thirds of the 22,504 resettlements agreed under the EU resettlement scheme.

Turkey threatens to suspend the migration agreement

- On 14 April, the Turkish Foreign Minister, Mevlut Cavusoglu, [threatened](#) that Turkey could re-evaluate or suspend the EU-Turkey deal if the EU did not provide visa-free travel to Turkish nationals. The minister mentioned that the migration deal and the visa liberalization deal were a package. Turkey has threatened several times to suspend the EU-Turkey deal and the relationship between Turkey and the EU has been deteriorating.

Number of Children migrating to Europe on the increase

- On 12 April, the EU commission [proposed](#) a number of priority actions for member states to focus on to enhance the protection of children in migration in light of the increase in the number of children migrating to Europe. The commission asserted that it is essential that child migrants are swiftly identified when they arrive and receive adequate protection and support including better access to education and health care. The commission proposed that trained personnel be made available to help the children.

ALGERIA

Arresting of irregular migrants

- It has been reported that Algeria's National People's Army (ANP) has arrested around [3,000](#) irregular migrants in 2017. ANP also neutralized hundreds of smugglers and drug traffickers in efforts to fight organized crime.

Cooperation with the EU

- On 8 and 9 April, the EU High Representative for Foreign

Affairs and Security Policy, Federica Mogherini, [visited](#) Algeria to follow up on the EU-Algeria Association council that took place in March. During the visit, the EU representative and Algerian officials reviewed issues of mutual interest and discussed ways to enhance cooperation on current regional challenges including the situation in Libya and issues related to migration and mobility.

EGYPT

CAPMAS and IOM launch data analysis unit

- On 6 April, Egypt's Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) and IOM [launched](#) a new Migration Data Analysis Unit. The migration data analysis unit aims to fill in existing information gaps by conducting periodic assessments

and producing key statistics on migration issues to support the development of evidence-based policy and enhance migration management in Egypt. The establishment of this unit is part of efforts by the Government of Egypt to harness the positive contributions of migration for development and its initiatives

to curb irregular migration to, through and from Egypt while promoting positive alternatives.

LIBYA

Maritime incidents

- Around 447 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers were rescued off the coast of Libya in April across 7 separate incidents, bringing the total number rescued by the Libyan Coast Guard in 2017 to 4,129. In the month of April, 11 deaths were recorded.

Returns from Libya

- On 13 April, 156 stranded Ivorian migrants, including 145 men and 11 women, were assisted to return home from Libya. On 18 April, 152 stranded Malian migrants, including 14 women and 3 unaccompanied minors received assistance to return home. On 19 April, 154 migrants, including 7 women, 2 children, and 2 babies, were assisted to return home to Burkina Faso. On 25 April, [253 stranded migrants](#), including 148 women 105 men, 6 children, and 5 infants, received assistance to return home from Libya to Nigeria. On 27 April, 164 men, 4 women, and 20 unaccompanied minors

were assisted to [return](#) home to Gambia.

EU programme to enhance the protection and resilience of migrants and refugees

- On 12 April, the EU Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa announced that it is adopting a [€90 million programme](#) to enhance the protection and resilience of migrants, refugees and host communities in Libya. The programme aims to provide assistance and protection to migrants and refugees at disembarkation points, in detention centers and in urban settings. The programme also aims to contribute to improving the conditions of host communities and of internally displaced persons, taking into account the difficult socio-economic conditions in Libya; and facilitating the voluntary return of migrants from Libya to their countries of origin.

MALI

Malian refugees and Internally displaced

- The European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations has reported that around [46,000](#) people are internally displaced in Mali and a further 141,000 people are living in refugee camps in Niger, Mauritania, and Burkina Faso due to the food crisis and the conflict. The report indicated that the internally displaced as well as host communities are in need of food assistance, health care, and water.

DTM Flow monitoring

- IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in Mali [has found](#) that the majority of migrants (90%) transiting through Mali are originally from Guinea, Mali, Gambia, Senegal, and the Ivory Coast. The DTM findings suggest that 97% of those transiting through Mali are males, while minors make up 9% of all migrants transiting through the country.

MOROCCO

Morocco accuses Algeria of expelling migrants

- Morocco has accused Algeria of [expelling 55 Syrian migrants](#) including women and children across their shared border near the town of Flguig. On 22 April, the Moroccan ministry of interior mentioned that this was not the first time where Algerian authorities have expelled migrants to Moroccan territories. The statement from the ministry of interior didn't indicate whether the migrants had been allowed to seek asylum in Morocco.

UNODC holds training workshops for local non-governmental organizations

- A training workshop was organized from 19 to 21 April, in

Oujda for local non-governmental organizations from the Northeastern region bringing together 15 associations, the Regional Council for Human Rights, National Solidarity and the Unit for Protection of Children (both under the Ministry of Social Development) as well as community agents working directly with migrant communities at risk of trafficking. The capacity building activity focused on identification of and assistance to human trafficking victims as a first step towards protection. A follow-up meeting to establish harmonized identification, referral and assistance tools has been requested by the local authorities and will be held in Oujda.

NIGER

Decline in the flows through Niger

- On 21 April, IOM reported that the number of migrants crossing Niger to reach Libya has [declined significantly](#) since September 2016. Between February and December 2016, 292,000 migrants were recorded to have passed through the Niger town of Seguedine. Numbers recorded in the first two months of 2017 show that only 8,700 have been recorded as

having crossed into Libya. This decline can be attributed to the increased policing of the routes by government authorities. The EU has provided and further promised Niger financial support in its efforts to curb irregular transit through the country. EU funds have been used to set up five centers in Niger where the migrants are fed, housed, and offered voluntary return home.

SUDAN

Sudanese migrants paying more for deadly journey to Europe

- Data collected by IOM revealed that Sudanese migrants are [paying more](#) in 2017 compared to 2016 to reach Europe by the sea. The survey showed that while the percentage

of Sudanese migrants who had paid between \$1,000 and \$5,000 for their journey in 2016 made up 41% of all Sudanese travelers, the proportion increased to 64% of Sudanese travelers in the first few months of 2017.

UNODC holds training workshop to Prosecutors

- A training workshop was held in Khartoum, Sudan from 2 to 4 April 2017, targeting 23 prosecutors from across Sudan. There were 11 prosecutors from East Sudan states (4 prosecutors from Gedaref, 4 prosecutors from Port Sudan and 3 prosecutors from Kassala); the remaining 12 prosecutors

were from Khartoum. In addition, 6 members of the National Committee for Combating Human Trafficking (NCCT) were in attendance. Facilitators delivered focused training sessions on variety of topics such as indicators of human trafficking, investigation related topics, regional and international cooperation and the national legal framework.

TUNISIA

UNODC concludes a series of regional workshops on Trafficking in Persons

- UNODC Office in Tunisia held two regional workshops in Hammamet, on 7 and 8 April 2017, and in Tabarka, on 14 and 15 April 2017 in the framework of the project Trafficking in Persons. These workshops conclude a series of five workshops aimed at the prevention and combating of human trafficking. The previous three workshops were held

in Sousse, Djerba and Tozeur. In Hammamet and Tabarka, three Tunisian judges and anti-Trafficking in Persons experts, Amor Yahyaoui, Assia Labidi, and Selma Abida, provided trainings on the Tunisian law n° 2016-61, to more than 100 law enforcement officers and magistrates. The trainings were based on the updated training module developed by the three experts in 2016 with the support of the UNODC Office in Tunisia.

GREECE

Sea arrivals to Greece continue to increase

- 1,591 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers arrived by sea to Greece in the month of April, representing a 27% increase on the March figures of 1,244. During April, there were 24 recorded fatalities along the Eastern Mediterranean route.

Demonstrations against the integration of refugee children in schools

- Far-right nationalists held [demonstrations](#) waving Greek flags, booing school children and shouting slogans at 3 of the 97 schools that are part of the EU initiative to prepare refugee children for integration in the Greek educational system. The demonstrations which were against the government's policy of integration, took place on the first day of school. In the town of Profitis, stones were thrown at the children and the police had to escort the children. In Oraiokastro, protesters chained themselves to the school gates.

Relocations from Greece to other EU countries

- As of 12 May, [1,368](#) migrants and asylum seekers have been relocated from Greece to other EU countries, bringing the total number of relocations from Greece to 12,707. According to the EU commission, the current number of 12,400 relocation applicants registered is expected to remain stable.

Child refugees encounter sexual exploitation and abuse in Greece

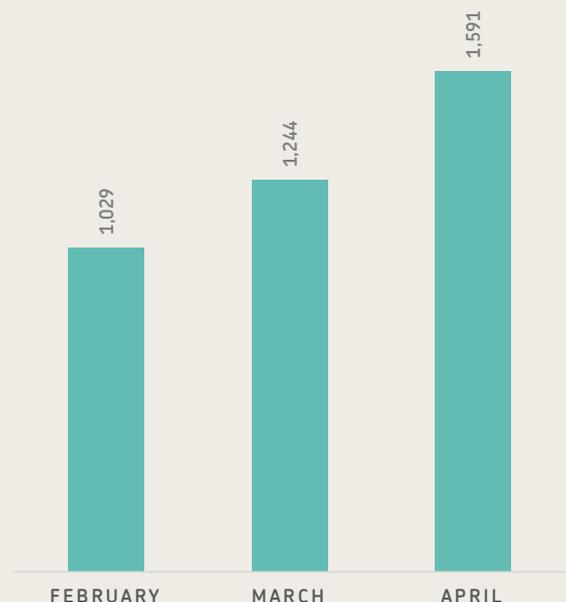
- A [report](#) by Harvard University revealed that unaccompanied child refugees are forced to sell their bodies in order to pay smugglers to help them with their journeys. The report found that child refugees who are stranded in Greece are often forced to sell sex to smugglers as they can't afford the fees charged by smugglers to move them. The report highlighted that the average price of a sexual transaction with a child is €15. Afghans, Syrians, Iraqis, and Iranians are the largest group of children forced to sell their bodies to fund their journey. The reports calls for an end to the detention of children in Greece, and recommends for the availability of more specialized shelters for children who have been abused, an improved legal guardianship system, better data collection relating to child refugees, independent translators and separate areas in the refugee camps for children and families.

Cash incentives for rejected asylum seekers not to appeal their cases

- The Greek government is providing [cash incentives](#) of €1,000 and free plane tickets home to rejected asylum seekers to

forgo appealing their rejection. Under the new scheme, people have five days to decide whether to take the cash while such assistances. In the past, such assistances were also available to those who had appealed. The scheme only applies to those in the Greek islands of Chios, Kos, Leros, Lesbos, and Samos, given that Turkey does not accept people back from mainland Greece. These incentives are part of the larger plan to return people to Turkey and free up administrative bottlenecks. This scheme has been criticized by NGOs and human rights defenders as immoral.

Arrivals by Sea, Greece
February - April 2017



Arrivals increase from March figures

- April saw the arrival of 14,125 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers by sea to Italy, representing a 45% increase on March arrivals (9,679). The top five countries of origin arriving in Italy were Guinea, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Ivory Coast, and Gambia. 414 deaths along the Central Mediterranean route were recorded for the month of April.

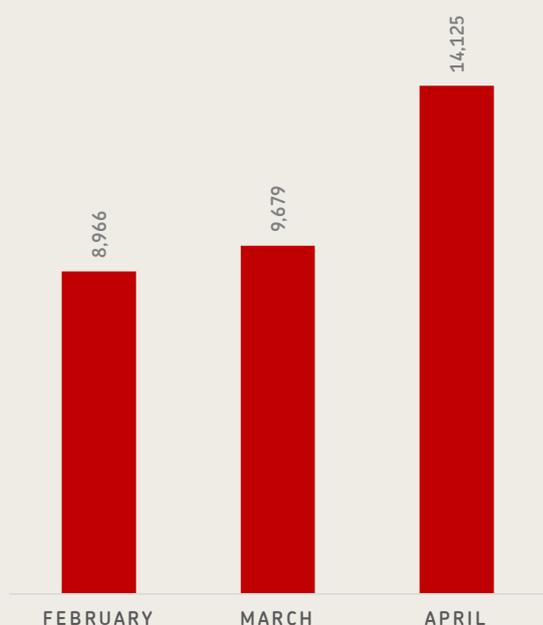
Italian prosecutor accuses NGOs of collaborating with smugglers

- The Italian prosecutor, Carmelo Zuccaro, [accused](#) NGOs involved in migrant rescue operations in the Mediterranean Sea of colluding with smugglers. He said there was evidence of direct contact between some NGOs and traffickers in Libya and phone calls being made from Libya to rescue boats. Organizations involved in rescue operations refuted all accusations made by the prosecutor and asserted that they were only working to save lives. The [UNHCR defended](#) the NGOs operating in the Mediterranean to save migrants and asserted that more efforts were needed to rescue the increasing number of migrants trying to reach Europe.

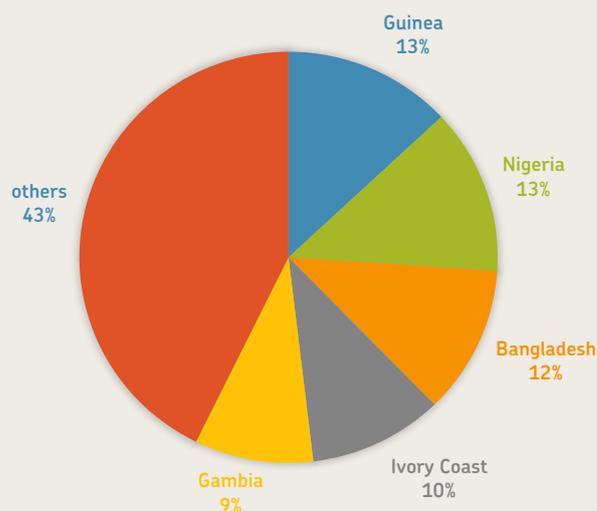
Italy to host an International conference on the European migration emergency

- On 4 May, the Italian Foreign Minister, Angelino Alfano, [announced](#) that Italy will host an international conference on the European migration emergency that will take place in Rome on 6 July. He said that representatives from Libya and other transit countries in Africa will attend the conference. He underlined that a stable Libya was crucial to decreasing the flow of migrants to Italy and Europe and considered it a national security issue.

Arrivals by Sea, Italy
February - April 2017



Arrivals by Sea to Italy, Main Countries of Origin
January - March 2017



RESEARCH OF INTEREST

Displaced minorities: Part I - MMP

The feature article examines the migration and displacement trends of Somali, Sudanese, and Yemeni refugees, and other migrants in Jordan.

Displaced minorities: Part II - MMP

The Feature article examines the experience, needs, and living conditions of Somali, Sudanese, and Yemeni refugees and other migrants in Jordan.

How a Warming Planet Drives Human Migration - New York Times

The article examines how environmental conditions affect migration around the world.

MULTIMEDIA OF INTEREST

Finding Home - Time

Multimedia article documents the first year experiences of Syrian babies born in Greece refugee camps.

World must agree a more responsible, humane way to manage migration - UN Radio

An interview with Mr. William Lacy Swing, the Director General of the IOM, where he shares his views on the Global Compact on Migration.

'This is not how I wanted to arrive in Europe' - DW

A photo article about a [documentary film](#) covering the journey of a Cameroonian migrant.

Rescue on the Mediterranean - Reuters

A photo article documents rescue operation on Easter holiday weekend.