



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, MMC, 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, Spain, Greece and Italy.

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

HIGHLIGHTS

Greek migrant hotspots 'a shame for Europe'

IOM RO MENA regional partners' briefing and launch of new geoportal

Pope Francis visits Morocco

Egypt and Libya agree on labor mobility deal



REGIONAL

GMDAC launches new Europe section of portal

- The IOM Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) [launched](#) a new, dedicated Europe section on its website on 22 March. The dedicated section aims to make evidence-based information on issues of migration and migration data easily accessible to researchers, policymakers, journalists and the general public. Speaking at the launch, Argentina Szabados, IOM's Regional Director for South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia underscored the need for accurate, evidence-based data on migration to counteract the rampant misinformation currently tainting public opinion. "In times of fake news, a rise of populism, spread of negative stereotypes and violent hate crime, there is greater need than ever for genuine facts and reliable figures to give a true picture of what migration is and how it shapes our world," she said. The Europe Migration Page on the portal was authored by the Knowledge Centre on Migration and Demography, a European Commission initiative to provide scientific evidence for EU policymaking in migration and demography related fields.

IOM RO MENA regional partners' briefing and launch of new geoportal

- On 28 March, the IOM Regional Office for Middle East and North Africa in Cairo hosted the year's first Regional Partners' Briefing on current migration trends in the MENA region with representatives from 31 embassies, as well as UN organizations and other partners. During the meeting, the regional office also launched its new regional geoportal which aims to enhance access to migration flow information products through a visually interactive mapping system to better provide data-based information on mobility trends within the region.

Operation Sophia's mandate extended but naval assets are suspended

- On 29 March, the EU [extended Operation Sophia's](#) mandate till September of this year but has suspended the use of naval vessels in sea rescue operations, leading to concerns about the increased threat to life in the Mediterranean. The operation is tasked with disrupting "the business model of migrant smugglers and human traffickers in the Southern Central Mediterranean" and, while the core mandate has remained the same, Operation Sophia will divert its activities to surveillance by aerial assets. Furthermore, the operation will continue to work closely with the Libyan Coast Guard and Navy to reinforce and strengthen their capacity for intercepting migrant vessels.
- The move has sparked widespread concern among humanitarian and human rights actors who see the decision as further imperiling the lives of those already at risk at sea. Speaking about the decision, Massimo Moratti, Amnesty International's Researcher Director, [said](#), "This is an outrageous abdication of EU governments responsibilities. Having already used every excuse in the book to banish NGO rescue boats from the Mediterranean, and having already stopped carrying out rescues several months ago, EU governments are now removing their own ships, leaving no-one to save the lives of women, men and children in peril."

ALGERIA

Political change in Algeria

- On 8 April, Algeria's ailing president, Abdelaziz Bouteflika, [resigned](#) from his position after weeks of public protests calling for his departure. The wave of public protests [erupted](#) in March when then-President Bouteflika announced that he would be running for a fifth presidential term in Algeria's upcoming elections. President Bouteflika's health has been in steady decline since 2013 when a stroke effectively limited his public appearances and, it is presumed, his presidential duties. Protestors have been calling for a general overhaul of the political establishment with the removal of key political figures as well as the president, including Senate Speaker

Abdelakder Bensalah, lead of the constitutional council Tayeb Belaiz and Prime Minister Noureddine Bedoui. While it is premature to speculate about how the latest developments could affect migration trends relating to Algeria, some have expressed concerns about a potential increase in irregular migration to Europe but, as a [piece](#) by Matthew Herbert and Sofian Naceur attests, "Rather than seeing the protests as a risk, Europe's migration hawks should see the situation as working in their favour. The engagement of young Algerians in a movement for generational change is the only realistic way to address popular frustrations and lessen the pervasive sense that migrating from Algeria is a necessity, not a choice."

EGYPT

Sentences handed down to defendants in human smuggling case

- On 19 March, the Giza Criminal Court [sentenced](#) 40 persons to prison on charges relating to human trafficking and smuggling in persons. The persons involved were accused of creating a 'criminal gang' that engaged in a number of illegal activities for the purposes of facilitating irregular migration. Among those activities are, falsifying official documents, bribery, forging government seals, and illegally obtaining an official stamp belonging to a governmental agency. The defendants received sentences ranging from three to sixteen years in prison and some were ordered to pay fines between EGP 2,000-500,000. According to some media [reports](#), the group falsified marriage and birth certificates for young Egyptian women that allowed them to travel abroad.

Egypt and Libya agree on labor mobility deal

- Egyptian and Libyan officials [signed](#) a deal on 17 March

that would facilitate the entry of Egyptian laborers to Libya. According to the terms of the agreement, coordination offices will be opened in the Egyptian city of Sallum and the Libyan city of Masaed. Prospective Egyptian laborers will be screened by and receive security clearance from branches of the Egyptian Ministry of Interior and/or the Egyptian armed forces while the interim Libyan Ministry of Interior will clear them for entry into Libya. Egypt had banned all travel to Libya in 2015 following a deterioration in the security situation and the kidnapping and beheading of 21 Coptic Egyptian migrants at the hands of Islamist militants.

- The agreement came at the heel of the second economic forum of the Libyan-Egyptian Joint Economic Chamber, which was held in Alexandria on 7 March. The meeting aimed to devise solutions to the challenges to trade and labor mobility between the two countries.

LIBYA

Maritime updates

- According to IOM figures, 1,073 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers were returned to Libyan shores by the Libyan Coast Guard in the first three months of the year. There were 165 recorded deaths along the coast of Libya.

Returns from Libya

- According to IOM figures, 2,463 migrants were returned to their countries of origin from Libya in the first three months year via the Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) program. Of those returned home, 73% are male and 27% are female. Nigeria has [continued](#) to receive many returnees from Libya with 174 migrants, including 38 children, returned to Nigeria on 14 March.

Unrest and conflict in Tripoli

- On 4 April, General Khalifa Haftar, the head of the Libyan National Army (LNA) which controls Eastern and large swathes of Southern Libya [ordered](#) his forces to advance on Tripoli where the UN-backed Government of National Accord (GNA) is based. The advance has brought fresh clashes and fighting to the areas surrounding Tripoli and has already sparked the displacement of families in the region. The move has prompted fresh concerns for the safety of migrants and refugees in the area and, more specifically, those held in detention facilities with little protection. The development prompted IOM to [release](#) a statement on 5 April, expressing its concern for migrants. In the statement, IOM Director General António Vitorino, is quoted saying, "The safety of migrants in detention is especially concerning should there be an escalation in military action. The fate of all Libyan civilians and the safety of humanitarian workers also remains an overriding concern. "Migrants, including men, women and children who are being held in often sub-human conditions amid a rapidly deteriorating security situation are particularly vulnerable."

- Some of those held in detention have reached out via their phones to express their fear at being caught in the crossfire. One man speaking with al Jazeera, said that water and electricity had already been cut off to the centre and that they were running out of food. Another migrant could be heard in recordings saying, "Maybe they'll take us to sell us. All people are crazy. We're in a bad situation now, but we don't know where we can go. All the people want to run away from here. We are very stressed now. Already our mind is losing hope." Some members of the international community have expressed concern that migrants, refugees and asylum seekers caught up in the conflict will be forcefully armed and forced to participate in the fighting.

- On 9 April, UNHCR [announced](#) that it had relocated 150 refugees from the Ain Zara detention centre in Tripoli to UNHCR's Gathering and Departure Facility in a nearby safe zone. According to IOM's latest DTM situation [report](#) there are 32,125 newly internally displaced persons due to the clashes and unrest in Tripoli.

Reports of severe malnutrition and death from starvation in Libyan detention centers

- A recent [report](#) by MSF has [revealed](#) the extent of malnutrition among migrants, refugees and asylum seekers being held in Libyan detention centres. The findings came from a survey that MSF conducted at Sabaa detention centre in Tripoli, one of seven detention centres in the city. According to the findings, nearly a quarter of the official number of 300 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers currently being held at the facility are suffering from malnutrition or are underweight. An additional point of concern is that roughly a third of the center population is under the age of 18 and more likely to suffer from moderate to severe malnutrition.

- MSF has been told by numerous of those being detained that they sometimes receive only one meal every two to three days. Speaking about the situation, Karline Kleijer, MSF's head of emergencies, said, "What we see today in this single detention centre is symptomatic of an uncontrolled, unjustified, and reckless system that puts the lives of refugees and migrants at risk. We're talking about the basic necessities required to sustain human life. If food, shelter, and essential services can't be provided in a consistent and appropriate manner, then these people should be released immediately by the Libyan authorities."
- In addition to MSF's revelations, InfoMigrants [reported](#) on allegations that acute malnutrition was sweeping through Zintan detention centre near Tripoli and that several migrants, refugees and asylum seekers have died of starvation. InfoMigrants received testimonies and pictures from those being held and appealed for further information from UNHCR. A representative for UNHCR told the media outlet that while UNHCR schedules medical visits to Zintan, the Libyan authorities are in charge of food distribution. The situation of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers held in detention centres has been of great concern to all humanitarian actors in Libya and [received](#) added attention on 4 April when UN Secretary General António Guterres made a visit to Zara center in Tripoli and said he was "shocked" by the level of suffering and despair he found there. Speaking following his visit, Secretary General Guterres said, "This is, of course, not only a responsibility for Libya, it's a responsibility for the whole of the international community."

IOM: Libya not a safe port for migrants

- IOM [released](#) a statement on 2 April affirming its position with regards to the return of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers

to Libya, that the organization does not consider Libya a port of safety for those rescued at sea. "IOM in Libya is present at the disembarkation points to deliver primary assistance to migrants that have been rescued at sea. However, following their disembarkation, migrants are transferred to detention centres under the responsibility of the Libyan Directorate for Combatting Illegal Migration (DCIM) over which the Organization has no authority or oversight. The detention of men, women and children is arbitrary. The unacceptable and inhumane conditions in these detention centres are well documented, and IOM continues to call for alternative solutions to this systematic detention," the statement reads.

Human Rights Watch criticizes French support to Libyan Coast Guard

- On 13 March, the France Director of Human Rights Watch (HRW), Bénédicte Jeannerod, [criticized](#) the French government's decision to supply the Libyan Coast Guard with vessels to intercept migrants, refugees and asylum seekers at sea. In a statement published on the HRW website Ms. Jeannerod wrote, "The EU's efforts to prevent migrants leaving Libya for Europe significantly increase the risk that migrants will be exposed to abusive detention in Libya. Providing material support to the LCG while being fully aware of these consequences implicates France's responsibility for serious human rights violations." Ms. Jeannord was referring to widespread and well-documented incidents of abuse and maltreatment of migrants and refugees in Libya.
- The Libyan Coast Guard and Directorate for Combatting illegal Migration (DCIM) have [hit](#) back against the claims with Ayoub Qassim, a spokesperson for the Libyan Navy, saying that representatives from human rights and humanitarian organization are present during rescue operations or at points of disembarkation.

MOROCCO

Pope Francis visits Morocco

- During a two-day visit to Morocco at the end of March, Pope Francis [lauded](#) Morocco's efforts to welcome migrants and refugees and reaffirmed his message of support to those fleeing war and persecution and those seeking to make a better life for themselves. Speaking about migration, Pope Francis said, "The issue of migration will never be resolved by raising barriers, fomenting fear of others or denying assistance to those who legitimately aspire to a better life for themselves and their families." He further added, "We know too that the consolidation of true peace comes through the pursuit of social justice, which is indispensable for correcting the economic imbalances and political unrest that have always had a major role in generating conflicts and threatening the whole of humanity."

Spain to support Moroccan navy

- According to reports in Spanish media outlets, Spain will [provide](#) the Moroccan maritime service with training and vessels to support its efforts to intercept and rescue migrants, refugees and asylum seekers along the Western Mediterranean Route. The program is reportedly part of an EU initiative to support Morocco's search and rescue capacity.

SUDAN

New drop-in center to highlight gender sensitive services

- IOM [announced](#) recently that its newly-opened migrant drop-in centre in Eastern Sudan will provide special attention to the needs of vulnerable women and ensure they receive gender-sensitive protection and assistance. IOM operates a number of migrant resource centres (MRCs) in the Horn of Africa and the new centre in Gedarif state near the border with Ethiopia is the second in Sudan. The MRC aims to serve vulnerable migrants transiting through Sudan and will pay

special attention to the needs of women and girls on the move who are at increased risk of exploitation and abuse. The centre was opened on 5 March in close coordination with the State Ministry of Health and Social Development, IOM's main governmental counterpart in Gedarif. The opening was attended by representatives from various government bodies, migrant communities, local and international NGOs and representatives from the embassies of France, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Japan, and the United States.

TUNISIA

Tunisia to close Medenine migrant center

- Citing overcrowding and inhumane conditions, Tunisia has [announced](#) that it will be closing the Medenine migrant center which is currently hosting 20 migrants and 180 asylum seekers. Speaking about the closure, Tunisian Minister Fadhel Mahfoudh said, "The conditions in this center are inhumane, and it will therefore be closed immediately. We have to find solutions to allow migrants and refugees to live with dignity." The center was being run by the Tunisian Red crescent, in collaboration with IOM, UNHCR and the International Red Cross. IOM Tunisia's Chief of Mission, Lorena Lando, has spoken out in support of the decision and added, "IOM remains available to every migrant who wishes to return to his or her country of origin."

Tunisian authorities apprehend tens of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers attempting irregular travel to Europe

- According to Tunisian media reports, over 100 migrants, refugee and asylum seekers were [apprehended](#) during an attempt to break into Port La Goulette and travel irregularly to Europe. Speaking about the incident, Port La Goulette's manager, Mohamed Omran said, "Between 30 and 40 people have indeed sneaked into the port and were arrested, while around 70 people were arrested outside the port." While it is unclear from the information available how those involved were attempting the crossing, there are some indications that they hoped to board one or a number of ships anchored at the port.

GREECE

Arrivals to Greece by sea

- 1,921 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers arrived in Greece by sea between 27 February and 31 March; which represents a roughly 11.6% increase from a similar reporting period the previous month. According to IOM figures, 11 deaths were recorded along the Eastern Mediterranean Route during this reporting period.

Greek migrant hotspots 'a shame for Europe'

- In a report released by the German Embassy in Athens, the EU Commission [expressed](#) concerns over conditions endured by migrants in Greek 'hotspots'. The document calls on the Greek government to take responsibility for the catastrophic conditions in the hotspots and accelerate asylum procedures. The Commission also reports that despite the EU-Turkey deal, in 2018 only less than 1 percent of incoming migrants and refugees were returned to Turkey, and Syrians constituted less than 7 percent of new arrivals. A spokesperson from Greece's Ministry for Migration Policy commented that the country has been left to deal with the migration crisis alone, and the lack of EU solidarity and Turkey's lack of capacity to prevent migrants, refugees and asylum seekers from crossing are among the main causes of Greek migrant hotspots conditions.

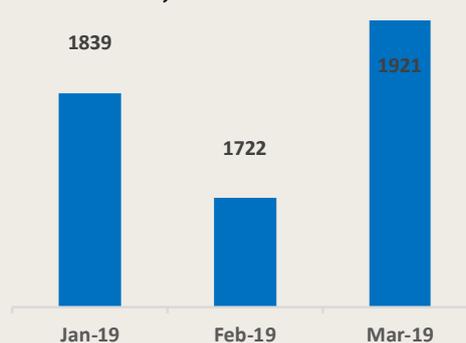
Third year EU-Turkey deal anniversary marked by "Refugees welcome" projected on the Acropolis

- On the third-year anniversary of the EU-Turkey deal, activists from Amnesty International [projected](#) the slogan 'humanity first: refugees are welcome' on the Acropolis in Athens. The political message was intended to raise awareness on the plight of thousands of migrants trapped in Greek reception centres as a result of the accord. The agreement was initially intended as a statement of cooperation between the EU and Ankara at a moment where more than a million refugees crossed into Europe through Greek islands. The accord foresaw returning migrants to Turkey, unless they successfully applied for asylum in Greece. In return, the EU provided Turkey with six billion dollars in aid for hosting approximately three million refugees, and established that for every Syrian returned to Turkey, another one would be resettled to another member state.
- Human rights groups have criticized the deal as an 'inhumane containment policy' that turned Greek islands into a 'dumping ground' with thousands of migrants left without proper medical care and humane living conditions. Migrant hotspot centres are operating beyond their capacity, with Samos centre alone hosting 4,000 people, six times its capacity. The agreement initially led to a significant drop in the number of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers using that route. However, in recent months migrants crossing from Turkey increased again, increasing pressure on Greece.

Online call for a march from Greek northern camp to North Macedonia

- Hundreds of asylum seekers [gathered](#) at the camp of Diavata, outside Thessaloniki, after a rumor spread on social media about human rights groups assisting migrants to cross the border to Northern Macedonia. "Unfortunately, some asylum seekers in northern Greece were misled by misinformation circulating on social media despite warnings by camp authorities," a spokesperson from the Greek migration ministry commented. After a brief scuffle [broke out](#) with the police who responded with tear gas, the crowd was eventually relocated by the authorities to different centres around the country.

Arrivals by Sea, Greece
January 2019 - March 2019



ITALY

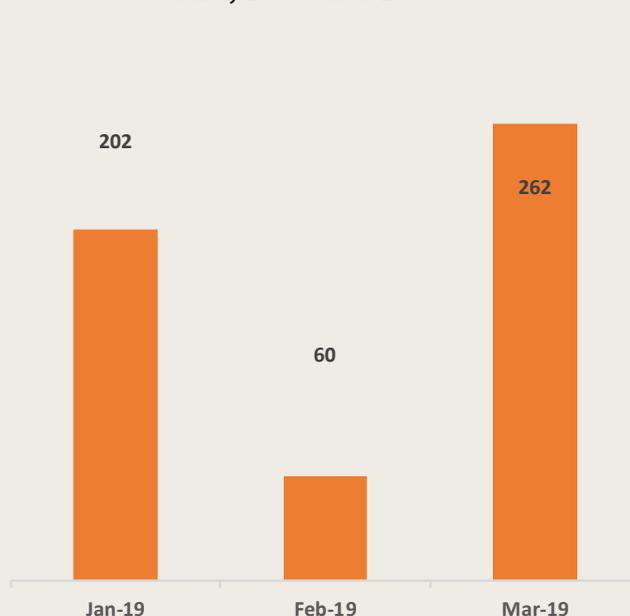
Arrivals to Italy by sea

- 262 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers arrived in Italy by sea between 27 February and 31 March, which represents a significant jump from the previous month's figure of roughly 60. That said, the figure is still 75% lower than arrival figures for the same reporting period last year. 16 fatalities were recorded along the Central Mediterranean Route between 27 February and 31 March.

Crackdown on rescue vessels in the Mediterranean continues

- 50 migrants rescued by Mare Jonio were [denied](#) permission to disembark in Italian ports as Italian Interior Minister, Matteo Salvini, reiterates his hardline approach to asylum seekers. While the discussions over disembarkation were taking place, IOM warned that another migrant vessel had sank, leaving only 15 survivors. The Italian authorities ordered the Mare Jonio vessel to maintain its distance from the port and turn off its engine despite extreme weather conditions and the fact that 12 minors were onboard and one person that needed medical attention. Minister Salvini [issued](#) a directive on the surveillance of maritime borders and the fight against irregular migration, giving full legitimacy to Libyan rescue operations, after the European Commission defined Libya as a reliable country capable of rescuing migrants at sea. The Italian Refugee Council expressed significant concerns over the minister's directive, which determines that rescue vessels' operations that are not coordinated by Rome have no right to use Italian ports for safety, and any infringement will be taken as a "premeditated action to bring illegal immigrants and facilitate human trafficking".
- Another humanitarian aid ship, Sea Eye, carrying 64 migrants was stuck in the Mediterranean while both Italy and Malta refused to take them to their ports. The boat was closer to the Island of Lampedusa, although the Italian Minister refused to allow passengers to disembark and sent a letter to the German government requesting them to intervene. Similar standoffs regarding rescue ships were resolved only when other European countries agreed to take the migrants.

Arrivals by Sea, Italy
January 2019 - March 2019



Arrivals to Spain by sea

- 648 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers have crossed from Morocco to Spain by sea between 27 February and 31 March. This figure represents a 43% drop in arrivals to Spain from the previous reporting period which was also 70% lower than that recorded for the preceding month of January. Despite the drop in arrival figures, 62 fatalities were recorded along the Western Mediterranean Route between 27 February and 31 March.

Arrivals to Spain by land

- 426 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers have crossed into Spain via its land borders with Morocco (through Ceuta and Melilla) in March which is roughly the same number as those who crossed the previous month of February.

UN Migration study in Western Mediterranean reveals migrants abuse and exploitation

- A [study](#) conducted by IOM with over 1,300 migrants and refugees hosted in Spain, concluded that nearly half (48%) of interviewees reported having had at least one experience related to human trafficking, exploitation or abuse when travelling through the Western and Central Mediterranean route. Abuses [include](#) “being held against one’s will, being approached by someone with offers of an arranged marriage, having worked without getting the expected payment, having experienced physical violence, being forced to work, offers of cash in exchange for blood, organs or body parts and threatened with sexual violence.”

- The surveys were conducted with migrants and refugees from 39 different countries arriving to Spain between July and October 2018 and who were in reception centres throughout more than 40 municipalities and four Spanish regions. 89% of those interviewed were men while 11% were women, and 35% were under the age of 20, and 19% between 21 and 23 years old. Men indicated a higher percentage of incidents (49%) than women (40%). About 38% of migrants spent more than a year travelling to Spain, 46% reported financial problems (including being robbed) during their journey, and 19% reported health problems.

Italian authorities accused Spanish fisherman of facilitating illegal migration

- Miguel Roldán, a Spanish firefighter who was volunteering aboard rescue vessels operating in the Mediterranean is now [facing](#) 20 years for allegedly aiding irregular migration and working with human traffickers. During June 2017, while volunteering on a German rescue ship, Roldán and his crew rescued 5,000 migrants and refugees stranded in international waters. The rescue operation was interrupted on 2 August, when Italian authorities launched an investigation into the crew for facilitating “illegal immigration”. The investigation phase of the case is expected to be concluded in the summer; a potential trial would start by the end of the year. In 2018, three other Spanish firefighters volunteering for the Association Proem-Aid (Professional Emergency Aid) were facing up to 10 years in prison with the accusation of smuggling people.

MULTIMEDIA & EDITORIALS OF INTEREST

[The continuing tragedy of migrants in Libya](#) - Brookings

This editorial provides an overview of relevant reports on conditions for those transiting through Libya. The editorial provides data and reports from [Human Rights Watch](#), [CNN](#), [Amnesty International](#), and [the International Organization for Migration](#).

[Reporter's notebook: the Nigerian migrants flown back from Libya](#) - The Observers

This brief video and story focus on a group of 32 Nigerians who tried escaping from a migrant detention centre in Libya and were then supported by IOM to voluntarily return to Lagos.

[It's Time for the United States to Rethink How We See North Africa](#) - Council on Foreign Relations

This short editorial invites political leaders to rethink strategically on the opportunities that arise regarding cooperation and development opportunities in the North African region, particularly now that Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika stepped down and the country's stability could significantly influence the region.

[Troops secure tanker hijacked by rescued migrants off Libya](#) - CBS News

This short editorial invites political leaders to rethink strategically on the opportunities that arise regarding cooperation and development opportunities in the North African region, particularly now that Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika stepped down and the country's stability could significantly influence the region.

[The EU claims the migrant crisis is over in Europe—that doesn't mean it's over](#) - Quartz

The editorial focuses on European political campaigns suggesting that migration is no longer a crisis affecting the continent. While the numbers of those arriving in Europe has decreased over the last four years, the journeys themselves have become much more dangerous as migrants dodge security controls looking for alternative routes.

[Driven to suicide in Tunisia's UNHCR refugee shelter](#) - Al Jazeera

Al Jazeera tells the story of young refugees living in UNHCR reception facilities in Tunisia, and facing lack of adequate care and an extreme sense of despair and abandonment.

[Festival de l'Air: Community Stabilization in Niger](#) - AfricaNews

A brief overview of the nomad festival de l'Air in Niger, where IOM took advantage of the festival's 14th edition, to launch its community stabilization activities funded through the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration.

[Social media bridges North Africa's divides to facilitate migration](#) - IPP Media

This editorial provides an interesting perspective on how social media and internet platforms are shaping and influencing the migration phenomenon.

[As EU stresses the migration 'crisis' is over, Italy makes hundreds of migrants homeless](#) - The Conversation

This short piece focuses on rhetoric surrounding the 'migration crisis' and Italian Prime Minister Matteo Salvini's recent security decree, which will leave hundreds of people once eligible for humanitarian protection without proper access to basic and fundamental services.

[“More Than One Million Pains”: Sexual Violence Against Men and Boys on the Central Mediterranean Route to Italy](#) - Women’s Refugee Commission

The Women’s Refugee Commission published a study on sexual violence against refugee men and boys, including those with different gender identity and sexual orientation. The qualitative study also looks at the intersection with violence perpetuated against women and girls who travel throughout the central Mediterranean route. The key findings and recommendations provide important guidelines on strengthening protection mechanisms in regard to migration routes.

[Child Labour in the Arab Region - A Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis](#) - International Labour Organization (ILO)

ILO’s report investigates the relationship between child labour and armed conflict, the latter being identified as an exacerbator of the pre-existing levels of child labour in rural and urban areas in the Arab region, typically driven by low levels of education, economic vulnerability and particular social norms.

[“Life is a fight that should be fought” Life in transit: Voices from returning migrants Niger Report 2019 \(Part Two\)](#) - XChange Foundation

This study provides interesting insights into how environmental, socio-economic, and political instability in the region contributed to increased mixed movement along the trans-Saharan corridor, particularly in those transiting through Niger. XChange Foundation collected qualitative data and quantitative data on the complex routes taken by migrants, the abuse and exploitation experienced through their journey, as well as their intended destinations on their travels to draw a profile of people on the move.

[Libya: Report on nutrition screening findings in Sabaa detention centre](#) - Medecins sans Frontieres

Through this report, MSF invites Libyan authorities and the international community to address the inhumane conditions endured by migrants in Libyan detention centers. MSF assessments highlight that nearly a quarter of the migrants held in Sabaa detention centers are suffering from severe to moderate malnutrition, and that the centre’s facilities are not appropriate to address migrants’ essential needs.

[Profile and reported vulnerabilities of migrants along the western Mediterranean route](#) - Displacement Tracking Matrix

By interviewing 1,341 migrants and refugees in transit and reception centres in more than four different autonomous regions in Spain, IOM’s findings provide interesting information on human trafficking, exploitation and abuse along the Western Mediterranean route.

[Country report – Immigration Detention in Niger: Expanding the EU-Financed Zone of Suffering Through “Penal Humanitarianism”](#)

- Global Detention Project

This report by the Global Detention Project provides an in-depth analysis of migration movements through Niger. The country has gained increasing attention for its role in the central Mediterranean route to Europe, becoming the focus of EU-financed migration related projects.