



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.

Scope: This bulletin covers mixed migration trends in Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Sudan, Tunisia, Spain, 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



REGIONAL

Challenges to Migration Governance in the Arab Region

Across the Arab world, migrant workers are facing various structural [challenges](#). Many of them are still facing the possibility of abuse at the hands of employers, even though efforts have been put in place by destination countries to implement and enforce labor protections. Moreover, the possibility to get naturalized is scarce in the Arab states, and access to public services for non-citizens is still restricted under the existing regulations. Over the past few months, Covid-19 has amplified those challenges and shed light on the urgent need to ensure effective policies. The virtual launch of the 2019 Situation Report on International Migration, held on May 28, comes at a critical time. The report, published by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (UNESCWA), highlights key policy updates between 2017 and 2019, migrations patterns and priority areas for future progress.

Africa Harbors 9 of 10 Worst Displacement Crises, Aid Group Says

The Norwegian Refugee Council reported in an annual assessment released on Wednesday that out of the ten world's most neglected [displacement](#) crisis, nine are in Africa. For the second consecutive year, Cameroon tops the list of neglected crises. Then follows the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Venezuela, Mali, South Sudan, Nigeria, Central African Republic and Niger. The NRC said that Burkina Faso, Mali, Nigeria and Niger – countries in Africa's Sahel region – have all been afflicted by extremist violence and do not receive sufficient aid.

LIBYA

Maritime updates

According to IOM [data](#), 1,496 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers were rescued and returned to Libya in June. Of those who were saved in June, 83 were female, 1,354 were male, and 59 were children.

UN says dozen migrants feared drowned in capsizing off Libya

UN official said that on Saturday a dozen people were missing and feared [drowned](#) off the Libyan coast after a boat carrying three dozen migrants on the way to Europe capsized in the Mediterranean Sea. The shipwreck took place off the coastal town of Zawiya said Safa Msehli, spokeswoman for the International Organization for Migration.

COVID-19 has aggravated situation for migrants in Libya says MSF

The response to the Covid-19 pandemic has laid “bare failed politics of aid to help migrants stranded in Libya” and aggravated their situation, said Doctors Without Borders (MSF) in a statement. MSF Head of Mission in Libya, Sacha Petiot, wrote in a statement that: “For some 1,500 people currently held in the detention centres nominally under the authority of the Libyan agency fighting illegal migration (DCIM), despair is reaching a new high”. The halt of IOM repatriation services and UNHCR evacuation flights related to travel restrictions as a way to curb the spread of Covid-19 also [extinguished](#) migrants only hopes to evade a cycle of violence and abuses in Libya, Petiot added.

Germany's Sea Watch rescues 100 migrants off Libya

On Wednesday, 100 migrants off of Libya were rescued by the German NGO Sea Watch. The NGO said that the coast guard would have turned them back to shore if they would not have intervened. Sea Watch said on Twitter that the [dinghy](#) was found 40 kilometres (25 miles) west of Tripoli, 29 nautical miles off Zawyia. They further added that several of the migrants, including women and children, were given immediate medical attention.

Six migrants dead, dozens rescued off Libya coast: UN

The UN's migration agency said on Saturday that 93 migrants were rescued off Libyan shores as they tried to reach Europe, among them, was a woman who gave [birth](#) at sea. However, six others died along the way. The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) said on Twitter that the survivors were brought back overnight to the port city of Khoms, 120 kilometres (75 miles) west of the capital Tripoli.

MALI

With climate change, conflict and COVID, stresses grow for Malian villagers

With the arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic, communities in the African's Sahel face worsening challenges. During the dry season, temporary migration to find work and an additional source of income in cities have always been part of life for young women and men in the region said researcher Camilla Toulmin. Even in more peaceful times, trips that usually took three or four months now increase to nine, notably as [droughts](#) worsen. Some migrants never return, with Dlonguebougou youth ending up not just in Mali's cities but in neighbouring countries and even Europe, she said.

MOROCCO

Health and Regularization in Morocco's Migrant Community¹

Following the Arab Spring in 2011, Morocco's newly adopted constitution promoted ideas of equality and representation for all Moroccans. Despite the fact that the migrant community was not in mind in the written text, the preamble nevertheless promises "to ban and combat all discrimination whenever it encounters it, for reason of sex, or color, of beliefs, of culture, of social or regional origin, of language, of handicap or whatever personal circumstance that may be." Three years after King Mohammed VI's speech to the African Union, Morocco had [regularized](#) around 50,000 migrants by 2017. As a partnership between the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Moroccan government, the new migration policy also encourages institutional affiliations. As the official regularization provider for Morocco, the UNHCR also works with organizations such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Moroccan Association for Family Planning (AMPF) to make sure that migrants and refugees obtain educational and medical resources.

From the South: Senegalese Migration to Morocco

The conditions of [employment](#) in Senegal are one of the main contributors to the migration's waves from the country and Senegalese are one of the most represented nationalities of sub-Saharan in Morocco. On this journey, unregularized or informal migrants may face numerous dangers such as the risk of being exploited by trafficker for their labor or bodies, the danger of running into security personnel as well as the intense elements of Morocco's southern climate.

NIGER

Jihadists launch deadly attack on Niger refugee camp, UN says

The United Nations said on Monday that a coordinated attack by Jihadists took place on a camp housing thousands of Malian refugees in western Niger. The attackers [killed](#) three civilians, abducted a guard and sabotaged water supply. According to the UN, 60,000 Malian refugees are currently in Niger after fleeing the north part of their country when it fell under control of Al-Qaeda-linked jihadist groups in 2012.

TUNISIA

Tunisia intercepts multiple migrant departures in separate operations

Various attempts by migrants to [depart](#) for Europe have been stopped by Tunisian authorities in recent days. In one operation, nine young people trying to reach the Kerkennah Islands by car to then take part in a migration attempt were arrested by the Tunisian Coast Guard in Zahrani, said the interior ministry in a statement. The Authorities also seized 22,000 Tunisian dinars in cash (approximately 7,000 euros) as well as the car.

Death toll rises to 61 in migrant ship sinking off Tunisia

According to the Defense Ministry, the bodies of thirteen men and women were recovered Thursday by the Tunisian search team. Earlier this week, the bodies of twenty adults and two toddlers washed up on the beaches of Kerkennah Island off the Mediterranean coastal city of Sfax. Nineteen other bodies were also found [floating](#) in the nearby waters. According to the Tunisian authorities, except for the Tunisian captain, all the victims were from sub-Saharan Africa, notably Cote d'Ivoire.

¹ Note: The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the official name of the organization and not as per article "The International Office for Migration".

GREECE

Arrivals to Greece by sea

267 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers [arrived](#) in Greece by sea in June. This figure represents an increase of 17 % in arrivals by sea from the previous month of May.

Thousands face homelessness in Greek refugee relocation push

Abdelkader Rahmoun, a 44-year-old Syrian and his family, were given temporary home under Greece's asylum seeker housing scheme. They are about to lose that as the Greek authorities are planning to move 11,200 people to make room for other asylum seekers currently living in dismal island camps. Rahmoun's family has to [vacate](#) his small EU-funded flat in the port of Piraeus by the end of June, but he believes that it will be difficult to find alternative accommodation by then.

36 migrants rescued off Lesbos on Sunday

Travelling from Turkey, thirty-six migrants from Afghanistan and Iran were [rescued](#) off the Lesbos's coast on Sunday. They were then taken to the port of Petra on the island to be tested for the novel Covid-19 and later taken into quarantine. This is the "third of such boat" arriving on Lesbos since early June according to The Greek press agency ANA-MPA. As of now, a total of 108 migrants have arrived on the island this month reported the agency, which contrasts to the low numbers since mid-march, when Greece shut down due to restrictions to reduce the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.

ITALY

Arrivals to Italy by sea

1,831 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers [arrived](#) in Italy by sea in June. This figure represents an increase of 11% in arrivals by sea from the previous month of May.

Italy warns of new migration emergency

During Italy's three months long lockdown as a way to curb the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic trips from North Africa to the shores of Sicily have decreased. Italian authorities now believe – as the number of new cases has diminished in the past few months – that [flow](#) of migrants will start again at a much higher pace. Since the beginning of the year, 5,461 migrants among them 818 Tunisians, managed to reach Italy on dinghies and fishing boats, mentioned the Interior Ministry in Rome.

More Than 200 Migrants Rescued in Mediterranean Disembark in Italy

After being rescued last week in the Mediterranean, more than 200 migrants, among them 62 children [disembarked](#) Sunday in Italy. They were travelling in three rubber boats believed to have sailed from Libya.

SPAIN

Arrivals to Spain by sea

1,062 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers [arrived](#) in Spain by sea in June, which represents a decrease of 2 % from figures of May.

Arrivals to Spain by Land

82 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers [arrived](#) in Spain by land in June, which represents an increase of 290 % from figures of May.

MULTIMEDIA & EDITORIALS OF INTEREST

[Conference of INGOs Webinar: Migrants and refugees facing the Covid-19 crisis, what lessons for the post-pandemic time?](#) – Council of Europe

This statement from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Migration and Refugees provides a brief overview of the impact of Covid-19 on migration on a micro and macro level.

['Europe cannot allow itself to fail twice' on migration, EU Commission VP Schinas says](#) – France24

This interview of EU Commission Vice-President Margaritis Schinas provides, among other subjects, information about the new planned EU migration pact.

RESEARCH OF INTEREST

[Mixed Migration Centre: COVID-19 global update #5 - Impact of COVID-19 on refugees and migrants](#) – Mixed Migration Centre

The fifth update published by the Mixed Migration Centre on the situation for refugees and migrants on mixed migration routes during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Global Food Security Alert, June 29, 2020: COVID-19 pandemic drives global increase in humanitarian food assistance needs](#) - Famine Early Warning System Network

The following Global Food Security Alerts are a part of a monthly series that aims to provide an update of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on acute food insecurity across FEWS NET geographies, highlighting countries of most significant concern.

[COVID-19 impact on migrant smuggling and human trafficking](#) - Interpol

The report provides a global overview of the impact of Covid-19 on migrant smuggling and human trafficking.

[Middle East And North Africa -Tracking Mobility Impact: Point Of Entry Analysis](#) - IOM

This quarterly report summarizes mobility restrictions at airports, land and blue border crossing points resulting from the mitigation measures implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.