



EUROPE / MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION RESPONSE

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT • 10 March 2016



Highlights

IOM provides warm and dry clothes to rescued migrants and refugees in Küçükuyu © IOM Turkey, 2016

■ IOM continues to support the Turkish Coast Guards by distributing food, water, and non-food items to rescued migrants and refugees. During the reporting period, IOM assisted the TCG in Küçükuyu through the provision of food, water and NFIs (including blankets, clothing and shoes) to 106 migrants and refugees who were rescued at sea.

■ At the transit centres in Niger, IOM has provided 208 migrants with shelter, food, medical and psychosocial support assistance. Additionally, 42 migrants have been provided with return assistance to their country of origin, including 19 from Senegal, nine from the Ivory Coast, and seven from Guinea Conakry.

■ In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, IOM has completed the installation of 26 sleeping containers at the transit reception centre in Gevgelija to meet the needs of migrants and refugees at this centre. The containers are fully equipped with beds, linens, pillows, and blankets.

■ In Slovenia, IOM is also organizing a one day training for approximately 30 participants from humanitarian organizations involved in the response. The training will take place on 10 March and focuses on the identification of victims of trafficking, referral mechanisms, and standard protocols.

■ To continue providing assistance to the number of stranded migrants seeking to return to their country of origin, IOM facilitated the humanitarian repatriation of 123 stranded migrants in Libya, of which 117 were provided with a charter flight from Mitiga to Ouagadougou on 25 February, while three were provided with commercial flights to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, two to Togo, and one to Sierra Leone.

■ To date, IOM Greece has provided humanitarian relocation services to a total of 536 refugees who were relocated to other EU Member States as part of the EU relocation programme.

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SITUATION OVERVIEW

As of 9 March 2016, 148,355 migrants and refugees have arrived to Europe by land and sea routes since the start of 2016, the majority of whom have entered by sea (146,637).

On 3 March, Greece's Defence Ministry announced the creation of a coordinating centre to better coordinate ministerial efforts in tackling the current migration and refugee crisis. The coordinating centre will be comprised of representatives from the six ministries involved in managing the crisis: Defence; Migration Policy; Civil Protection; Infrastructure-Transport and Networks; Shipping; and Macedonia-Thrace.

From 1 January – 6 March, IOM estimates that 131,847 migrants and refugees have reached the Greek islands. According to the Hellenic Coast Guards, the majority come from Syria (48 per cent), Afghanistan (26 per cent), and Iraq (16 per cent). Between 1-6 March, the HCG rescued a total of 4,759 migrants and refugees while two smugglers have been arrested and 13 boats seized by Greek authorities.

As of 9 March, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has registered a total 89,491 migrants and refugees since 1 January 2016, with an average of 130 people entering per day during the reporting period.

According to IOM, between 1 January – 9 March, a total of 90,177 migrants and refugees have been registered in Serbia, of which approximately 2,615 arrived during the reporting period.

As of 9 March, 102,272 migrants and refugees have arrived in Croatia since the start of the year. During the reporting period, 4,027 migrants and refugees were registered, an average of 287 people per day. Since its opening in November 2015, the Slavonski Brod reception transit centre has accommodated more than 343,009 migrants and refugees. IOM's DTM team in Croatia have noted a sizable change in the number of migrating women and children. In the first week of March, 35 per cent of those entering were male, while 25 per cent were female and 40 per cent were children.

On 7 March, the Croatian Minister of the Interior met with the Hungarian counterpart to agree on the opening of three railway border crossings between Hungary and Croatia that had previously been closed since mid-October 2015 due to the migration flows. There are no confirmed details about when the crossings would be open and if the opening will be permanent.

On 25 February, Slovenia announced that the country would reduce the daily entry quota down to 500 people. On 8 March, Slovenia reinforced its border crossing regime to allow through only migrants with valid passports and visas or those seeking asylum, and stopped accepting organized trains carrying migrants and refugees. Consequently, during the reporting period, the number of people entering into Slovenia has greatly decreased, with an average of 280 people entering per day (a decrease from the prior reporting period of 1,347). A new accommodation centre, for those migrants who have not been allowed entry into Austria, has been opened in Vrhnika. During the reporting period, this new centre has accommodated up to 144 people per day. As of 9 March, Slovenia has registered a total of 99,179 migrants and refugees.

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In order to gather and disseminate information about the migrant and refugee populations moving through the Mediterranean, up the Western Balkan Route and through the Northern Route into Europe, in September 2015, the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) team established a Flow Monitoring System (FMS). The FMS provides a weekly overview of migration flows in countries of first arrival and other countries along the route in Europe (including Turkey, Bulgaria, Greece, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Hungary, Croatia, Slovenia, and Italy), and provides an analysis of trends across the affected region. The data on registered arrivals is collated by IOM through consultations with ministries of interior, coast guards, police forces, and other relevant national authorities.

IOM continues to gather and process this data along the routes and border points and distributes information to relevant stakeholders, including government authorities. The information gathered is also used to inform IOM's portal that provides information on trends and transit routes related to the Europe / Mediterranean migration crisis, which can be found at <http://migration.iom.int>.

In addition to providing data on migrant flows, the Flow Monitoring System also helps inform the type of assistance needed and identifies the vulnerabilities of migrants and refugees. IOM continues to work with NGOs, other international organizations and local authorities on migration management, identification of vulnerable cases and referrals to relevant authorities. The information provided through this network allows partners to plan more informed responses and provides essential support to migrants in key locations. On 3 March, IOM published its

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first Analysis of Trafficking and Exploitation Indicators report, which includes preliminary findings from 1,042 interviews conducted in February 2016. Among the initial findings of the report is that at least 10 per cent of respondents have answered “yes” to one of the trafficking and exploitation indicators, based on their own direct experience, and rates are higher amongst Afghans (12.3 per cent) and Syrians (11.3 per cent). The full analysis can be found at <http://doe.iom.int/docs/Analysis%20-%20OCT%20Survey%20-%20003%20Mar%202016.pdf>.

Turkey

As of 6 March, the Turkish Coast Guards (TCG) have rescued 15,760 migrants and refugees since the start of the year, with an additional 166 lives lost since the start of 2016. During the reporting period, an average of approximately 239 people arrived per day.

IOM continues to support the TCG by distributing food, water, and non-food items (NFIs) to rescued migrants and refugees. During the reporting period, IOM assisted the TCG in Küçükkuyu through the provision of food, water and NFIs (including blankets, clothing and shoes) to 106 migrants and refugees who were rescued at sea.

To date, IOM has provided 5,000 hygiene kits, 5,000 blankets, six tarpaulin tents (to help shelter rescued migrants and refugees from the winter elements at reception areas), 14 heaters, 340 plastic chairs (used at the reception areas inside the tents), clothing, and food and

water at six reception points (Küçükkuyu, Ayvalık, Dikili, Çeşme, Didim, and Bodrum). IOM is in the process of procuring 2,000 food kits which will include water, biscuits, a protein bar and fruit juice, to be distributed to those who are rescued by the TCG in Küçükkuyu.

In addition to the three rescue platforms provided to the TCG in January, on 2 March, IOM delivered four additional platforms to be used at the main rescue hotspots in Bodrum.

IOM facilitated the participation of TCG staff for a workshop on “Rescue of refugees and migrants in the Mediterranean: practitioners’ perspectives” that took place from 7 – 9 March in San Remo, Italy. The workshop, organized by the International Institute of Humanitarian Law with support by IOM and UNHCR, aims to help participants examine, from a range of perspectives, the evolving practices and issues concerning the detection and search and rescue of refugees and migrants crossing the Mediterranean towards Europe.

To strengthen inter-institutional cooperation in identifying and referring vulnerable migrants and to better respond to mixed migration flows, IOM has conducted a needs assessment in Çanakkale, Küçükkuyu, İzmir, Çeşme, Bodrum and Mersin. The assessment will help to define the technical, operational, institutional, and legal needs of relevant stakeholders in responding to mixed migration flows and better addressing protection needs of vulnerable migrants.

Greece

IOM has begun to procure and prepare non-food item kits to distribute to newly arrived migrants and refugees upon



Migrants and refugees arriving in Lesbos © IOM Italy, 2016

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Greece (continued)

their arrival. The NFI kits will provide migrants and refugees with basic items to address their immediate needs, including clean and dry weather-appropriate clothing, footwear, bedding, towels, toiletries and hygiene products. Special kits will be prepared and distributed for infants and children which will include clothing, diapers, bottles, and wet wipes, as well as milk powder/formula for infants.

IOM continues to enhance the reception assistance at the First Reception Centres (FRC) in Lesvos, Evros and Leros through personnel who provide direct assistance to rescued migrants and refugees. At the FRCs, IOM also ensures that the screening of all newly arrived migrants and refugees happen immediately upon arrival in order to provide a prompt response to individual needs, as necessary.



IOM providing pre-departure assistance to a Syrian family departing under the EU relocation programme © IOM Greece, 2016

To date, IOM has provided humanitarian relocation services to a total of 536 refugees who were relocated to other EU Member States as part of the EU relocation programme. IOM implements this service in cooperation with the Asylum Service who is responsible for the selection procedure. IOM

prepares the movements for the selected beneficiaries and delivers cultural orientation sessions. IOM also provides pre-departure medical examinations and escorts to final destinations, as necessary.

Through the assisted voluntary return programme, IOM provides support and services to stranded migrants who are seeking to safely return to their country of origin. IOM provides beneficiaries of this programme with services that include: information and counselling on return and reintegration; pre-departure assistance; transit and reception assistance; small reinstallation cash grants prior to departure; and, for a limited number of returnees, reintegration support in their country of origin. From 1 January to 6 March, IOM has assisted 1,054 migrants return to their country of origin, the majority of whom were returning to Morocco (725) and Iran (114).

IOM continues to be present on the islands of Lesvos, Samos, Kos, Leros, Chios, and Crete and works closely with authorities (Frontex, the HCG, and the First Reception Service) to identify vulnerable migrants and refugees, including unaccompanied and/or separated children, the elderly, and those with medical needs. Vulnerable populations are referred to the relevant authorities in order to be provided with the necessary care and assistance. IOM also provides legal information to newly arrived migrants and refugees being transported to the First Reception Centres in Lesvos and Samos islands. The IOM teams are composed of trained cultural mediators who provide information to migrants and refugees in their native language.

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

IOM continues to support the government's registration process through the deployment of 12 data entry clerks at the transit reception centre in Gevgelija. From 19 June 2015 to 8 March 2016, IOM's registration teams, together with the Border Police and the NGO Young Lawyers Association have registered a total of 477,856 migrants and refugees, out of which, 51 per cent are male, 18 per cent are female, 27 per cent are children, and 4 per cent are unaccompanied and/or separated children.

IOM is helping to enhance the registration process at the reception centres in Gevgelija and Kumanovo through the provision of technical assistance. Through IOM's support, four registration containers in the Gevgelija reception centre and one registration container in the Kumanovo reception centre has been equipped with office equipment and an IT

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Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (continued)

infrastructure (internet and local area network).

IOM has completed the installation of 26 sleeping containers at the transit reception centre in Gevgelija to meet the needs of migrants and refugees at this centre. The containers are fully equipped with beds, linens, pillows, and blankets.



IOM provided a tour of the reception transit centre in Gevgelija to the Japanese delegation © IOM Skopje, 2016

On 8 March, IOM hosted the Japanese embassy delegation, including the Second Secretary who was accompanied by the Liaison Officer, at the transit reception centre in Gevgelija. During their visit, the delegation was provided with an overview of IOM's operation, which included the sleeping containers that their government help to fund. The delegation expressed their satisfaction with the operational overview and commended IOM on the excellent implementation of their funds.

Serbia

As part of the Early Warning Information Sharing Network, IOM teams are present at the southern border between

Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to assist border police at the entry point in Miratovac with flow monitoring. IOM is providing migrants and refugees with necessary information and referrals to the registration centre in Presevo.

IOM continues to support authorities with the registration process at the Presevo registration centre and during the reporting period, assisted approximately 200 migrants and refugees per day with filling in the arrival questionnaire.

For vulnerable families and individuals, IOM provides transportation assistance from the Miratovac transit centre to the Presevo registration centre. Up to 300 vulnerable migrants and refugees are provided with this transport assistance per day.

Croatia

Since the opening of the Slavonski Brod reception transit centre, IOM's DTM team has been present and consistently collecting data. The team currently has 10 data collectors and a mobility tracking assistant. As of 3 March, the DTM team has reported 3,300 successfully completed



IOM conducting DTM surveys at the Slavonski Brod reception transit centre © IOM Croatia, 2016

questionnaires from the Opatovac and Slavonski Brod reception transit centres. Input and data from the questionnaires are analysed and summarized in a weekly

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Croatia (continued)

report that is then further disseminated to interested partners and stakeholders.

IOM has established a permanent and 24 hour presence at the Slavonski Brod reception transit centre to assist migrants and refugees with basic information about the centre, the registration process and available services. IOM interpreters are available upon request to support the migrants and refugees. The interpreters also assist during medical interventions at the centre's infirmary and/or local hospitals.

Slovenia

An IOM team comprised of a psychologist, a social worker and an Arabic interpreter has begun providing psychosocial support services to migrants staying at the recently opened accommodation centre in Vrhnika.

IOM is also organizing a one day training for approximately 30 participants from humanitarian organizations involved in the response. The training will take place on 10 March and focuses on the identification of victims of trafficking, referral mechanisms, and standard protocols.

Italy

On 24 February, with the assistance of an Italian navy ship, 554 migrants who had departed from Libya, landed at the Augusta port on the island of Sicily. Five bodies of migrants who had passed away during the journey were also on board the overcrowded boat, most likely having died from suffocation. On 7 March, 87 migrants landed in Lampedusa, and on that same day, an additional 121 migrants were rescued by a Germany navy ship and brought to Augusta.

During the boat landings and at the reception centres, IOM continues to provide support to authorities in detecting vulnerable cases. IOM has two anti-trafficking teams in Sicily and Apulia with the specific aim of enhancing detection and identification of victims of trafficking. IOM helps to identify vulnerable cases (including Victims of Trafficking and unaccompanied children) both at landing points and at the reception centres. IOM continues to contribute in the identification of vulnerable migrants and refers them to the relevant authorities for further assistance. Vulnerable cases include unaccompanied children who were mistakenly

identified as adults during their disembarkation procedures, witnesses in legal proceedings against smugglers, migrants in need of health and/or psychosocial services, and the elderly.

Libya

To continue providing assistance to the number of stranded migrants seeking to return to their country of origin, IOM facilitated the humanitarian repatriation of 123 stranded migrants in Libya, of which 117 were provided with a charter flight from Mitiga to Ouagadougou on 25 February, while three were provided with commercial flights to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, two to Togo, and one to Sierra Leone.

The charter flight for the 117 Burkinabe migrants was organized in close coordination with the Embassy of Burkina Faso in Tripoli, the Libyan authorities and IOM Burkina Faso. Prior to their departure, the migrants stayed overnight at the Burkina Faso Embassy. IOM provided them with food, water and transport to the airport the following morning.



IOM providing migrants breakfast on the day of their departure back to their country of origin © IOM Libya, 2016

Once they arrived in Burkina Faso, the group was met by IOM staff and were provided with onward transportation grants to allow them to travel to their final destinations. A group of 20 of the most vulnerable cases identified in Libya were also given reintegration grants.

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Libya (continued)

The migrants informed IOM about why they had gone to Libya and what happened to them when they arrived, prior to leaving Tripoli. One migrant, *Adam*, 24 years old, told IOM “When we came across the desert from Burkina Faso to Niger a year ago, the worst part was during our journey from Agadez in Niger to Al Qatrun in Libya, where the smugglers put 40 people in a Toyota mini-truck. There was no room to move your legs. As a result, some of us were injured when the vehicle hit bumps off-road.”

At the beginning of March, IOM launched its third round of data collection for the Displacing Tracking Matrix (DTM). Based on the results of the second round of data collection, conducted during the month of February, 145,002 migrants have been identified as residing in Libya, of which only 4 per cent are recorded as residing in the detention centres. Between 28-29 February, a DTM training was delivered to eight enumerators from the Libyan Red Cross and three from the Libyan Scouts. The training aimed to build the capacity of IOM’s implementing partners and to harmonize approaches to data collection through a standardized data collection methodology and a standard set of tools.



IOM providing a baby migrant with medical screening at a detention centre © IOM Libya, 2016

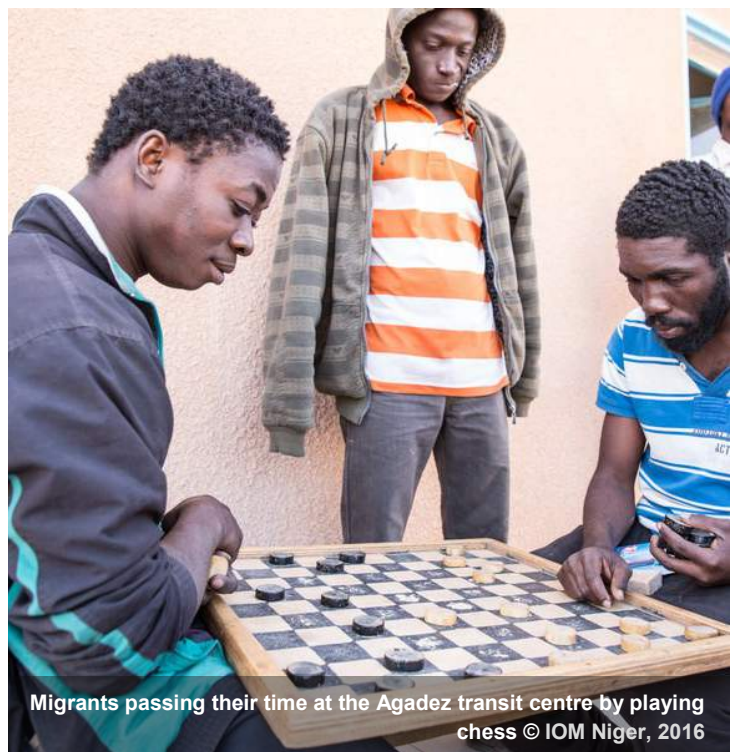
IOM continues to provide healthcare services and medical examinations in three detention centres in the western regions (Al-Khums, Al-Qweaa, and Misrata). During the

reporting period, the medical teams examined 35 migrants, most of whom were from Nigeria, Gambia and Ghana.

Niger

During the reporting period, 1,456 migrants entered Niger from Libya and Algeria while an additional 135 new arrivals were registered at the IOM transit centres, bringing the total number of new migrants to 1,591.

At the transit centres, IOM has provided 208 migrants with shelter, food, medical and psychosocial support assistance. Additionally, 42 migrants have been provided with return assistance to their country of origin, including 19 from Senegal, nine from the Ivory Coast, and seven from Guinea Conakry.



Migrants passing their time at the Agadez transit centre by playing chess © IOM Niger, 2016

For the weekly flow monitoring report IOM mobile teams are deployed to the monitoring points in Arlit and Seguedine to collect data on migrant movements and profiles. Between 1-7 March, the main nationalities present on the convoys departing Niger were Nigerians, Ghanaians, and Cameroonians, while the main nationalities coming into Niger were Nigeriens, Cameroonians and Burkinabe. The FMR highlight that there is significant misinformation among migrants about the dangers and difficulties faced during the journey, not only to Mediterranean areas (for those intending to cross over to Europe), but also the time and effort it takes to cross the Saharan section to Libya. The full weekly FMR for Niger can be found at http://doe.iom.int/docs/NIGER_IOM_FMP_EN_FR_report_01-07Mar2016.pdf.

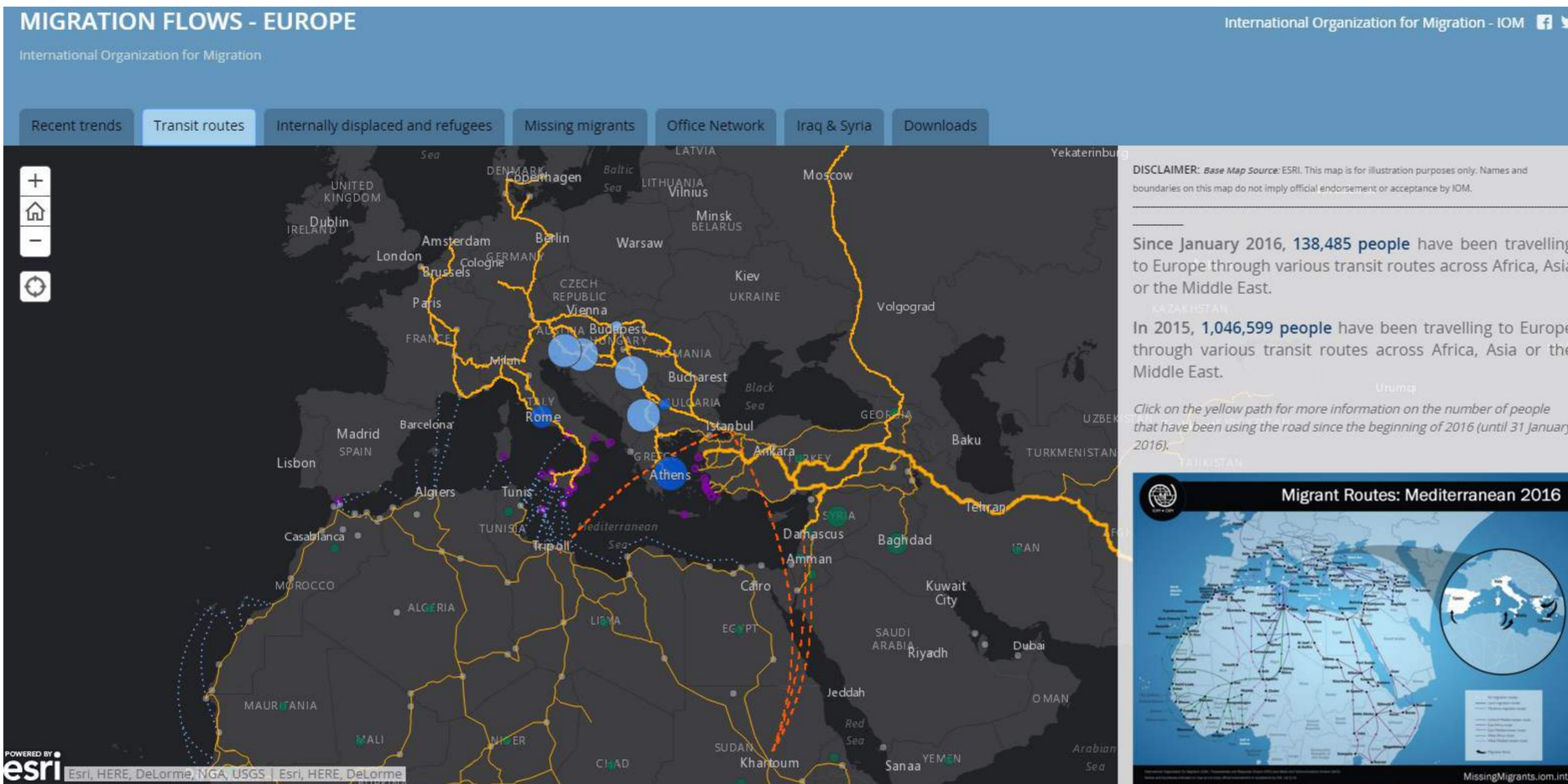
Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

IOM's **online portal** provides information on trends and transit routes related to the Europe / Mediterranean migration crisis. The below depicts a map of the transit routes and the total number of people that travelled to Europe. An updated version of the portal can be found at <http://migration.iom.int>.

Recent trends

Between 24 February and 8 March

Country	Greece	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Serbia	Croatia	Slovenia	Hungary	Italy
Registered Arrivals	20,748	2,455	2,473	3,520	3,435	1,441	770
Change in comparison to registered arrivals of previous period (13th January—26th January)	Decrease of 26%	Decrease of 75%	Decrease of 73%	Decrease of 70%	Decrease of 70%	Increase of 6%	Decrease of 71%



Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

Movement Trends and Numbers

ARRIVALS (since 1 January 2016)

Italy **9,477**

Estimate arrivals by sea as of 09 March
Source: Government plus IOM estimates

Greece **148,355**

Estimate arrivals as of 09 March
Source: Government plus IOM estimates

**Former Yugoslav
Republic of Macedonia** **89,491**

People registered as of 09 March
Source: Government

Serbia **90,177**

Estimate arrivals as of 09 March
Source: Government plus IOM estimates

Croatia **102,272**

Estimate arrivals as of 09 March
Source: Government plus IOM estimates

Slovenia **99,179**

Initial estimate as of 09 March
Source: Government

Hungary **3,944**

Estimate arrivals as of 09 March
Source: Government

Bulgaria **1,179**

Estimate arrivals as of 09 March
Source: Government

MOBILITY TRACKING & MAPPING

POINTS of INTEREST include Border Crossing Points (Entry/Exit), Organized Transit Points/Reception Centres, and Spontaneous Transit Points.

*Mapping and tracking exercise is ongoing and points will be refined on the next update.

This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

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Information available as of 10 March 2016
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