



EUROPE / MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION RESPONSE

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT • 11 August 2016



Highlights

IOM staff providing food to rescued migrants and refugees in Küçükuyu. © IOM Turkey

■ **TURKEY:** IOM assisted the Turkish Coast Guards in Dikili, Çeşme, and Küçükuyu through the distribution of food, water and non-food items to a total of 333 rescued migrants and refugees.

■ **GREECE:** During the reporting period, IOM purchased and delivered more than 100 toys and recreational materials to Oinofyta Camp. The toys and materials will help provide recreational activities for the children and adults hosted at the camp.

■ **CROATIA:** On 9 August, as part of a cultural orientation and community exposure exercise, IOM organized a tour of Varaždin, a city in northern Croatia for a group of 33 beneficiaries

■ **LIBYA:** On 8 August, IOM facilitated the visit of seven West African embassy representatives to an immigration detention centre in Tripoli where their nationals are being held as irregular migrants. The aim of the visit was to check on conditions and explore possible ways and means for their release.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

As of 10 August 2016, a total of 275,985 migrants and refugees have arrived in Europe by land and sea routes since the start of 2016.

On 4 August, the Hellenic Coast Guard (HCG) conducted a search and rescue operation for a boat that had capsized off the coast of Lesbos Island. During the operation, the HCG was able to rescue all 71 migrants and refugees who were on the boat and transfer them to Lesbos.

On 4 August, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia adopted an agreement to accept 40 applicants seeking asylum and international protection who are currently in Turkey. Additionally, the Administration for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief are creating reserves of non-food items, including blankets and raincoats, in the event that higher numbers of migrants and refugees arrive in the country. Accommodation centres in Šentilj, Lendava, Vrhnika and the reception centre in Dobova are also making preparations in the event that another influx of migrants and refugees are to enter.

According to the Ministry of Interior, 236 persons expressed their intent to seek asylum in Serbia during the reporting period. This brings the total to 6,474 since the start of the year.

In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the number of migrants and refugees remaining at the reception centre in Gevgelija is 131, out of which 29 are women, 41 are men and 61 are children. The numbers remaining at the centre in Tabanovce is approximately 81.

As of 9 August, the Turkish Coast Guard has rescued 27,588 migrants and refugees, while 173 people have lost their lives since the start of this year.

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IOM RESPONSE

Turkey

IOM supports the Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) by distributing food, water, and non-food items (NFIs) to migrants and refugees rescued at sea. During the reporting period, IOM assisted the TCG in Dikili (one of the points in İzmir for irregular migrants and refugees crossing to Lesbos in Greece) through the provision of food, water and NFIs (including blankets, clothing and shoes) for 140 rescued migrants and refugees. The majority of those rescued at sea in Dikili came from Syria.

In Çeşme (one of the points in İzmir for irregular migrants and refugees crossing to Chios in Greece), the IOM field team supported the TCG through the provision of food, water and NFIs to 68 rescued migrants and refugees. Among this group, the IOM social worker identified five vulnerable cases who were in need of psychosocial and/or medical assistance. Vulnerable cases were referred to ASAM (Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants), an NGO that has a multi-service centre in İzmir. IOM will continue to identify and refer vulnerable migrants and refugees rescued at sea to relevant authorities and institutions. Furthermore, in Küçükuyu, IOM distributed food, water, and NFIs to 125 rescued migrants and refugees.



Rescued migrant family in Küçükuyu receiving IOM assistance.

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To date, with funding from the European Commission – Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection (ECHO), IOM has provided 24 prefabricated cabins that are installed at 15 reception points where migrants and refugees are rescued at sea. The cabins are used as changing rooms for female

migrants and refugees, as well as children, rescued at sea. The cabins also provide storage space for NFIs, including hygiene kits and blankets, which are then distributed to those who have been rescued. Furthermore, IOM has provided a total of 5,000 hygiene kits, 5,000 blankets, 12 tarpaulin tents to help shelter rescued migrants and refugees from the elements, 14 heaters, and 340 plastic chairs for the reception areas.

Through funding from the US Association for International Migration (USAIM), IOM has also procured 600 pairs of shoes which will be used by migrants and refugees rescued at sea in Çeşme (300) and Dikili (300).

To meet the request by TCG, IOM will be procuring 1,000 food kits and 2,000 bottled water to be distributed to rescued migrants and refugees. Moreover, IOM, in cooperation with a local NGO, will be purchasing baby diapers to be distributed to vulnerable migrant and refugee families in and around İzmir.

Greece

From 25 July to 5 August, IOM, along with UNHCR, the European Commission (EC), European Asylum Support Office, Greek Asylum Service, and Frontex, participated in a common information campaign coordinated by the Greek delegation of the EC in five islands (Lesbos, Chios, Samos, Leros and Kos). During the two week information campaign, IOM provided assisted voluntary return (AVR) information to a total of 1,741 migrants.



IOM providing AVR information during an information campaign on Kos Island.

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During the reporting period, IOM delivered information services to 576 beneficiaries at the reception and identification centres in Lesbos and Samos. The beneficiaries received information about their rights and obligations, as well as information on the asylum process and AVR services. IOM cultural mediators also assisted 123 migrants and refugees with their registration procedures and provided interpretation services for 227 beneficiaries during their medical and psychosocial sessions.

At the Oinofyta Camp, north of Athens, IOM purchased and delivered more than 100 toys and recreational materials which will help provide recreational activities for the children and adults hosted at the camp.



IOM staff delivering recreational games at Oinofyta Camp.
© IOM Greece 2016

IOM continues to provide AVR services and extensive information campaigns at open facilities in the mainland and islands where the majority of the stranded migrants are accommodated. During the reporting period, IOM provided AVR information to more than 1,900 migrants throughout Greece. Since the beginning of 2016, IOM has assisted 3,940 migrants (including 29 medical cases and 48 unaccompanied minors) return to their country of origin safely and with dignity. The majority of this total were returned to Morocco (1,012), Afghanistan (938), and Iraq (637).

As of 10 August, IOM has assisted 2,895 beneficiaries under the EU relocation programme. During the pre-departure phase, IOM conducted health assessments to ensure that beneficiaries travel in safety. Furthermore, IOM organized pre-departure and cultural orientation sessions, providing information on their rights and obligations, what to expect when they arrive, as well as pre-embarkation information. During the reporting period, a total of 257 beneficiaries were relocated to France (143), Romania (41), Lithuania (33), Finland (32), Estonia (5), and the Netherlands (3). An additional 150 beneficiaries are scheduled to depart later this week.

Serbia

IOM teams continue to provide counselling on AVR options to migrants in Serbia who are seeking to return to their country of origin. IOM teams are deployed at Presevo Registration Centre, Dimitrovgrad, Sid and Kelebija/Horogs border crossing points. For vulnerable families and individuals, IOM also provides transportation to local institutions and service providers such as the local health centre and centre for social work.

Since mid-February 2016, IOM has provided AVR assistance to a total of 52 beneficiaries. The majority of these beneficiaries were returned to Morocco (16), Iran (14), Iraq (9), and Algeria (5). For those who decide to return to their country, IOM provides them with all necessary technical and logistical support, including: contact with relevant embassies, transport to the embassies, assistance with travel documents, travel arrangements, transit assistance, and assistance upon arrival to the country of origin.

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

IOM has two mobile teams in the Tabnovce and Gevgelija reception centres. Each team consists of three staff members (a translator, social worker and medical officer) who help to address the needs of vulnerable populations among the remaining group of migrants and refugees. The mobile teams are actively monitoring and screening the remaining migrants and refugees to help ensure that those with vulnerabilities, especially victims of trafficking, are identified and referred to the appropriate services.

IOM also helps to support the Border Police units in facilitating communication with migrants/refugees by establishing mobile teams of interpreters from Arabic to Macedonian.

Croatia

IOM continues to deliver English and Croatian language classes for migrants and asylum seekers. During the reporting period, a total of 27 language (18 in English and 9 in Croatian) courses were organized and provided at the Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers (RCAS) in Zagreb. IOM has also once more begun providing cultural orientation workshops. As of 10 August, a total of 147 language classes (95 in English and 52 in Croatian) and 30 cultural orientation courses have been delivered by IOM.

Two gender-based violence workshops are planned for the second half of August. Furthermore, IOM interpreters for Arabic, Urdu, and Farsi continue to provide support and act as cultural mediators for information dissemination and communication among the asylum seekers, migrants and refugees.

On 9 August, as part of a cultural orientation and community exposure exercise, IOM organized a tour of Varaždin, a city in northern Croatia for a group of 33 beneficiaries. The group was able to tour the city and visit the Varaždin feudal fortress, the City Museum, and the Neanderthal museum on Hušnjak Hill in Krapina. Another community exposure trip is planned for 22 August.



Migrants from RCAS Zagreb visiting Varaždin feudal fortress.
© IOM Croatia 2016

During the reporting period, IOM completed the distribution of 307 weather appropriate shoes and clothing sets to migrants accommodated in the RCAS in Zagreb and Kutina. Additionally, children toys were distributed at the RCAS in Zagreb while toys will also be distributed at the RCAS in Kutina during the next reporting period.



IOM staff distributing weather appropriate shoes and clothes at the RCAS in Kutina. © IOM Croatia 2016

Slovenia

From 25 – 29 July, IOM hosted an intensive five-day training course on cultural mediation with a focus on healthcare assistance. The training provided 14 participants, all of whom had a background working with migrants, with the knowledge and skills required for successful intercultural mediation. Participants explored the importance of facilitating communication and understanding between diverse individuals and communities in Slovenia.

On 4 August, as part of the EU relocation programme, a group of 9 Eritrean nationals arrived from Italy to Ljubljana Asylum Home where they were greeted by IOM staff. On 10 August, another group of asylum seekers comprising of 18 Syrian and Iraqi nationals arrived at Ljubljana Jože Pučnik Airport. IOM staff welcomed the group at the airport and provided them with reception assistance.

On 10 August, IOM, in cooperation with the Slovenian Ministry of Interior, provided family reunification assistance to a family at Brnik International Airport. At the request of the Ministry of Interior, IOM assisted with arranging their travel documents, flight bookings and implemented both transit and arrival assistance at airports.

Italy

Between 30 July – 3 August, 5,437 rescued migrants were brought to the harbours of Augusta, Catania, Lampedusa, Messina, Pozzallo, Reggio Calabria and Salerno. An additional boat landing took place on 7 August where IOM registered a total of 570 migrants.

IOM teams continue to be deployed at the main boat landing points in Sicily (including Lampedusa), Calabria, and Apulia. The IOM teams provide legal assistance to those arriving by sea, monitor the reception conditions of migrants, and support the authorities in the identification of vulnerable populations. Vulnerable cases also include unaccompanied children, migrants in need of health and/or psychosocial support, women victims of trafficking, and the elderly. Furthermore, two IOM teams work in Sicily and Apulia with the specific aims of enhancing detection and identification of victims of trafficking and referring them for services to relevant authorities.



IOM staff assisting migrants at a landing point in Sicily.
© IOM Italy 2016

Libya

On 27 July, the Libyan Coast Guard (LCG) conducted a search and rescue operation where 144 migrants were rescued and brought back to shore near Zuwara. The LCG also recovered 155 bodies along the Libyan shores, bringing the total to date since the start of this year, to 335 bodies. An estimated 120 migrants are considered missing from other shipwrecks during the reporting period.

On 1 August, IOM provided 137 migrants in Al Khums detention centre with non-food items (NFIs), including mattresses, pillows and blankets, and hygiene kits.

IOM organized a meeting in Tunis, Tunisia on 1 August that brought together representatives from the Libyan Ministry of Health, the LCG, UNSMIL, and the Dutch Embassy's Liaison Officer for Maghreb Sahel, to discuss the needs and action plan for a project focused on improving the capacity of the LCG in conducting search and rescue operations. The meeting also provided an overview of good practices related to providing healthcare services for rescue operations and at points of disembarkation and reception.

On 8 August, IOM facilitated the visit of seven West African embassy representatives in Libya to an immigration detention centre in Tripoli where their nationals are being held as irregular migrants. IOM worked with Libyan authorities to facilitate the visit by diplomats from Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea Conakry, Ghana, Nigeria, The Gambia and Chad to Salah Al Dein detention centre, which is currently hosting 350 West African nationals. The aim of the visit was for the diplomats to check on conditions in which their nationals are being held and explore possible ways and means for their release, as well as to identify those interested in voluntary humanitarian repatriation. Of the 350 migrants held in the centre, approximately 330 expressed an interest in voluntary return to their countries of origin.



Embassy representatives taking an IOM bus to conduct a tour of a detention centre.
© IOM Libya 2016

Niger

At the IOM transit centres, from 27 July – 10 August, IOM registered 2,281 new migrants requesting voluntary return services. Furthermore, IOM provided 2,528 migrants with shelter, food, and medical and psychosocial support assistance.

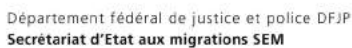
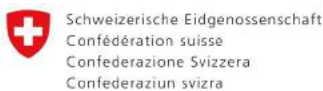
IOM provided 210 migrants with return assistance to their country of origin, the majority of whom were returned to Guinea Conakry (75), Senegal (39), Guinea Bissau (31), Cameroon (21), Cote d'Ivoire (15), and Mali (14).

During the reporting period, Nigerien authorities in Agadez referred five Nigerien minors (between the ages of 15-17 years old) who were victims of trafficking (VOTs) to the IOM protection unit. IOM provides all five VOTs with assistance and helped to repatriate each of them to their villages of origin. They will also receive reintegration assistance. Additionally, authorities in Niamey referred six Ivorian minors (between the ages of 9-12 years old) who were VOTs to IOM's protection unit. IOM is providing them with assistance and are currently hosted at a centre for minors while their respective cases are being investigated by relevant authorities.

Between 4 – 5 August, IOM organized a regional training on migration for 80 journalists from Niger, Senegal and Nigeria. Some of the topics covered at the training included international migration and proper terminology for media coverage, public opinion and media on migration, and the power of images on migration as presented by the media. The Minister of Communication supported the initiative and also chaired the opening of the training. The regional training resulted in the creation of a Regional Network of Journalists Specialized on Migration.



IOM operations are supported by:



Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

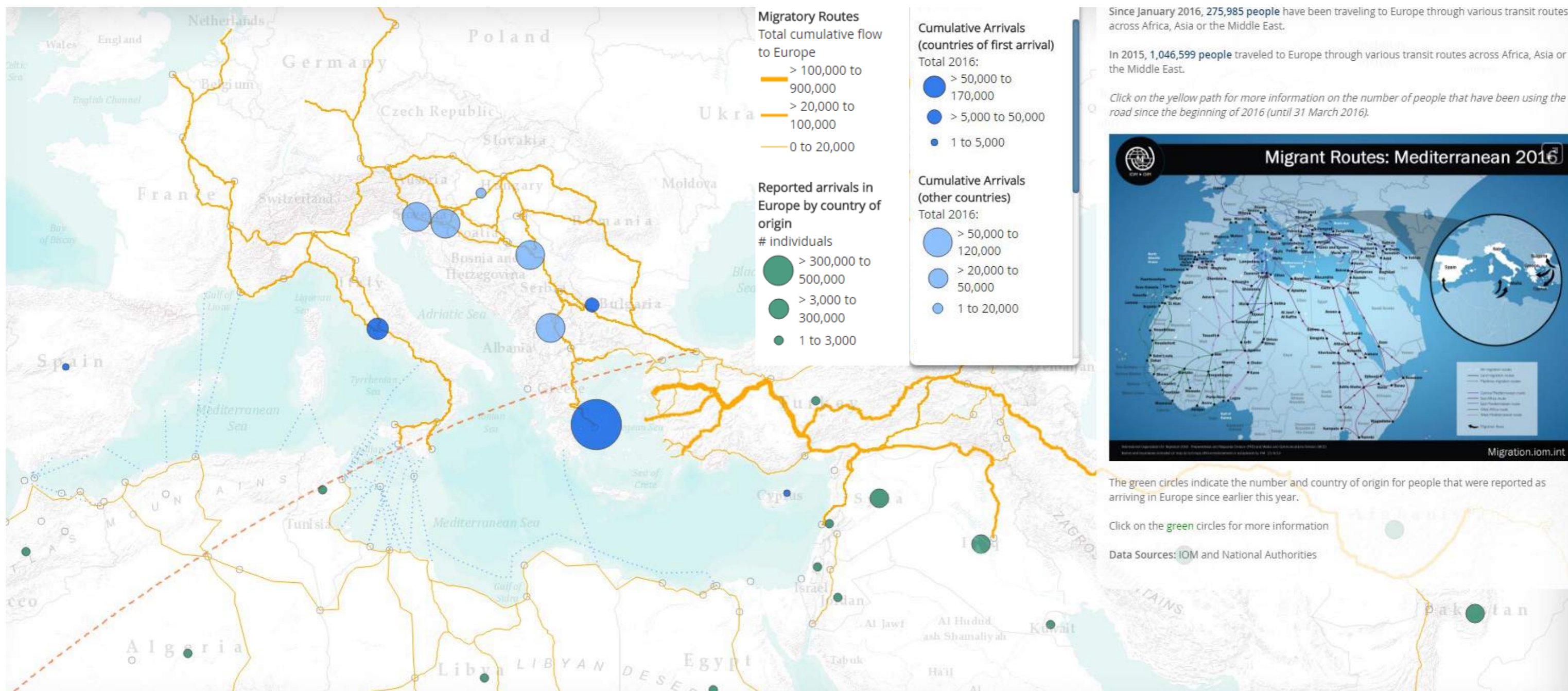
IOM's **online portal** provides information on trends and transit routes related to the Europe / Mediterranean migration crisis. The below depicts a map of the transit routes and the total number of people that travelled to Europe. An updated version of the portal can be found at <http://migration.iom.int>.

Recent trends in migrant flow

Between 28 July — 10 August 2016*

Country	Greece	Bulgaria	Italy	Serbia	Hungary
Registered Arrivals	1,241	1,106	11,715	203	169
Change in comparison to registered arrivals of previous period (14 July— 27 July)	Increase of 11%	Increase of 34%	Increase of 11%	Decrease of 17%	Increase of 84%

*All other countries in the route have registered zero arrivals in the period between the reporting period. However there are stranded migrants in those countries. The number of stranded migrants is on the next page.



Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

STRANDED MIGRANTS As of 10 August 2016

Greece **57,098**

Estimate stranded migrants as of 10 August
Source: National authorities, IOM and UNHCR

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia **212**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 10 August
Source: National authorities

Serbia **2,156**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 10 August
Source: National authorities

Croatia **48**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 10 August
Source: National authorities

Slovenia **275**

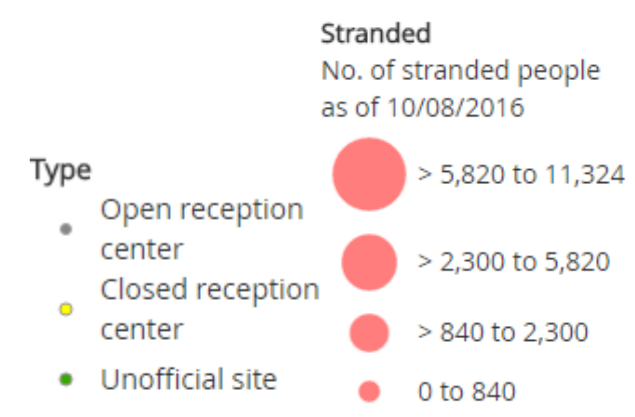
Estimated stranded migrants as of 10 August
Source: National authorities

Hungary **933**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 10 August
Source: IOM and National authorities

Bulgaria **2,925**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 04 August
Source: Government



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

