



EUROPE / MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION RESPONSE

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT • 28 January 2016



Highlights

To protect against winter conditions, IOM provided blankets to migrants rescued in Kucukkuyu. © IOM Turkey, 2016

■ During the reporting period, the Turkish Coast Guard in Kucukkuyu rescued and assisted 400 migrants and refugees (157 Syrians, 216 Afghans, 25 Pakistanis, 1 Indian, and 1 Burmese). IOM supported the TCG by distributing water, food and non-food items including blankets and shoes to all those rescued.

■ As a continuation of its humanitarian repatriation assistance, IOM has finalized the interviews, medical checks and secured the exit visas for a group of 180 Malian migrants who have been stranded in Libya. This group will be provided with transportation back to Mali and their departure flight is scheduled for 2 February.

■ As the number of deaths at sea and migrants reported missing increase, IOM encourages, at the national level, governments to take greater responsibility for collecting data on migrant deaths, in partnership with civil society organizations to ensure transparency and accountability. Behind all the numbers and statistics, it is critical to remember that these are stories of human tragedy involving extremely vulnerable people, including young children.

■ By 26 January, IOM's DTM team in Croatia reported more than 2,000 successfully completed questionnaires from the Slavonski Brod and Opatovac centres.

■ To help the Government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia adjust their reception assistance to cope with winter conditions, IOM has provided 2,000 blankets, 2,000 pillows and 1,000 bed linens to the country's reception facilities. IOM is also donating an ambulance to help transport people with health conditions to hospitals and medical institutions in support of Ministry of Health.

■ In addition to providing assisted voluntary return assistance to those migrants who have expressed a desire to return to their country of origin, IOM Greece has provided humanitarian relocation services to a total of 157 refugees who were relocated to other EU Member States as part of the EU relocation programme.

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SITUATION OVERVIEW

Between 1–27 January 2016, at least 55,652 migrants and refugees have arrived to Europe by land and sea routes. Since January 2015, a total of 1,103,496 migrants and refugees have reached Europe by land and sea. The vast majority of this number arrived to Greece (910,663) and Italy (157,083).

Despite the harsh winter weather, migrants and refugees continue to make the dangerous journey to cross the Aegean Sea. Since the start of the year, IOM estimates that 45,361 migrants and refugees have already crossed into Greece through the blue borders. According to the Hellenic Coast Guard (HCG), on 25 January there were more than five incidents off the coast of Lesbos that required search and rescue missions. The HCG rescued a total of 185 migrants and refugees and transferred them to the port of Lesbos. On 26 January, the HCG rescued an additional 377 migrants and refugees of the coasts of Lesbos, Chios, and Kos.

In Bulgaria, a total 31,530 migrants and refugees were registered as of 21 January. According to the Ministry of Interior, the top three nationalities are Afghans, Syrians, and Iraqis.

According to the Ministry of Interior, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has registered a total of 436,607 migrants and refugees between 19 June 2015 – 27 January 2016.

As of 27 January, a total of 619,847 migrants and refugees have been registered in Serbia with the top three nationalities coming from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq. Between 13 – 26 January 2016, the average number of people arriving per day was 1,628.

In Croatia, a total of 611,972 migrants and refugees have crossed into the country between 16 September 2015 and 27 January 2016. During the reporting period, more than 24,790 migrants and refugees were registered with an average of 1,770 people per day. Since its opening in early November 2015, the Slavonski Brod reception transit centre has accommodated a total of 295,390 migrants and refugees.

Between 13 – 26 January 2016, the number of migrants and refugees entering into Slovenia has declined compared to the previous reporting period, showing a daily average of approximately 1,563 persons. In the last few days, Sentilj, one of the known exit points out of Slovenia, has seen more women and children leaving, compared to the number of

male arrivals. IOM's flow monitoring exercise indicates that the majority of these women's spouses are already in Europe and that they wish to join their husbands. As of 27 January, Slovenia has registered a total of 431,449 migrants and refugees.

IOM RESPONSE

The Early Warning Information Sharing Network is fully functional in Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, and Croatia. This network is a pilot component of the DTM Flow Monitoring System that allows regular and timely sharing of information between countries about migrant flows. 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 vulnerabilities among the population. IOM staff continues to work with NGOs, other international organizations and local authorities on migration management, identification of vulnerable cases and referral to relevant authorities. The information provided through this network allows partners to effectively plan and provides essential support to migrants in several key locations.

Turkey

Between 1 – 24 January 2016, the Turkish Coast Guards (TCG) rescued 4,184 migrants and refugees, while 57 people have lost their lives. In 2015, the TCG rescued a total of 91,611 migrants and refugees, compared to a much smaller total of 14,961 in 2014.

During the reporting period, the TCG in Kucukkuyu rescued and assisted 400 migrants and refugees (157 Syrians, 216 Afghans, 25 Pakistanis, 1 Indian, and 1 Burmese). IOM supported the TCG by distributing water, food and non-food items including blankets and shoes to all those rescued.

IOM provided 14 heaters to the TCG, which will be used at the reception areas where migrants and refugees are rescued. In order to improve the reception conditions at the

IOM RESPONSE

Turkey (continued)

border of Kucukkuyu, IOM also provided one tarpaulin tent where refugees and migrants will be hosted to avoid the harsh winter conditions. The tent will accommodate up to 25 persons. IOM will be providing five additional tarpaulin tents for reception areas in Dikili, Aykalik, Cesme, Didim, and Bodrum.



IOM provided a tent to host rescued migrants and refugees in Kucukkuyu © IOM Turkey, 2016

Greece

IOM, in coordination with the First Reception Service is operating the open reception centre in Athens to accommodate vulnerable migrants wishing to return to their country of origin. The reception centre accommodates up to 110 migrants who have no place to stay until their departure. The centre accommodates vulnerable migrants, including single parent families, pregnant women, unaccompanied children, the elderly, and those with medical needs. Currently, the centre is hosting approximately 80 migrants, mainly from Morocco, who have been registered and are booked to return next week.

In addition to providing assisted voluntary return assistance to those migrants who have expressed a desire to return to their country of origin, IOM has provided humanitarian

relocation services to a total of 157 refugees who were relocated to other EU Member States as part of the EU relocation programme (Table 1 provides a breakdown of EU countries). IOM implements this service in cooperation with the Asylum Service who is responsible for the selection procedure. IOM delivers pre-departure assistance and cultural orientation sessions. IOM also provides pre-departure medical examinations and escorts to final destinations, as necessary.

Table 1: EU Relocation Programme from Greece

Destination Country	Total Assisted by IOM	Male	Female
Finland	44	21	23
France	43	22	21
Germany	10	7	3
Ireland	10	4	6
Lithuania	4	3	1
Luxembourg	30	15	15
Portugal	16	11	5
Grand TOTAL	157	83	74



IOM provided pre-departure assistance to migrants returning to their country of origin © IOM Greece, 2016

IOM RESPONSE

Greece (continued)

IOM is planning to deploy another legal team with translators to Lesbos Island by the end of the month to ensure that all newly arrived migrants and refugees are receiving the appropriate legal information about their rights and options in their native language. The IOM legal teams have been based at the First Reception Centre in the island of Lesbos and will also be escorting unaccompanied and separated children from the island to accommodation centres for unaccompanied children. To ensure the protection of minors and children, IOM works closely with the Prosecutor for Minors, who is the provisional guardian of all unaccompanied children in Greece, the Asylum Service and the National Referral Service. All IOM staff are also trained on early detection and the prevention of child-smuggling and human trafficking.

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

From 19 June 2015 to 24 January 2016, IOM's registration teams, together with the Border Police and the NGO Young Lawyers Association have registered a total of 428,460 migrants and refugees. 53 per cent (226,313) male, 17 per cent (74,724) female, 26 per cent (110,199) children, and 4 per cent (18,224) unaccompanied children.



IOM assisting migrants and refugees at the transit reception centre in Gevgelija © IOM Skopje, 2016

To help the Government adjust their reception assistance to cope with winter conditions, IOM has provided 2,000 blankets, 2,000 pillows and 1,000 bed linens to the country's reception facilities. IOM is also donating an ambulance to help transport people with health conditions to hospitals and medical institutions in support of Ministry of Health.

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. During the reporting period, the IOM mobile teams assisted approximately 21,000 migrants and refugees with this service upon their arrival.

IOM has an additional mobile team of six persons at the Presevo registration centre to assist the border police with the registration process by helping arriving migrants and refugees fill out questionnaires. During the reporting period, IOM assisted approximately 1,000 migrants and refugee per day with this service.

For vulnerable families and individuals, IOM provides transportation assistance from the Miratovac transit centre to the Presevo registration centre. From 13 – 26 January 2016, approximately 600 vulnerable migrants and refugees were provided with this transport assistance per day.

Croatia

Since the opening of first the Opatovac and then the Slavonski Brod reception transit centres, IOM's DTM team has been present and involved in the gathering of data. By 26 January, the team reported more than 2,000 successfully completed questionnaires from Slavonski Brod and Opatovac. Input and data from the questionnaires are analysed and summarized in a weekly report that is then further disseminated to interested partners and stakeholders.

IOM has established a permanent and around the clock presence at the Slavonski Brod reception transit centre and assists 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

IOM RESPONSE

Croatia (continued)

hospitals. Due to the high demand for this service, IOM will hire additional translators who will also help to increase the translation capacities of the Ministry of the Interior during the registration process.



The 20 heated containers procured by IOM have all been installed and are operational at the Slavonski Brod reception transit centre. The containers installed in Sectors 4 and 6 of the centre are regularly used to accommodate vulnerable migrants and refugees as they arrive.

Slovenia

As of January 2016, IOM has dedicated staff members conducting Flow Monitoring surveys in Sentilj (one of the main exit points) and Dobova (the main entry point). The surveys will provide information on basic trends and profiles of migrants and refugees with respect to demographics, countries of origin, levels of education, and intended destination.

On 25 January, IOM deployed a psychologist to provide psychosocial services to migrants and refugees in accommodation and reception centres in Dobova and Sentilj.

Libya

As a continuation of its humanitarian repatriation assistance, IOM has finalized the interviews, medical checks and secured the exit visas for a group of 180 Malian migrants who have been stranded in Libya. This group will be provided with transportation back to Mali and their departure flight is scheduled for 2 February.

IOM has finalized the planning for a training session scheduled to take place between 28 – 30 January. The training will provide sessions on vulnerability assessments, vulnerability criteria, identification of vulnerable migrants and referral mechanism, as well as sessions on the DTM process.

During the reporting period, IOM distributed 400 non-food item and hygiene kits to newly arrived migrants in the Abu Sleem detention centre.

Niger

During the reporting period, 108 migrants were welcomed and registered in the four IOM transit centres based in Niamey (58), Agadez (26), Dirkou (4), and Arlit (20). All migrants came from Libya or Algeria. In addition, IOM provided assistance to 132 migrants in the four transit centres. Assistance included accommodation, food and medical care.

Within Niger, IOM provided transport assistance to four Nigeriens and one Chadian from Dirkou to Agadez; 20 third-country nationals (TCNs) from Arlit to Agadez; and, 26 TCNs from Agadez to Niamey. IOM also provided transport assistance to 75 migrants to return to their country of origin: 35 to Senegal; five to Cameroon; four to Gambia; nine to Guinea Bissau; nine to Guinea Conakry; two to Ghana; three to Burkina Faso; six to Mali; and two to Ivory Coast.

Reintegration and psychosocial activities continue in Zinder where women returning from Algeria are being supported by IOM and partners (UNICEF, Save the Children, and Catholic Relief Services) with socio-economic reintegration packages.

IOM is preparing programme activities for 2016 which include: selection and implementation of community-based activities for returnees in Agadez and countries of origin; training and selection of a team of community mobilizers in Agadez to sensitize and inform migrants transiting in the region; establishment of the first state-sponsored shelter for victims of trafficking and the drafting of a national referral mechanism; and psychosocial activities and information for migrants in transit.

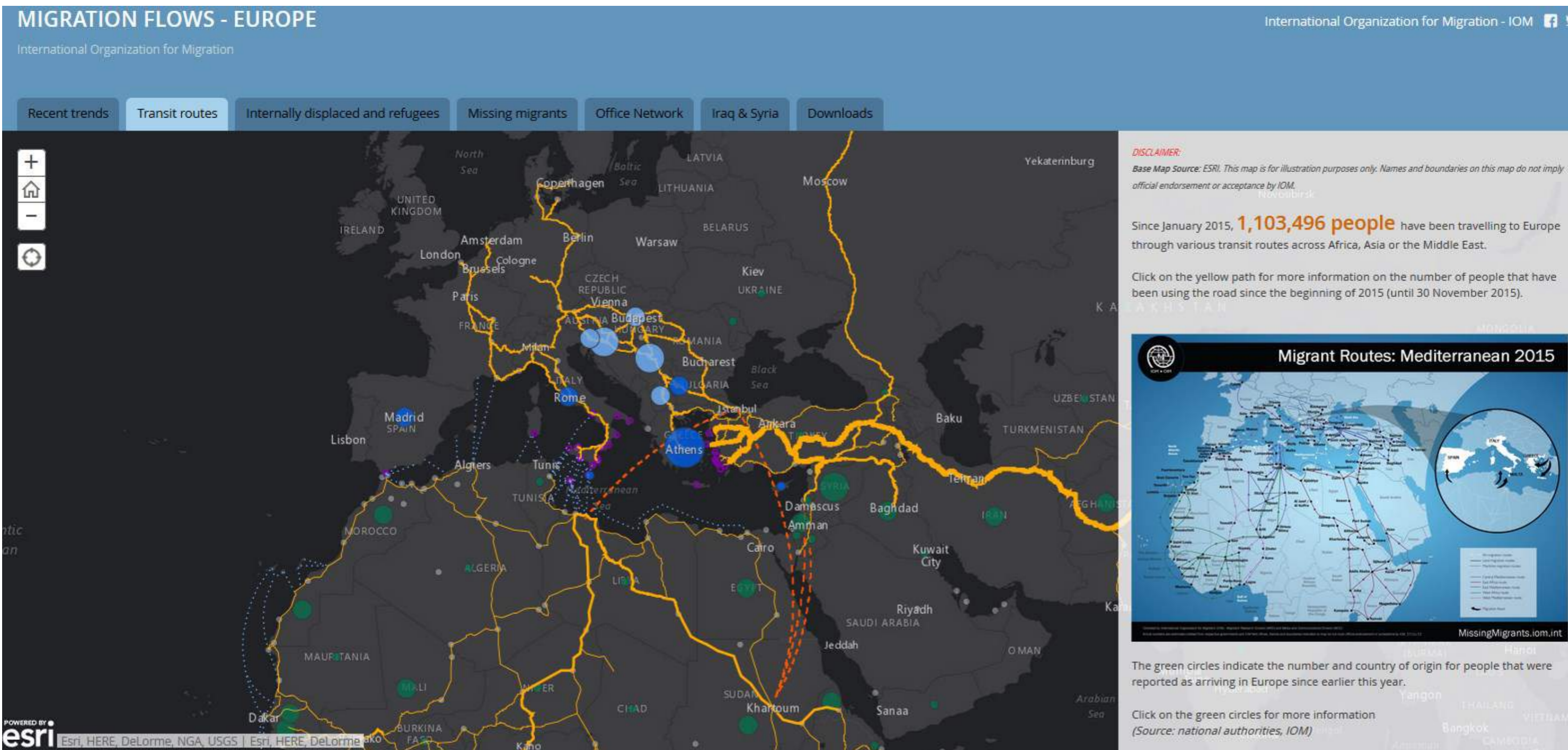
Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

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 13 - 26 January

Country	Greece	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Serbia	Croatia	Slovenia	Hungary	Italy
Registered Arrivals	25,639	19,790	22,464	23,043	20,828	236	1,506
Change in comparison to registered arrivals of previous period (29th December—12th January)	Decrease of 25%	Decrease of 24%	Decrease of 18%	Decrease of 28%	Decrease of 36%	Increase of 103%	Increase of 22%



Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

Movement Trends and Numbers

ARRIVALS

Italy 157,083

Estimate arrivals as of 27 January
Source: IOM

Greece 910,663

Estimate arrivals for land and sea
as of 27 January
Source: IOM

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 436,607

People registered between 19 June to
27 January
Source: Government

Serbia 619,847

Estimate arrivals as of 27 January
Source: IOM

Croatia 611,972

Estimate arrivals as of 27 January
Source: Government

Slovenia 431,449

Initial estimate as of 27 January
Source: Government


Hungary 391,762

Estimate arrivals as of 27 January
Source: Government

Bulgaria 31,530

Estimate arrivals as of 21 January
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.

www.iom.int

As of 27 January 2016
sources: IOM • feedback: prd@iom.int

