



EUROPE / MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION RESPONSE

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT • 3 December 2015



Highlights

Migrants rescued at sea. © IOM Italy, 2015

■ In Turkey, IOM continues its efforts to support the Turkish Coast guard. Two trainings on mixed migration and international migration law have been successfully carried out for the benefit of 70 officials.

■ IOM continues to support the Government's efforts to improve operations at the Miratovac transit centre in Serbia. Four containers have been provided to border police who were originally operating out of tents.

■ On the island of Kos, Greece, IOM officers continue to provide vital support as no official facilities for receiving large groups of migrants have been set up on the island. Last week, IOM assisted in rescuing migrants who were trapped under a boat after it capsized. All migrants on board were successfully rescued.

■ The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Flow Monitoring System has been set up. As part of this flow monitoring system, early warning mechanisms are now operational between Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Hungary. Since the beginning of November, an estimated 110,000 migrants have arrived in Greece through its blue borders. Of this, approximately 105,000 migrants were reported through the early warning system as having crossed from Greece to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia through the Idomeni area.

■ Between 16 and 30 November, IOM registered a total of 705 migrants in the Agadez transit and assistance centre in Niger.

■ In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, winterization efforts are well underway; IOM has provided four containers to serve as temporary reception points for migrants and refugees in Gevgelija and Kumanovo. These containers are equipped to accommodate individuals during the winter season.

■ From 1 January to 30 November 2015, IOM, through its legal roving teams in Italy, has assisted more than 394 landings and provided assistance and legal counselling to approximately 95 per cent of the migrants that have arrived by sea.

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SITUATION OVERVIEW

An estimated 878,495 arrivals by sea have been reported as of 30 November, with Italy (143,114) and Greece (640,049) receiving the majority of the individuals since the start of the year. According to the Italian Ministry of Interior, the top five nationalities arriving in Italy are from Eritrea, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan and Syria. The Hellenic Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reconstruction report the top five nationalities arriving in Greece are from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan and Albania.

As of 30 November, a substantial decrease in the overall number of arrivals was observed both in Italy and Greece compared to the previous reporting period (19 November). In Italy the total number of arrivals decreased by 42% while in Greece a decrease of 43% was observed.

Since the beginning of November, the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Flow Monitoring System has recorded an estimated 110,000 migrants arriving in Greece through its blue borders. Of this, approximately 105,000 migrants were reported as having crossed from Greece to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia through the Idomeni area.

On 3 December, the border area in Idomeni was closed due to extensive protests in the area, approximately 3,500 migrants and refugees are in the area. Due to the ongoing security situation, IOM and other partners are temporarily unable to access the area.

As of 30 November, the Hungarian police report that a total of 391,140 migrants and refugees have entered the country.

As of 1 December, 484,958 migrants and refugees have been registered in Serbia. Between 20 November and 1 December, IOM estimates a total of approximately 33,000 migrants and refugees arrived in the country.

IOM RESPONSE

The Early Warning Information Sharing Network is fully functional in Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia. 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 data on the migration flows along the routes and border points and distribute information to relevant stakeholders, including government authorities.

In addition to providing data on migrant flows, the flow monitoring system helps identify vulnerabilities among the population, and provides partners with information to better target their delivery of assistance. IOM staff continue 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 provide essential support to migrants in several key locations.

Turkey

IOM continues its efforts to support the Turkish coast guard. Two trainings have been successfully carried out for the benefit of 70 individuals: 55 participants from the coast guard and 15 participants from the Directorate General of Migration Management. A third training is scheduled to take place in December. The training aims to enhance the coast guard's understanding of mixed migration issues and international migration law, including international migration law at sea.

In addition, IOM continues to further augment the capacity of the coast guard through the provision of key supplies such as rescue platforms. This support will be further complemented with the provision of packages for migrants rescued at sea. These packages will include blankets, hygiene items and food.



Migrants and Refugees Rescued by Turkish coast guards © IOM Turkey, 2015

IOM RESPONSE

Greece

IOM continues to work with the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reconstruction, to set up the open reception facility in Athens that will accommodate migrants who wish to return to their country of origin. The open centre is expected to begin operating by next week. This facility will be the first of its kind in which accommodation, psychosocial assistance and health services will be available to migrants as they await the completion of their travel arrangements. In addition to contributing to the set up the facility, IOM will also be assisting in finalizing travel arrangements to facilitate voluntary return.

Thanks to the joint collaboration of IOM, UNHCR and MSF, the Idomeni Emergency Camp is now fully operational. At present about 1,900 migrants are hosted in the camp including 1,500 Syrian, Afghan and Iraqi nationals and 400 migrants of other nationalities. IOM has contributed three rub halls and 10 chemical toilets to the site and continues to provide assistance in improving the facilities as needed. Efforts are ongoing to ensure that the site is able to accommodate migrants throughout the winter season.

IOM maintains a permanent presence at the First Reception Centres currently operating in Lesvos Island, Samos Island and Orestiada (Evros Region) in order to provide information on migrants' rights. In addition to having specialized staff in the centres that provide legal information to migrants, IOM has also deployed interpreters that offer translation services to stakeholders operating within the centres ensuring that partners delivering essential services and migrants are able to effectively communicate.

On Kos Island, IOM officers continue to provide vital support in the area as no official facilities for receiving large groups of migrants have been set up. Last week, IOM assisted in rescuing migrants who were trapped under a boat after it capsized. All migrants on board were successfully rescued.



IOM assist in the rescue of migrants at sea in Kos © IOM Greece, 2015

IOM RESPONSE

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

IOM continues to augment the government's capacity to respond to the needs of vulnerable migrants and refugees through the provision of additional human resources and essential materials including winterized containers and vehicles.

IOM has deployed 24 additional data entry clerks to the centre to support the registration process in Gevgelija. Between 19 June and 30 November a total of 294,928 individuals have been registered at the centre, of this about 26 per cent are children including unaccompanied children (5%).

As part of overall winterization efforts, IOM has provided four containers to serve as temporary reception points for migrants and refugees in Gevgelija and Kumanovo. These containers are designed to accommodate individuals during the winter season. An additional 15 containers will be provided at the transit reception centre in Gevgelija and Kumanovo.

Two vehicles have been provided to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy to facilitate the transport of vulnerable migrants and to facilitate humanitarian operations in the border areas.



IOM data entry clerks providing support towards the registration of migrants in Gevgelija © IOM Macedonia, 2015

Serbia

As part of the Early Warning Information Sharing Network, IOM teams continue to be 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 continues to provide incoming migrants and refugees with necessary information and referrals to the registration centre in Presevo.

IOM continues to support the Government's efforts to improve operations at the Miratovac transit centre. Four containers have been provided to border police who were originally operating out of tents. In addition, key government institutions: Commissariat for refugees and migration and Working group on Mixed Migration Flows have been provided with additional human resources in order to increase their presence in the area and improve their capacity to respond to the needs of migrants and refugees who arrive through Miratovac.

IOM continues to offer transportation assistance from the Miratovac transit centre to the Presevo registration centre. Approximately 1,000 vulnerable migrants are provided with this transport assistance each day.

On average, IOM assists between 1,500 to 2,000 people per day. The registration process in the centre has improved due to the implementation of a more effective system for queuing and reception.

Croatia

During the period 20-30 November approximately 3,100 people were registered in Croatia each day. This represents the lowest arrival numbers in Croatia since the start of the crisis. November 25 and 26, witnessed the lowest number of arrivals, with 1,011 and 952 entries, respectively.

The Slavonski Brod transit centre for the winter season opened within the reporting period. Twenty heated containers have been installed and are operational centre. The provision of assistance in the centre has adjusted as a result of the reduction of arrivals in the country. Containers set up in sector 4 are currently being used to accommodate vulnerable migrants as they arrive. Containers in sector 6 are ready to accommodate additional migrants as needed. DTM Flow Monitoring teams are present in the centre and continue to gather information on migrant flows.

Italy

IOM continues to support Italian authorities in identifying vulnerable migrants at landing points and reception centres. IOM assists with the identification and referral of vulnerable migrants to the relevant authorities for specialized assistance. Vulnerable migrants include; victims of trafficking, unaccompanied children and migrants in need of health services.

IOM teams in Apulia, Calabria, Lampedusa and Sicily composed of field officers and cultural mediators and interpreters continue to meet with migrants at landing points and in reception centres and support them with legal counselling and assistance. These teams provide information to migrants regarding Italian Immigration procedures and information on the risks of irregular migration.

IOM RESPONSE

Italy (Continued)

From 1 January until 30 November 2015, IOM, together with its partners has assisted more than 394 landings and provided assistance and legal counselling to around 95 per cent of the migrants arrived by sea.

Niger

IOM continues to operate transit and assistance centres in four areas in Niger: Agadez, Arlit, Dirkou, and Niamey. These centres provide a temporary space where vulnerable migrants are provided with accommodation, food, water and medical services. Between 16 and 30 November, IOM registered eight migrants in the centre of Arlit upon their return from Algeria. Five migrants coming back from Libya were registered in the Dirkou centre. In Agadez transit centre, IOM registered a total of 705 migrants in this period, of which 654 were part of a returning convoy from Algeria; this is the 21st convoy received since December 2014 and the largest one to date. Over 71 per cent of the migrants on this convoy were returnees from the region of Zinder.

In addition to receiving services at the centres, the registration data gathered also provides IOM and other partners with information that is used to guide planning and provision of targeted assistance such as reintegration packages and information raising campaigns.

In the last week, IOM also organized transport assistance for 61 migrants facilitating their voluntary return to their places of origin: 22 migrants were assisted to return within Niger, 13 were assisted to return to Mali, 11 assisted to return to Senegal, six to Guinea-Bissau, four to Gambia, two to Burkina Faso, one to Benin, one to Cameroon, one to Chad.

Reintegration and psychosocial activities continue in Zinder as part of IOM's on going counter-trafficking efforts. Women and men returning from Algeria are being supported by IOM and other partners to facilitate socio-economic reintegration. Moreover, IOM is working in close coordination with the Ministry of Justice to set up the first state-run shelter for trafficking victims in Niger. A facility in Zinder has been identified and, following some rehabilitation works, the existing facility could potentially be used as a shelter.



Registration at the Agadez transit and assistance centre, Niger © IOM Niger, 2015

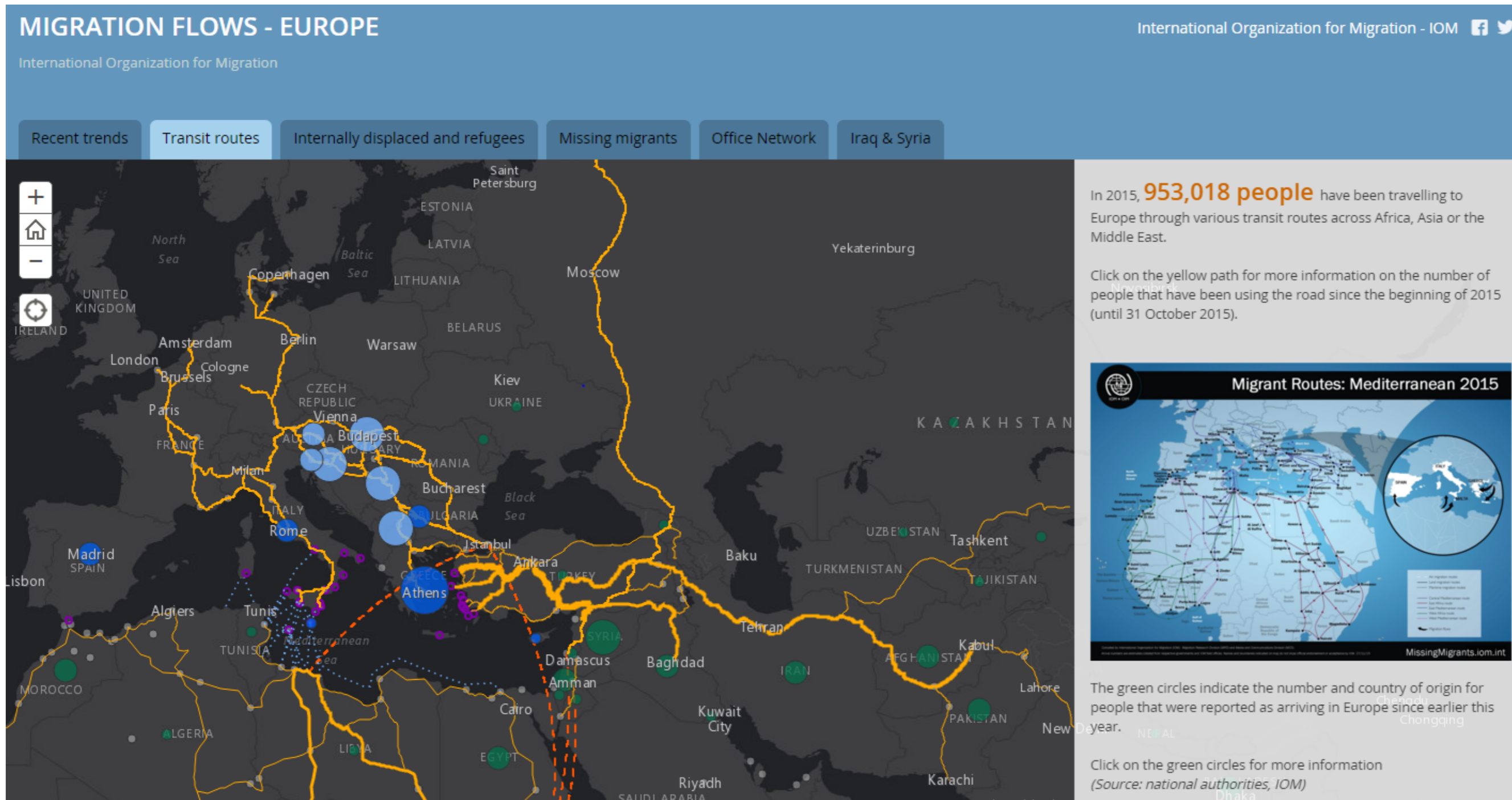
Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

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 20 November - 3 December

Country	Greece	Macedonia	Serbia	Croatia	Slovenia	Hungary	Italy
Registered Arrivals	23,435	24,114	19,514	14,002	18,849	59	0
Change in comparison to registered arrivals of previous week (18-25 November)	Increase of 8%	Increase of 5%	decrease of 11%	decrease of 50%	decrease of 39%	decrease of 32 %	decrease of 100%



Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

Movement Trends and Numbers

ARRIVALS

Italy 143,114

Estimate arrivals as of 30 November
Source: IOM

Greece 776,376

Estimate arrivals for land and sea
as of 2 December
Source: IOM

Macedonia 300,420

People registered between June to
3 December
Source: Government

Serbia 486,819

Estimate arrivals as of 2 December
Source: IOM

Croatia 458,798

Estimate arrivals as of 30 November
Source: Government

Slovenia 285,726

Initial estimate as of 2 December
Source: Government

Hungary 391,140

Estimate arrivals as of 30 November
Source: Government

Bulgaria 29,308

Estimate arrivals as of 27 November
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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As of 3 December 2015
sources: IOM • feedback: prd@iom.int

