



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.

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.

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

Sources: Data is drawn from a wide variety of sources, including government, civil society and media.

HIGHLIGHTS

Death toll of migrants attempting to reach Europe continues to grow

Calls on world leaders at COP26 to act on climate change migrants

Libya crackdown on migrants in Tripoli leaves deaths, injuries and hundreds of migrants detained



A mass crackdown on migrants in the Libyan capital Tripoli at the beginning of October left casualties and hundreds of migrants detained, triggering the international community to call for a halt of the arrests and investigations into the handling of the migrants. Casualties in the sea continued to grow during October as authorities step up rescue efforts. October also had COP26 on its agenda, World leaders at the summit were urged to take steps to address populations and communities threatened by climate change.

LIBYA CRACKDOWN ON MIGRANTS IN TRIPOLI LEAVES DEATHS, INJURIES AND HUNDREDS OF MIGRANTS DETAINED

Libyan authorities carried out raids on houses and temporary makeshift shelters in a Tripoli neighborhood resulting in one migrant killed and 15 others injured and thousands more arrested, [according to UN](#). An attempt by migrants to escape about a week later was met by gun shots from guards which led to the death of six migrants and the injury of at least another 24, [according to IOM](#).

The UN has called on Libyan authorities to investigate reports of security forces' use of lethal and excessive force against migrants. the UN human rights office (OHCHR) has also [called](#) on authorities in Libya to investigate claims of migrants coming subject to "widespread and systematic violations" that could "amount to crimes against humanity". IOM [called](#) on authorities "to end the arbitrary detention of migrants, the excessive use of force, and allow resumption of humanitarian flights out of the country."

Detained migrants in Tripoli have increased to more than threefold and are kept in poor conditions, according to [Medicins Sans Frontiers](#). Many escaped migrants [gathered](#) outside a Community Day Centre run by UN Refugee Agency UNHCR and have nowhere else to go. Migrants in the camp spoke to [BBC](#) and [Reuters](#) to describe their suffering. UNICEF [warned](#) that the safety and wellbeing of at least 1,000 women and children – including five unaccompanied children and at least 30 infants – held in detention centres in Tripoli are at immediate risk.

Libya has become a major departure point to Europe for many African migrants. They are desperate to take the sea to escape "[hell](#)" conditions in detention centres in Libya. By the end of October, IOM [resumed humanitarian flights](#) from Libya to help stranded migrants return home through Voluntary Humanitarian Return programme.

...MEANWHILE, MIGRANTS CONTINUE TO MAKE THE PERILOUS TRIP TO EUROPE, SOME LOSING THEIR LIFE IN THE PROCESS

More migrants are losing their lives in their journey to reach European shores. [A child was found dead](#) following a rescue operation from a migrant boat heading to the Spanish Canary islands as well. At least two migrants [died](#) and 21 have disappeared after their boat capsized off the Tunisian coast. 15 migrants [drowned](#) after their boat capsized off Libya. Libyan Red Crescent said that the bodies of another 17 migrants [washed ashore](#) as they tried to reach Europe.

Hundreds of migrants are being rescued in the waters. Morocco's Royal Navy said its forces [rescued](#) 615 migrants from 31 boats that ran into trouble in the Mediterranean in one weekend. The Moroccan navy also rescued [another 310 Europe-bound migrants](#), including nine children and 23 women. Off the coast of Tunisia, authorities [rescued](#) 31 irregular migrants. Spain's rescue service and the crew of a yacht [rescued](#) 14 people off the Spanish island of Mallorca. About 400 people [have been rescued](#) and brought aboard the Geo Barents search and rescue (SAR) ship in the Central Mediterranean. Near the Spanish enclave of Ceuta, Moroccan police [thwarted](#) an attempt by several hundred migrants to force their way in.

Other migrants made their way to Europe safely. In Italy, at least 18 small ships bearing more than 600 people in total [arrived](#) on the small island of Lampedusa south of Sicily. Arrivals have been on the rise this summer. In Spain, about 8,000 migrants [arrived](#) in September, breaking a monthly record for this year.

The EU' executive [called for an investigation](#) into illegal migrant pushbacks in Greece and Croatia. Simultaneously, UNHCR said it was “alarmed at the increasing frequency of expulsions and pushbacks of refugees and asylum-seekers at Europe’s land and sea borders” and [called](#) states to investigate and halt these practices. On a positive note, Italian courts [convicted](#) the captain of an Italian commercial ship of abandonment-related charges for returning 101 migrants rescued at sea to Libya in 2018. Spain is also [easing restrictions](#) on obtaining legal status for young migrants.

CALLS ON WORLD LEADERS AT COP26 TO ACT ON CLIMATE CHANGE MIGRANTS

As world leaders convened at the COP26, several calls emerged urging them to take action on climate and on populations and communities affected by climate change. The UN Network on Migration [called](#) for “taking ambitious and urgent climate change mitigation and adaptation action and facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration of people affected by climate change”. IOM’s Director General Antonio Vitorino stressed in a [video message](#) on the need to deliver and address migration linked to climate change.

Solutions can be as simple as adjusting existing procedures and developing new visa protocols to the benefit to individuals and communities suffering the effects of climate change, according to World Refugee & Migration Council Vice-President of Research Elizabeth Ferris. In an effort to help, IOM [announced](#) its new Institutional Strategy on Migration, Environment and Climate Change 2021-2030. The Strategy outlines how IOM will support States in their efforts to assist and protect those affected by the adverse impacts of climate change.

The COP26 was a good opportunity to show the human side of the statistics projecting the impact of climate change on various communities. A [new report](#) by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the British Red Cross focused on several case studies of communities devastated by the dramatic impacts of climate change. IOM’s storyteller [describes](#) how fishermen and farmers lost their livelihoods due to rising sea levels. UNHCR [tells the story of Lake Mahmouda](#), a vital source of water and food for refugees and local communities in Mauritania. The lake is under threat as an increasingly

MIGRANT ARRIVALS

GREECE

ARRIVALS TO GREECE BY SEA

769 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers [arrived](#) in Greece by sea in October¹. This figure represents a surge by 175% in arrivals by sea from the previous month of September.

ITALY

ARRIVALS TO ITALY BY SEA

7,108 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers arrived in [Italy](#) by sea in October. This figure represents a rise of 3% in arrivals by sea from the previous month of September.²

¹ Last seen the 11.9.2021.

² Ibid.

SPAIN

ARRIVALS TO SPAIN BY SEA

5,577 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers [arrived](#) in Spain by sea in October, which represents a decrease by 30% from figures of September.³

ARRIVALS TO SPAIN BY LAND

25 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers [arrived](#) in Spain by land in October, a drop of 36% compared to arrivals in September.⁴

IN OTHER NEWS

- IOM called in an [open letter](#) addressing G20 leaders for the inclusion of people on the move in their COVID-19 vaccine rollout programs. IOM also called for supporting poorer countries in getting vaccines for their populations, highlighting the current vaccine inequity globally.
 - Sudan and Niger [exchanged voluntary returnees](#) with the financial assistance of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Return and Reintegration in the Horn of Africa.
 - Senior officials from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the European Union (EU) [met in Brussels](#) to discuss pressing global migration issues and continuing cooperation as part of the EU-IOM Strategic Cooperation Framework.
 - UNICEF and The European Union [announced](#) a two-year collaboration with a 2.2 million Euros grant to educate children from refugee and migrant communities in Egypt, and also improve the access of these communities to COVID-19 vaccination.
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³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

MULTIMEDIA & EDITORIALS OF INTEREST

ALGERIAN “HARRAGA” TO SPAIN SPEAK OUT

Many Algerian youth are desperate to make the 200 kilometers trip from the Algerian coast to Spain. Desperation and hope for a better life are their motives, [AFP reports](#).

A LOOK AT POST-COVID MIGRATION IN EUROPE

As travel restrictions ease across the world, more and more people are migrating. [DW](#) looks at the current migration inflows in Europe and discusses the readiness of the continent to handle it. In Spain, CaixaBank’s economist Josep Mestres Domenech [looks](#) at how Spain has become a net recipient of migrants and the impacts on the labour market and the economy.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A MIGRANT COMMITS A CRIME?

Oxford University’s Benjamin Till Landis and William Allen look [at how audience feedback influences editorial decisions](#) at Germany’s largest public broadcaster, and the implications of this for journalism about migrants.

FOOTBALL FOR TOLERANCE AND RESPECT

Migrants and refugees have formed inspiring football teams in [Italy](#) and in [Greece](#) hoping to spread a message of tolerance and respect and as a way for integration in their communities.

VIDEO: OFF THE RADAR OF VACCINE ROLLOUT PROGRAMS!

Europe has achieved high vaccination rates against Covid-19 for its population, however undocumented migrants aren’t getting adequate integration in vaccine rollout programs, [PBS reports from Italy](#).

RESEARCH OF INTEREST

[International Migration Outlook 2021](#) – **OECD**

The 2021 edition of International Migration Outlook analyses recent developments in migration movements and the labour market inclusion of immigrants in OECD countries. It also monitors recent policy changes in migration governance and integration in OECD countries. This edition includes two special chapters, one providing an in-depth analysis of the fiscal impact of migration in OECD countries since the mid 2000s and another on the causes and consequences of the residential segregation of immigrants. The Outlook also includes country notes and a detailed statistical annex.

[4Mi snapshot: Smuggling, risks, and abuses \(1 of 3\) dangerous locations and perpetrators](#) – **Mixed Migration Centre**

This is the first in a series of three 4Mi snapshots looking at the conjunction between smuggling and the risks and abuses faced by refugees and migrants moving through West and North Africa. It draws on 2,427 interviews conducted in Libya, Niger, Mali, and Tunisia between March and July 2021. This first snapshot focuses on smuggling and dangerous routes, and the role of smugglers as perpetrators of risks relative to other actors in these locations. It underscores that while the use of smugglers and the risks associated with certain routes often go hand in hand, smugglers themselves are just one of a variety of actors perpetrating abuses against refugees and migrants.

[How We Talk about Migration: The Link between Migration Narratives, Policy, and Power](#) – **Migration Policy Institute**

This report explores prominent migration narratives in five case-study countries—Colombia, Lebanon, Morocco, Sweden, and the United States—which are diverse in their income levels, ethno-religious backgrounds, types of migration, and historical context, yet for whom migration has triggered significant nationwide public and policy debates. The study identifies patterns within and across these countries, highlighting both similar and diverging narratives as well as gaps in knowledge of migration narratives and their efficacy.

[Occupational Fatalities among International Migrant Workers](#) – **IOM**

This report provides an initial examination of available sources of data on migrant worker fatalities at the global, regional and country levels. The reports demonstrates that migrants who often fill more dangerous jobs frequently face higher risk of injury and death than other workers and more data on the circumstances of deaths is critical for policies that ensure their safety.

[Quarterly Mixed Migration Update North Africa, Quarter 3, 2021](#) – **Mixed Migration Centre**

The QMMUs offer a quarterly update on new trends and dynamics related to mixed migration and relevant policy developments in the region. These updates are based on a compilation of a wide range of secondary (data) sources, brought together within a regional framework and applying a mixed migration analytical lens. Similar QMMUs are available for all MMC regions.

[4Mi snapshot: Aspirations and intended destinations of people on the move in Sudan](#) – **Mixed Migration Centre**

Sudan hosts one of the largest refugee and migrant populations in Africa, yet there is limited research and information on the aspirations and intended destinations of this population. This snapshot uses 4Mi data to shed light on the topic, providing insights into the intentions, intended destinations, main factors driving destination choices and the aspirations of refugees and migrants in Sudan. It draws on data collected through 920 surveys with refugees and migrants interviewed in Sudan between July 2020 and September 2021.