

THE NEWSCAST

THE TUNISIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DISCUSSES THE ISSUE OF ILLEGAL MIGRATION IN ROME

Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nabil Ammar, during a two-day working visit to Italy, discussed the escalating crisis of illegal migration with several officials in Rome. According to data from the Italian Ministry of Interior, around 31,300 migrants have arrived in the country since the beginning of 2023.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Antonio Tiani, stated after meeting with the Tunisian Foreign Minister that Italy will bring in four thousand trained workers from Tunisia, as announced yesterday. He added that the goal is to "promote legal migration."

Tiani further stated that combating human traffickers and illegal migration is essential for both Tunisia and Italy, and there are already agreements in place that will continue to be enforced.

The Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that the visit "will provide an opportunity to discuss effective ways to address the issue of irregular migration."



ILLEGAL MIGRATION WAS THE TOPIC OF DISCUSSION DURING A SEMINAR ORGANIZED BY THE CIVIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE PARLIAMENT IN SOUTH SINAI.

The Civil Education Department and the Youth and Sports Directorate, in collaboration with the Youth Parliament of the province, organized a seminar on illegal migration as part of the summer program of the Ministry of Youth and Sports. Sheikh Rafiq Al-Shanawi, the General Director of the General Administration for Preaching and Religious Media in the South Sinai Preaching Region, spoke about illegal migration, defining it as individuals relocating to another country without obtaining its consent, making such individuals illegal residents. He emphasized that illegal migration is not permissible from a religious perspective, whether it occurs through clandestine means, the use of forged documents, or by staying beyond the period specified in temporary documents without legal approval. Such migration involves various violations and harms, including defiance of legitimate authority and violations of the law.



The Palestinian Gathering for Homeland and Diaspora in Egypt participated in a seminar titled "Illegal Migration."

Professor Abdullah Abu Adhra, the Commissioner of the Palestinian Gathering in Egypt, was invited by the Egyptian Association for the United Nations to participate in a seminar titled "Illegal Migration." The seminar was attended by Dr. Monji Badr, the Commissioner of Trade and Economic Thinker, Mr. Wael Farag, the State Representative for Migration and the Affairs of Egyptians Abroad, and Mr. Kaulus Oliver, the Head of the International Organization for Migration Mission in Cairo. Greetings from the Secretary-General of the Palestinian Gathering for Homeland and Diaspora, represented by Mr. Mohamed Shareem, were conveyed. During his remarks, Abu Adhra discussed the dangers of illegal migration and highlighted various experiences that have occurred in recent times, resulting in the loss of many young lives. These experiences include drowning at sea, exposure to physical violence in migrant locations, and various forms of human trafficking and exploitation. He emphasized that the difficult living conditions and the lack of suitable opportunities do not justify risking one's life, as illegal migration is an unsafe way to seek a better life. Young people involved in such journeys face unknown risks, putting their lives in danger and, at times, even facing death.



THE DISCOVERY OF A NEWBORN BABY FOUND DEAD ON A MIGRANT BOAT OFF THE COAST OF LAMPEDUSA, ITALY



The Italian Coast Guard discovered a newborn baby dead on a migrant boat heading to the island of Lampedusa, Italy, where dozens of citizens protested against the recent increase in arrivals.

Approximately 126,000 migrants have arrived in Italy since the beginning of this year, which is nearly twice the number compared to the same period in 2022.

Lampedusa has recently borne the brunt of this influx, with thousands arriving in the past week, surpassing the number of permanent residents on the island. This situation has prompted them to request assistance.

FROM TUNISIA AND LIBYA... RECORD-BREAKING LEVELS OF MIGRATION TO EUROPE VIA "THE MOST DANGEROUS ROUTE"

The number of irregular migrants arriving in the European Union has risen to over 232,000 individuals during the period from January to August of this year. This marks an increase of approximately 18 percent compared to the same period last year.

Preliminary data from the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, Frontex, indicates that the recorded rates during the first eight months of this year are the highest since 2016.

The central Mediterranean route remains the most active pathway for migration to the European Union, with over 114,300 attempted migrations reported in the first eight months of this year. This represents the highest number in the past seven years.

According to the International Organization for Migration, more than 2,325 individuals have been reported missing in the Mediterranean Sea during the current year.

Through the English Channel, nearly 9,000 migrants arrived in the UK in August alone. The total number of individuals crossing the English Channel in the first eight months of this year reached 36,250, which is 13 percent lower than the previous year.

The Italian government reported that around 126,000 migrants have arrived on Italian shores since the beginning of the year, compared to 66,000 during the same period last year.



SALVINI AND LE PEN AGREE TO CONFRONT THE "MIGRATION FLOOD" AND SUPPORT "PEOPLES AND IDENTITY" IN EUROPE.

Deputy Prime Minister of Italy, Matteo Salvini, and the leader of the French far-right, Marine Le Pen, have agreed to form a united front against Europe and the "migration flood," as well as to support "peoples" and "identity." They reached this agreement during a meeting held on Sunday in Italy in preparation for the 2024 European elections. The political alliance between Le Pen and Salvini has remained strong for the past ten years, indicating the strength of their personal relationship. The united front against Europe and the "migration flood" is aimed at supporting "peoples" and "identity." This is the consensus reached by both Matteo Salvini, the Deputy Prime Minister of Italy, and Marine Le Pen, the leader of the French far-right, during their meeting in Italy on Sunday.

In this context, Le Pen addressed thousands of supporters of "The League" and discussed the "Declaration of the Rights of Nations and Peoples."

The political alliance between Le Pen and Salvini has remained steadfast for the past ten years, underscoring the strength of their personal relationship. Le Pen expressed great joy at renewing her meeting with the leader of the League, referring to him as "Il Capitano," which is the Italian title for Salvini.



SECURITY CAMPAIGN IN SFAX TO THWART IRREGULAR MIGRATION OPERATIONS



Under the supervision of the Regional Units of the National Guard and National Security in Sfax, a security campaign was carried out on Friday evening, aimed at combating irregular migration by identifying organizers, intermediaries, and individuals who were not legally documented.

This campaign resulted in the apprehension of approximately 180 individuals and the arrest of around 300 migrants from Sub-Saharan Africa. This information was provided by the spokesperson for the General Directorate of the National Guard, Colonel Housam al-Jebali, in a statement.

He explained that the National Guard units in the regions of Jebniana, Msaken, and El Aouabed managed to apprehend 200 migrants from Sub-Saharan Africa who were found in the Ziatine forests and in houses.

French Prime Minister Calls for "Solidarity with Italy" After Thousands of Migrants Flow into Lampedusa.

French Prime Minister Élisabeth Borne emphasized that the current phase primarily requires "solidarity with Italy" and "mobilization" within the European Union. This statement came amidst the arrival of thousands of migrants on the island of Lampedusa.

Borne called on the European Union to help alleviate the pressure on Italy as approximately 8,500 people arrived on the island.

A conference call was held between the interior ministers of France, Italy, and Germany, along with representatives from the Spanish presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Union Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, Ylva Johansson.

French President Emmanuel Macron had previously stressed the "duty of European solidarity" with Italy, following Germany's temporary suspension of its voluntary acceptance of asylum seekers transferred from Italy.



"MIGRATION EXPERTS: LACK OF POLITICAL FRAMEWORK FUELS CHAOS AND LEADS TO DAILY DISASTERS"

The increase in the movement of migrants and the sinking of their boats in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea, coupled with the slow European response, has led observers to say that the absence of a political framework fuels chaos and results in "daily disasters." According to a relief organization, "the situation has turned into a state of madness." Hardly a day goes by without news of migrant boats sinking in the Mediterranean Sea. The most recent example of this is the landing of around 11,000 migrants in Italy since Monday, most of them on the island of Lampedusa, where the reception center run by the Red Cross is overcrowded. However, far-right European parties and movements quickly seized upon these images as evidence of a migrant invasion of the continent. The European Border and Coast Guard Agency, Frontex, stated that "half of the illegal immigrants to the European Union have entered through this route alone" since January this year. Most of these migrants are from Ivory Coast, Egypt, and Guinea. The reason for this acceleration in the rise of numbers can be attributed to a significant increase in the number of departures from Tunisia (+260% in 2023 compared to the period from January to August 2022). Africans coming from sub-Saharan Africa through Tunisia feel that they are subjected to mistreatment and discrimination there.



ITALY ANNOUNCES "EXCEPTIONAL MEASURES" TO DEAL WITH IMMIGRATION.

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni announced that her country will take "exceptional measures" to deal with the issue of migrant influx. Meloni stated in a video posted on the "X" website: "The Italian government intends to take immediate exceptional measures to deal with the migrants arriving on our shores.", Among the measures to be adopted is the extension of the detention period for migrants in detention centers from 12 to 18 months, the maximum allowed under European law, according to "Italy24." The Prime Minister also mentioned the reinforcement of repatriation centers, which will be entrusted to the Italian Ministry of Defense. Migrants will remain in these facilities for the duration of their asylum processing before a decision is made about their status. Additionally, she highlighted the construction of more reception centers in low-population density areas. In her statement, the Italian Prime Minister also emphasized that she invited the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, to visit the Italian island of Lampedusa, which has been affected by the crisis, "to ensure that the situation is critical."



MIGRANT WHO CROSSED LAMPEDUSA: "WE ARE NOT CRIMINALS"



Thousands of migrants have arrived on the small Italian island of Lampedusa within just one week. Among them are minors and young people who came from Sudan and managed to reach southern Italy. The migrants dream of living and working in Europe. One of them said, "We are not criminals; we are suffering from war in Sudan, just like Syria and Ukraine."

The Italian authorities are working on transferring migrants arriving in Lampedusa to Sicily and other regions.

French24 correspondent, Wissam Al-Dali, confirmed that the influx of migrants to the island of Lampedusa decreased on Saturday, but new boats arrived in the last 24 hours. Meanwhile, Italian authorities are working on transferring many of the arrivals to the island of Sicily and other ports in the country due to the limited capacity of the small island. Al-Dali also mentioned that some residents have provided donations and assistance to the migrants.



"STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP" AGREEMENT BETWEEN TUNISIA AND THE EUROPEAN UNION ON IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Tunisia has signed a memorandum of understanding with the European Union, partially aimed at reducing illegal migration. Tunisia has become a major departure point used by migrants to reach European territories via the Mediterranean Sea.

The "strategic partnership" agreement also encompasses other areas, including economic development and renewable energy. Following the announcement of the agreement, which was signed in Tunisia, the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, pledged to enhance and elevate cooperation in border management and search and rescue operations. The Prime Minister of Italy, Giorgia Meloni, described the agreement as a significant step towards a genuine partnership to address what she referred to as the "migration crisis."

Tunisia's President, Kais Saied, called for a "collective agreement on inhuman migration and forced displacement of people by criminal networks." He emphasized that Tunisia has "given migrants everything it can offer with unlimited generosity." This agreement comes at a time when Tunisia is grappling with a severe economic crisis.



ITALY: WE REQUEST INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Taiani has stated that Italy needs international assistance to deal with the new wave of the migration crisis.

Taiani said in an interview with the Italian newspaper "Corriere della Sera," "Italy, as European Parliament President Metsola and European Commission President von der Leyen have said, really needs continental-level help, and we must not be left alone."

He emphasized that "Italy must either act immediately, or we will not get out of this situation," clarifying that "even Europe cannot deal with such a huge problem alone, which is not only related to all of Africa but also to the influx of migrants from the Balkans."



IRREGULAR MIGRATION: HOW TO DEAL WITH THE INFLUX OF MIGRANTS?



More than seven thousand migrants from North Africa entered Lampedusa in two days, setting a record as it equals the island's population. The far-right seizes on this wave politically, and calls on Europe to stand with Italy. Guest of the episode: writer and journalist Mahdi Al-Nimr.

"Italian Politician: Meloni's Trips to Tunisia Regarding Migration"

Leader of the "Italy Alive" party, Matteo Renzi, considered that the trips made by Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni to Tunisia in an effort to address the issue of migration were fruitless. The former Prime Minister questioned, "What kind of fear can be caused by a young girl like this, or children enjoying light meals? The sovereign discourse has painted us a world based on fear. However, when these very people who shouted at me and accused me of not defending the borders went to the government themselves, the situation worsened, and the trips to Tunisia proved to be futile."



THE NORTH MACEDONIAN POLICE HAVE ANNOUNCED THE DEATH OF AN IMMIGRANT WHO WAS ELECTROCUTED WHILE GETTING OFF THE ROOF OF A FREIGHT TRAIN.

The authorities in North Macedonia have reported that an immigrant was electrocuted while attempting to climb down from the roof of a freight train carriage. The man, who was in his thirties, tragically lost his life immediately on early Sunday morning when he touched an electric cable while trying to descend from the roof of the freight train carriage near the town of Gradsko in the central part of the country.

The police issued a statement confirming that the incident was reported by the National Crisis Center, but they did not provide details about the immigrant's origin.

The police also informed the Associated Press that during the first six months of this year, they prevented 5,280 attempts at illegal crossings, with the vast majority of these attempts taking place on the southern border with Greece.



TUNISIA... 1,200 ILLEGAL MIGRANTS APPREHENDED IN ONE DAY

A spokesperson for the Tunisian National Guard has announced the apprehension of more than 1,200 individuals in attempts at illegal migration over the past 24 hours in a widespread security campaign in the Sfax region.

According to the German news agency, spokesperson Houssein Jebabli stated that among those apprehended, around 1,000 migrants originate from Sub-Saharan African countries.

Tunisian security forces have launched an extensive campaign in the Sfax governorate, which serves as a major launching point for migrant boats heading towards nearby Italian islands. The campaign aims to track down human trafficking gangs.

The campaign is ongoing, as per the spokesperson, and it has included raids on residential premises and workshops engaged in the manufacture of makeshift boats intended for voyages.

Jebabli mentioned that security forces seized light trucks clandestinely transporting migrants hidden among goods from areas near the Algerian border in the west of the country to the Sfax governorate on the eastern coast.

He added, "There will be no turning back for those who engage in trafficking and selling illusions." Tunisia had signed a memorandum of understanding with the European Union to curb the large influx of migrants departing from its coasts in exchange for financial and economic incentives.

However, the pace of migration has not abated, and Italian data has shown an increase in the number of departures following the signing of the memorandum.



THE RESCUE OF 30 MIGRANTS OFF THE COAST OF THE GREEK ISLAND OF RHODES.



Around 33 migrants, including nine minors, were on a boat that encountered difficulties and nearly sank off the coast of the Greek island of Rhodes. The coast guard rescued the migrants, but preliminary investigations are being conducted regarding the migrant boat.

The Greek Ministry of Shipping reported that the coast guard rescued 33 migrants from a troubled boat off the coast of Rhodes. After the island's port authority received reports of the ship facing problems, two coast guard boats were dispatched to the location near the "Anthony Quinn" beach on the eastern side of the island, according to the Greek newspaper "Kathimerini."

The boat carried 33 migrants, including two women and nine minors, who were subsequently transported to the port of Rhodes. The vessel was seized, and the port authority is conducting preliminary investigations. It is worth noting that several hundred people have lost their lives due to the sinking of overcrowded fishing boats about 50 nautical miles (93 kilometers) off the Greek coast.

"I'm Alive"... Gambian Migrant Narrates the Details of His Journey to the Island of Lampedusa.

Gambian migrant Momi (20 years old) narrated the story of his journey that lasted four days at sea until he reached the Italian island of Lampedusa. He said upon his arrival last Friday, "I'm tired, but I'm alive."

"I'm tired, but I'm alive," Momi, who appears much younger than his age, kept repeating to police officers, Red Cross staff, and journalists on the island of Lampedusa.

The Gambian migrant, who speaks little Italian and some English words, allowing him to communicate with those around him, arrived on the small Italian island after a four-day journey at sea. Momi explained that his journey took four days after he left from Sfax, Tunisia, with his father. He added, "We were scared, very scared, but we are alive."

He further expressed his happiness at being alive, acknowledging that many do not survive their journey across the Mediterranean Sea.

