

THE NEWSCAST

STARMER WARNS OF RIGHT-WING RIOTS: 'YOU WILL TURN BACK AND REGRET' ONGOING UNREST

On Sunday, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer warned far-right protesters that they "will regret" their involvement in the riots, which are the worst in England in 13 years. The unrest, which has continued for a fifth day, erupted following the death of girls at a dance school. In a televised statement, Starmer said: "I assure you that you will regret your involvement in these disturbances, whether directly or through those who incite these actions online." Starmer emphasized that there is "no justification" for what he described as "far-right thuggery," and reiterated his commitment to prosecuting offenders and "bringing them to justice." Masked anti-migrant protesters had smashed windows at a hotel used to house asylum seekers in Rotherham, South Yorkshire. The unrest, which was fueled by misleading information about a mass stabbing in Southport, northwest England, has spread to other towns and cities, resulting in clashes between anti-migrant demonstrators and the police. These disturbances represent the biggest challenge Starmer has faced just a month after becoming the Labour Party leader, following his party's significant victory over the Conservative Party.



A NEW WAVE OF VIOLENT ANTI-IMMIGRANT PROTESTS ROCKS NORTHERN ENGLAND, TESTING STARMER'S GOVERNMENT

On Sunday, anti-migrant protesters smashed hotel windows and set fire to trash bins in northern England, marking the latest wave of unrest that poses a significant challenge to the government of newly appointed Prime Minister Keir Starmer. The violent protests, involving hundreds of people, erupted in various cities and towns across Britain following the stabbing deaths of three girls at a children's dance event in Southport, northwest England, last week. Anti-migrant and anti-Muslim groups exploited the incident after misleading information circulated suggesting that the suspect was an Islamic extremist migrant. However, police confirmed that the suspect was born in Britain and that his family is Christian. The violence that erupted on Saturday in cities such as Liverpool, Bristol, and Manchester led to a police response, with dozens of arrests. Numerous shops and businesses were vandalized and looted, and several police officers were injured. The government has vowed to take a tough stance against those involved in the violence. On Sunday, hundreds of anti-migrant protesters gathered near a hotel housing asylum seekers in Rotherham, northern England. A Reuters witness reported that protesters threw stones at the police, smashed hotel windows, and set fire to trash bins. Additionally, dozens of protesters assembled outside another hotel in Aldershot, southern England. Simultaneously, anti-racism demonstrations were held in Rotherham and Lancaster in the northwest, with police separating the opposing groups. As protests began in Bolton, near Manchester, the police announced they had issued an order to disperse the protesters, granting officers additional powers to address anti-social behavior. Natasha Evans, a senior inspector with Greater Manchester Police, confirmed that police presence would be reinforced to manage any potential incidents. These weekend protests followed days of turmoil, reflecting rising tensions related to immigration issues in the country.

THE CHALLENGES OF THE MIGRANT ISSUE IN RUSSIA: FROM NEEDS TO FEARS AND CONTRADICTIONS IN FEELINGS



The issue of migrants in Russia presents new challenges characterized by significant differences in opinions. On one hand, there is an urgent need for migrants, while on the other hand, there are growing concerns about them, along with a mix of empathy and hostility. Migrants from Central Asia have become an integral part of the Russian demographic landscape, adding a complex dimension to the debate on this issue.

The repercussions of the recent violence in Britain on Muslims and immigrants



The violence that has swept across several British cities following the stabbing deaths of three girls a week ago has raised significant concerns about the safety of Muslims and migrants. The attack, which occurred during a children's dance event in Southport near Liverpool, has led to increased assaults on migrants and Muslims after far-right groups claimed the attacker was an "Islamic extremist migrant," despite police confirming that the suspect was born in Britain and that the attack is not considered an act of terrorism. Following the attack, police arrested a 17-year-old young man on suspicion of murder and attempted murder. Axel Rodakopana has been charged with killing the three girls and injuring others, with police stating that five of the injured children are in "critical" condition. Since last Monday, Britain has seen violent protests and unrest in several cities and towns, leading to clashes with the police. Rioters have thrown stones and bottles at police, attacked hotels and Islamic centers, and looted shops, resulting in injuries to many police officers and the arrest of over 150 people. Amid the unrest, Christian, Muslim, and Jewish religious leaders in Liverpool have called for calm in an effort to de-escalate the situation. Mosques in Southport and Sunderland have received threats, prompting increased security around Islamic institutions. As Britain attempts to restore order, the police are holding organizations linked to the "British Defence League," a long-established far-right group, responsible for the chaos. The protests have spread to other cities such as Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol, and Belfast in Northern Ireland, reflecting rising tensions and anxiety among various communities in the country.



SPANISH POLICE DISMANTLE SMUGGLING NETWORK THAT SMUGGLED 1,000 MIGRANTS FOR 20,000 EUROS EACH

On Friday, August 2, Spanish police announced the dismantling of a smuggling network responsible for trafficking 1,000 Algerian and Syrian migrants into Spain from Algeria, and subsequently transporting them to other European countries for amounts up to 20,000 euros per person. According to a statement from the police, the criminal network was responsible for "illegal entry into Spain using speedboats rented from Algeria to transport more than 750 Syrian migrants and 250 Algerian migrants," as reported by Agence France-Presse.

The operation, which involved Europol, led to the arrest of 21 individuals in the Madrid area, the Andalusia region where the boats arrive, and the Basque Country on the border with France.

The network housed migrants in Spain before arranging their transfer to other European countries for fees of up to 20,000 euros. It also had a branch in the coastal city of Oran in western Algeria, responsible for organizing the sending of migrants via "overloaded" speedboats and "without any safety equipment."

Syrians and Algerians would arrive at Spanish shores "at night and in remote, hard-to-reach areas away from major cities," where they were met by network members and transported to Madrid.

The network operated several apartments used to house migrants under unsanitary conditions. If migrants wished to move to other European countries, the network provided them with passports and flight tickets or transported them by land.

Through these activities, the network may have earned profits of up to 1.5 million euros.



ITALY AND ALBANIA AGREE TO TRANSFER IRREGULAR MIGRANTS TO ALBANIA FROM AUGUST

The transfer of illegal migrants rescued at sea while attempting to reach Italy to Albania may begin as early as August under a controversial agreement.

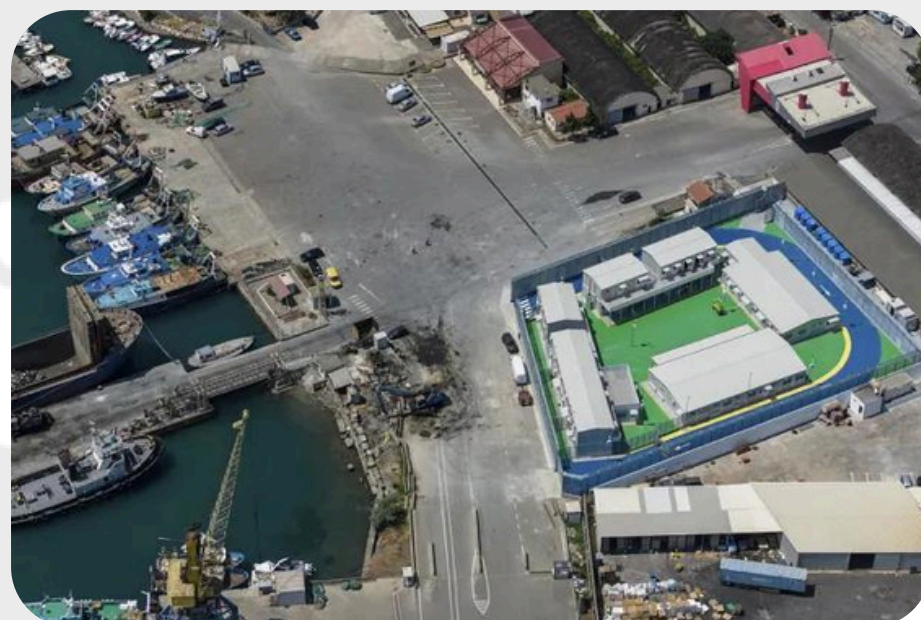
Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni announced during her visit to Albania last month that the two centers designated to house migrants will be ready to accommodate the first 1,000 people by the beginning of August.

Migrants seeking asylum in Italy will be transferred to Albania, where they will wait for decisions on their asylum applications. As the implementation date approaches, construction is still ongoing at one of the centers, raising doubts about whether it will be ready in time.

The agreement, which extends for five years and was signed by Meloni and Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama last November, provides for the accommodation of up to 3,000 migrants rescued by the Italian coast guard in international waters each month. Migrants will be initially screened on the vessels that rescued them before being sent to Albania for further checks.



ARREST OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS ON CHARGES OF DRUG TRAFFICKING IN SABHA



On Friday, the Sabha Security Directorate announced the arrest of illegal migrants involved in drug trafficking in the Al-Manshiya area.

According to a statement posted on the directorate's Facebook page, members of the Al-Manshiya Police Station, in cooperation with the Rescue Police, managed to apprehend the suspects after raiding their home.

During the operation, security forces seized a quantity of drugs and the migrants were detained and legal actions were taken against them.

Calls to expel immigrants from Britain, riots and violence after the spread of fake news

False reports about a Muslim migrant in the UK have sparked calls for the expulsion of migrants, leading to riots and violence. These false reports triggered protests, with some demanding that migrants be sent back to their home countries.

In Italy, the country also experienced riots and violence against Muslims, alongside calls to expel illegal migrants, following the spread of misleading information about a Muslim asylum seeker. These fake news reports have heightened tensions and led to violence against migrants in both countries.



EUROPEAN DISCUSSIONS TO AMEND THE MIGRATION DIRECTIVE: NGO WARNINGS ABOUT THE CRIMINALIZATION OF MIGRATION AND SOLIDARITY

Discussions are currently underway at the European level to amend the European Parliament's directives concerning the prevention of illegal entry, transit, and stay of migrants. However, non-governmental organizations are warning about the dangers of these proposals.

At the end of May, the European Commission presented a draft to amend directives related to illegal migration and criminalize illegal entry into EU countries. This draft will serve as the basis for further discussions within the Council, which is currently chaired by Hungary until the end of the year.

NGOs believe that the new proposals, which aim to amend the 2002 directives, could facilitate the "criminalization of migration and solidarity." The Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM) noted that anti-smuggling policies are often used against the migrants themselves, increasing their vulnerability.

In an interview with Silvia Carta, PICUM's advocacy officer, she explained that discussions will continue over the coming months, with a final draft expected by the end of the year.

If the proposals presented on May 31 are approved, the Council of the European Union (one of the legislators alongside the European Parliament) will likely adopt stricter penalties for assisting and inciting illegal migration. This would mean that national authorities in European countries could prosecute anyone suspected of aiding or inciting the entry, transit, or stay of migrants on EU territory, even without financial gain.



UK ANNOUNCES SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN HIRING AND RENTING FINES FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AS PART OF FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

On Sunday, the UK government announced an increase in fines for employers and property owners who allow undocumented migrants to work or rent, as part of new measures aimed at reducing migrant arrivals.

Facing declining popularity ahead of the upcoming general election, the Conservative government is seeking to halt the flow of migrants crossing the English Channel in small boats. According to the Home Office, "illegal employment and renting" are considered "pull factors" for migrants risking their lives to enter the UK, as reported by Agence France-Presse.

The Home Office stated that civil penalties for employers will triple to £45,000 (\$57,000) per illegal worker. Fines for property owners will also increase from £1,000 per tenant to a maximum of £10,000, with fines for tenants also being raised.

The ministry explained that fines will be higher for repeat offenders, and employers and property owners will be required to check the eligibility of workers and tenants. These new fines will come into effect in early 2024, marking the first adjustment to fines since 2014.

Immigration Minister Robert Jenrick said: "Making it more difficult for undocumented migrants to find work in the UK is crucial to deterring dangerous and unnecessary small boat crossings."

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has also pledged to "stop" the arrival of irregular migrants across the Channel, from which boats often depart from nearby French shores.

Last month, the government enacted a controversial law that prevents migrants who have entered the UK illegally from applying for asylum, a decision strongly condemned by the United Nations.

In 2022, over 45,000 migrants arrived on England's shores by boat, setting a record, with more than 13,000 arriving since the beginning of this year.

ILLEGAL MIGRATION CRISIS WORSENS IN EUROPE: BOAT SINKINGS, MISSING MIGRANTS COMPOUND CHALLENGES



Europe faces significant challenges amid ongoing economic crises and the war in Ukraine, with "illegal immigration" being one of the most pressing issues. Despite efforts to curb the flow of migrants and refugees, countries continue to struggle with fully managing this phenomenon. Lampedusa Island is a symbol of migrant reception in Europe but frequently faces tragic incidents, such as migrants drowning or going missing at sea. The latest incident involved the disappearance of 30 migrants after two boats sank off the island, following a similar event last month where 40 people went missing.

Migration has now become one of Italy's largest crises, following the disappearance of at least 40 people in a shipwreck, with further disasters occurring since then.

Spanish newspaper "El Mundo" reported that about 28 passengers from one boat and three from another went missing at sea after the boats capsized due to adverse weather conditions. According to Flavio Di Giacomo, spokesperson for the International Organization for Migration, at least 30 people are still missing, and an investigation has been launched into the incident in Agrigento on Sicily.

Agrigento Police Chief Emanuele Ricciardi stated that traffickers should have anticipated the poor weather conditions affecting the sea.

Italian coast guards also announced that a group of migrants was stranded on the rocks of Boninvento off Lampedusa Island after their boat sank. Approximately 325 people were rescued from four boats out of 1,677 people on the island.

According to Italian sources, two coast guard boats were near the rocks last night, but the rough seas prevented them from attempting a rescue.

In Spain, around 16,000 migrants have arrived since the beginning of the year, including 500 in just five days, causing debate and concern within the Spanish government, which is seeking solutions to address the crisis.

Murcia, Alicante, Almería, and the Balearic Islands are experiencing a large influx of migrants, with the highest peak in the number of aid provided to migrants rescued from boats. According to the latest data from the Ministry of the Interior as of July 31, 15,603 migrants arrived in Spain on 741 small boats, an increase of 607 people compared to last year.



The Algerian army announces the elimination of terrorists, the arrest of support elements, and the capture of illegal immigrants during extensive military operations

On Wednesday, the Algerian military announced the elimination of three highly dangerous terrorists and the arrest of three individuals supporting terrorist groups, as well as the seizure of 509 undocumented migrants. These actions were part of a series of military operations conducted over five days across several provinces.

The Algerian Ministry of Defense reported that from July 25 to 30, the three terrorists, who were armed with Kalashnikov rifles, were killed during a search and sweep operation west of Algiers. Additionally, three supporters of terrorist groups were apprehended in separate operations across Algeria, as part of ongoing efforts to combat terrorism and organized crime.

The statement also noted that Algerian military units arrested 49 drug traffickers and thwarted attempts to smuggle large quantities of narcotics into the country via the western border.

Regarding the fight against illegal immigration, the Algerian Coast Guard successfully apprehended 509 undocumented migrants of various nationalities in several Algerian provinces.

