

ISSUED BY THE INDEPENDENTS ORGANIZATION INTERNATIONAL (WEEKLY NEWSLETTER ON IRREGULAR MIGRATION ISSUES)

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THE NEWSCAST

ITALY BEGINS FIRST TRANSFER OF MIGRANTS TO RECEPTION CENTERS IN **ALBANIA UNDER NEW AGREEMENT**

An Italian Navy ship has transported the first group of migrants to reception centers in Albania, under a new agreement between the two countries aimed at reducing illegal migration flows. According to "La Repubblica," a preliminary screening was conducted to ensure that the migrants meet the required criteria, including being from safe countries, not at risk, and all male. The Italian Ministry of the Interior is overseeing the operation, with around 400 migrants expected in the first group. This is part of a new strategy led by Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, which includes building two reception centers in Albania, a controversial move opposed by human rights organizations. It is the first agreement of its kind between a European Union member state and a non-EU country.



FOUR MIGRANTS, INCLUDING TWO CHILDREN, DIE IN BOAT CAPSIZE NEAR KOS ISLAND



The Greek Coast Guard announced on Wednesday that four migrants, including two children, died when their boat capsized northeast of Kos Island. Twenty-seven people were rescued, but two women and two children aged 3 and 5 could not be saved. In a separate incident, authorities rescued 98 migrants south of Crete, with 10 still missing. Although migrant flows to other EU countries have stabilized or decreased this year, Frontex reported a 15% increase in migrant arrivals to Greece.

Illegal Migration Pressure Decreases on Hungary's **Southern Border After Serbian Evacuations**



Illegal migration pressure along Hungary's southern border has decreased, with locals on the Serbian side reporting no refugee sightings for months. A year ago, hundreds of migrants lived in barns at the "Karasz" farm near Horgos, using the area as a crossing point. Today, only empty cans and tent remnants remain, with the farm in disrepair. Serbian authorities have systematically evacuated the area, relocating migrants to camps in Kikinda and Preševo. Locals reported that police were still transporting undocumented individuals to camps as recently as a month ago.

UN EXPERTS CONDEMN ENDANGERMENT OF MIGRANTS DURING RESCUE AND DEPORTATION OPERATIONS IN TUNISIA

Independent UN experts have condemned the endangerment of migrants refugees during sea rescue operations and deportation to Tunisia's border regions. They highlighted reports of "dangerous maneuvers" during migrant interceptions, leading to the capsizing of boats and the deaths of 189 people between January and July 2024. The experts expressed concern about forced deportations to the Algerian and Libyan borders without humanitarian aid, citing excessive force and violence against migrants, including children and pregnant women.





REPUBLICAN VP CANDIDATE CRITICIZES RELIANCE ON ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TO SOLVE HOUSING CRISIS

Republican vice-presidential candidate JD Vance criticized the "misguided" notion that illegal immigrants are needed to address the housing crisis. Speaking on *The New York Times'* podcast *The Interview*, Vance rejected the idea that undocumented labor is essential for home construction, emphasizing that millions of American workers are available if offered fair wages. He argued that the reliance on undocumented labor undermines the potential of American workers and is a result of failed immigration policies.

is a result of failed immigration policies. SPIKE IN CRIMES BY ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT GANGS RAISES CONCERN IN NEW YORK CITY

New York City has seen a surge in robberies carried out by members of the Venezuelan gang "Tren de Aragua," composed of young illegal immigrants. Despite multiple arrests, lenient juvenile crime laws in New York prevent their detention. Police reported that gang members, some as young as 11, are staying in migrant shelters and have been involved in armed robberies. The gang, notorious in Venezuela, has expanded to the U.S., with members boasting about their activities on social media.



BRAZILIAN MIGRANT FINDS HOPE IN CATHOLIC SHELTER AFTER HORRIFIC INJURY IN THE U.S.



Gabriel Ribeiro, a 34-year-old Brazilian migrant, found refuge at "Annunciation House," a Catholic charity in El Paso, after losing part of his foot while attempting to board a cargo train. He bandaged his foot with a shirt and waited for help. Three weeks later, Ribeiro recovered at the shelter, expressing gratitude for their support, as he would have been homeless without it. The charity provides food, clothing, and shelter to migrants regardless of their legal status, following Catholic teachings.

Qatar's Emir Calls for Investment to Address Causes of Illegal Migration

Qatar's Emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, called for investment to address the root causes of illegal migration, such as civil wars and poverty. Speaking at the first Gulf-European summit in Brussels, the Emir highlighted the need for international cooperation to manage migration challenges. He also praised European nations for supporting Palestinian rights and expressed Qatar's willingness to collaborate with Europe in tackling migration waves.





EU COMMISSION PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES NEW LEGISLATION TO EXPEDITE DEPORTATIONS OF ILLEGAL MIGRANTS

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced plans for new legislation to speed up the deportation of illegal migrants. In a letter to EU member states, she outlined the need for a legal framework that clarifies deportation obligations and simplifies the process. The announcement comes ahead of the upcoming European Council summit in Brussels, where migration issues will be a key topic.

GERMANY CONDEMNED FOR DEPORTING SYRIAN REFUGEE, ILLEGAL MIGRATION TO EU DECLINES

The European Court of Human Rights condemned Germany for deporting a Syrian refugee to Greece without ensuring proper asylum procedures. The court fined Germany €8,000 and imposed penalties on Greece for violating human rights agreements. Meanwhile, the European Commission proposed new legislation to expedite deportations, while Frontex reported a 42% decline in illegal border crossings into the EU during the first nine months of 2024 compared to the previous year.



TRUMP ANNOUNCES "OPERATION AURORA" TO DEPORT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT GANG MEMBERS



Former President Donald Trump announced a federal initiative, "Operation Aurora," during a rally in Colorado, aimed at deporting illegal immigrant gang members, including the Venezuelan "Tren de Aragua." The program will utilize the Alien Enemies Act of 1798 to dismantle migrant criminal networks. Trump promised to accelerate deportations, impose strict penalties, and even call for the death penalty for any migrant involved in killing American citizens or law enforcement officers.

Majority of Americans Support Mass Deportation of Illegal Immigrants

A new Scripps News/Ipsos poll revealed that 54% of Americans support mass deportation of illegal immigrants, including 86% of Republicans, 58% of independents, and 25% of Democrats. Immigration remains a top concern for voters in the 2024 election, following inflation. The poll also indicated that 44% of respondents believe Donald Trump is better suited to handle immigration than President Biden, who received 34%.

