

# THE NEWSCAST

## A NEW TRAGEDY IN THE AEGEAN SEA: MIGRANT BOAT CAPSIZES OFF SAMOS ISLAND

Greek Coast Guard officials announced yesterday that a boat carrying illegal migrants capsized overnight off the coast of Samos Island, resulting in the deaths of two people and the rescue of 22 others. The Coast Guard spokesperson stated that the bodies of a man and a woman were recovered, while 20 men and two women were taken to Samos and placed in police custody. The spokesperson also noted that winds reaching 60 km/h contributed to the capsizing of the boat. Greek waters frequently witness the sinking of boats carrying illegal migrants from Africa or the Middle East, who are attempting to reach the European Union or the United Kingdom. This incident comes just days after another boat sank off the coast of Kos Island, where two women and two infants lost their lives. In September, three people drowned off the coast of Samos as well.



## CRITICISM OF MIGRANT DETENTION CENTERS IN ITALY AMID CONTINUED FAR-RIGHT POLICIES

Migrant detention centers in Italy have faced widespread criticism from human rights advocates, with a 2022 report by the European Regional Office of the World Health Organization highlighting significant physical and mental health risks for migrants in these centers. Despite this, Italy's far-right government, led by Giorgia Meloni, continues to use these centers as a key element in their strategy to curb illegal migration.

## ITALY TO APPEAL RULING AGAINST MIGRANT DETENTION IN ALBANIA



The Italian government announced its intention to appeal a ruling by the Rome court that rejected the detention of migrants in a facility in Albania, calling the decision "biased." The government reaffirmed its commitment to proceeding with its plan to deport asylum seekers under an agreement with Albania to establish reception centers for migrants rescued in the Mediterranean. The ruling ordered 12 migrants from Egypt and Bangladesh to be returned to Italy, as their countries of origin were not considered safe.

## EU Calls for Faster Migrant Deportations Amid Deep Divisions



At a summit in Brussels, the 27 EU member states called for urgent legislation to expedite the deportation of illegal migrants. Despite agreeing on the need to strengthen deportation measures, divisions emerged over the proposed "return centers" to relocate migrants outside the EU. Spain and Germany criticized the idea, deeming it ineffective, while far-right parties in Europe continue to push for stricter migration rules.





## **SLOVAK PM: COMBATING ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION A TOP PRIORITY FOR THE EU**

Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico, after meeting with the leaders of Hungary and Serbia, emphasized that combating illegal immigration into the EU is a top priority. Fico stated, "There are 5 million illegal immigrants in the EU who do not fit with the region's traditions and cultures, negatively affecting Europe's conditions." He added that addressing illegal immigration must be an absolute priority under the current circumstances.



### **EU OMBUDSMAN CRITICIZES COMMISSION OVER MIGRATION DEAL WITH TUNISIA**

EU Ombudsman Emily O'Reilly criticized the European Commission for failing to establish clear criteria for suspending funding in cases of human rights violations as part of the controversial migration agreement with Tunisia. O'Reilly stressed that the Commission is "obligated to ensure that EU funds do not support activities that violate human rights." The migration agreement includes nearly €1 billion in aid to Tunisia to combat illegal immigration, despite allegations of human rights abuses by the Tunisian government.



### **ITALY ARRESTS 13 FOR FACILITATING ILLEGAL MIGRATION AND MONEY LAUNDERING**



Italian Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi announced the arrest of 13 people involved in an international criminal organization that facilitates illegal migration and money laundering. The Italian Ministry of Interior revealed that the suspects are part of a cross-border criminal network responsible for smuggling illegal migrants to Italy via the Mediterranean and then to Northern European countries. Piantedosi emphasized the need to continue fighting these activities through all available means, including preventive measures.

## **Slight Decline in Illegal Border Crossings into Germany in September**

German federal police reported a slight decline in illegal border crossings in September, recording 6,921 cases. This number is marginally lower than in previous months, which ranged between 7,000 and 7,800 since March. It remains unclear whether this decline is linked to the expansion of border inspections introduced in mid-September. In the first nine months of the year, police recorded 64,292 illegal entries, compared to 92,128 in the same period last year.





## **U.S. OFFICIAL PROMOTES ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

A new report has revealed that a U.S. Department of Homeland Security official, Wilson Osorio, has been promoting illegal immigration to the U.S. through platforms like YouTube and TikTok. Osorio, an associate counsel at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), posted videos encouraging illegal immigrants and highlighting their success stories in America. Following inquiries from Fox News, Osorio's social media accounts were made private, and his LinkedIn profile was removed.



### **SALVINI: ITALY NEEDS LEGAL IMMIGRATION AND DEPORTATION OF OFFENDERS**

Italian Infrastructure Minister Matteo Salvini stressed the importance of legal immigration, calling it "one of the factors we need." He also advocated for the deportation of illegal migrants, referencing a court ruling that ordered migrants in Albania to be returned to Italy. Salvini emphasized that defending the country's borders and deporting offenders is a right that every state exercises, asserting that Italy should not be an exception.



### **U.S. IDENTIFIES OVER 600 MIGRANTS LINKED TO NOTORIOUS VENEZUELAN GANG**



The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has identified more than 600 migrants in the U.S. who may be linked to the notorious Venezuelan gang "Tren de Aragua" (TDA). About 100 of them are confirmed members, and the department has recommended placing them on the FBI watchlist. This comes amid rising concerns over crimes linked to the gang, including human trafficking and shootings, with TDA members reportedly present in 15 U.S. states.

## **Louisiana Sues DHS Over Migrant with Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis**

Louisiana has filed a lawsuit against Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas after an illegal Chinese migrant arrived in the state carrying a rare form of drug-resistant tuberculosis. Louisiana officials accused U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) of moving the migrant between detention centers and exposing over 200 people to the disease. The lawsuit alleges that ICE ignored the state's requests to hold detainees until cleared by health authorities.

