

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

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THE NEWSCAST

TRUMP ANNOUNCES PLAN TO CLOSE U.S. BORDERS AND STOP ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

Donald Trump announced his intention to close the U.S. borders to prevent the flow of illegal immigration, stating that he would not allow this situation to continue. Trump's statement came during a speech to his supporters in Palm Beach, Florida, after U.S. media confirmed his victory in the 2024 presidential election. Trump added in his speech, "We will help our country recover and protect our borders," indicating that illegal immigrants would be sent back to their home countries.



MOROCCAN ROYAL NAVY RESCUES LIBERIAN CARGO SHIP CREW AND DETAINS 54 ILLEGAL MIGRANTS OFF TAN-TAN COAST

Two units of the Moroccan Royal Navy successfully rescued the crew of a Liberian-flagged cargo ship that was sailing 110 kilometers off the coast of Tan-Tan in southern Morocco, without any reported injuries. The General Command of the Moroccan Armed Forces stated that they received a distress from the National Maritime signal Rescue Coordination Center in Rabat, indicating that the crew of a Liberian cargo ship was threatened by illegal migrants attempting to redirect the ship towards the Canary Islands. The statement added that two units of the Royal Navy, carrying a special "Commando" team, were immediately sent to the location, and they successfully freed the crew without incident. After the rescue, 54 illegal migrants were transferred to the port of Tan-Tan and handed over to the Royal Gendarmerie for legal processing.



FRENCH COURT CONVICTS 18 IN MAJOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASE ACROSS ENGLISH CHANNEL



A French court convicted 18 people in a major human trafficking case involving the transport of migrants on small boats across the English Channel from France to the United Kingdom. The charges came after a European police operation in 2022 that resulted in numerous arrests and the seizure of 135 boats, over 1,000 life jackets, and significant cash amounts. The accused were part of a smuggling gang believed to be responsible for most of the migrant crossings in unsafe boats between 2020 and 2022. One gang leader from Iraq was sentenced to 15 years in prison and fined 200,000 euros in Lille, northern France, while other sentences ranged from two to ten years. Lawyer Abbas Kamel, representing one of the defendants, described the sentences as "extremely severe" and indicative of the seriousness of the case and the court's intent to punish smugglers harshly. The court clarified that 14 of the 18 convicted individuals were from Iraq, while the rest were from Iran, Poland, France, and the Netherlands. The trial took place amidst a significant increase in migrant crossings of the English Channel, making this year one of the most dangerous for such attempts.

GEORGE LANDRITH: ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION ISSUE BOLSTERS TRUMP'S CAMPAIGN



George Landrith, a political analyst with the Republican Party, stated that illegal immigration remains one of the major challenges facing the United States. He noted that Donald Trump's focus on this issue in his campaign strengthens his political standing, especially as he is the only one calling for a firm approach to tackle it. Landrith added that the number of illegal immigrants has notably increased during Joe Biden's presidency. Landrith explained that although Trump may not be able to fully implement all his promises regarding deporting migrants, he will make efforts to address this issue and secure the borders, which is a top priority. He also noted that immigration and border security could be major issues motivating many Americans to vote, as these matters directly impact their lives.



FOUR MIGRANTS DIE NEAR RHODES IN AEGEAN SEA

The Greek Coast Guard announced the death of four migrants three men and one woman after their boat sank near the island of Rhodes in the southeastern Aegean Sea. Another 25 people managed to reach the shore safely, though further details of the incident remain unknown. Rhodes, located near Turkey, has witnessed a significant rise in asylum seekers arriving on Greek islands. Over 700 migrants were reported to have arrived in the last week of October alone, according to the local newspaper Rodiaki. With these increasing numbers, groups of migrants have set up tents outside the police station in Rhodes, causing concern among residents and local authorities. The Greek Ministry of Migration reported a 25% increase in arrivals this year, while drownings in the region continue amid mounting migration pressures.



ITALIAN COURTS OBSTRUCT MELONI'S PLAN TO TRANSFER ILLEGAL MIGRANTS TO ALBANIA

Italian courts have issued rulings obstructing Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni's plan to transfer illegal migrants from Italy to Albania. A court in Sicily has slowed down the expedited asylum process for certain migrants, presenting a challenge to the full implementation of the plan. This decision followed the transfer of the first group of migrants to Albania three weeks ago, only for an Italian court to order their return to Italy shortly afterward. Despite Meloni's issuance of an emergency decree to adopt a national list of safe countries, questions remain about its compatibility with European laws, which supersede national legislation.



SYRIAN YOUTH'S HEARTBREAKING ACCOUNT OF CROSSING THE ENGLISH CHANNEL AND LOSING HIS FATHER



Osama Ahmed, a 20-year-old Syrian youth, shared his harrowing experience of attempting to cross the English Channel with his father at the end of October, which tragically ended with his father being lost after their rubber boat exploded in the dark waters. Osama and his family left Syria for Turkey 11 years ago, but last year he and his father decided to attempt the journey to the United Kingdom, where his two brothers live. Their journey began from Turkey to Greece, then to France, aiming to reach Britain across the Channel. Upon arriving in Calais, they stayed in a camp for 15 days and attempted to cross the Channel three times. On their third attempt, after a 14-hour journey through rain-soaked farmland, they reached the shore and boarded a boat that ultimately exploded, causing his father to disappear in the dark waters.

OCEAN VIKING RESCUES 140 MIGRANTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

On the morning of Wednesday, November 6, 2024, the humanitarian ship Ocean Viking rescued 140 migrants who were on a two-deck wooden boat in international waters off the coast of Libya. Among the survivors were five women and four children. The NGO SOS Méditerranée reported that the overloaded boat was dangerously tilting and at risk of capsizing, with some migrants suffering from fuel burns and seasickness. The organization is currently awaiting instructions from Italian authorities to designate for port a disembarkation.





ITALY CONTINUES MIGRANT TRANSFER PLAN TO ALBANIA DESPITE LEGAL HURDLES

An Italian navy vessel sailed to Albania on Wednesday carrying a second group of migrants as part of the Italian government's controversial plan, led by Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, to relocate asylum seekers to camps abroad instead of allowing them entry into Italy. Rome views this step as a deterrent for those considering dangerous maritime journeys to Europe. In October, the first group of migrants was returned after a court challenge against their detention in Albania. This week, Italy cautiously sent only eight migrants, aiming to avoid legal issues faced previously. Under an agreement with Tirana, the total number of migrants in Albania at one time will not exceed 3,000, with only men from safe countries eligible for transfer, capped at 36,000 annually.



ILLEGAL MIGRATION: NEW DATA REVEALS DIFFERENT NUMBERS AND DESTINATIONS FOR AFRICAN MIGRANTS

Statistics show that African migration to Europe and Germany is lower than commonly perceived, with around 80% of African migrants remaining within the continent. Despite the growing focus on migration, migration expert Vit Novotny highlights that facts often get lost in public discourse. The migration of skilled Africans, such as through Germany's agreement with Kenya, helps fill labor gaps in European countries. Migration also channels remittances equivalent to development investments, boosting African economies. Regarding climate migration, studies indicate that most affected individuals prefer to stay local and adapt rather than migrate.



BOAT CARRYING 13 EGYPTIANS SINKS OFF TOBRUK COAST, ONE SURVIVOR RESCUED



In a tragic incident, a boat carrying 13 Egyptian migrants capsized off the coast of Tobruk, Libya, resulting in the death of 12 individuals, with only one survivor. The incident occurred the migrants as Europe reach attempted through to irregular routes. The Crossing Organization for Migrant Assistance and Humanitarian Services reported that the boat sank 60 kilometers east of Tobruk, and a search for the bodies of the victims is ongoing.

BODY OF AFRICAN MIGRANT FOUND ON NORTHERN FRENCH BEACH AMID RISING CHANNEL CROSSING ATTEMPTS

As attempts by migrants to cross the English Channel to the United Kingdom increase, French authorities found the body of an African man on Sangatte beach in northern France on Saturday morning. This discovery followed the finding of three other migrant bodies on a nearby beach three days earlier. Police and rescue teams were present at the scene where the body was found.

