

# THE NEWSCAST

## THE MEDITERRANEAN CEMETERY DOCUMENTS THE DAILY EFFORTS TO SAVE MIGRANTS ACROSS THE MOST DANGEROUS MIGRATION ROUTES

Irregular migration across the Mediterranean Sea is considered one of the most perilous migration routes globally, with reports indicating that it has resulted in the death of over 31,000 people since 2014. Despite these dangers, refugees and migrants continue to risk their lives. In a new episode of the program *The Story Continues*, the focus was on the rescue operations of migrants in the Mediterranean Sea. The episode was titled *The Mediterranean Cemetery*, and it accompanied a non-governmental Italian rescue ship called *Lifeline* during a 16-day journey. The preparation process for the episode took more than three months, involving reviews and negotiations with a number of rescue ships. In the end, the team obtained the necessary approvals from the Italian authorities to board the *Lifeline* ship.



## MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: EGYPT HOSTS 9 MILLION MIGRANTS, REFUGEES, AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Migration Affairs reaffirms Egypt's commitment to supporting migrants' rights and enhancing their opportunities, praising their contributions to development in host and home countries. On International Migrants Day, December 18, Egypt highlights its efforts to support citizens abroad, marked by merging the Migration Ministry with the Foreign Ministry to strengthen coordination, protect rights, and leverage their contributions to Egypt's development.

## THE NUMBER OF MIGRANTS IN THE WORLD EXCEEDED 6.5 MILLION IN 2023



The number of immigrants in the world surpassed 6.5 million in 2023, according to the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The Information and Decision Support Center of the Council of Ministers stated that Egypt alone hosts more than 792,000 refugees and asylum seekers from 54 different nationalities.

## INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY



December 18 marks International Migrants Day, recognizing migrants' contributions to host communities and the challenges they face. Established by the UN in 2000, the day emphasizes the need for global cooperation to address migration issues. With around 281 million migrants worldwide (3.6% of the global population), migration plays a key role in economic growth and cultural enrichment.

## **DEATH BOATS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN WATERS.. 5 MIGRANTS DROWNED AND DOZENS RESCUED AFTER A BOAT RAN AGROUND OFF THE COAST OF GREECE**

Five migrants lost their lives in a wooden boat capsizing incident southwest of the Greek island of Gavdos, while hundreds were rescued in three separate incidents that required the intervention of the coast guard to save the migrants whose boat ran aground south of the island of Crete. Greek authorities reported that the coast guard rescued 39 people at sea, while rescue operations and search for missing persons continue. Others in difficult weather conditions. In addition, 47 other migrants were rescued from a boat 40 nautical miles south of Gavdos during the night, as well as 88 people at dawn 28 miles south of Gavdos.



### **TRUMP IS SEEKING TO EXPEL IMMIGRANTS WHILE CONTINUING TO EMPLOY THEM IN HIS COMPANIES**

The intention of the elected President Donald Trump was clear that he wants Subjecting immigration to strict measures as soon as he took office. However, his companies continue to employ foreign workers holding temporary work visas, and this year they hired a larger number of them compared to any other year ever, according to CNN. The magazine "Forbes" reported that Trump employed a larger number of foreign workers in 2024 than ever before. Several companies with ties to some of Trump's major supporters and candidates hired foreign workers holding temporary work visas this year for positions in his upcoming administration.



### **BRITAIN: THE ARRIVAL OF MORE THAN 35,000 ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TO THE COUNTRY DURING 2024**



Recent British statistics have shown that over 35,000 migrants have arrived in the country by crossing the English Channel illegally so far this year. The total number of migrants who arrived in the country by crossing the English Channel has risen to 35,040 migrants following the arrival of 160 migrants yesterday/Saturday on board three small boats, representing a 20% increase compared to last year. The total number of migrants who reached the country's shores during the year 2023 was 29,437 migrants.

## **DUE TO THE LAWS, DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS HAS STOPPED CONDUCTING RESCUE OPERATIONS FOR MIGRANTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA**

Doctors Without Borders announced on Friday the suspension of its operations to rescue migrants in the central Mediterranean Sea due to The Italian laws and policies that make it impossible to continue the current operational model. The non-governmental organization stated in a statement that its humanitarian ship Geo Barents faced four penalties from the Italian authorities over the past two years, which prevented it from leaving the port for 160 days. The organization added that in December 2024, Italy intensified the penalties by facilitating and accelerating the confiscation of humanitarian search and rescue ships. The determination by the Italian authorities of remote ports, often in the north of the country, for landing rescued migrants has reduced the capacity of the ship Geo Barents to save lives at sea and to be present in the areas where it is needed, as confirmed by the non-governmental organization. It clarified that in June 2023, the Italian authorities requested the ship.



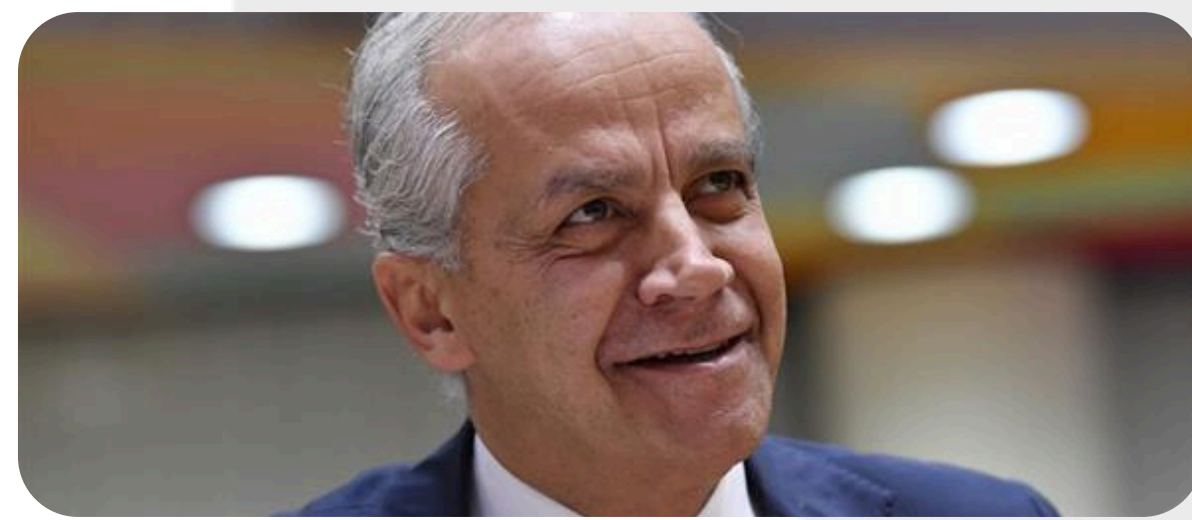
## **THE ARAB LEAGUE'S STATEMENT ON THE OCCASION OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY**

On the occasion of International Migrants Day, in a world where instability has become a defining feature, millions of migrants face the absence of a clear and secure future. The General Secretariat highlights the ongoing realities of wars, conflicts, poverty, declining development, and climate change—all factors that will continue to drive the flow of migrants and refugees, increasing their numbers in the future. To prevent perilous journeys in search of safety or escape from poverty, the root causes of conflict, violence, and extreme poverty must be addressed. Sustainability based on the interests of future generations must be promoted, linking humanitarian aid that meets current needs with long-term development assistance.



### **ITALIAN INTERIOR MINISTER: A DECLINE IN THE NUMBER OF MIGRANTS ARRIVING BY SEA COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS TWO YEARS**

Italian Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi announced a 60% decrease in the number of migrants arriving by sea to Italy compared to 2023, and a 30% drop compared to the same period in 2022. The minister also stated that 93 illegal migrants were deported from Italian territory this week. A statement issued by the Italian Ministry of the Interior on Monday noted that these figures are part of daily deportation operations for migrants held in rehabilitation centers. The minister emphasized the Italian government's commitment to combating illegal migration as part of a governmental plan to address this issue.



### **THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE INCLUDES REFUGEES IN ITS PLAN TO COMBAT AND PREVENT ILLEGAL MIGRATION**



Ambassador Naela Gabr emphasized the National Coordinating Committee's commitment to including foreign migrants and refugees in the Fourth National Action Plan (2024-2026) during the celebration of International Migrants Day. The plan encompasses various aspects, particularly protection and the enhancement of essential and healthcare services for migrants. The ambassador inaugurated the event alongside several dignitaries, including representatives from the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations.

### **EXPLOITATION, POVERTY, AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CRISES: THE STRUGGLES OF MIGRANT MINORS IN NORTHERN FRANCE**

The challenging and increasingly dangerous conditions faced by migrant minors in Northern France are exacerbated by exploitation from trafficking networks, lack of income sources, and the psychological toll of harsh living conditions. MigrantNews team met with some of these young people and the organizations that are working to help them. Three years after the worst Channel drowning incident, MigrantNews provides a special coverage this month on the situation of migrants in Northern France, where attempts to cross into Britain continue to rise amid tightened border controls. Would you like to cook together today? Chicken and black salad (Sudanese meal) ? Margo, a worker with Médecins Sans Frontières, communicates with Sudanese youths at the organization's day reception center for minors in Calais, Northern France, in broken Arabic.

