

THE NEWSCAST

AS A RESULT OF MEDIA PROMOTION, THE UNITED STATES HAS SEEN A DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

In November, U.S. authorities arrested more than 21,000 illegal immigrants as former President Joe Biden's term drew to a close. That's a pace President Donald Trump's administration doesn't appear to have matched in its first month, despite its crackdown, according to a new Axios review of data. Tom Homan, the Trump administration's border official, said about 14,000 migrants have been apprehended in the three weeks since Trump took office. According to Axios, one possible reason why the Trump administration's rate of arrests of immigrants has not increased compared to those of the Biden administration is that the publicity surrounding the new president's tough talk on immigration has led to a significant drop in the number of people trying to enter the United States illegally across the southern border.



BODIES OF 55 MIGRANTS FOUND IN SOUTHERN LIBYA

Libyan authorities announced the recovery of 11 bodies of irregular migrants, bringing the total to 55 bodies found in three mass graves in the southeast of the country within a week. The Emergency and Ambulance Service in the Kufra area, affiliated with the Government of National Unity in Tripoli, stated in a statement that 11 bodies of illegal immigrants were recovered. The statement indicated that the total number of bodies discovered amounted to 55, which were found by the illegal immigration apparatus in a mass grave in the Kufra region, which is under the control of the forces of retired Major General Khalifa Haftar. The statement said the total number could reach 74 bodies, noting that the Anti-Irregular Migration Agency carried out a raid that resulted in the rescue of a large number of migrants in the desert. Last Friday, the Ministry of Interior of the parallel government in eastern Libya announced the discovery of a mass grave on a farm in the Ajkhara area in the southeast of the country, containing 19 bodies. Two days later, Attorney General Al-Siddiq Al-Sour revealed that 76 irregular migrants had been "liberated" and 28 other bodies had been recovered from a prison in the city of Kufra, which had been run by a criminal organization involved in human trafficking.



LACK OF FUNDING' THREATENS TRUMP PLAN'S ABILITY TO COMBAT ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION



Inside the US Congress, a debate is raging over funding for Trump's plan to combat illegal immigration. Tom Homan, known as the "border czar," urged Republican senators to provide additional funding, noting that the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is running out of funding. The Trump administration is asking for an additional \$175 billion to support immigration enforcement efforts, including increasing the number of agents and detention centers.

BORDER DISPUTES IN AFRICA: A COLONIAL LEGACY AND CRISES POSSIBLE TO ESCALATE



Over half a century, Africa has witnessed more than 32 border disputes, most of which turned into armed confrontations that claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands. Despite the success of international mediation and arbitration in settling some of these disputes, many African borders are still experiencing a state of "silent tension" due to the complexity of the conflicts and the widening gap between the conflicting parties.

AUSTRIA: STALLED GOVERNMENT FORMATION TALKS TEMPORARILY REMOVE FAR-RIGHT FROM POWER

The leader of Austria's far-right Freedom Party failed to form a coalition government on Wednesday, temporarily putting on hold his chance to lead Austria's first far-right government since World War II, The New York Times reported. The American newspaper reported that the party's leader, Herbert Kickl, was unable to reach an agreement with the conservative Austrian People's Party to form a government, leaving the country in a state of political uncertainty without clear leadership for the next stage. Although Kickl's party won 29% of the vote in last September's elections, four months after the vote and several rounds of negotiations have not resulted in the formation of a new government.



MEXICO'S PRESIDENT HAS BECOME A MODEL FOR WORLD LEADERS ON HOW TO NEGOTIATE WITH TRUMP

When Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum took the call from US President Donald Trump, she was prepared to face a leader who would not easily back down on his tariff decisions. Yet she managed to negotiate a deal that has become a model for world leaders dealing with the United States on their trade deals. The call, which took place on February 3, lasted about 45 minutes and was tense at times, according to people familiar with the matter. During the conversation, Sheinbaum confronted Trump on trade, drugs and immigration in a way that kept him engaged without escalating the dispute. To negotiate with Trump, you have to speak his language, one of the people familiar with the conversation said.»



CATHOLIC PATRIARCH DISCUSSES ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION ISSUES AND CHALLENGES WITH ARCHBISHOP OF MARSEILLE.



The Catholic Patriarch, Ibrahim Isaac, met with the Archbishop of Marseille to discuss the issues of illegal immigration and the challenges facing societies in this context. Patriarch Isaac welcomed the guest, expressing his appreciation for this visit, which was an opportunity to exchange pastoral and spiritual experiences, discuss the mission of the Church in the modern era, in addition to addressing regional issues in the Mediterranean region, with a focus on the role of the Church of Marseille in French society.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND TERRORISM TOP DISCUSSIONS AT ARAB INTERIOR MINISTERS COUNCIL

The Council of Arab Interior Ministers confirmed that the decisions issued at its last meeting will contribute to strengthening joint Arab security work. The Council explained, in a statement following the conclusion of its 42nd session held on Sunday, that the discussions focused on the most prominent security threats facing the region, most notably terrorism, drugs, cybercrime, and illegal immigration, in addition to various forms of cross-border organized crime. The statement stressed the importance of continuing efforts to enhance and develop the Arab security cooperation process, and achieve more accomplishments to ensure security and stability in Arab countries. The Council adopted three new phased plans within its security strategies, including the 11th plan to combat the illegal use of drugs and psychotropic substances, the 7th plan to protect civilians (civil defense), and the 2nd plan to confront information technology crimes.



GARCIA PEREZ PRAISES EGYPTIAN EFFORTS IN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL REFORM AND COMBATING ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

Garcia Perez, Chair of the Social Democrats Alliance Group in the European Parliament, stressed the strength and solidity of the relations between Egypt and the European Union over the years, pointing to the great development witnessed by these relations at all levels since President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi assumed the presidency of the country. She explained that this development culminated in raising the relations to the level of "comprehensive strategic partnership", based on the European Union's awareness of the importance of the Egyptian role and its political and economic weight, in addition to its strategic location and the development achievements it has made within the framework of its new republic.



CHATHAM HOUSE: HOW DID HUMAN SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES CONTRIBUTE TO FUELING THE CONFLICT IN LIBYA?

A long research paper issued by the Royal Institute of International Affairs Chatham House highlighted the development of migrant smuggling and human trafficking activities in Libya through three main stages, the most recent of which is the current stage that began in 2022. This stage was characterized by increasing cooperation between smuggling networks and some official security agencies, in addition to the increase in the number of migrants heading to the southern coasts of Europe, amidst the expanded organization of smuggling activities by local actors.



THWARTING AN ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION ATTEMPT OF 11 PEOPLE IN EL TARF



The security services of the state of El Tarf, represented by the state judicial police service, were able to thwart an attempt at illegal immigration by sea and arrest 11 people. A statement issued by the state security services, today, Sunday, explained that the anti-migrant smuggling and human trafficking unit, in coordination with the marine unit of the coast guards in El Kala, succeeded last weekend in thwarting this attempt, as 11 people between the ages of 20 and 35 were arrested, coming from the states of El Tarf, Annaba, Souk Ahras, Oum El Bouaghi, and Batna.

MERKEL DENIES HER GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO DEAL WITH THE REFUGEE CRISIS

German Chancellor Angela Merkel has rejected accusations that her government has failed to deal with the refugee crisis, stressing, through her government spokesman, that great efforts have been made in this area, while stressing the importance of reducing illegal immigration in the future. German government spokesman Steffen Seibert said the EU-Turkey asylum deal had helped reduce "serious human trafficking" in the Aegean, but added that other areas of the Mediterranean still needed more action. Seibert stressed the need to conclude similar agreements with other countries bordering the Mediterranean, noting the difficulty of achieving this, especially in light of the absence of a recognized government partner in Libya. This comes at a time when the leaders of the parties that make up Germany's ruling coalition agreed on a timetable for addressing key issues, excluding the refugee crisis from the discussions.

