

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

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THE NEWSCAST

TIGHTENING PROCEDURES ON IMMIGRANTS IN FRANCE.. A NEW DRAFT **LAW RAISES WIDE CONTROVERSY**

In a move that has sparked widespread political and social controversy, the French government is moving towards adopting a new immigration law in the coming period, despite the passage of less than a year since the previous law on immigration and asylum was passed, which received partial approval in the National Assembly after the deputies of the far-right National Rally party abstained from voting. This announcement came from the French government spokeswoman, Maud Brigon, who confirmed the executive authority's intention to submit the new draft law, which raised questions about its objectives and repercussions on the political scene in the country.



DEUTSCHE WELLE ASKS: WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF THE GERMAN ELECTION RESULTS ON **AFRICAN IMMIGRANTS?**

Deutsche Welle reported that many African immigrants in Germany are anticipating the impact of the victory of the Christian Democratic Union and the Christian Social Union on the country's immigration policies. During his election campaign, the leader of the Christian Democratic Union, Friedrich Merz, after the victory of the coalition he leads, stressed the need for a comprehensive reform of asylum laws and strengthening border controls, especially in the wake of the tragic stabbing incident that sparked widespread controversy in Germany. Although the farright Alternative for Germany party came in second with 20.8% of the vote, it will not form the next government, easing some migrants' concerns about potential mass policies.But Merz's tough approach to deportation irregular migration is worrying some, with analysts predicting the process of entering Germany will become more complicated, especially for irregular migrants.



US SENATE PASSES BUDGET TO FUND IMMIGRANT DEPORTATIONS, BOOST BORDER SECURITY



Republicans in the US Senate succeeded on Friday in passing a special budget bill worth \$340 billion, after a lengthy session that witnessed strong opposition from Democrats. The approval is a first step, as it must also pass the House of Representatives, to pave the way for providing the funding that the Trump administration says it needs to support mass deportations of illegal immigrants and enhance border security.

TÜRKIYE: 6 MIGRANTS DROWN **IN AEGEAN SEA**



Six migrants drowned in the Aegean Sea off the western coast of Turkey on Wednesday, while 27 others were rescued from a sinking rubber boat in the area. The Turkish Coast Guard said they spotted the boat before dawn near the southern coast of Izmir, in waters between Turkey and the Greek island of Samos. They added that the boat was about to sink, and that 27 migrants were rescued, including seven who were in the water, while six others died before the rescue teams arrived.



OHCHR: MIGRANT SMUGGLING IS A GROWING CONCERN FOR STATES

Mauritania's Assistant Commissioner for Human Rights, Rassoul El Khal, confirmed on Monday that migrant smuggling and the resulting violations are a growing source of concern for countries. His remarks came during a training workshop in Nouakchott on investigations and prosecutions in cases of migrant smuggling and cross-border cybercrime. Ould Al-Khal pointed out that the violations resulting from this phenomenon require urgent measures to eliminate them, pointing to the steps taken by the Mauritanian government, including enacting laws, establishing mechanisms and centers to combat these violations, in addition to allocating a green number to report them.



WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ESCALATION OF VIOLATIONS AGAINST AFRICAN MIGRANTS IN YEMEN?

A press report revealed serious violations against African migrants in detention sites run by smuggling networks in Yemen, where these practices amount to human trafficking crimes. The report confirmed that influential figures in power support smuggling gangs spread across Yemen, Ethiopia and Djibouti. According to a detailed report published by the Daraj platform and monitored by the Yemen Echo website, migrants arriving in Yemen, especially girls, are exploited by smuggling networks that profit from human trafficking.



SOMALIAND ADMINISTRATION BEGINS DEPORTATION OF IRREGULAR ETHIOPIAN MIGRANTS



Hargeisa – Somaliland police have launched a campaign to deport undocumented Ethiopian migrants, just weeks after Puntland authorities deported more than 1,000 Ethiopians from the cities of Garowe and Bosaso. On Sunday morning, police vehicles were seen patrolling the market areas of Hargeisa, arresting Ethiopians residing illegally in Somaliland. Although there has been no official comment from Somaliland authorities on the deportations, many Ethiopians in the region hold refugee cards, visas or work permits, while others entered illegally.

ISRAELI KNESSET APPROVES PRELIMINARY READING OF BILL TO DEPORT ERITREAN IMMIGRANTS WHO SUPPORT THE REGIME

The Israeli Knesset approved, in a preliminary reading, a bill aimed at deporting Eritrean immigrants who support their country's regime. The bill received full support, with 51 members approving it without any opposition. The proposed law would give the Israeli interior minister the power to deport Eritrean migrants who declare their support for the Eritrean government, as supporters of the regime are seen as not deserving of asylum in Israel. Successive Israeli governments have sought to limit the presence of Eritrean migrants, estimated at around 20,000, many of whom are seeking asylum due to wars and persecution in their country. However, some of these measures have been overturned by court rulings.





KRISTERSSON FROM ROME: WE SEEK TO REDUCE THE FLOW OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION

"Sweden is in northern Europe and Italy is in the south, and both can benefit from closer cooperation to address common migration challenges, Kristersson said. The two leaders met on Wednesday to discuss issues of common interest, including irregular migration to the European Union, support for Ukraine, and strengthening the EU's security and defence. During a press conference, Kristersson stressed that improving refugee repatriation mechanisms and strengthening cooperation with third countries are priorities for his government. He also announced Sweden's readiness to participate in the "Rome Process" initiative proposed by Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, noting that it provides a good model for linking migration issues with development, trade and economic issues.



MORE THAN 150 MIGRANTS RESCUED IN THE MEDITERRANEAN IN 48 HOURS

On Wednesday and Thursday, the Open Arms and SOS Humanity organizations managed to rescue 156 migrants in the Mediterranean Sea. Some of them were received by the Italian authorities, while the others are heading towards the port of Civitavecchia in Italy. Since Wednesday, NGOs have carried out several operations, during which they have managed to rescue more than 150 migrants in the Mediterranean Sea..The operation resulted in the rescue of 52 people, including six women, one of whom was eight months pregnant.



THWARTING AN ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION ATTEMPT OF 11 PEOPLE IN EL TARF



Last year saw a record number of migrant deaths crossing the English Channel, with 82 people losing their lives, including 14 children, compared with just one child the year before, data from the UN agency's Missing Migrants Project showed. The IOM project recorded the highest number of deaths and missing persons in the English Channel in 2024

NEW YORK'S ICONIC ROOSEVELT HOTEL TO END USE AS MIGRANT SHELTER

The iconic Roosevelt Hotel in midtown Manhattan, which was used as a shelter for immigrants, is expected to end its role soon. New York Mayor Eric Adams announced Monday that the hotel will close in the coming months, after it was renovated and opened as a shelter in May 2023 to accommodate an influx of migrants from South America and elsewhere. Adams noted that the number of migrants arriving weekly at the height of the asylum crisis was 4,000, but has recently dropped to about 350 migrants weekly. One of the migrants staying at the hotel told the network:NHK Japan said they received notice of the closure the same day, and are currently looking for alternative accommodation. The decision comes as US President Donald Trump tightens restrictions on illegal immigration, having been a vocal critic of the use of luxury hotels as shelters for migrants during his election campaign.

