





## **FRANCE: PYRENEES MOUNTAINS WITNESS INTENSE CLASHES BETWEEN SECURITY FORCES AND MIGRANTS**

With increased security surveillance and a surge in migrant flows, the Atlantic Pyrenees has become one of the most tense points in the issue of illegal immigration to France. Although the authorities affirm their determination to tighten control over the borders, the complex geographical reality and the multiplicity of irregular routes remain a challenge that is difficult to overcome. In this context, demographic researcher and Collège de France professor François Héran believes that immigration and asylum rates to France have not seen a significant increase from one year to the next. He noted that the country witnessed a significant increase in asylum applications between 2015 and 2016 as a result of conflicts in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa, but these numbers declined significantly with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.



## **FORCEFULLY DISMANTLING MIGRANT CAMPS: TUNISIA'S POLICE TACTICS SPARK WIDESPREAD CONTROVERSY**

Tunisian police intervened to dismantle informal camps set up by migrants in the town of Jebiniana, Sfax Governorate, a move that sparked widespread controversy over the handling of this thorny issue. While some considered the use of force against migrants unjustified, others supported these measures, deeming them necessary to control the security situation.



## **MP VISITS MIGRANT CAMPS IN TUNISIA, WARNS OF ENTITY WITHIN THE STATE**



Parliamentarian Fatima Al-Masdi's visit to illegal immigrant camps in the Al-Amra area of Sfax Governorate, southern Tunisia, sparked widespread controversy after she revealed unexpected details. Al-Masdi shared photos from her visit to the Henshir Ben Farhat camp on Friday, explaining the presence of integrated facilities, including a dining room, a mosque, a small hall for watching movies and matches, a pharmacy containing a variety of medications, a hospital equipped with some beds, food stalls, and electric generators to provide energy.

## **THWARTING AN ATTEMPT TO SMUGGLE 65 EGYPTIANS AND SUDANESE FROM LIBYA TO EUROPE VIA ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION**

Libyan authorities arrest 65 Egyptians and Sudanese before they are smuggled into Europe via illegal immigration. Libyan security forces were able to intercept a boat carrying illegal immigrants at sea north of the Banamba region, as they were on their way to Europe. In a related context, the Libyan authorities succeeded a few days ago in freeing nine Egyptians and Sudanese who had been kidnapped by human trafficking gangs in Tobruk. According to Libyan sources, the illegal immigrants were freed after being found detained inside a farm in the Al-Watar area, south of Tobruk, with assurances that they would be deported to their countries and handed over to the relevant authorities.





## **THE EUROPEAN UNION IS DISCUSSING PLANS TO ESTABLISH REMOVAL CENTERS FOR MIGRANTS**

The European Commission announced in a statement that the new proposal includes allowing member states to establish deportation centers outside the European Union for migrants who have been issued final decisions to return. The statement pointed out that current deportation rates do not exceed 20%, which calls for the establishment of a "modern and effective" legal framework that provides member states with the necessary tools to implement deportation operations, while ensuring full compliance with fundamental rights.



### **MIGRANTS IN MEXICO DEMAND TO RETURN HOME AS IMMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS ESCALATE UNDER TRUMP**

The International Organization for Migration reported that US President Donald Trump's crackdown on migrants has led to a significant increase in the number of migrants stranded in Mexico seeking to return to their home countries, after their destination was the United States. According to UN data, in January and February 2025, it received approximately 2,862 applications under its voluntary return assistance program, a more than three-fold increase compared to the same period in 2024.



### **IOM AND THE HUMANITARIAN ACTION PARTNERSHIP HAVE EXPANDED A HUMANITARIAN HUB IN CHAD, AIMING TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO APPROXIMATELY 220,000 PEOPLE**



This week, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP) completed the expansion and equipping of a humanitarian hub in Chad, providing support to some 220,000 people affected by the escalation of the civil war in Sudan.

### **VENEZUELA DECIDES TO RESUME RECEIVING FLIGHTS OF MIGRANTS DEPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES**

US diplomat Richard Grenell announced in a tweet on Thursday that the Venezuelan government has agreed to resume deportation flights for illegal immigrants to their country, after a significant halt in these flights that began last month. Grenell explained that flights will resume as of Friday, while the Venezuelan Ministry of Communications has not issued any official comment on these statements yet. Grenell visited the Venezuelan capital, Caracas, in late January as an envoy for US President Donald Trump, where he met with President Nicolás Maduro to discuss the deportation of migrants, among other issues. Following this visit, Venezuela released a group of detained Americans, and deportation flights gradually resumed.

