

THE NEWSCAST

DOZENS KILLED AND INJURED AFTER A BOAT CARRYING MORE THAN 150 PEOPLE SANK OFF THE YEMENI COAST

The International Organization for Migration announced that a boat overcrowded with migrants capsized off the coast of Yemen, killing 76 people and leaving 74 others missing, in one of the worst shipwrecks the region has witnessed this year. Yemeni security officials reported that 76 bodies were recovered and 32 people were rescued from the waters of the Gulf of Aden, as the ship was en route to Abyan Governorate in southern Yemen, on a smuggling route known for its danger and regularly used to transport migrants from the Horn of Africa to the Gulf states.



AS PART OF STRICT EUROPEAN MEASURES, A GREEK ISLAND BANS MIGRANTS FROM ENTERING ITS TERRITORY

Under a bright June sun, sailing near the island of Lesbos, 70-year-old Greek fisherman Thanos Marmarinos recalls an unforgettable night ten years ago, when he rescued migrant women and children whose rubber boat had been wrecked during a storm. On that stormy night, Marmarinos received a call in the middle of the night. He was initially reluctant to leave his bed; the wind was cold and harsh, and he had participated in a previous rescue mission that same evening, amid the wave of thousands of migrants arriving daily on rickety boats. Under a bright June sun, sailing near the island of Lesbos, 70-year-old Greek fisherman Thanos Marmarinos recalls an unforgettable night ten years ago, when he rescued migrant women and children whose rubber boat had been wrecked during a storm.



THE UNITED NATIONS CALLS FOR ENABLING SYRIAN REFUGEES TO CONDUCT EXPLORATORY VISITS. TO THEIR HOMELAND



The head of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Katharina Totte, called for enabling Syrian refugees to make short visits to their homeland to explore the possibilities of voluntary return.

THE ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER CALLS FOR NEW EUROPEAN LEGISLATION TO REGULATE IMMIGRATION



The European Court of Justice's ruling, issued on August 1, angered Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, as it gave judges in each member state the power to decide whether migrants can be deported to safe countries, even if a government law exists that lists such countries.

THE EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE UNDERMINES ITALY'S PLAN TO TRANSFER MIGRANTS TO ALBANIA

The European Court of Justice has ruled that EU countries are entitled to classify countries of origin as "safe countries" to expedite asylum procedures, provided that authorities disclose the sources of information used to make this classification. This came in the court's ruling issued on Friday (August 1, 2025) in a lawsuit filed by Italy. The court affirmed in a statement that the sources upon which this assessment is based must be sufficiently available to both the asylum seeker and the competent court, while emphasizing at the same time that a country classified as safe must guarantee comprehensive protection for all its citizens, including minorities.



THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE LEGAL PROTECTION FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AND FORCED EXPLOITATION

On the occasion of the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, the International Organization for Migration warned of one of the most overlooked forms of trafficking: forced criminality, calling for urgent and coordinated international action to address it. In a press release, the organization explained that organized criminal groups exploit vulnerable groups, including migrants, children, and youth, and force them to commit crimes through threats, violence, and deception.



POLAND EXTENDS SECURITY MEASURES ON ITS BORDER WITH GERMANY TO CURB IRREGULAR MIGRATION



Polish Interior Minister Marcin Kierwiński announced that his country has decided to extend border checks with Germany until October 4, in a move aimed at curbing the flow of irregular migrants. He noted that the decision was communicated to the European Commission on Friday.

MIGRANT BOAT SINKS OFF YEMEN, KILLING DOZENS

The International Organization for Migration announced that at least 68 people were killed when a boat carrying migrants sank off the coast of Yemen, while dozens are still missing. "The number of confirmed victims has reached 68 people so far, while only 12 of the 157 people on board the boat have been rescued, and the fate of the rest remains unknown, said Abdul Sattar Issaouif, head of the organization's mission in Yemen.



BRITAIN: NEW ANTI-IMMIGRATION PROTESTS INCLUDE CLASHES AND AN INCREASE IN HATE SPEECH

Several British cities witnessed intense tension over the past weekend due to anti-immigration demonstrations that in some places turned into violent clashes and arrests, reflecting the escalating social and political divisions over the immigration issue in the country. The most prominent clashes took place in Manchester and London, where the far-right Britain First" movement organized marches calling for what it called mass re-migration, referring to the deportation of immigrants from the United Kingdom, amid a heavy presence of anti-racism groups demonstrating in the opposite direction.



BRITAIN: UP TO FIVE YEARS IN PRISON FOR THOSE WHO PROMOTE FAKE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The British government unveiled a new bill on Saturday, August 2, as part of a plan to strengthen border security. It includes criminalizing advertisements that promote the illegal crossing of small boats or facilitate the violation of immigration laws. The bill would give authorities expanded powers to prosecute those who create or publish online content promoting services facilitating irregular immigration, such as selling fake passports or visas, or offering illegal employment opportunities within the United Kingdom.

TUNISIA: MORE THAN 5,000 MIGRANTS HAVE VOLUNTARILY RETURNED SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR



The International Organization for Migration (IOM) announced that it had voluntarily returned 5,336 migrants to their countries of origin from Tunisia between July 30, 2025, as part of its "voluntary return" program. These operations involved migrants from 25 countries, and were carried out via 12 charter flights and 201 commercial flights.



TIGHTENING PROCEDURES: A NOTICEABLE DECLINE IN ASYLUM APPLICATIONS IN GERMANY

Germany recorded a significant drop in the number of asylum applications during the first seven months of 2025, with only about 70,000 initial asylum applications submitted between January and July, compared to more than 140,000 applications in the same period last year, according to the German newspaper Bild am Sonntag. Commenting on these figures, Federal Interior Minister Alexander Dobrindt confirmed the government's continued hardline immigration policy. He said, We are seeking to implement stricter measures at the EU's borders, speed up processing of applications, and intensify deportations. He added, We are waging a more intense battle against smuggling networks, because it is the state that decides who enters the country, not criminal gangs.

