



Regional mixed migration summary for May 2016 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Puntland, Somalia, Somaliland and Yemen.

Terminology: Throughout this report the term migrant/refugee is used to cover all those involved in the mixed migration flows (including asylum seekers, trafficked persons, smuggled economic migrants, refugees). If the caseload mentioned refers only to refugees or asylum seekers or trafficked persons it will be clearly stated.

Country	Events /trends /data /analysis
<p>Yemen</p>	<p><i>The conflict in Yemen entered its fourteenth month with escalation of shelling and fighting putting civilians at risk. As previously reported, due to the conflict, monitoring and data collection activities along the Red Sea and Arabian sea coasts continued to be affected, with a majority of monitoring exercises suspended. The data presented in this report on arrivals in Yemen is therefore not conclusive of the actual number of arrivals during this period.</i></p> <p>Yemeni peace talks continue: The cessation of hostilities agreement that was signed on 10th April continues to hold in large parts of Yemen. According to the UN Special Envoy on Yemen, the cessation holds in around 80-90% of the country. Nonetheless violence and armed clashes flared in select parts of the country, with violations to the cessation being reported through the launch of airstrikes, ballistic missiles and the use of other heavy weapons. The UN Secretary General has put pressure on the warring faction “to show flexibility and wisdom needed to reach agreement”.</p> <p>Internal displacement: The 9th report of the Task Force of Population Movement confirmed that at the end of May 2016, there were 2,818,072 individuals internally displaced within Yemen. Over 2 million IDPs continue to be displaced across 21 governorates, and nearly 800,000 IDPs have been tracked as having returned to or within 19 governorates.</p> <p>Continued arrivals from the Horn of Africa: A total of at least 9,835 migrants and asylum seekers (86% Ethiopians and 14% Somalis) (85% male, 15% female) arrived from the Horn of Africa to Yemen via the Red Sea, Arabian Sea and Gulf of Aden aboard 102 boats in May 2016. This represents a 12% decrease on arrivals recorded in April 2016.</p> <p>At least 1,509 (1,483 Ethiopians and 26 Somalis) migrants and asylum seekers were recorded to have arrived on the Red Sea coast of Yemen in May 2016, a 21% decrease on arrivals in April. The migrants arrived aboard 20 boats which departed from Obock, Djibouti landing in various towns in Ta’iz and Lahj governorates and in Al-Hodeida port. Due to the reduction of monitoring missions along Yemen’s coast, it is likely that actual number of arrivals from the Horn of Africa to Yemen was higher during the period.</p> <p>Some Somali migrants and refugees travelled through Hargeisa to Loya-Ade, before crossing into Djibouti with the support of brokers, who charged them USD 400 for the entire journey to Yemen. Others relied on a migrant who had taken the journey before to guide them through the mountains into Djibouti, paying USD 150 for the boat crossing to Yemen. Ethiopian migrants reported paying a fee of 8,000 Ethiopian Birr (approx. USD 365) for the journey from Ethiopia to Yemen, consistent with reports of higher than average fees quoted over the past two months.</p> <p>As in previous months, 98% of Ethiopian arrivals cited difficult living conditions, drought and limited work opportunities as the main reasons for their migration, with Somali nationals citing poverty, instability and a lack of work opportunities. 57% of Ethiopian economic migrants expressed their intention to proceed through Yemen and into Saudi Arabia, with the remaining 43% indicating that they would stay in Yemen. Typically a larger proportion, if not all, Ethiopian migrants indicate an intention to move onwards to Saudi Arabia. No particular reasons were given for the drop in intentions this month, but this may be attributed to an increased patrols by Saudi security forces on the border with Yemen.</p> <p>An additional 8,326 migrants and asylum seekers (84% Ethiopian, 16% Somali) arrived on Arabian Sea coasts of Yemen aboard 80 boats in April 2016, representing an 11% decrease on arrivals recorded in April.</p>

Migrant vulnerability: Migrants, asylum seekers and refugees arriving in Yemen on the Red Sea coasts in May continued to report witnessing or being victim to numerous violations along their journeys. New arrivals reported an increased security presence on the Ethiopia-Djibouti border, with some migrants being detained by Ethiopian border guards for two days and being extorted for money and valuables before being released. Migrants also reported being stopped by security personnel at checkpoints in Djibouti and paying bribes before they could pass. 24 Ethiopian migrants reported being intercepted by Afar tribal men who robbed them of their belongings and beat them. They further reported that 10 Ethiopian women were raped by Afari brokers and that about 40 Ethiopian females were abducted by Afari brokers in Obock and taken to the nearby mountain range. Nothing is known about what happened to the women. According to the new arrivals, there are a large number of migrants and refugees waiting in Obock to make the crossing to Yemen. A screening of Ethiopian migrants arriving in Yemen showed that 86% had been in Djibouti for up to a month, and a further 9% had been waiting in Djibouti between 1 month and 6 months before making the crossing.

Upon arrival in Yemen on the Red Sea coast, smuggling networks continued to abduct newly arriving migrants and refugees upon arrival. New arrivals reported the abduction of 27 migrants in Yemen.

Departures from Yemen: As of 31st May 2016, the number of people fleeing Yemen to the Horn of Africa (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan) had totalled 87,121 persons (35,562 in Djibouti, 32,405 in Somalia, 12,780 in Ethiopia, and 6,374 in Sudan). Yemenis and Somalis represent the largest proportion of people moving out of Yemen, accounting for 30% and 35% of movements respectively. Djibouti remained as the primary destination for Yemeni nationals, with 75% of those moving opting to travel to Djibouti.

N.B. The figures for Djibouti arrivals in May were not received in time to update this report. The figures represented therefore reflect arrivals at the end of April 2016.

The latest statistics and overview of the displacement situation arising out of the Yemen crisis can be found on the UNHCR data sharing and information [portal](#).

Djibouti

Departures to Yemen: Data from monitoring teams along the Red Sea coasts indicate that at least 1,509 (1,483 Ethiopians and 26 Somalis) migrants and asylum seekers departed from Obock and arrived in coastal towns in Yemen. This represents a 21% decrease on arrivals in April. Migrants reported paying between 8,000-10,000 Ethiopian Birr (approx. USD 365-455) for the journey from Ethiopia. New arrivals continued to report on the increased security presence on the Ethiopia-Djibouti border, with some migrants being detained by Ethiopian border guards for two days and being extorted for money and valuables before being released. Migrants also reported being stopped by security personnel at checkpoints in Djibouti and paying bribes before they could pass. New arrivals consistently reported incidences of abuse along their journey from their places of origin, including the reported rape of 10 Ethiopian women by Afari brokers and the abduction of a further 40 Ethiopian females, who were taken from Obock by brokers into the nearby mountains.

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Arrivals from Yemen: As of 30th April 2016, a total of 35,562 persons had arrived in Djibouti from Yemen since the outbreak of the conflict in March 2015. Djibouti is the primary destination for Yemeni nationals who account for 55% of the arrivals so far. Third Country Nationals make up 38% and Djiboutian returnees account for 6%.

Refugee arrivals from Yemen: As of 25th May 2016, there were 6,273 refugees registered in Djibouti, including 6,020 Yemeni nationals. According to UNHCR, although boats from Yemen continue to arrive in Djibouti only a small number of Yemenis seek asylum, rather preferring to use Djibouti as a transit country to onwards destinations. UNHCR records show that as of 17th May, 899 refugees had spontaneously returned home from Obock (Markazi camp and Obock town). There appears to be a downward trend in return movements, with 604 returns recorded in February and March, 242 in April and 53 in May. No reason is given for the apparent fall in figures.

<p>Somaliland</p>	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 31st May 2016, a total of 10,183 migrants/refugees/returnees (78% Somali, 20% Yemeni) had arrived in Somaliland since the outbreak of conflict in Yemen in March 2015. New arrivals docked in the towns of Berbera, Hargeisa, Lughaya, Maydh and Zeila. 153 persons arrived during May, a 66% increase on arrivals recorded in April.</p> <p>Returning refugees and asylum seekers in Somaliland: Of the 7,965 Somalis that have arrived in Somaliland since the beginning of the conflict 43% (3,413) had previously acquired refugee status or sought asylum in Yemen.</p>
<p>Puntland</p>	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 31st May 2016, a total of 21,855 migrants/refugees/returnees (90% Somali, 9% Yemeni) had arrived in Puntland since the beginning of the Yemen conflict. Arrivals have been recorded in the towns of Alula, Bargal, Bosasso, Elayo and Qandala. 177 persons arrived May, a 4% reduction on arrivals recorded in April.</p> <p>Returning refugees and asylum seekers in Puntland: Of the 19,715 Somalis that have returned from Yemen to Puntland since the conflict, 6,590 (33%) people had previously acquired refugee status or sought asylum in Yemen.</p>
<p>Somalia (South Central)</p>	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: No new arrivals from Yemen were registered in South Central Somalia in the reporting period. The number of persons having fled from Yemen directly to South Central Somalia remains at 367. However, consistent with data from previous months, a significant number (52%) of those arriving in Somaliland and Puntland indicate an intention to return to Mogadishu specifically.</p> <p>Internal Displacement: There are approximately 1.1 million internally displaced persons across the whole of Somalia (Somaliland, Puntland and South Central Somalia).</p> <p>Refugees in the neighbouring countries: According to UNHCR figures, there are currently 976,630 registered Somali refugees and asylum seekers displaced in neighbouring countries in the region. The majority of the refugees are hosted in Kenya (43%), Ethiopia (26%) and Yemen (26%).</p> <p>Somali arrivals in Europe: As of 31st May 2016, Somali nationals made up 8% of arrivals along the Central Mediterranean route to Europe in 2016. 3,450 Somalis have arrived in Europe using this route since the beginning of 2016, a 31% reduction when compared to the same period in 2015. Arrivals in May (921) were a slight reduction on arrivals recorded in April (1,025).</p>
<p>South Sudan</p>	<p>Regional displacement: As of 31st May 2016 a total of 720,999 South Sudanese asylum seekers and refugees had sought refuge in neighbouring countries in the region since the start of the conflict in December 2013. The majority of those displaced are hosted in Sudan (231,652), followed by Ethiopia (230,134), Uganda (201,937), and Kenya (57,276). An additional 123,228 who were displaced before the December 2013 conflict are also hosted in the region.</p> <p>Internal Displacement: As of 30th May 2016, there were approximately 1.7 million persons internally displaced in South Sudan.</p> <p>Refugees in South Sudan: South Sudan continues to host refugees from neighbouring countries. As of 30th May 2016, there were 266,916 registered refugees and asylum seekers in the country.</p>
<p>Sudan</p>	<p>Internal Displacement: UNHCR figures estimate that there are 3.2 million internally displaced persons in the country as of the end of May 2016. Almost 2.7 million of those internally displaced are in North Darfur. Fighting between government forces and armed movements and inter-tribal tensions and conflict in the Darfur region continue to cause mass displacement.</p>

Refugees in Sudan: As of 31st May 2016, there were 363,398 refugees and asylum seekers in the country. Refugees from South Sudan form the largest group (64%), followed by those from Eritrea (28%), and other nationalities (8%).

Migrants arrested in Red Sea crossing between Sudan and Saudi Arabia: In what appears to be the indication of a new migrant smuggling route into Saudi Arabia from Sudan, border officials in both countries foiled separate attempts by migrants to sail from Sudan to Saudi Arabia via the Red Sea. In one [media report](#), a total group of 122 migrants (109 Sudanese, 11 Nigerians, 1 Ethiopian and 1 Chadian) including women and children, were apprehended by border guards in four separate attempts to access the Gulf state. In [another report](#), Sudanese intelligence operations uncovered a plot to smuggle a boat of 22 people along the same route. The migrants were captured and detained before they could board the boat across the Sea. The migrants, whose nationalities were not disclosed, reportedly paid between 2,000-9,000 Sudanese Pounds (approx. USD 150-450) to make the crossing. The group have been handed over to the police for legal action to be taken against them.

Sudan deports hundreds of Eritrean refugees: According to a recent report by [Human Rights Watch](#), the Sudanese government deported at least 442 Eritrean nationals, including six registered refugees, back to Eritrea in a series of expulsions in May 2016. The deportations were allegedly conducted before the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees could access and identify those wishing to claim asylum, in [possible contravention with international law](#). A further 64 Ethiopians, none of whom were registered refugees, were also reportedly arrested and detained.

In 2014, Sudan reportedly deported at least 104 Eritreans in a similar fashion, drawing [condemnation](#) from UNHCR. A 2015 [United Nations report](#) revealed systemic and widespread gross human rights violations perpetrated by the Eritrean government against its nationals, contributing to the exodus of approximately 5,000 Eritreans per month from the country.

Controversial EU plans to work with Sudan: In May 2016, online publication [Spiegel Online](#) leaked an alleged plan by the EU to work closely with the Sudanese government in a bid to stem migration flows from sub-Saharan Africa towards Europe. According to previously released [project documents](#), support to Sudan could include, equipment, improved border infrastructure (including the provision of cameras, scanners and cars) and the construction of two reception centres with custody rooms. The EU also assumed the risk that the provision of equipment to “sensitive national authorities (such as security services or border management)” may be “diverted for repressive aims”.

The plans were met with [heavy criticism](#) from rights campaigners and left-wing European politicians, who determined that the assistance would make the EU complicit with regimes responsible for the denial of fundamental rights. The EU has denied the allegations, stating that: “There are also no plans at this stage to provide equipment to the Sudanese government. Any decision to provide civilian equipment will be taken on the basis of a forthcoming appraisal mission to Sudan from the EU and the consortium of EU member states”.

Arrivals from Yemen: As of 31st May 2016, a total of 6,374 persons had arrived into Sudan from Yemen since the outbreak of conflict in March 2015. The largest number of arrivals are returning Sudanese nationals (3,800). Yemeni arrivals number 1,230 persons.

Sudanese nationals crossing into Europe: As of 31st May 2016, Sudanese nationals made up 6% of arrivals along the Central Mediterranean route to Europe. 2,653 have arrived in Europe using this route since the beginning of 2016, a 19% increase on arrivals recorded in the same period in 2015. Sudanese arrivals in May (1,148) saw a 54% increase on figures in April (744). This is in line with the general increase of arrivals noted along the Central Mediterranean route (see below on Mediterranean sea arrivals), and could be attributed in part to better weather conditions.

Eritrea

Eritrea accused of crimes against humanity: A [new report](#) by the UN Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in Eritrea alleges that crimes against humanity have been committed in a systematic manner in Eritrean detention facilities, military training camps and other locations, over the past 25 years. According to the Commission, crimes of enslavement, imprisonment, enforced disappearances, torture, persecution, rape, murder and other inhuman acts “have been conducted as part of a campaign to instil fear in, deter opposition from, and ultimately to control the Eritrean civilian population” since 1991. Moreover, the report suggests that the “façade of calm and normality that is apparent to the occasional visitor to the country, and other confined to sections of the capital” belies the

gross human rights violations, which “are not committed on the streets of Asmara, but rather behind the walls of detention facilities and in military training camps”. The patterns of conduct, based on the testimonies and written submissions by Eritrean nationals in countries all over the globe, are said to show responsibility for crimes against humanity perpetrated at the “highest levels of State”.

The Commission of Inquiry was established by the UN’s Human Rights Council in June 2014, and published its [first report](#) in June 2015, documenting systematic and widespread human rights violations. The newest report identifies that there has been no improvement in the human rights situation identified in 2015. The Commission of Inquiry is scheduled to present its newest report to the Human Rights Council on 21 June 2016.

Eritrea blames international conspiracy for exodus: The Eritrean government has blamed the exodus of tens of thousands of its citizens on an international conspiracy to tarnish the image of the country. Speaking at a recent ministerial conference on migration in Rome, Foreign Minister Osman Saleh denied that the rights violations were the force behind increased numbers of Eritrean departures, [instead stating](#): “the youth has been the main target of the migratory conspiracy and protracted psychological warfare to lure them away from the national defence and development responsibilities by attracting them to a promising heavenly life”. An estimated 5,000 Eritreans are believed to flee the country on a monthly basis.

Suspected human smuggling kingpin extradited to Italy: An Eritrean national suspected to be at the centre of human smuggling operations from Africa to Europe was extradited to Italy. The man, believed to be Mered Medhanie and also known as ‘The General’, was arrested in Sudan and flown to Italy on 7th June 2016. Intelligence operatives believe that Mr. Medhanie arranged the transit of a boat that sank near Lampedusa, Italy in October 2013, claiming at least 359 lives.

Shortly after news of the extradition broke, [reports emerged](#) that the man in police custody may not be the suspected smuggler. The arrested man was named by friends as Mered Tesfamariam and a woman in Norway identifying herself as his sister insisting that her brother was “completely innocent”. A statement by the UK’s National Crime Agency said that it was “too soon to speculate” about the claims, and that the NCA “is confident in its intelligence gathering process”. According to the BBC, the Italian police believe that they have the right person.

Eritrean arrivals in Europe: As 31st May 2016, 6,076 Eritrean nationals had arrived in Europe using the Central Mediterranean route into Europe since the beginning of 2016, compared to 5,612 during the same period in 2015; a 31% increase. As with figures last month, there was a significant spike in Eritrean arrivals recorded in May when compared to April 2016. 3,784 Eritreans arrived in May, representing a 144% increase on the 1,587 arrivals recorded in April. This climb has had an impact in Eritrea’s ranking on the overall arrivals from Africa on this route. Eritreans now make up 15% of arrivals, making the country the top nationality arriving in Italy. This is a significant climb from the low levels witnessed at the beginning of the year, when Eritreans only made up 2% of those moving on this route. This is in line with the trend of movement in 2015, which will result in a sustained pace of Eritrean nationals arriving in Italy in the coming months if the trend continues. It is also in line with the general increase of arrivals noted along the Central Mediterranean route (see below on Mediterranean sea arrivals), and could be attributed in part to better weather conditions.



Ethiopia	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 31st May 2016, there were a total of 12,780 arrivals into Ethiopia from Yemen since the outbreak of violence in March 2015. The majority (69%) of those arriving are returning Ethiopian nationals, with Yemeni nationals accounting for 10% of arrivals. Ethiopia grants prima facie refugee status to Yemenis and also recognises Somali refugees who received refugee recognition in Yemen as prima facie refugees in Ethiopia. Other nationalities undergo individual Refugee Status Determination.</p> <p>Refugees in Ethiopia: As of 31st May 2016, there were 737,979 refugees and asylum seekers registered in Ethiopia. The majority of refugees are from South Sudan (285,657) Somalia (251,537) and Eritrea (155,862). Refugees and asylum seekers are generally expected to reside in camps, although a number are permitted to reside in urban areas for medical, security or humanitarian reasons. Eritrean refugees who are able to show that they can sustain themselves are allowed to reside out of the camps in an “out-of-camp” policy.</p> <p>Malawi arrests 119 Ethiopian migrants: According to a media report, 119 Ethiopians are currently being detained in Malawi for illegal entry into the country and travelling without documents. Reportedly, the government does not have the finances required to deport the migrants back to Ethiopia and detains them to avoid them absconding. Figures from the Malawi Human Rights Commission suggest that Malawi arrested 702 irregular</p>
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	<p>migrants in 2014 and 707 in 2015. Malawi is a popular transit country for migrants from the Horn of Africa as they move south towards South Africa.</p> <p>Ethiopian unaccompanied minors returned home: IOM supported the repatriation of 14 unaccompanied child migrants from Zambia to return to Ethiopia. The children, aged between 12 and 17 years, were intercepted by police in Zambia while attempting to cross into South Africa and were detained for several months before being released. The children remained stranded in the country, unable to raise the money required to return home. The children are now in IOM's Transit Centre in Addis Ababa awaiting family tracing and reunification.</p> <p>Ethiopian arrivals in Europe: As of 31st May 2016, Ethiopian nationals continue to make up 2% of arrivals along the Central Mediterranean route to Europe. 1,012 have arrived in Europe using this route since the beginning of 2016. There were 322 arrivals recorded in May, an 18% reduction on arrivals in April.</p>
<p>Kenya</p>	<p>Refugees in Kenya: As of 31st May 2016, there were 600,442 registered refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya, including refugees from Somalia (413,209), South Sudan (103,237) and Ethiopia (30,643). Dadaab refugee complex hosts 343,043 refugees and Kakuma camp is home to 192,218 refugees. An additional 65,181 refugees reside in the capital city of Nairobi.</p> <p>Registration of Somali refugees in camp locations showed a significant drop in May 2016. Only 5 Somali refugees were registered in Dadaab refugee complex in May, a 93% decline from the average monthly registration figures, of 74 persons per month, between January and April this year. Similarly in Kakuma, only 8 Somali refugees were registered, a 68% decrease on the average monthly registration figures. In Nairobi however, 253 Somali refugees were registered in May, a 111% increase on monthly arrivals in the first four months of 2016.</p> <p>On May 6th, the Kenyan government made an announcement that it would no longer continue to host refugees in the country. It later confirmed plans to shut down Dadaab refugee camp and disband the Department of Refugee Affairs, which is responsible for the registration of refugees in the country. The sudden decline in registration figures is a reflection of this directive. Speaking at the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Deputy President William Ruto said that Kenya was now aiming to expel refugees within six months, and not the one-year period earlier stated. The taskforce established by the government to inform, among other things, modalities, timelines and cost of repatriation has yet to make its report public.</p> <p>Voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees: As of 31st May 2016, 8,131 Somali refugees had been supported to return to Somalia since the beginning of the year, 428 of whom returned in May, a 66% reduction of repatriations in April. Repatriation movements had stalled in May in the wake of the government's disbandment of the Department of Refugee Affairs. The powers previously conferred in the Department of Refugee Affairs to provide travel permits to Somali refugees wishing to return was transferred to the region's District Commissioner, allowing for the resumption of repatriation movements going forward. 14,226 Somalis have repatriated to Somalia since 2014.</p>
<p>Other regional news and news from other regions</p>	<p>Increasing number of departures to Europe from Egypt: An increasing number of reports on departures from Egyptian shores appear to confirm earlier concerns that smuggling networks have revived a smuggling route from Egypt to Europe. A recent report highlighted a growing number of Eritrean nationals in Cairo hoping to depart to Europe from the Egyptian coast, but also a sizeable number of Somalis, Sudanese and Ethiopians. It appears that the migrants and refugees are using Egypt to circumvent the insecurity in Libya, and the recent round-ups and deportations in Khartoum, Sudan. According to IOM, more than 1,900 irregular migrants arrived in Italy from Egypt between January and mid-April 2016, more than double the 665 arrivals recorded in the same period in 2015.</p> <p>The route from Egypt to Europe is also increasingly frequented by Egyptian nationals. As at 31st May 2016, Egyptians made up 4% of arrivals to Italy. April witnessed a huge spike in Egyptian arrival figures, which was sustained in May. April arrivals (876) represented a 1891% increase on the 44 arrivals in March. 859 Egyptians arrived in May. According to a local media report, 19 Egyptian nationals were arrested as they attempted to make an irregular boat crossing from Alexandria in Egypt to Italy. The group, consisting of men, women and children, said that they were convinced by smugglers to pay 30,000 Egyptian Pounds per person (approximately USD 3400) for the journey to Italy.</p> <p>The distance between Egypt to Italy is much longer than that from Libya, increasing the risk of the vessels</p>

transporting migrants and refugees capsizing. On 3rd June 2016, [a boat with approximately 700 people overturned](#) in the Mediterranean Sea, 75 nautical miles south of the Greek island of Crete.

Libya rules out a readmission agreement with EU: In a [recent media report](#) the prime minister of Libya's UN-backed unity government has ruled out any possibility of framing a readmission agreement between Libya and the European Union that would see the return of migrants and failed asylum seekers from the continent back to the north African nation. Mr. al-Sarraj told press that: "Europe needs to find ways to take them back to their home countries. They cannot live with us." According to the report, the European Commission is set to argue that the disruption of the migration route from Turkey to Greece should inspire cooperation with other countries" But according to the Libyan Prime Minister: "The situation of migrants coming to us from the south is totally different from the case in Turkey. These cannot be compared".

Eritreans, Ethiopians and Sudanese among 28 irregular migrants arrested in the UK: 11 Eritreans, 10 Sudanese and 7 Ethiopians were reportedly found hiding in the back of a refrigerated lorry in the UK were arrested by British police. The group was detained by the Border Force on suspicion of being in the UK illegally, whose asylum claims are being assessed by officials.

Europe announces New Migration Partnership Framework: On 7th June 2016, the European Commission announced a [new policy framework](#) that aims to reinforce cooperation with third countries to better manage migration. The Partnership Framework "will seek tailor made partnerships with key third countries of origin and transit using all policies and instruments at the EU's disposal to achieve concrete results", through a "mix of positive and negative incentives". On the positive side, the EU offers an opening up of legal routes for migration to Europe and a UN-led global resettlement scheme to contribute to the fair sharing of displaced persons; and a series of financial instruments to offer short and long-term solutions to deliver immediate results but also address the drivers of migration, including an additional EUR 1 billion for the EU Trust Fund for Africa and a proposition for a EUR 3.1 billion package to boost investment in developing countries through an External Investment Plan.

A critical report by the [European Court of Auditors](#) on the allocation of European aid to migration released in March 2016, found that the EU is struggling to draw a clear link between the causes and the effects of migration and that the limiting effects on migratory movement to Europe have been hard to see. The report, which focussed on the EU's migration spending in the Southern Mediterranean and Eastern neighbourhood countries until 2014, found that most of the EU's spending was concentrated on prevention or detection of irregular immigration (including border control), to the detriment of other objectives, such as developing the link between migration and development, organising effective management migration, or the development needs of the countries of origin and migrants' rights.

Moreover, the report criticised the EU's resource allocation strategy, which it concluded spread resources "too thinly to have a critical mass sufficient to produce significant results in the countries concerned" and "limited the EU's ability to ensure that its intervention produced a genuine incentive effect in non-EU countries or to develop effective cooperation with them on migration concerns".

The new Partnership Framework warns that there will be "consequences for those [countries] who refuse". Conventional migration theory however contends that increased human development will lead to [more, not less mobility](#). Speaking in 2015, the UN's Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, [François Crépeau](#) stated that "more development means more migration. Because all those people that have for a long time been wanting to leave, but could not afford to do so, and now leave their country".

NATO agrees to bigger Mediterranean operation: The NATO alliance of states has agreed to broaden its operations in the Mediterranean Sea to support the European Union to stop the smuggling of migrants and refugees into Europe. Both the EU and NATO say that if requested by the new UN backed government in Libya, they could operate closer to Libyan shores to help deter smuggling networks. The EU's Operation Sophia mission currently has authority to intercept, board, search, seize and divert vessels suspected of being used for smuggling and trafficking operations in international waters between Libya and Europe. However, a recent report by the UK's [House of Lords EU Committee](#), found that Operation Sophia does not "in any meaningful way" disrupt smuggler operations and that there is "little prospect of Operation Sophia overturning the business model of people smuggling".

EU Court rules no to jail for irregular migrants: A [ruling](#) by Europe's highest court has found that non-EU migrants irregularly entering Europe's Schengen zone should not face detention on those grounds. The ruling by the European Court of Justice was triggered by the case of a Ghanaian migrant who was found to be using falsified

travel documents and placed into custody on illegal entry into French territory. The migrant argued that her detention was unlawful in light of the EU's Return Directive, which directs that an irregular migrant has up to 30 days to leave voluntarily, during which they cannot be imprisoned. The ruling did however include 2 caveats: 1) that migrants may be detained for up to 18 months if there is an associated flight risk; 2) detention is permitted if a person is subject to a deportation order and have refused to go, or if they have already been deported and have attempted to re-enter the country again.

EU-Turkey deal barely off the blocks: The contentious ['one-in-one-out' deal](#) signed between the EU and Turkey in March 2016 to stem the flow of refugees and migrants from entering the EU is yet to make a significant impact. Reportedly [fewer than 500 people](#) have been sent back to Turkey since the agreement was made, and [less than 200 Syrians](#) have been resettled in Europe, with a further 732 awaiting transfer to EU countries under the scheme.

Observers of the deal note that it may be at risk of unravelling completely, as [Turkey refuses to change its anti-terror laws](#) to meet a key EU demand on visa liberalisation. The EU says that Turkey must narrow its definition of terrorist crimes, which it argues are currently being used to prosecute intellectuals, Kurdish sympathisers and critics of the government, including journalists and academics. [Reportedly](#), both EU and Turkish officials have said that visa-free travel for Turkish nationals is unlikely to be in place before the autumn at the earliest.



Source: UNHCR

Mediterranean Sea arrivals: As of 31st May 2016, 205,985 refugees and migrants had arrived in Europe by sea since the beginning of the year, a 122% increase on arrivals recorded for the same period in 2015. 21,605 people arrived in May 2016, a 45% reduction on arrival figures in 2015. Arrival figures in May, bucked the month-on-month decline in arrival figures witnessed since January 2016, and climbed for the first time, representing a 63% increase on arrivals in April.

Arrivals along the Eastern Mediterranean route from Turkey to Greece were particularly affected, with only 1,465 arrivals being recorded in May 2016, a 60% reduction on arrivals in April 2016, and a significant 90% reduction on arrivals in May 2015. The drop in figures gives credence to the EU-Turkey migration deal, which appears to have disrupted the migration flows of refugee and migrant arrivals into the continent along this route. UNHCR recently [cut its projections](#) of migrant and refugee arrivals via the Eastern Mediterranean to 248,000, down from the "up to 1 million" it foresaw at the beginning of the year.

Arrivals along the Central Mediterranean route towards Italy in May 2016 however, saw a significant 54% increase on April arrivals, possibly related to better weather conditions at sea. The increase was particularly noted among arrivals from the Horn of Africa (Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia and Sudan) which reflected a 67% increase on April figures. 6,265 migrants and refugees from the Horn arrived in May, compared to 3,747 in April. Arrivals from the Horn of Africa account for 28% of all arrivals along this route between January and May 2016. Overall, arrivals along the Central Mediterranean route increased by 118% in May when compared to April.

According to [media reports](#), 29 migrants (nationalities unknown) including women and children, were picked up by Greek rescuers 27 kilometres away from the Greek island of Lefkada. The group departed from Greece as they attempted to sail westwards towards Italy. It is too early to tell whether this rescue points towards the emergence of an alternative route for migrants blocked from entering the EU via Greece.

Deaths at sea: May 2016 was one of the deadliest months on record for deaths at sea since records began in 2014. According to [IOM's Missing Migrants Project](#) 1,241 migrants and refugees died at sea in May 2016, 92% of whom lost their lives in the Central Mediterranean Sea crossing from Africa to Italy. May's figure is the highest monthly figure since April 2015, and the second highest figure since January 2014. [Search and rescue operations](#) off the Libyan shore saved approximately 3,600 lives between 22 and 28 May alone. The number of deaths in the Mediterranean between January and May 2016 total 2,516 persons, a 38% increase of incidents reported during the same period in 2015.

Burundi refugees in neighbouring countries: As of 13th June 2016, there were 266,267 Burundian refugees and asylum seekers in countries in the region since the outbreak of political violence in 2015. The majority of refugees

are located in Tanzania (140,448) and Rwanda (78,349).

**New
Research,
reports or
documents**

[Pushed and Pulled in Two Directions: An analysis of the bi-directional refugee and migrant flow between the Horn of Africa and Yemen:](#) In the first of its series, showcasing key issues in mixed migration and highlighting new research and emerging trends, this RMMS paper examines the situation of the bi-directional movements between Yemen and the Horn of Africa and describes recent trends and developments in these flows. More specifically it explores: the situation of Yemeni refugees in Djibouti and their intentions, IDPs in Yemen, the influx of returning Somalis, and the ongoing migration flow of Ethiopians to Yemen.

[Out of Sight, Out of Mind: Why South Sudanese refugees are not joining flows to Europe:](#) One reason the South Sudan displacement crisis tends to be forgotten is that not many refugees from South Sudan are part of the mixed migration flows heading to Europe. This RMMS article explores the various reasons why the South Sudanese are not engaged in these flows to Europe.

[Alternatives to Europe: Syrian Refugees in Brazil:](#) This new feature article by the Danish Refugee Council's Mixed Migration Programme in the Middle East and North Africa region considers the Brazilian government's decision to introduce special humanitarian visas for Syrian nationals as an alternative model to asylum protection in Europe.

[Fatal Journeys Volume 2: Identification and tracing of dead and missing migrants:](#) In the second volume of its Fatal Journeys series, IOM provides an in-depth analysis of available data on migrant deaths in 2015 and examines the challenges faced by families and authorities in identifying and tracing missing migrants. It further compares practices in different parts of the world and identifies innovative measures that could be replicated in other locations.

[Danger Every Step of the Way: A harrowing journey to Europe for refugee and migrant children:](#) This report by UNICEF documents the risks that adolescents take in their flight to escape conflict, despair and poverty. It reveals that more than nine out of 10 refugee and migrant children arriving in Europe this year through Italy were unaccompanied and that they faced a range of abuses along their journeys, including detention, rape, forced labour, beatings and death.

This information sheet is distributed to over 1,200 agencies, academic institutions, donors, embassies, journalists, government officials / departments, international and multi-national organisations and related non-government organisations. Sources: Data is sourced from a wide variety of collaborators, partners, international and local organisations, media outlets and individuals in the region. The key refugee agency – UNHCR – and migration agency – IOM – are frequently the origin of specific refugee or migrant return-related data. RMMS is a unit/project within the Danish Refugee Council and also uses data and information generated by DRC activities. RMMS makes its own independent editorial decisions as to what sections and what data is included in this monthly update.