

Weekly Report



Key Figures

Mediterranean

289,374

arrivals by sea in 2016*

3,173

dead/missing in 2016*

Trends of Sea Arrivals

Between 29 August and 04 September, 1,052 refugees and migrants crossed the sea to Greece (average of 150 daily), almost double the 521 that crossed the previous week. There was a total of 3,437 arrivals during August, the highest number of arrivals since April 2016 (3,650). During the first eight months of 2016, 163,734 persons have arrived to Greece by sea, in comparison to 237,946 in the same period in 2015. As of 04 September, the main countries of origin of those who arrived in Greece remain the Syrian Arab Republic (48%), Afghanistan (25%) and Iraq (15%); children comprised 38% of arrivals with men making up 41% and women 21%.

Between 29 August and 04 September, 16,673 refugees and migrants arrived to Italy - a significant increase from the 1,955 that arrived the previous week. Although there was a significant increase in arrivals last week, overall sea arrivals in 2016 remain in line with 2014 and 2015 trends. Up until 31 August, 115,084 persons crossed the sea to Italy in 2016 – remaining on par with arrival figures for the same period in 2015 by which time 116,149 had reached Italy. The top countries of origin among arrivals include Nigeria, Eritrea, Gambia, and Sudan.

Key Developments

Situation in Greece

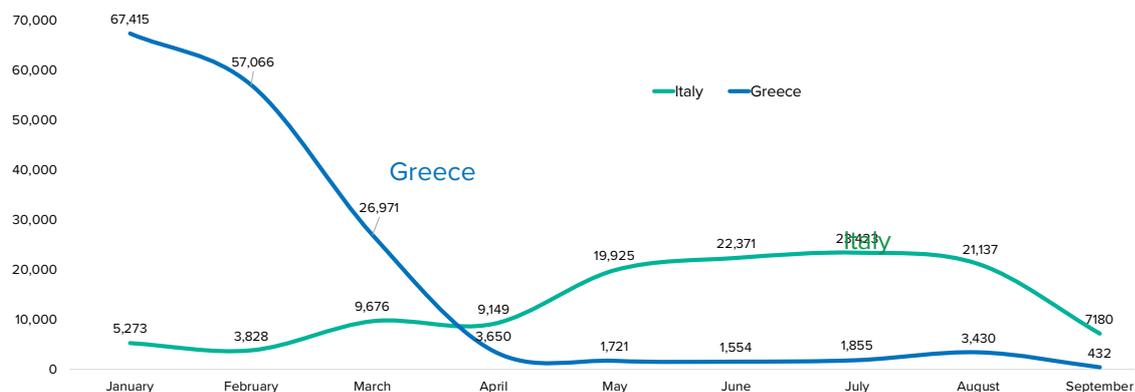
Reception and Identification Centres (RICs) continue to face serious challenges with capacity and shelter allocation for new arrivals. The maximum capacity on the five islands remains 7,450 while the total presence on the islands was 12,429 as of 04 September. On Lesbos, UNHCR, Solidarity Now, and Iliaktida are in the process of identifying and opening more alternative shelters for individuals, particularly unaccompanied and separated children. UNHCR is working on the strengthening of the

shelter allocation throughout the sites, including Moria, in order to prevent protection incidents and ensure dignified accommodation for those with specific needs. On Chios, where all sites have surpassed their official capacity, UNHCR continues to advocate for the identification of more space where tents and rub halls can be erected as an emergency measure. Should the rate of arrivals to the islands continue, there is concern that refugees and migrants will resort to camping outside of designated sites.

On 01 September, demonstrations and protests were carried out by volunteers, asylum-seekers and refugees in several sites throughout the mainland and on the islands. On Chios, protesters demanded that asylum procedures be expedited and requested permission to leave the island. There were no reports of injuries and the situation was de-escalated by the police who agreed to meet with those protesting to discuss their concerns. Similarly, in Softex and Cherso sites in Northern Greece, and in the centre of Thessaloniki, demonstrators were also requesting the acceleration of asylum procedures and improvements in living conditions at all sites. UNHCR continues to advocate and offer support to the Greek government to address these concerns and improve reception capacity. On 31 August, UNHCR held the first inter-agency meeting on protection in urban areas at the UNHCR office in Athens which was attended by local and international humanitarian partners. The aim of the meeting was to consolidate and reinforce joint efforts spanning protection, legal information, health, education, shelter, and distribution activities.

Following the pre-registration exercise which concluded on 25 July, the Greek Asylum Service has scheduled the first appointments in September for the full lodging

Average Arrivals to Greece and Italy per Month January to 04 September 2016



* data.unhcr.org/mediterranean as of 07 September 2016

Key Figures

Greece

1,052
Total Weekly
Arrivals to
Greek Islands
29 August - 04 September

29 August - 04 September

150
Daily Average
Arrivals to
Greek Islands
29 August - 04 September

29 August - 04 September

Italy

16,673
Total Weekly
Arrivals to Italy
29 August - 04 September

29 August - 04 September

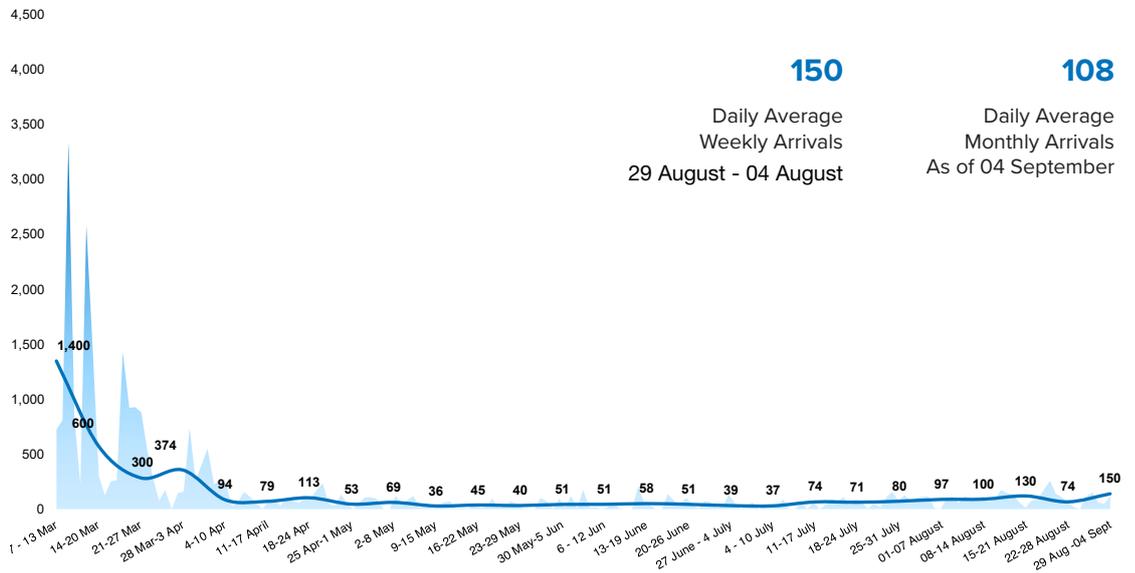
2,382
Daily Average
Arrivals to Italy
29 August - 04 September

29 August - 04 September

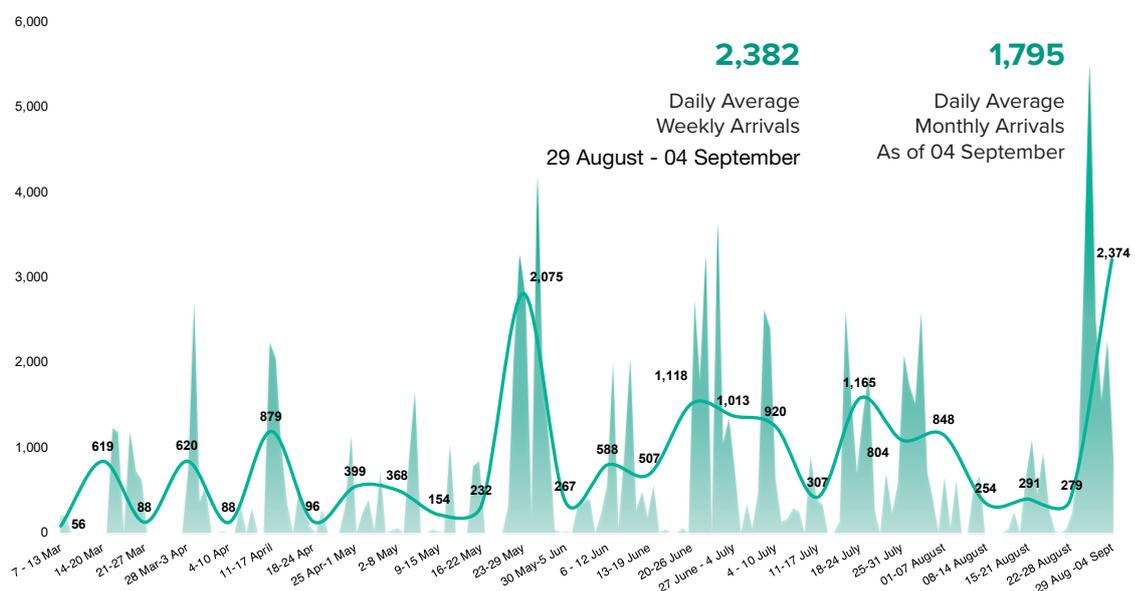
of asylum claims throughout the mainland for pre-registered asylum-seekers. UNHCR supported the Asylum Service by informing asylum-seekers about their appointments through various channels such as initiating an SMS-system, calling applicants directly in cooperation with the EASO call-team, posting announcements at various reception sites of the appointment schedules, and disseminating information through UNHCR field teams and partners on site. In addition to the appointment lists posted in sites, UNHCR has created and shared a FAQ document on the registration process for asylum-seekers in relevant languages. UNHCR has also provided

transportation for all applicants from the sites or apartment-based accommodation to their asylum interviews at the Regional Asylum Offices in Athens, Thessaloniki and Alexandroupoli. The same transport service has already been provided to relocation candidates since July 2016, as part of UNHCR's support to the EU programme. A total of 2,009 asylum-seekers have been provided with transportation to the Regional Asylum Office in Northern Greece in August 2016, including those pre-registered and previously registered relocation candidates. In Attica, UNHCR has also assisted asylum-seekers with the support of interpreters to escort, verify, and inform in-

Daily and Weekly Average Arrivals to Greece
07 March to 04 September 2016



Daily and Weekly Average Arrivals to Italy
07 March to 04 September 2016



dividuals of their appointments. UNHCR has addressed concerns of those who have not received appointment notifications yet by providing information and maintaining contact with the Asylum Office to facilitate any necessary corrections or clarifications.

Sea Arrivals to Italy

Multiple search and rescue (SAR) operations were reported to have taken place, notably on 29 August, where the rescue of approximately 6,500 persons by the Italian Coast Guard, Italian Navy, Frontex and NGO vessels was carried out. While arrival trends remain similar to those from 2015, the recent peak in sea arrivals has put a strain on the reception system. According to officials, the number of those accommodated in reception facilities in Italy was 147,722 as of 31 August. In line with arrivals, regional quotas are progressively under review by the Minister of Interior with the aim to increase the overall capacity and respond to reception needs.

UNHCR High Commissioner Visits Turkey

UNHCR's High Commissioner, [Filippo Grandi](#), visited [Turkey between 01 and 02 September](#) expressing UNHCR's commitment to bolstering support for Turkey's refugee assistance and protection system.

While in Ankara, the High Commissioner met with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Labour and Social Security among other high ranking officials. In his meeting with President Erdoğan, Grandi recognized Turkey for generously hosting three

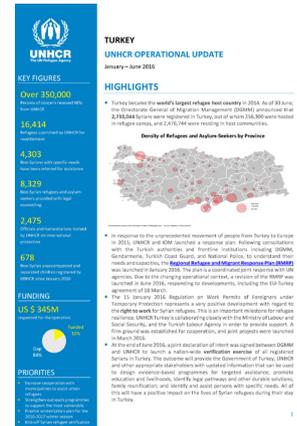
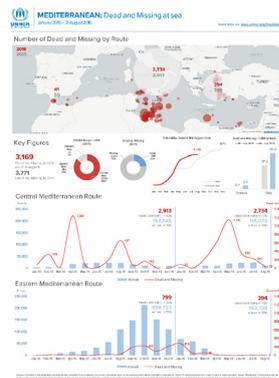
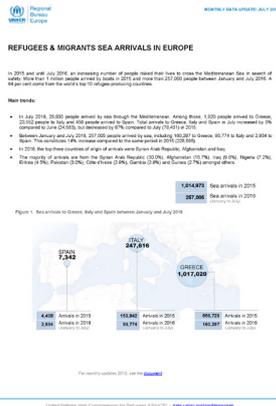
million refugees, including 2.7 million Syrians. At a news conference in Ankara, Grandi told reporters, "Turkey alone cannot shoulder this heavy responsibility, this should be shared internationally. It is not just a financial issue. It is a moral international responsibility." Grandi pledged to continue advocacy for more international support, including increased funding and resettlement.

During his meeting with Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, the High Commissioner signed a Host Country Agreement.

Situation in Serbia and at the Serbia-Hungary Border

The estimated number of refugees and migrants present in Serbia throughout last week was around 4,700 - a slight increase from the 4,400 the previous week. Of those present in the country, 84% are accommodated in governmental facilities, including 1,415 in five Asylum Centres and 2,571 in Refugee Aid Points (RAPs) or Reception Centres (RCs), while the remaining 16% were staying in Belgrade city centre or at sites at the Hungarian border. The number of asylum-seekers camping close to the Hungarian 'transit zones' dropped below 250, a quarter of the number present during the peak time in July 2016. Among those awaiting entry into Hungary, on average 42% were children, 39% men and 20% women. The majority were Afghans (57%) and Syrians (21%), followed by Iraqi (15%). UNHCR and partners continued providing protection assistance and monitoring, legal counselling on access to asylum in Serbia, and support for coordination amongst authorities and humanitarian agencies.

Key Documents from the Portal



Update on Relocation

From Italy, nine Eritrean nationals were relocated to Malta on 29 August and six Eritrean nationals were transferred to Romania on 02 September, bringing the total number of departures from Italy since the adoption of the relocation scheme to 1,026 -only 2.6% of the 39,600 target of those to be relocated by September 2017.

From Greece, there were 82 asylum-seekers relocated to Finland including 11 unaccompanied children during the reporting period. Thus far, a total of 3,493 (5.2%) asylum-seekers against the targeted 66,400, have been relocated from Greece to other EU countries since the beginning of the relocation programme in November 2015. Last week, 60 new pledges for Greece were announced by Slovenia (40) and Estonia (20), though the total number of pledges still remains low at 8,006, less than 13% of the entire 66,400 who are supposed to be relocated from Greece to other EU Member States and Switzerland by September 2017.

EU and related Developments

On 01 September, European Parliament (EP) President Martin Schulz and Commissioner for Home Affairs and Migration Dimitris Avramopoulos, visited Ankara, Turkey. Schulz reiterated "the EP's continued willingness to commit to the terms of the EU-Turkey Statement, including with regards to visa liberalization, on the condition that

the required benchmarks are fulfilled". Avramopoulos echoed Schulz' statement, noting his commitment to "continue strengthening the [EU-Turkey] partnership in all its aspects".

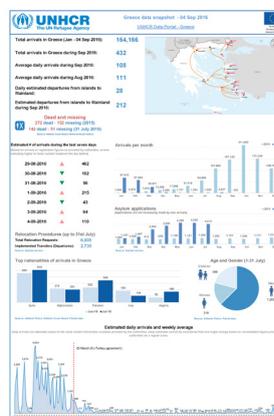
At the 02-03 September informal Foreign Affairs Council, EU foreign ministers exchanged views with the Turkish Foreign Minister about recent developments and future prospects for mutual relations. At the press conference following the meeting, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President Federica Mogherini announced that the discussions had enabled foreign ministers to agree that cooperation on all existing agreements between the EU and Turkey would be respected and that all initiated work would be continued. She referred in particular to the work started on "the management of refugee flows" and on visa liberalization.

Migration was one of the items on the agenda of the 04-05 September G20 Summit. In the Summit's communiqué, G20 members committed to addressing the root causes of migration and increasing refugee resettlement, especially in the run-up to the UN General Assembly and United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants in September.

Key Documents from the Portal

HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

- The number of new arrivals, registrations and requests for asylum rose to 1700, 186, and 100 respectively in Germany, Finland, including 1422 in the New Reception Centre and 220 in Bulgaria for the reporting period.
- Austria, UNHCR partners and other concerned members continued to encourage microvolunteers to assist in providing essential medical assistance to 1000 Syrian children in the reception centre. Consequently, 1000 Syrian children received medical assistance, 2000 in total, during the reporting period.
- UNHCR signed three bilateral memoranda of Understanding (MoU) in Belgium, with a capacity to receive 1000 Syrian refugees, with the support of the UNHCR Regional Commission for Europe and the UNHCR Regional Office for Europe. These MoUs have been concluded by the UNHCR Regional Office for Europe and the UNHCR Regional Office for Europe, with the support of the UNHCR Regional Office for Europe and the UNHCR Regional Office for Europe.
- 100 children remained in the reception centre in Germany, bringing the total to 1000 who had been placed in 1000 in July 2016. The Austrian Office of the reporting period has placed 1000 children in 1000 in July 2016. The Austrian Office of the reporting period has placed 1000 children in 1000 in July 2016.



WEEKLY ACCOMMODATION/RELOCATION UPDATE
September 5, 2016

SUMMARY STATISTICS

Total number of places:	11,244
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STATISTICS IN DETAILS

	Total number of places
Total number of places in accommodations	4,112
Total number of places in host families	376
Total number of places in hotels/hotels	3,114
Total number of places in relocation sites	1,190
Total number of places for unaccompanied children	452

TRENDS FROM APRIL TO AUGUST 2016 (TOTAL NUMBER OF PLACES)

Cumulative total number of beneficiaries :	12,290
Cumulative total number of beneficiaries transported from the islands and/or accommodated on the mainland:	1,652

Timeline Overview

● Highlights

