

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

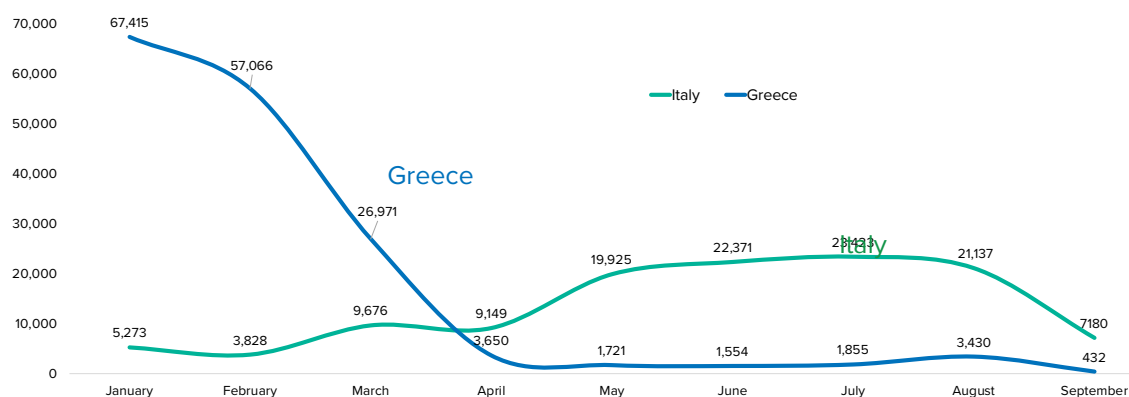
Reception and Identification Centres (RICs) continue to face serious challenges with capacity and shelter allocation for new arrivals. The maximum capacity on the five islands remains 7,450 while the total presence on the islands was 12,429 as of 04 September. On Lesbos, UNHCR, Solidarity Now, and Iliaktida 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

150

Daily Average
Arrivals to
Greek Islands

29 August - 04 September

Italy

16,673
Total Weekly
Arrivals to Italy

29 August - 04 September

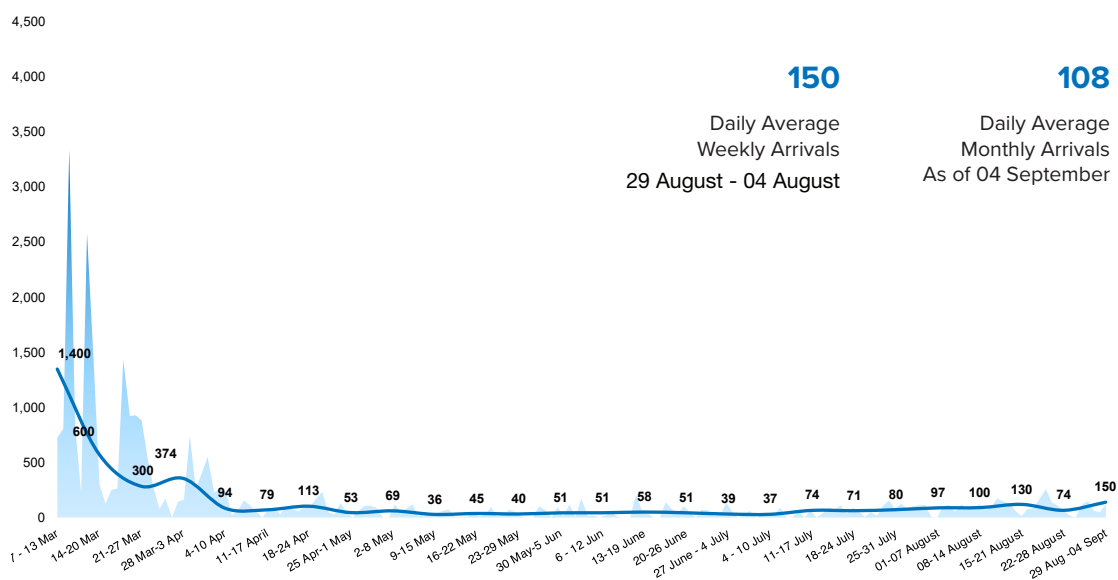
2,382
Daily Average
Arrivals to Italy

29 August - 04 September

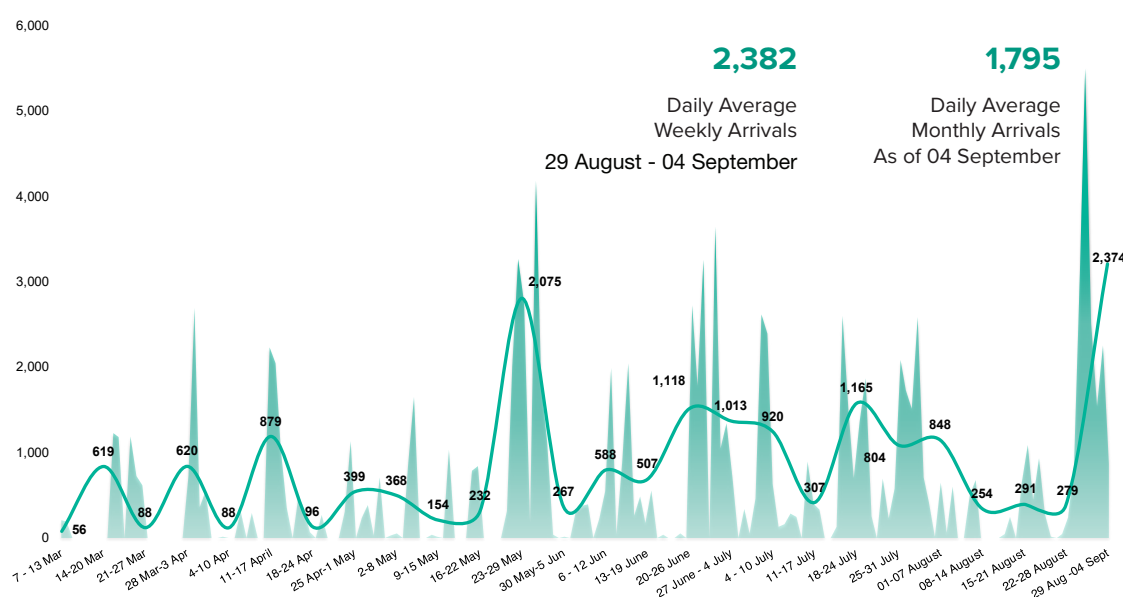
of asylum claims throughout the mainland for pre-registered asylum-seekers. UNHCR supported the Asylum Service by informing asylum-seekers about their appointments through various channels such as initiating an SMS-system, calling applicants directly in cooperation with the EASO call-team, posting announcements 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

REGIONAL BUREAU EUROPE
MONTHLY DATA UPDATE: JULY 2016

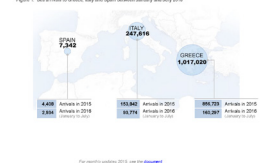
REFUGEES & MIGRANTS SEA ARRIVALS IN EUROPE

In 2015 and until July 2016, an increasing number of people started to cross the Mediterranean Sea in search of safety. More than 1 million people arrived by boat in 2015 and over 2.7 million people between January and July 2016, a 64 per cent increase from the world's top 10 refugee-producing countries.

- In July 2016, 10,000 people arrived in Italy through the Mediterranean. Another 8,000 people arrived in Greece, 6,000 people in Italy and 4,000 people arrived in Spain. Italy remains the main arrival point for refugees, followed by Greece and Spain.
- Between January and July 2016, 2,710,000 people arrived by sea, including 1,814,875 to Greece, 65,774 to Italy and 2,004 to Spain. This includes 1.9 million arrivals in the period of July 2015 to July 2016.
- In 2016, the top three countries of origin of arrivals were Syria (44%), Afghanistan (21%), Iraq (17%), followed by Iran (15%), Pakistan (14%), Libya (13%), Tunisia (12%) and Turkey (11%).

1,814,875 Sea arrivals in 2016
267,000 Sea arrivals in 2015

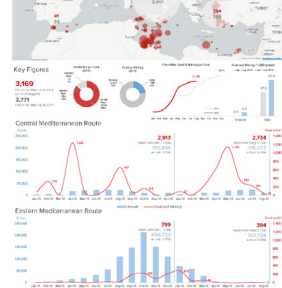
Figure 1: Sea arrivals to Greece, Italy and Spain between January and July 2016




REGIONAL BUREAU EUROPE
MONTHLY DATA UPDATE: JULY 2016

MEDITERRANEAN: Dead and Missing at sea

Number of Dead and Missing by Route





TURKEY
UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE
January - June 2016

KEY FIGURES

Over 250,000
Refugees and migrants in Turkey
2,710,000
Sea arrivals to Turkey in 2016
4,303
Refugees and migrants in Turkey
9,379
Refugees and migrants in Turkey
2,475
Refugees and migrants in Turkey
678
Refugees and migrants in Turkey

FUNDING

US \$ 345M
Funding for Turkey in 2016

PRIORITIES

Refugees and migrants in Turkey
Refugees and migrants in Turkey
Refugees and migrants in Turkey
Refugees and migrants in Turkey
Refugees and migrants in Turkey

HIGHLIGHTS

- Turkey became the world's largest refugee host country in 2016. As of 30 June, the estimated number of refugees and migrants in Turkey was 2,710,000. This includes 2,710,000 arrivals in Turkey, out of which 2,004 were from the top 10 refugee-producing countries.
- In response to the operational movement of people from Turkey to Greece in 2015, UNHCR and IOM launched a response plan. Following consultations with the Turkish authorities and partner organisations, including UNHCR, UNHCR and IOM launched a response plan. The plan is a coordinated joint response with UNHCR and IOM to support the Turkish authorities in providing support to refugees and migrants in Turkey. The plan is a coordinated joint response with UNHCR and IOM to support the Turkish authorities in providing support to refugees and migrants in Turkey.
- The UNHCR 2016 Response Plan for Turkey is a coordinated joint response with UNHCR and IOM to support the Turkish authorities in providing support to refugees and migrants in Turkey. The plan is a coordinated joint response with UNHCR and IOM to support the Turkish authorities in providing support to refugees and migrants in Turkey.
- UNHCR and IOM are working closely with the Turkish authorities and partner organisations to provide support to refugees and migrants in Turkey. The plan is a coordinated joint response with UNHCR and IOM to support the Turkish authorities in providing support to refugees and migrants in Turkey.

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

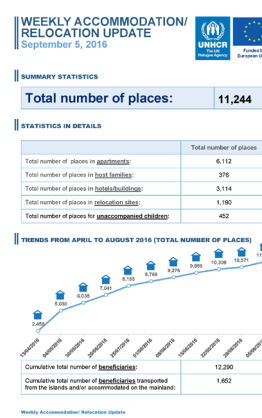
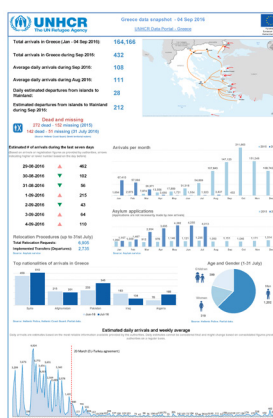
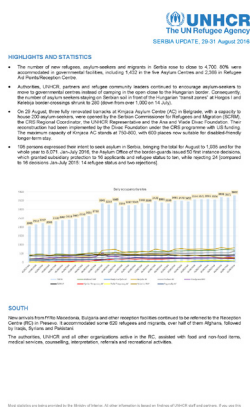
On 01 September, European Parliament (EP) President Martin Schulz and Commissioner for Home Affairs and Migration Dimitris Avramopoulos, visited Ankara, Turkey. [Schulz](#) reiterated “the EP’s continued willingness to commit to the terms of the EU-Turkey Statement, including with regards to visa liberalization,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



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Timeline Overview

Highlights

