⊃M **Media Briefing**

THE [MIGRATION] NEWSDESK

Latest Press Briefing Notes from the International Organization for Migration presented twice weekly at the UN in Geneva

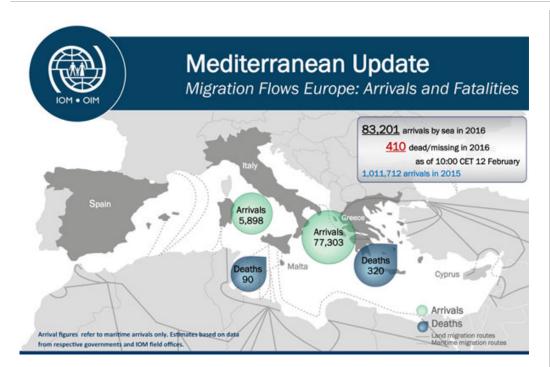
Briefer: Joel Millman 12 February 2016 - IOM











Mediterranean Migrant and Refugee Arrivals Top 83,000 in 2016

Posted on Fri. Feb-12-2016

Greece - Migrant and refugee arrivals in Europe in 2016 yesterday reached an estimated 83,201, with some 77,303 of those arriving in the Greek islands from Turkey, according to International Organization for Migration.

The number of arrivals in Greece by sea has fallen in February due to bad weather. An estimated 5,110 migrants arrived in the first ten days of February, compared to 72,193 in the whole of January.

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Syrians fleeing Aleppo arrive at the Turkish border. Photo: IOM

IOM Boosts Aid to Over 15,000 People Fleeing Violence in Northern Syria

Posted on Fri. Feb-12-2016

Syria - Intensified fighting in Syria's northern provinces is causing a growing number of Syrians to flee their homes. Since 25th January, over 78,000 Syrians have been displaced in the province of Aleppo. Nearly 65 per cent of those displaced in the recent violence (over 50,000 people) have headed towards A'zaz – a town near the Turkish border.

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i am a migrant



Shermane: "All my life, I sought to understand my heritage and now I can say I've truly found my identity. I discovered myself and a new home." Share on Twitter | Facebook Visit http://iamamigrant.org/

How to contribute to the i am a migrant campaign. Watch here.

Quote of the day

"Every migrant has a story to tell. We need to rethink what they bring to the new country." - Author Colm Tóibín. More here.

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Migration Flows Europe



For the latest Mediterranean Update data on arrivals and fatalities please visit: http://migration.iom.int/europe #MigrationEurope

Missing Migrants Project



A global database tracking data on deceased and missing migrants along migratory routes.

Visit <u>MissingMigrants.iom.int</u> #MissingMigrants

Migration in the News

- Al Jazeera's The Stream reported that after travelling from the Middle East to Europe, an increasing number of Iraqi refugees have been voluntarily returning home. The programme interviewed IOM's Thomas Weiss.
- <u>CNN</u>, <u>Guardian</u>, <u>AP</u>, <u>RT</u>, <u>Irish Times</u> and <u>Mail Online</u> reported that NATO has sent three warships to intercept and send back migrants and refugees trying to reach Greece by sea from Turkey. They cited IOM figures.
- <u>Irish Independent</u> reported that two alleged people-smugglers have gone on trial in Turkey accused of causing the death of three-year-old Syrian refugee Aylan Kurdi. It cited IOM estimates.

Trending on the Internet

- <u>CNN Money</u> shared the story of Syrian refugee Hasan Ataya who has opened a Halal
 restaurant on the Greek island of Lesbos. Over a thousand mostly Muslim migrants
 and refugees arrive on the island every day.
- Wall Street Journal reported that Hungary plans to build a razor-wire fence on its border with Romania in preparation for a surge in Middle Eastern migration it expects to see in the coming months.

Media Contacts

For comment / interviews on today's news, please go to the contact(s) listed at the end of each press briefing note.

For other information please contact the IOM Media & Communications team here







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