

Bi-Weekly No. 4, 14–27 Mar 2016 (weeks 11-12), Ref.5913/2016

31 March 2016



Key Points

- ◆ As of 27 March 2016, **15 135 irregular migrants have been intercepted** in the Central Mediterranean, which represents a **~48% increase** compared to the same period of 2015.
- ◆ High number of arrivals mainly related to **improvements in weather conditions**.
- ◆ SAR events continue to take place **close to Libya's territorial waters** rather than in Italy's territorial waters.
- ◆ Smuggling networks face **shortages** in the number of wooden boats available.
- ◆ The number of **Eritreans and Somalis** arriving in Italy **increases** as conditions for navigation improve.



Main Trends

During the period under analysis, 46 illegal immigration incidents were reported (39 incidents in week 11 and 7 in week 12) involving the apprehension of 5 393 irregular migrants (4 608 apprehensions in week 11 and 1 116 apprehensions in week 12); all boats arrived from Libya.

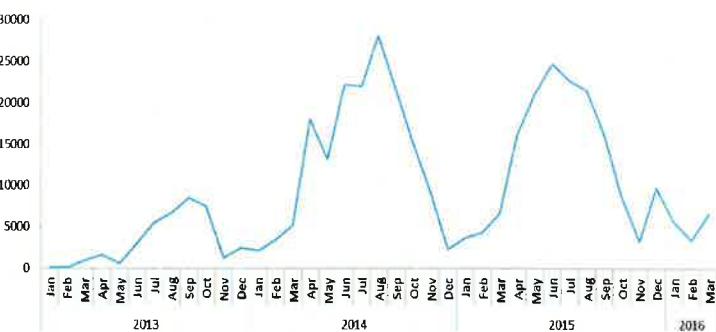
The total number of irregular migrants thus far detected in 2016 (15 135) shows an increasing trend (-48%) compared to the number of irregular migrants apprehended during the same period in 2015 (10 219). It is worth mentioning that this sharp increase is mainly related to the high number of migrants apprehended during the reporting period arriving from Libya.

It is worth noting that the vast majority of incidents continued to involve boats that had departed from Libya bound for Italy. Thus far during 2016, the majority of apprehended irregular migrants have departed from Libya (~98%). Delving into this shows that there has been a percentage increase in the number of incidents originating from Libya thus far in 2016 compared to the same period of 2015 when 93% of the incidents in the Central Med originated from Libya.

The factors influencing this phenomenon are: the low levels of irregular migration from Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia and Greece (as secondary movements) towards Italy, producing very low numbers in comparison to the number of irregular migrants arriving from Libya where the volatile situation, as well as the high level of insecurity continue to be strong 'push factors' for third country nationals to leave this country or due to the low level of surveillance along the coast of Libya to use it merely as a country of departure to the EU.

The number of incidents and migrants apprehended during the reporting period sharply increased as weather conditions improved in the Central Mediterranean. The high number of migrants apprehended during the reporting period shows that the number of migrants waiting in Libya remains high and that people smuggling networks operating from Libya have the means to smuggle these migrants in high numbers.

Figure 1: Migrants apprehended during the period 1 January 2014 to 13 March 2016



Nevertheless, it is worth mentioning that the number of wooden boats used by people smugglers has decreased, while the number of rubber dinghies used to smuggle migrants has increased. This suggests that smuggling networks operating from Libya are facing a shortage in the supply of wooden vessels, while their capacity to obtain rubber dinghies remains intact.

Main Nationalities

Thus far in 2016, the most common nationalities reported within the framework of the JO Triton have been from the following countries: Nigeria, Gambia, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Mali, Guinea, Somalia, Morocco, Eritrea and Sudan. Migrants arriving from Western and Central African countries mainly Nigeria, Gambia, Senegal, Guinea, Mali, the Ivory Coast, and Ghana represent ~75% of the total number of irregular migrants that have arrived in Italy since the beginning of January.

Gathered information suggests that **high ranking officers from different military branches are involved in the smuggling of irregular migrants** from the west coast of Libya towards Italy. The information collected suggests that military officers between the ranks of Lieutenant and General are involved at different stages of smuggling people from Libya to Italy. Moreover, information regarding the identification of law enforcement officers involved in the smuggling of migrants from Libya to Italy was also obtained during the interviews.

Main Trends

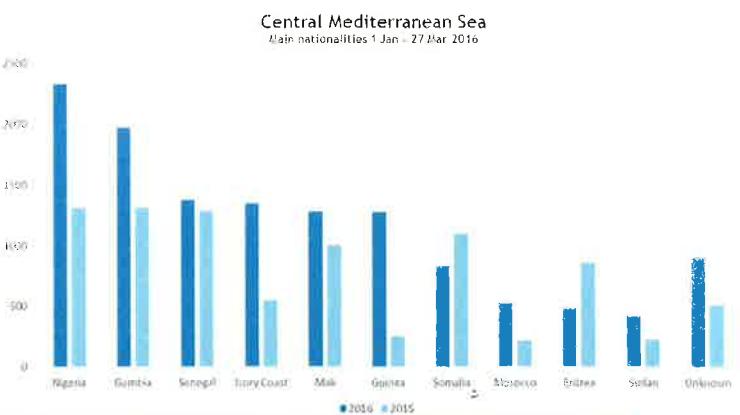
Libya

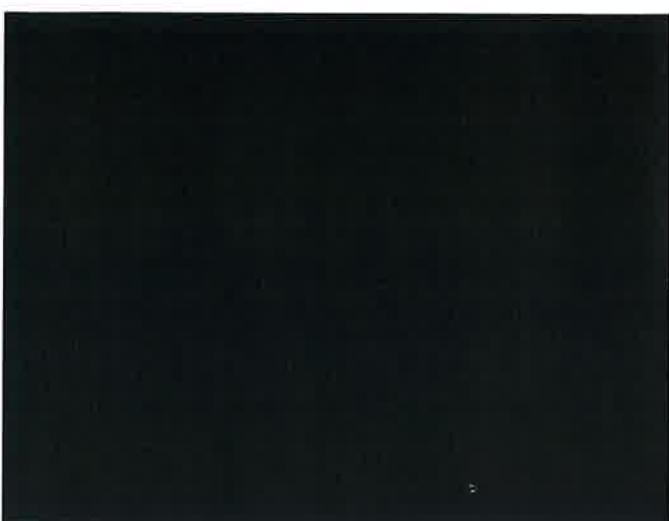
During the reporting period a sharp increase in the migration flow was reported in the Central Med, mainly involving migrants smuggled aboard **rubber dinghies** from Libya. Only two of the forty-four incidents reported from Libya involved the use of wooden boats. Both wooden boats departed simultaneously from the coastal area of Sabratah and because of engine failure, one of the wooden boats ended up towing the other (see figure 4).

It is worth mentioning that during 2016 the use of **wooden boats to smuggle migrants from Libya to Italy has decreased by ~45%** compared to the same period in 2015. In addition, the number of **rubber dinghies used by smuggling networks to smuggle migrants from Libya to Italy has increased by ~85%** compared to the same period last year.

Moreover, migrants continue to report simultaneous departures of rubber dinghies from the Libyan coast in what seems to be one solution to the lack of wooden boats. Using this approach smuggling networks are able to smuggle several hundred migrants at the same time aboard rubber dinghies.

Figure 3: Main nationalities from 1 January to 27 March 2016





Information obtained from interviews conducted with Somalis and Eritreans suggests that the same routes and people smuggling networks are being used to reach Libya from Sudan.

As the weather continues to improve the number of Eritreans and Somalis arriving in Italy is expected to increase, not only arriving from Libya but also from Egypt.

Eritrean and Somali migrants

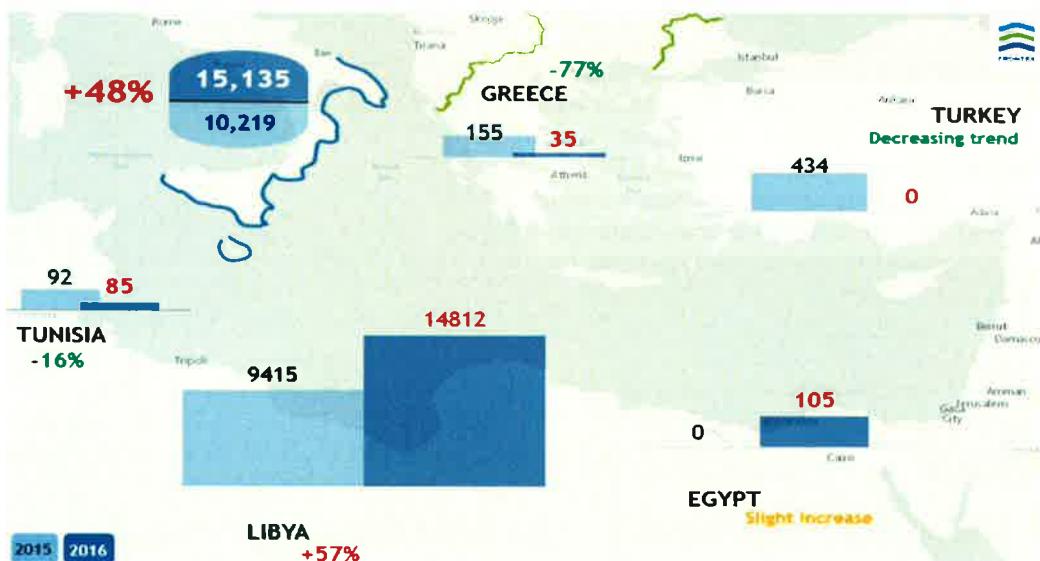
As weather conditions have improved, the number of migrants from Eritrea and Somalia have increased; this is similar to the patterns observed in 2014 and 2015.

Main trends by country of departure in 2016

Thus far in 2016, the migratory routes from Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Greece and Algeria towards Italy have reported incidents, while no incidents have been reported on the Turkish route. Furthermore, thus far in 2016, the breakdown by migratory routes in the Central Mediterranean shows an increasing trend (-48%) with an increasing number of arrivals from Libya, Egypt and Algeria, and decreasing flows from Tunisia, Turkey and Greece.

The following map shows the volume of the migratory flows by country of departure since the beginning of 2016:

Figure 5: Trends of irregular migrants per country of departures during 2016 / 2015.



Statistics 2016 (1 January – 27 march)

The JO Triton 2016 was launched on 1 February 2016 and it is planned to finish on 31 December 2016.

In 2016 (1 January - 27 March)

139 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

15 135 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Nigerian (2332), Gambian (1974), Senegalese (1375), Ivorian (1 350), Malian (1 280), Guinean (1 277) and Somali (835).

The countries of departure were Libya (14 812), Egypt (105), Algeria (96), Tunisia (87) & Greece (35).

131 People smugglers were arrested in 47 incidents.

21 Fatalities were reported in 11 incidents.

8 Incidents related to the prevention of departure.

1 115 Irregular migrants were prevented from departure.

3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

2 Smugglers were arrested.

1 Incident related to pollution.

~86% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area, ~28% inside.

~87% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

Since the beginning of the operation (1 February - 27 March 2016)

101 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

9 527 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

47 People smugglers were arrested in 26 incidents.

12 Fatalities were reported in 7 incidents.

3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

2 Smugglers were arrested.

1 Incident related to pollution.

During the reporting period between 14 - 27 March 2016

46 Illegal border-crossing incidents occurred.

5 724 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Nigerian (777), Ivorian (521), Gambian (488), Guinean (445), Malian (433), Senegalese (417), Somali (391) and Eritrean (312).

The countries of departure were Libya (5 709), Algeria (13) and Tunisia (2).

13 People smugglers were arrested in 8 incidents.

5 Fatalities were reported in 4 incidents.

96% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area while 4% occurred inside.

93% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

Disclaimer: All the figures in this report including those in the tables and charts are based on validated incident reports of the JORA system up to the day this report was written and finalized (16 March 2016, 15:00 hrs.).

Frontex Operations Division

Risk Analysis Unit

Warsaw, Poland

Reference number: 5913/2016

Bi-Weekly No. 5, 28 Mar–10 April 2016 (weeks 13-14), Ref.7050/2016

19 April 2016

Key Points

- ◆ As of 10 April 2016, **19 763 irregular migrants have been intercepted** in the Central Mediterranean, which represents a **~45% increase** compared to the same period of 2015.
- ◆ Sudanese, Comorian, Somali and Eritrean migrants have started using Egypt as an alternative route to Libya.
- ◆ An increasing number of Comorians are arriving in Egypt from Tanzania with genuine Egyptian visas.



Main Trends

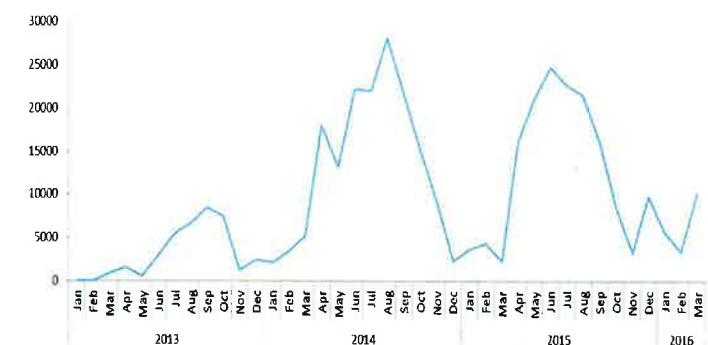
During the period under analysis, 34 illegal immigration incidents were reported (32 incidents in week 13 and 2 in week 14) involving the apprehension of 4 676 irregular migrants (4 075 apprehensions in week 13 and 601 apprehensions in week 14); 25 boats arrived from Libya with 3 128 irregular migrants on board, 5 boats arrived from Egypt with 1 482 migrants on board, 3 boats arrived from Tunisia with 59 migrants on board and 1 boat arrived from Greece with 23 migrants on board.

The total number of irregular migrants thus far detected in 2016 (19 763) shows an increasing trend (~45%) compared to the number of irregular migrants apprehended during the same period in 2015 (13 637). It is worth mentioning that this sharp increase is mainly related to the high number of migrants apprehended during the reporting period arriving mainly from Libya and to a lesser extent from Egypt.

Thus far during 2016, the majority of apprehended irregular migrants have departed from Libya (~94%). The sea routes

the high level of insecurity and the low level of surveillance along the coast of Libya continue to be strong 'push factors' for third country nationals to use this country as the transit point towards Italy.

Figure 1: Migrants apprehended during the period 1 January 2014 to 30 March 2016



It is important to note that incidents originating from Egypt sharply increased during the reporting period, showing an increasing trend not only when compared to the previous twelve weeks but also when compared to the same period in 2015.

The high number of migrants apprehended during the reporting period shows that the number of migrants waiting in Libya and in Egypt is high and that people smuggling networks operating from Libya and Egypt have the means to smuggle migrants in high numbers. Nevertheless, the number of wooden boats used by people smugglers operating from Libya continues to be lower than during the same period of 2015, while the number of rubber dinghies used to smuggle migrants has increased.

from Turkey, Algeria, Tunisia and Greece (as secondary movements) towards Italy are producing very low numbers in comparison to the number of irregular migrants arriving mainly from Libya, where the volatile situation, as well as

Main Nationalities

Thus far in 2016, the most common nationalities reported within the framework of the JO Triton have been from the following countries: Nigeria, Gambia, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Mali, Guinea, Somalia, Morocco, Eritrea and Sudan. Migrants arriving from Western and Central African countries, mainly Nigeria, Gambia, Senegal, Guinea, Mali, the Ivory

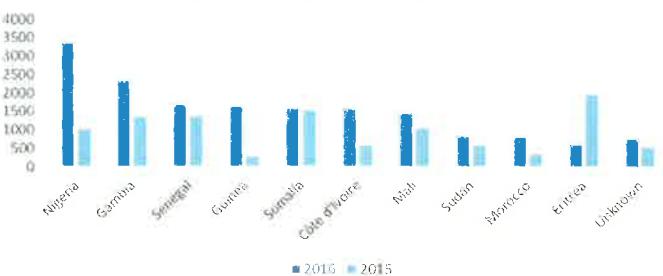
Coast, and Ghana represent ~74% of the total number of irregular migrants that have arrived in Italy since the beginning of January, whereas migrants from the Horn of Africa / Sudan and migrants from North African countries, mainly Egypt and Morocco and to a lesser extent Algeria and Tunisia represent ~18% and ~7% respectively.

With regard to migrants from Middle Eastern and Asian countries their numbers represent merely 1% of the total number of migrants apprehended in the JO Triton 2016.

While waiting to depart, migrants are gathered in different locations along the western part of the Libyan coast, mainly Sabratah, until they are called or taken to the embarkation areas by the smuggling networks.

Figure 3: Main nationalities from 1 January to 10 April 2016

Central Mediterranean Sea
Main nationalities 1 Jan - 10 April 2016



Main Trends

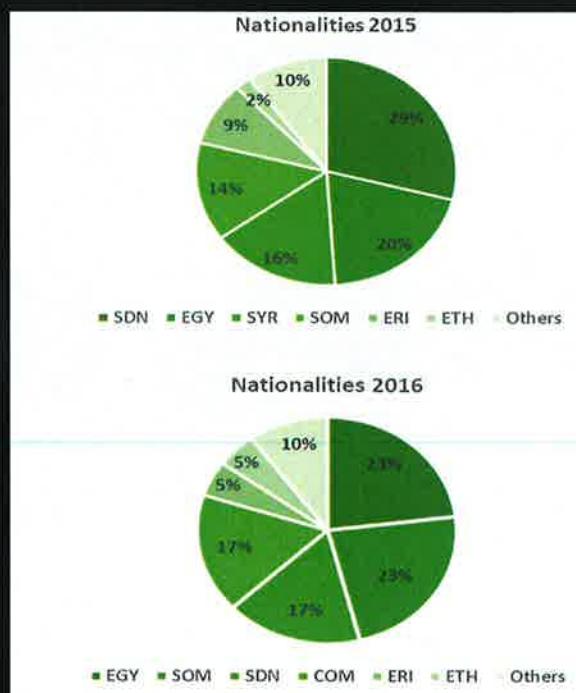


Figure 6: Comparison of nationalities arrived to Italy from Egypt during 2015/2016



According to information provided by IOM more than 16 700 West African migrants transited through Agadez between 1 February and 11 April *en route* to Libya or Algeria. The number reported during week 14 of 2016 was the highest so far this year, with more than 3 000 migrants *en route* to Libya or Algeria. Moreover, it is anticipated that approximately 120 000 to 150 000 migrants will transit through Agadez towards Libya and Algeria in 2016³. The information provided by IOM indicates that Agadez will continue to be one the main hubs for migrants aiming to reach the EU through the Central or Western Mediterranean routes.

Main trends by country of departure in 2016

Thus far in 2016, the migratory routes from Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Greece and Algeria towards Italy have reported incidents, while no incidents have been reported on the Turkish route. Furthermore, thus far in 2016, the breakdown by migratory routes in the Central Mediterranean shows an increasing trend (~48%) with an increasing number of arrivals from Libya, Egypt and Algeria, and decreasing flows from Tunisia, Turkey and Greece.

³ <https://www.iom.int/news/iom-niger-opens-migrant-information-office-agadez>

The following map shows the volume of the migratory flows by country of departure since the beginning of 2016:

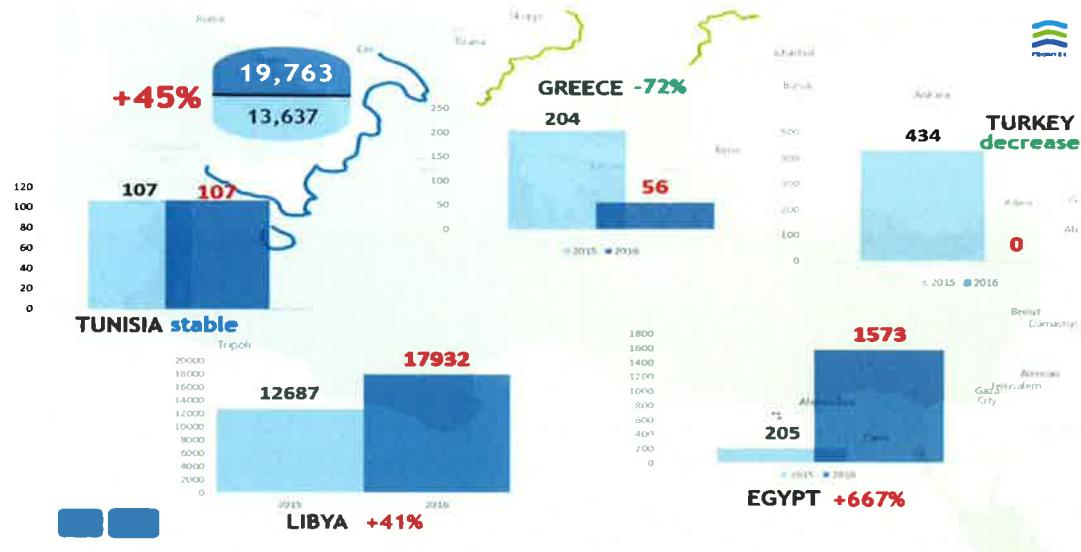


Figure 9: Volume of migratory flows by country of departure.

Statistics 2016 (1 January – 10 April)

The JO Triton 2016 was launched on 1 February 2016 and it is planned to finish on 31 December 2016.

In 2016 (1 January - 10 April)

173 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

19 763 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Nigerian (3 340), Gambian (2 335), Senegalese (1 681), Guinean (1 633), Somali (1 579), Ivorian (1 562) and Malian (1 444).

The countries of departure were Libya (17 932), Egypt (1 573), Tunisia (107), Algeria (95) & Greece (56).

114 People smugglers were arrested in 63 incidents.⁴

21 Fatalities were reported in 11 incidents.

10 Incidents related to the prevention of departure.

~1 300 Irregular migrants were prevented from departure.

3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

2 Smugglers were arrested.

1 Incident related to pollution.

~86% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area, ~28% inside.

~88% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

Since the beginning of the operation (1 February - 10 April 2016)

117 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

14 194 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

78 People smugglers were arrested in 42 incidents.

12 Fatalities were reported in 7 incidents.

3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

2 Smugglers were arrested.

1 Incident related to pollution.

During the reporting period between 28 March - 10 April 2016

34 Illegal border-crossing incidents occurred.

4 676 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Nigerian (753), Somali (647), Sudanese (390), Gambian (314), Moroccan (291), Guinean (288), Senegalese (189) and Malian (137).

The countries of departure were Libya (3 128), Egypt (1 468), Tunisia (59) and Greece (21).

23 People smugglers were arrested in 11 incidents.

0 Fatalities were reported in 0 incidents.

82% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area while 4% occurred inside.

88% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

Disclaimer: All the figures in this report including those in the tables and charts are based on validated incident reports of the JORA system up to the day this report was written and finalized (15 April 2016, 15:00 hrs.).

Key Points

- ◆ As of 24 April 2016, **26 810 irregular migrants have been intercepted** in the Central Mediterranean, which represents a ~4% increase compared to the same period of 2015.
- ◆ First arrivals from Turkey involving Iraqis and Afghans suggest a possible displacement from the Eastern to the Central Med.
- ◆ The migrant death toll in the Central Med rose after incidents involving migrants from Egypt and Libya.



Main Trends

During the period under analysis, 47 illegal immigration incidents were reported (35 incidents in week 15 and 12 in week 16) involving the apprehension of **7 007** irregular migrants (5 478 apprehensions in week 15 and 1 529 apprehensions in week 16); **38 boats arrived from Libya** with 5 868 irregular migrants on board, **4 boats arrived from Egypt** with 985 migrants on board, **2 boats arrived from Turkey** with 60 migrants on board, **1 boat arrived from Greece** with 68 migrants on board, **1 boat arrived from Algeria** with 16 migrants on board and **1 boat arrived from Tunisia** with 10 migrants on board.

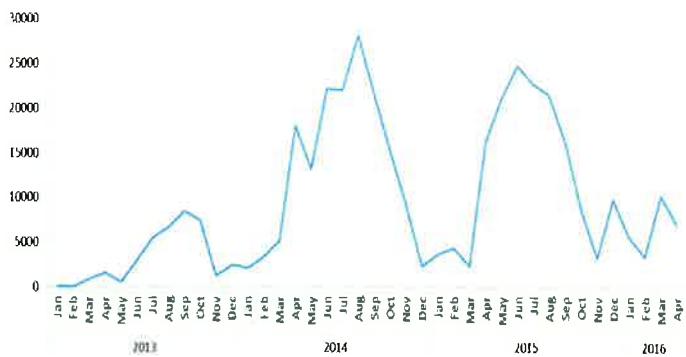
The total number of irregular migrants thus far detected in 2016 (26 810) shows a **slightly increasing trend (~4%)** compared to the number of irregular migrants apprehended during the same period in 2015 (25 910). It is worth mentioning that during April 2016 the number of irregular migrants apprehended in the framework of the JO triton decreased by ~55% compared to April 2015. Nevertheless, the overall flow during 2016 in the Central Mediterranean shows a ~4% increase compared to the same period in 2015.

This sharp decrease during April 2016 is mainly related to the **low number of migrants from the Horn of Africa** (approximately -83%), **Syria** (approximately -99%) and **Sudanese** (approx. -48%) that have arrived during April 2016 **compared to the same period in 2015**.

It is worth noting that the vast majority of incidents continued to involve boats that had departed from Libya bound for Italy. Thus far during 2016, the **majority of apprehended irregular migrants have departed from Libya (~89%)**. The factors that continue to influence this phenomenon are: the low levels of irregular migration from Turkey, Algeria, Tunisia and Greece (as secondary movements) towards Italy, producing very low numbers in comparison to the number of irregular migrants arriving mainly from Libya, where the volatile situ-

ation, the high level of insecurity continue to be strong 'push factors' for third-country nationals to leave this country. Moreover, the low level of surveillance along the coast of Libya favors for irregular migration and makes Libya a preferred transit country for other nationals outside the country.

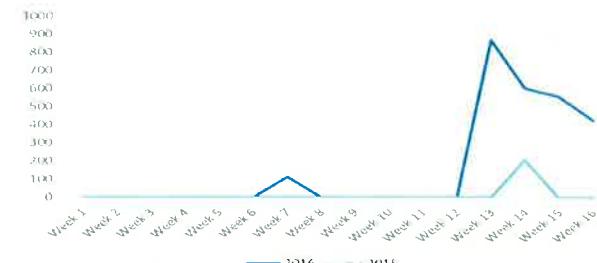
Figure 1: Migrants apprehended during the period 1 January 2014 to 24 April 2016



It is important to note that **incidents originating from Egypt** have sharply increased thus far in 2016 compared to the same period of 2015; nevertheless, the number of migrants arriving from Egypt decreased over the last four weeks (see figure 3).

Although there was a sharp decrease in the number of migrants apprehended during April 2016 compared to the same period of 2015, the high number of migrants apprehended during the reporting period shows that **the number of migrants waiting in Libya and Egypt remains high** and that people smuggling networks operating from Libya and Egypt have the means to smuggle these migrants in high numbers. In addition, the **two incidents** which occurred during the reporting period involving boats arriving directly **from Turkey to Italy** indicates the **possibility of a displacement** from the Eastern to the Central Mediterranean.

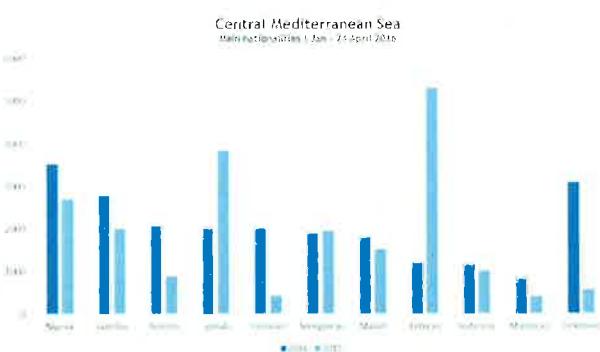
Figure 3: Apprehensions from Egypt in the framework of JO Triton



Main Nationalities

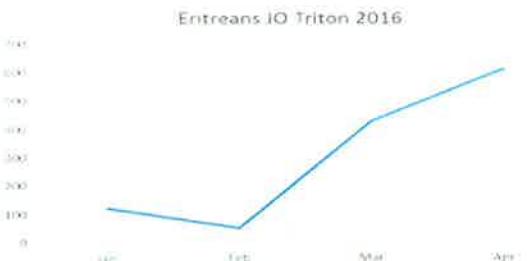
Thus far in 2016, the most common nationalities reported within the framework of the JO Triton have been from the following countries: **Nigeria, Gambia, Ivory Coast, Somalia, Guinea, Senegal, Mali, Eritrea, Sudan and Morocco.** Migrants arriving from **West and Central African** countries, continue to represent the vast majority of the apprehended migrants, namely ~62% of the total number of irregular migrants that have arrived in Italy since the beginning of January, whereas migrants from the Horn of Africa/Sudan

Figure 4: Main nationalities from 1 January to 24 April 2016



Main Trends

Figure 5: Eritrean nationals apprehended during 2016



and migrants from North African countries, mainly Egypt and Morocco and to a lesser extent Algeria and Tunisia represent ~18% and ~6% respectively. With regard to migrants from Middle Eastern and Asian countries their numbers represent merely ~1% of the total number of migrants apprehended in the JO Triton 2016, while the number of migrants with unknown nationalities represent ~12%.

Arrivals from Turkey and Greece

Three incidents occurred during the reporting period involving **two boats arriving from Turkey and one arriving from Greece** with nationals from Iraq and Afghanistan. This points toward a displacement of the irregular migratory flow from the Eastern to the Central Med via the Ionian Sea.

Fatalities in the Central Med

During the reporting period, three different incidents took place in the Central Mediterranean Sea involving the possible death of hundreds of irregular migrants that were heading towards Italy from the North African coast of Egypt and Libya.

Information gathered from survivors suggest that this incident was related to the transfer of migrants from Libya to a boat that had previously departed from Egypt with migrants on board and which was waiting on the high seas for the transfer of the migrants coming from the west coast of Libya.

According to IOM, thus far during 2016 the number of deaths in the Mediterranean Sea has decreased by approximately 50% compared to the same period of 2015⁴.

Cameroon to relocate Nigerian refugees

Information provided by RAU Sector 1 indicates that the Cameroonian authorities are planning to return 80 000 Nigerian refugees to their country of origin that arrived in Nigeria having escaped the conflict with Boko Haram.

Although the conflict with Boko Haram still persists in the area, the Nigerian authorities plan to establish resettlement centres for the refugees in Yola, Adamawa State, in the north of the country for which the Nigerian authorities plan to request international support in order to manage new refugee flows that will arrive from Cameroon.

Main trends by country of departure in 2016

Thus far in 2016, all migratory routes (Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Greece, Algeria and Turkey) towards Italy have reported incidents. Furthermore, thus far in 2016, the breakdown by migratory routes in the Central Mediterranean shows an

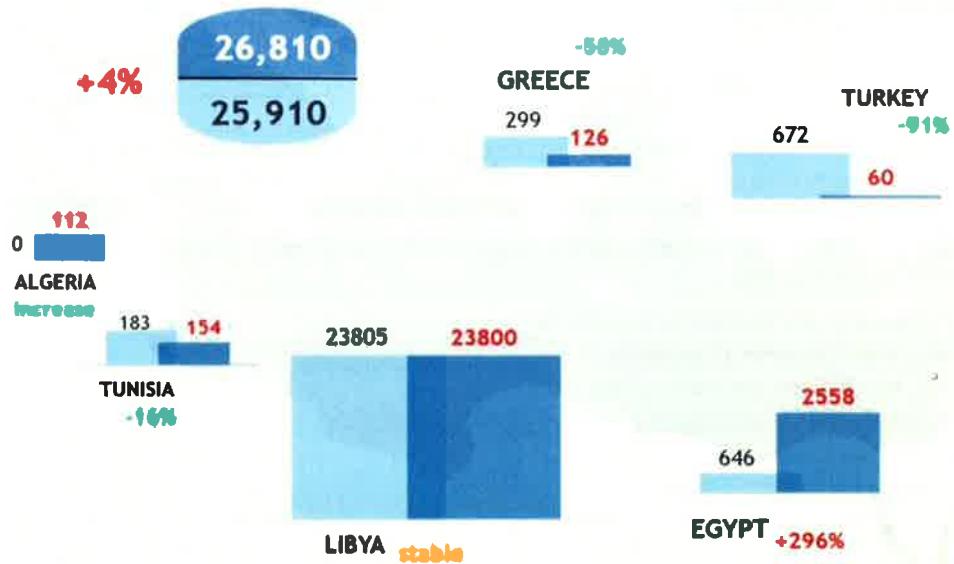
increasing trend (~4%) with an increasing number of arrivals from Libya, Egypt and Algeria, and decreasing flows from Tunisia, Turkey and Greece.

⁴ <http://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-2016-178882-deaths-737>

⁵ http://www.askanews.it/minaccia-isis/libia-guardia-costiera-blocca-649-migranti-a-largo-di-sabratha_711784356.htm
<http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2016/Apr-11/346752-libya-coastguard-rescues-115-migrants.ashx>
http://www.askanews.it/minaccia-isis/libia-guardia-costiera-blocca-649-migranti-a-largo-di-sabratha_711784356.htm

⁶ <http://goobjoog.com/english/?p=27964>
<http://thecairopost.youm7.com/news/203844/news/19-africans-arrested-over-illegal-entry-into-aswan>
<http://thecairopost.youm7.com/news/204174/news/62-arrested-in-egypts-delta-over-illegal-emigration-attempt>

The following map shows the volume of the migratory flows by country of departure since the beginning of 2016:



Statistics 2016 (1 January – 24 April)

The JO Triton 2016 was launched on 1 February 2016 and it is planned to finish on 31 December 2016.

In 2016 (1 January - 24 April)

220 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

26 810 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Nigerian (3 515), Gambian (2 780), Ivorian (2 062), Somali (2 020), Guinean (2 016), Senegalese (1 903), Malian (1 802) and Eritrean (1 216).

The countries of departure were Libya (23 800), Egypt (2 558), Tunisia (154), Greece (126) Algeria (112) & Turkey (60).

140 People smugglers were arrested in 75 incidents.

27 Fatalities were reported in 12 incidents.

11 Incidents related to the prevention of departure.

~1 400 Irregular migrants were prevented from departure.

3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

2 Smugglers were arrested.

1 Incident related to pollution.

~87% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area, ~28% inside.

~89% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

Since the beginning of the operation (1 February - 24 April 2016)

164 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

21 199 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

104 People smugglers were arrested in 54 incidents.

12 Fatalities were reported in 7 incidents.

3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

2 Smugglers were arrested.

1 Incident related to pollution.

During the reporting period between 10 - 24 April 2016

47 Illegal border-crossing incidents occurred.

7 007 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Nigerian (580), Ivorian (500), Gambian (445), Somali (415), Sudan (291), Guinean (288), Senegalese (189) and Malian (137).

The countries of departure were Libya (5 868), Egypt (985), Greece (68), Turkey (60), Algeria (16) and Tunisia (10).

26 People smugglers were arrested in 13 incidents.

8 Fatalities were reported in 1 incident.

91% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area while 4% occurred inside.

94% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

Disclaimer: All the figures in this report including those in the tables and charts are based on validated incident reports of the JORA system up to the day this report was written and finalized (26 April 2016, 15:00 hrs.).

Frontex Operations Division

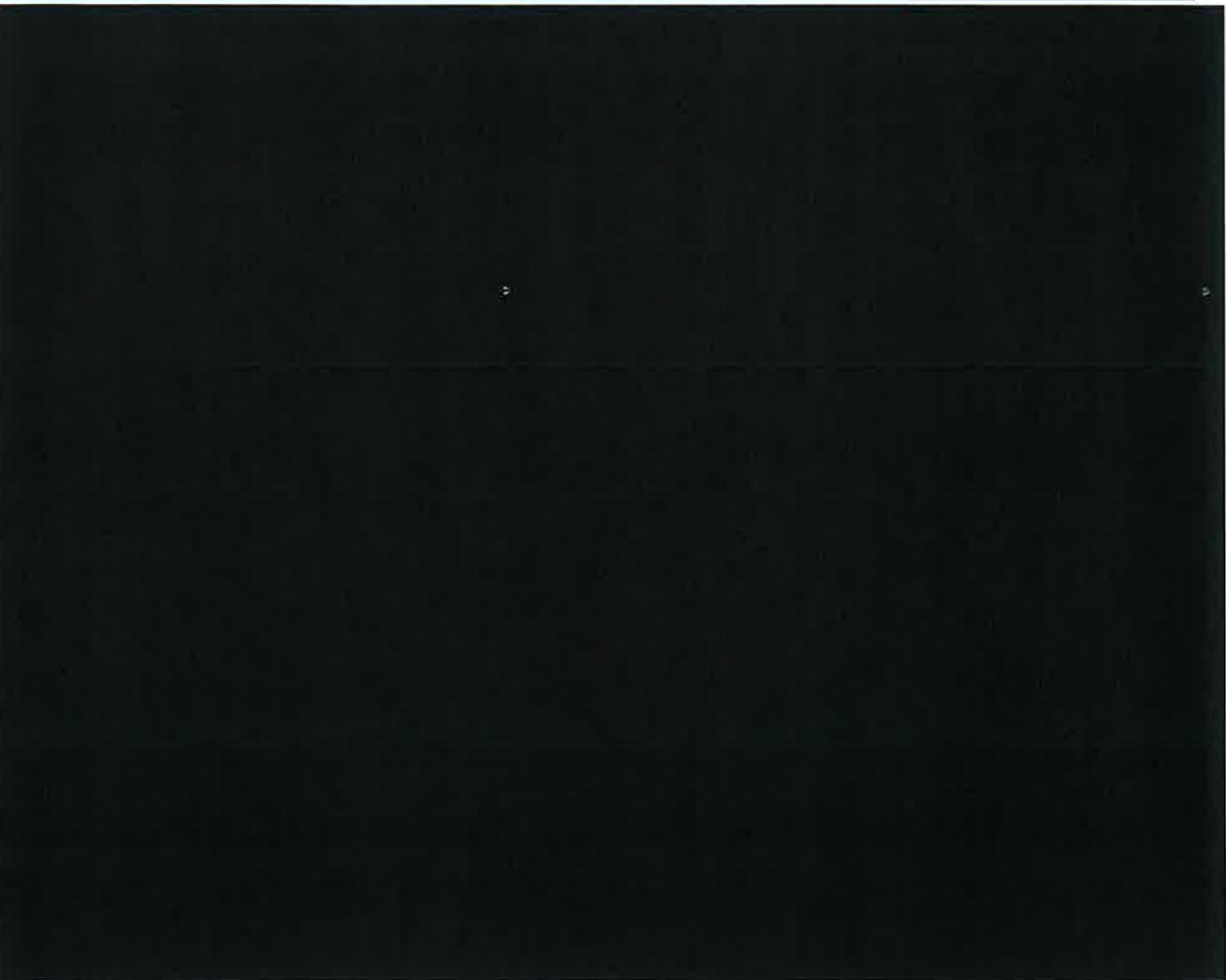
Risk Analysis Unit

Warsaw, Poland

Reference number: 8714/2016

Bi-Weekly No. 7, 25 April–8 May 2016 (weeks 17-18), Ref.9752/2016

13 May 2016



Key Points

- ◆ As of 8 May 2016, 31 184 irregular migrants have been intercepted in the Central Mediterranean, which represents a ~14% decrease compared to the same period of 2015.
- ◆ Despite the decrease, the Central Med has become the main maritime route for irregular migrants aiming to reach the EU.
- ◆ Slight partial shift of the migration routes continues from Turkey to Greece towards Turkey to Italy.
- ◆ Eritreans have become the main nationality during April and beginning of May 2016.



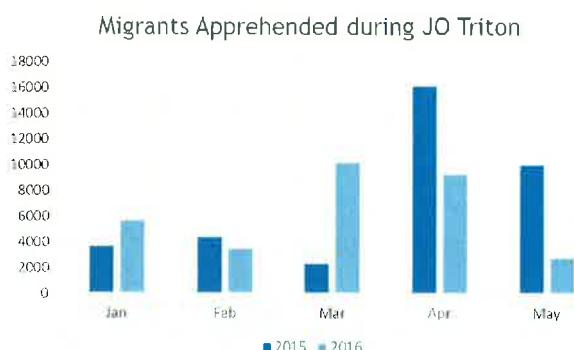
Main Trends

During the period under analysis, 33 illegal immigration incidents were reported (15 incidents in week 17 and 18 in week 18) involving the apprehension of **4 798 irregular migrants** (2 081 apprehensions in week 17 and 2 717 apprehensions in week 18); **26 boats arrived from Libya** with 3 926 irregular migrants on board, **3 boats arrived from Egypt** with 757 migrants on board, **2 boats arrived from Turkey** with 78 migrants on board and **2 boats arrived from Tunisia** with 37 migrants on board.

The total number of irregular migrants thus far detected in 2016 (31 184) shows a **decreasing trend** (~14%) compared to the number of irregular migrants apprehended during the same period in 2015 (36 299). It is worth mentioning that from 1 April and 8 of May 2016 the number of irregular migrants apprehended in the framework of the JO triton decreased by ~54% compared to the same period of 2015.

This decrease continues to be related to the low number of migrants from the Horn of Africa (approximately -66%) and Middle East and Asia (approximately -91%) and Sudanese (approx. -26%) that have arrived from 1 April to 8 May 2016 compared to the same period in 2015.

Figure 1: Migrants apprehended during the period 1 January to 8 May



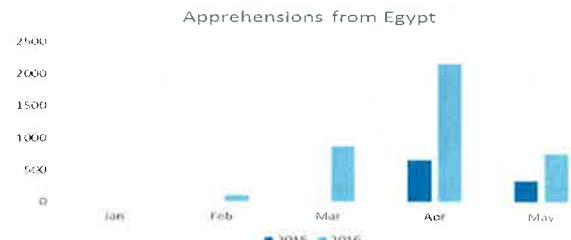
It is worth noting that the vast majority of incidents continued to involve boats that had departed from Libya bound for Italy. Thus far during 2016, the majority of apprehended irregular migrants have departed from Libya (~88%). The factors that continue to influence this phenomenon are: the low levels of irregular migration from Turkey, Algeria, Tunisia and Greece (as secondary movements) towards Italy, producing very low numbers in comparison to the number of irregular migrants arriving mainly from Libya, where the volatile situation, the high level of insecurity continue to be strong 'push factors' for third-country nationals to leave this country.

Moreover, the low level of surveillance along the coast of Libya favors for irregular migration and makes Libya a preferred transit country for other nationals outside the country.

Despite the general decreasing trend reported in the Central med, in regards of the flow from Egypt it is important to note that incidents originating from this country have sharply increased thus far in 2016 compared to the same period of 2015 (see figure 3). Thus far during 2016, ~10% of the irregular migrants apprehended in the Central Med have departed from Egypt..

Although there is a decrease in the number of migrants apprehended during 2016 compared to the same period of 2015, the high number of migrants apprehended during the reporting period shows that the **number of migrants waiting mainly in Libya and Egypt remains high** and that people smuggling networks operating from Libya and Egypt have the means to smuggle these migrants in high numbers. In addition, the incidents which occurred during the reporting period involving **boats arriving directly from Turkey to Italy indicate a slight displacement** from the Eastern to the Central Mediterranean.

Figure 3: Apprehensions from Egypt from 1 Jan to 8 May.



Main Nationalities

Thus far in 2016, the most common nationalities reported within the framework of the JO Triton have been from the following countries: Nigeria, Eritrea, Gambia, Somalis, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, Senegal, Sudan and Egypt. Migrants arriving from West and Central African countries, continue to represent the vast majority of the apprehended migrants, namely ~63% of the total number of irregular migrants that have arrived in Italy since the beginning of January, whereas migrants from the Horn of Africa/Sudan and migrants from North African countries, mainly Egypt and Morocco and to a lesser extent Algeria and Tunisia represent ~22% and ~7% respectively. With regard to migrants from Middle Eastern and Asian countries their numbers represent merely ~1% of the total number of migrants apprehended in the JO Triton 2016.

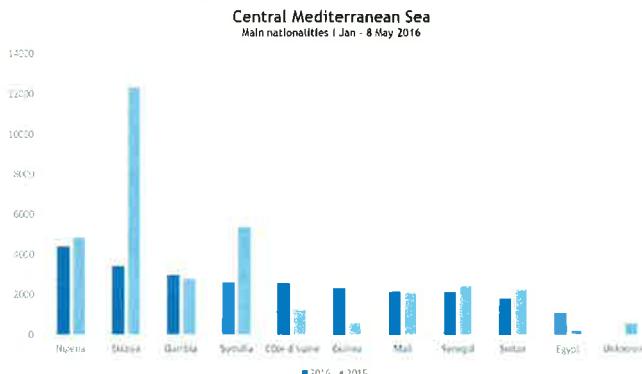
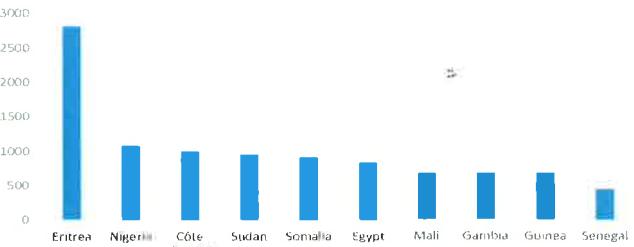


Figure 4: Main nationalities in the Central Med from 1 Jan to 8 May 2016.

As previously mentioned during previous reports as weather condition have improved in the Central Mediterranean, the number of Eritrean nationals have sharply increased, becoming during the period 1 April to 8 may the main nationality.

Figure 5: Main nationalities apprehended during the period 1 April – 8 May 2016

Main Nationalities Central Med
(1 April - 8 May 2016)



It is expected that in the next weeks Eritreans will become the main nationality regarding the migrants apprehended in the Central Med.

Main Findings

State of Play

Despite the decreasing trend reported in the Central Mediterranean Sea, the high number of detections in the Central Mediterranean since the beginning of 2016 has not been related to changes in routes used by migrants stranded in Turkey, rather than to the increasing number of sub-Saharan migrants arriving in Italy from North African countries.

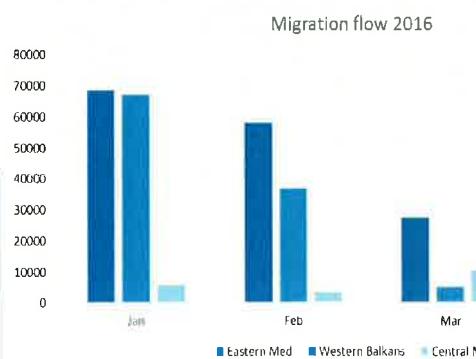


Figure 6: Monthly migration flow in the Eastern Med, Western Balkan and Central Med routes during 2016

During April 2016, for the first time since the last year, more migrants were apprehended in the Central Med than in Eastern Med. However, this was due to the sharp decrease in the migration flow from Turkey to Greece and not because of an increase in the Central Med; On the contrary, migration on the Central Med also showed a decreasing trend during April when compared to the previous month (see figure 6) .

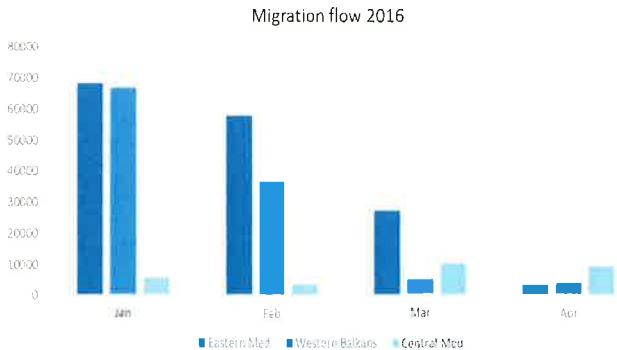


Figure 6: Monthly flow in the Eastern Med, Western Balkans and Central Med during 2016

It is worth mentioning that in the Ionian Sea an initial and slight displacement from the Eastern Mediterranean route to the Central Mediterranean was reported at the end of April, where a low number of migrants from Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia and Syria using sailing vessels, yachts and speed boats reached Italy directly from Turkey or Greece.

Libya

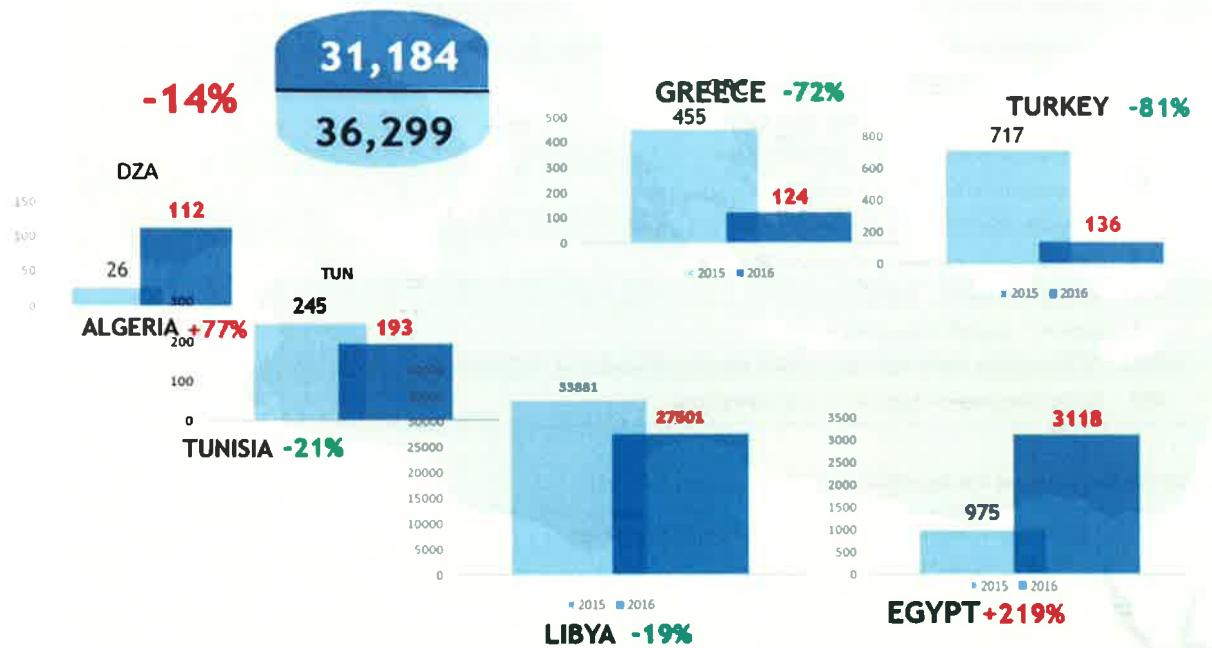
Arrivals from Turkey

Two new incidents from Turkey continue to show a slight displacement of migrants from Turkey towards Italy.

Main trends by country of departure in 2016

Thus far in 2016, all migratory routes (Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Greece, Algeria and Turkey) towards Italy have reported incidents. Furthermore, thus far in 2016, the breakdown by migratory routes in the Central Mediterranean shows a

decreasing trend (-14%) with a decreasing number of arrivals from Libya, Tunisia, Turkey and Greece, and increasing flows from Egypt and Algeria.



The following map shows the volume of the migratory flows by country of departure since the beginning of 2016.

Statistics 2016 (1 January – 8 May)

The JO Triton 2016 was launched on 1 February 2016 and it is planned to finish on 31 December 2016.

In 2016 (1 January - 8 May)

251 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

31 184 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Nigerian (3 515), Gambian (2 780), Ivorian (2 062), Somali (2 020), Guinean (2 016), Senegalese (1 903), Malian (1 802) and Eritrean (1 216).

The countries of departure were Libya (23 800), Egypt (2 558), Tunisia (154), Greece (126) Algeria (112) & Turkey (60).

151 People smugglers were arrested in 85 incidents.

27 Fatalities were reported in 12 incidents.

11 Incidents related to the prevention of departure.

-1 400 Irregular migrants were prevented from departure.

3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

2 Smugglers were arrested.

1 Incident related to pollution.

~87% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area, ~13% inside.

~90% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

Since the beginning of the operation (1 February - 8 May 2016)

195 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

25 575 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

115 People smugglers were arrested in 63 incidents.

12 Fatalities were reported in 7 incidents.

3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

2 Smugglers were arrested.

1 Incident related to pollution.

During the reporting period between 25 April - 8 May 2016

33 Illegal border-crossing incidents occurred.

4 798 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Nigerian (580), Ivorian (500), Gambian (445), Somali (415), Sudan (291), Guinean (288), Senegalese (189) and Malian (137).

The countries of departure were Libya (3 910), Egypt (757), Turkey (78) and Tunisia (37).

4 People smugglers were arrested in 4 incidents.

0 Fatalities were reported.

88% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area while 4% occurred inside.

94% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

Disclaimer: All the figures in this report including those in the tables and charts are based on validated incident reports of the JORA system up to the day this report was written and finalized (12 May 2016, 15:00 hrs.).

Bi-Weekly No. 8, 9–22 May 2016 (weeks 19-20), Ref.10432/2016

25 May 2016

Key Points

- ◆ As of 22 May 2016, 34 175 irregular migrants have been intercepted in the Central Mediterranean, which represents a ~17% decrease compared to the same period of 2015.
- ◆ No significant displacement of the migratory flow from Turkey to the Central Med. Few vessels coming directly from Turkey to Italy indicates a slight displacement

- ◆ The increasing number of Eritreans could be directly related to the phenomenon of nationality swapping
- ◆ The efficiency of smuggling networks along the route from the Horn of Africa to the Central Med, the unsafe situation in Libya and the lack of measures adopted by the Egyptian authorities promote the increasing number of arrivals from Egypt



Main Trends

During weeks 19 and 20, 22 illegal immigration incidents were reported (6 incidents in week 19, and 16 in week 20, involving the apprehension of 2 991 irregular migrants (1 064 detections in week 19, and 1 927 detections in week 20); 12 boats arrived from Libya with 1 585 migrants on board, 4 boats from Egypt involving 1 290 migrants, 3 boats from Tunisia involving 58 migrants, 2 boats from Greece involving 26 migrants and 1 boat from Turkey with 32 migrants on board.

The total number of irregular migrants detected in 2016 (34 175) shows a ~17% decrease compared to the number of irregular migrants apprehended during the same period in 2015 (41 316).

The decrease in the number of arrivals in the Central Mediterranean, [REDACTED] is directly related to the lower number of migrants arriving in the Central Mediterranean from countries in the Horn of

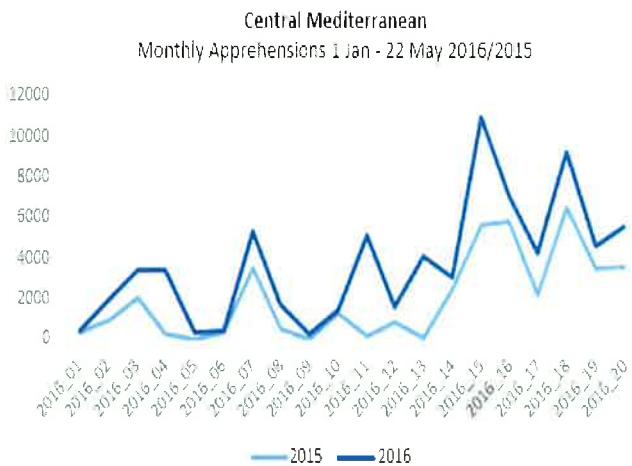


Figure 1: Detections of migrants in 2016 and 2015

Africa², for instance, 9 019 migrants have arrived thus far in 2016, a sharp decrease of ~49% compared with the same period in 2015 when 18 095 migrants arrived.

During the period under analysis, an increasing number of vessels departed from Egypt with 1 290 migrants onboard compared with the same period in 2015 when no vessels arrived from Egypt. Thus far during 2016, the number of arrivals from Egypt in the Central Mediterranean has increased a ~154% when compared to the same period in 2015 .

Despite this increase in the number of arrivals from Egypt, Libya continued to be the main country of departure towards Italy during the reporting period with 12 incidents involving the apprehension of 1 585 migrants, which represents 52% of the total.

²Only the main nationalities in the Central Mediterranean route have been taken into account, namely Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan.

Main Nationalities

During 2016, the most common nationalities reported within the framework of the JO Triton have been from the following countries: **Nigeria, Eritrea, Gambia, Somalia, the Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, Senegal, Sudan, Egypt and Morocco.**

As shown in figure 3, the number of Eritreans and Somalis has sharply decreased during 2016 compared to the same period of 2015 while the number of Egyptians and Moroccans has increased.

Notwithstanding the decreasing trend in the number of Horn of African migrants, it is worth highlighting that over the last two weeks a high number of **Somalis** arrived in Italy. During weeks 19 and 20, a total of 211 Somalis arrived in Italy across the Mediterranean Sea, thereby becoming the second ranked nationality in the Central Mediterranean during the reporting period. As described in 2016, migrants departing from the Horn of Africa have delayed their departure during the winter season, opting instead to depart in spring and summer mainly from Libya and Egypt towards Italy.

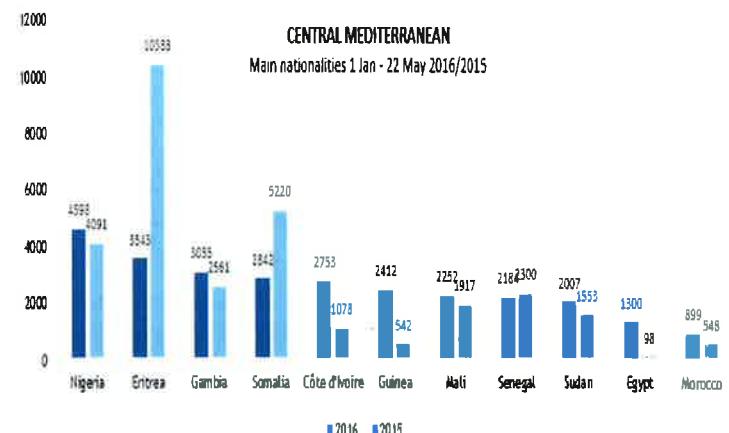


Figure 3: Main nationalities in 2016 in the framework of JO Triton 2016

It is also worth mentioning that the number of **Egyptian** nationals arriving in the Central Mediterranean has **increased** in 2016. Egyptian migrants are now one of the top ten migrant nationalities in 2016.

In this regard, it is worth noting that ~65% of the Egyptian migrants who have arrived in Italy in 2016 have been **minors**

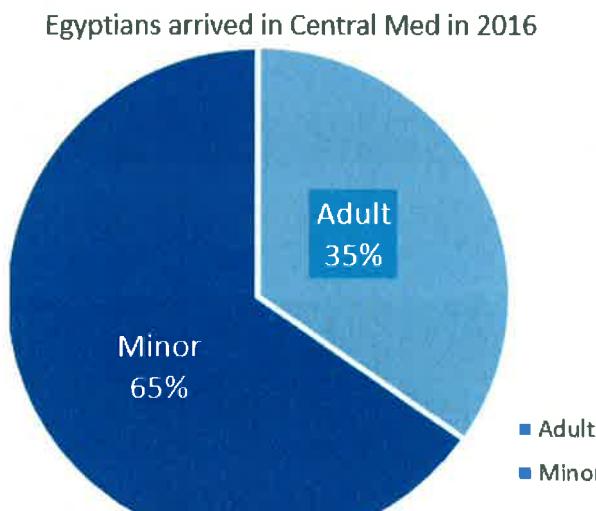


Figure 4: Egyptians adults and minors arrived in 2016 in the framework of the JO Triton 2016

Despite the sharp **decrease in detections in the Eastern Mediterranean** with an approximate 1 056% decrease in the arrivals during weeks 17 and 18 in 2016 when compared with the same period in 2015, **no displacement** of the main nationalities using this route towards the North of Africa³ has been noticed, representing barely ~1% of the total number of migrants that have arrived in Italy in 2016.

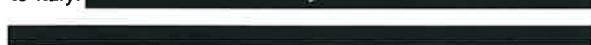
On the other hand, a moderate increase in the number of detections of vessels having departed from Turkey and Greece in the Central Mediterranean **suggests a slight deflection of the flow from these countries to Europe sailing directly to Italy** but thus far in a very low number.

³The main nationalities taking into account: Syrian, Afghan, Iranian, Iraqi, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Nepalese, Yemeni and Palestinian.

Main Trends

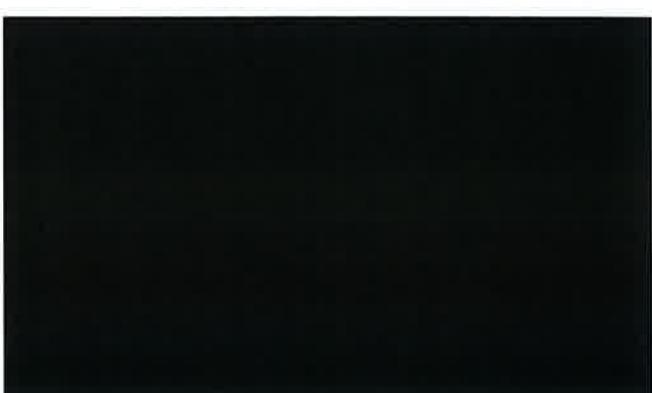
Libya

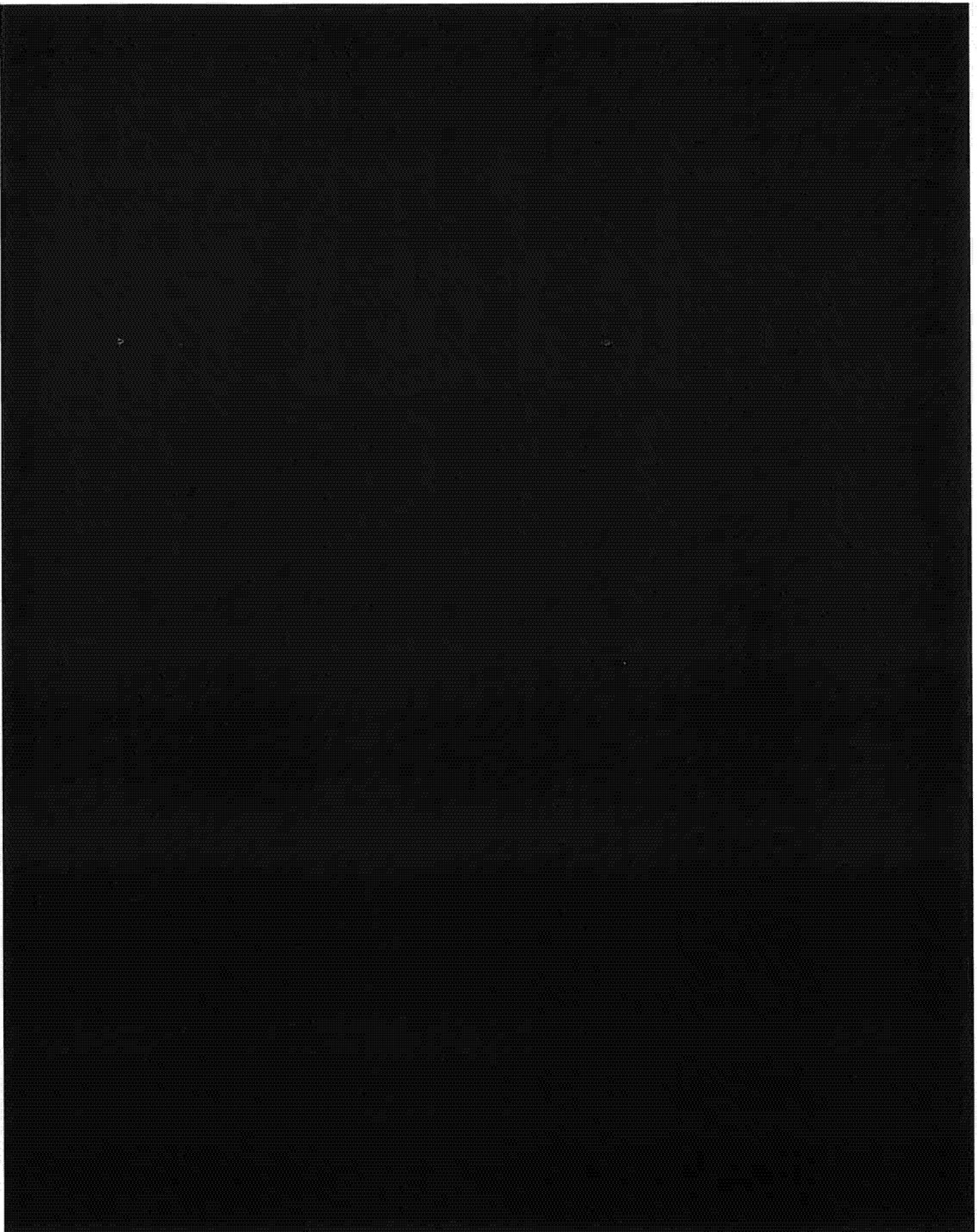
As mentioned previously, Libya remains the main departure country in the Central Mediterranean. In 2016, the main migrant nationalities departing from Libya to Italy have been from the sub-Saharan region. Many of these migrants departed from their countries of origin towards Libya a few months before they arrived in Italy spending most of their time settled in safe houses in Libya waiting to be smuggled to Italy.



Departures from Egypt

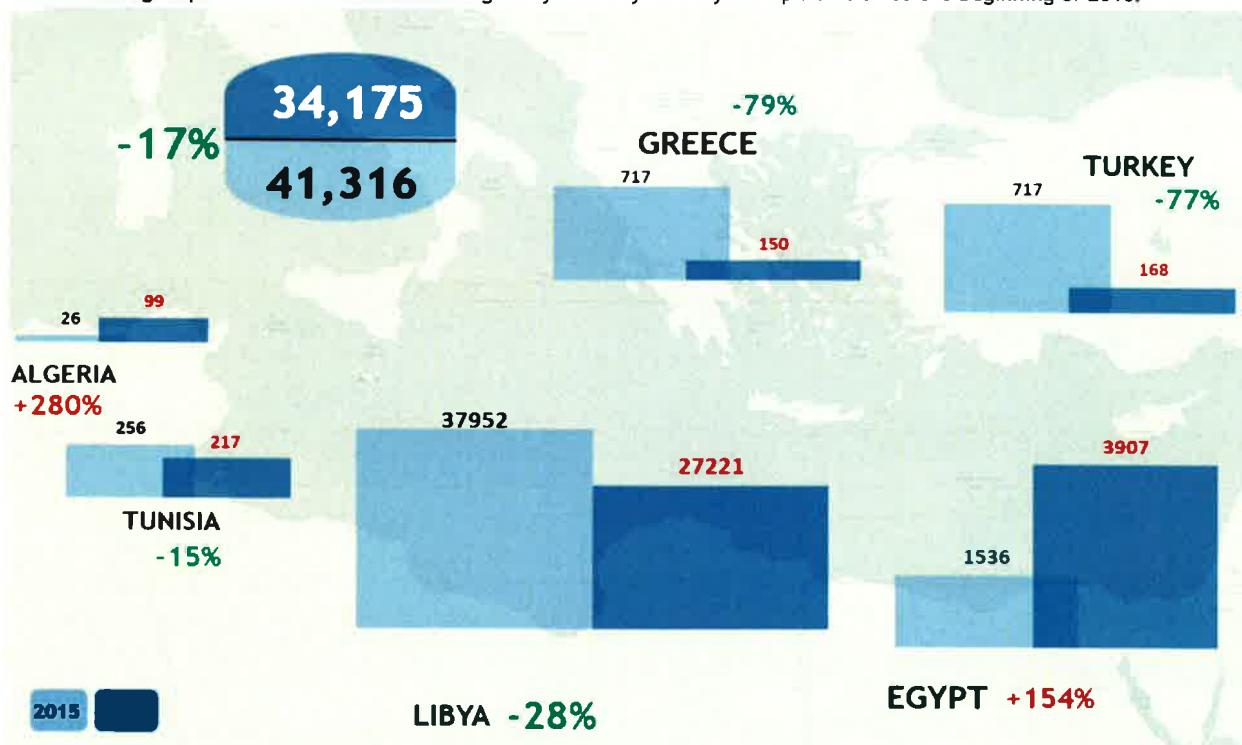
During weeks 19 and 20, ~43% of the migrants who arrived in the Central Med had departed from Egypt [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. The main nationalities detected arriving from Egypt were Egyptian, Sudanese, Somali, Ethiopian, Eritrean and Comorian. The *modus operandi* was similar to the *modus operandi* reported in previous weeks.





Main trends by country of departure in 2016

The following map shows the volume of the migratory flows by country of departure since the beginning of 2016:



http://www.nytimes.com/2013/11/30/world/middleeast/out-of-syria-into-a-european-maze.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0

<http://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-actu/2016/05/12/97001-20160512FILWWW00358-150-migrants-securus-au-large-de-la-sicile.php>

<http://www.lapresse.ca/international/europe/201605/12/01-4980930-au-moins-150-migrants-syriens-securus-au-large-de-la-sicile.php>

Statistics 2016 (1 January – 22 May)

The JO Triton 2016 was launched on 1 February 2016 and it is planned to finish on 31 December 2016.

In 2016 (1 January - 22 May)

273	Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.
34 175	Irregular migrants were apprehended. Most common nationalities - Nigerian (4598), Eritrean (3543), Gambian (3055), Somali (2842), Ivorian (2753), Guinean (2412), Malian (2252) and Senegalese (2184).
	The countries of departure were Libya (27 221), Egypt (3 907), Tunisia (217), Turkey (168), Greece (150) and Algeria (112).
164	People smugglers were arrested in 87 incidents.
21	Fatalities were reported in 11 incidents.
11	Incidents related to the prevention of departure.
1 229	Irregular migrants were prevented from departure. 3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods. 2 Smugglers were arrested. 1 Incident related to pollution.
~84%	Of detections were recorded outside the operational area, ~16% inside.
~88%	Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

Since the beginning of the operation (1 February - 22 May 2016)

217	Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.
28 566	Irregular migrants were apprehended. 128 People smugglers were arrested in 66 incidents. 12 Fatalities were reported in 7 incidents. 3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods. 2 Smugglers were arrested. 1 Incident related to pollution.

During the reporting period between 9 - 22 May 2016

22	Illegal border-crossing incidents occurred.
2 991	Irregular migrants were apprehended. Most common nationalities - Egyptian (227), Sudanese (211), Somali (211), Ivorian (194), Nigerian (164), Guinean (124), Malian (123), Ethiopian (115) and Eritrean (114). It is worth mentioning that at the time the data were extracted from JORA there were <u>2 400 migrants of Unknown nationality</u> .
	The countries of departure were Libya (1 585), Egypt (1 290), Tunisia (58), Turkey (32) and Greece (26).
13	People smugglers were arrested in 3 incidents.
	No fatalities were reported.
68%	Of detections were recorded outside the operational area while 32% occurred inside.
77%	Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

Disclaimer: All the figures in this report including those in the tables and charts are based on validated incident reports of the JORA system up to the day this report was written and finalized (23 April 2016, 11:00 hrs.).

