

Biweekly No. 18, 5 - 18 Oct 2015 (weeks 41-42), Ref.16872/2015

23 October 2015



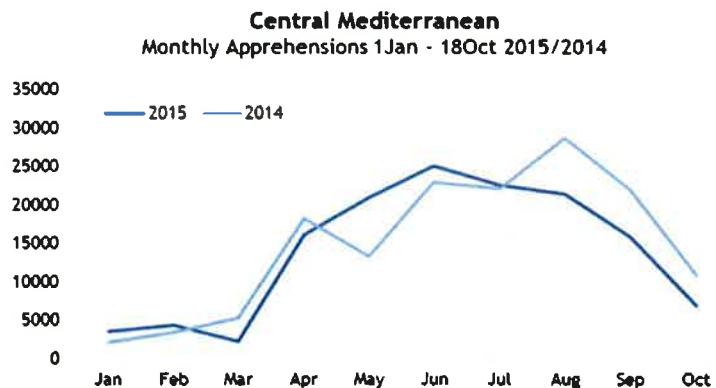
Key Points

- ◆ As of 18 October, 139 358 irregular migrants have been intercepted in the Central Mediterranean, which represents a 7% decrease compared to the same period of 2014.
- ◆ Pakistani and Afghan asylum seekers arriving to Crotone through the Balkan route.
- ◆ During the reporting period 8 more fatalities were reported among migrants crossing from Libya to Italy.
- ◆ Zuwara continues to be a non-departure area towards Italy.
- ◆ No arrivals from Turkey since last week of September.



Main Trends

During the period under analysis, 44 illegal immigration incidents were reported (29 incidents in week 41, and 15 in week 42) involving the apprehension of 6 544 irregular migrants (4 446 detections in week 41, and 2 098 detections in week 42); 24 boats arrived from Libya with 3 730 migrants on board, 2 boats from Egypt involving 359 migrants, 5 boats from Algeria with 60 migrants on board, 2 boats from Tunisia with 11 migrants, and 11 boats from unknown places of departure involving 2 384 migrants.



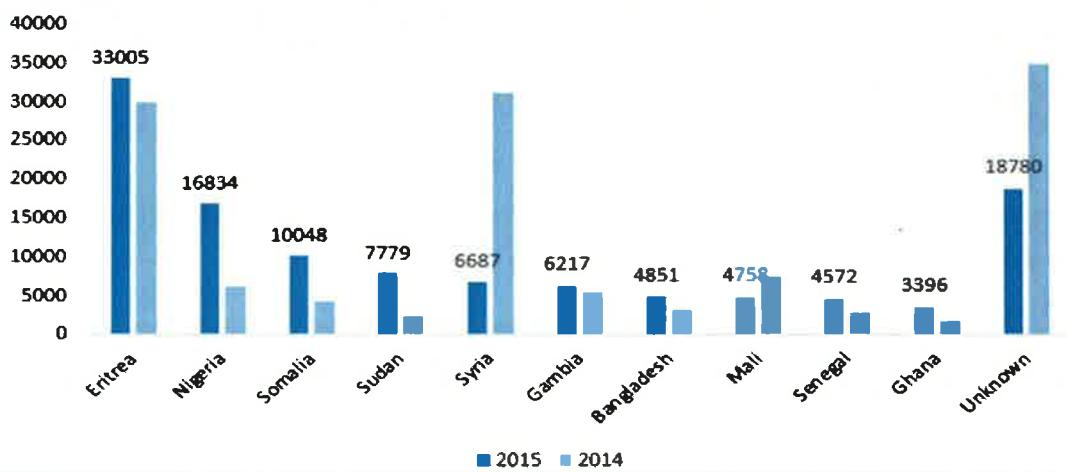
Monthly breakdown of apprehensions in 2015 compared to 2014.

The volume of irregular migrants thus far detected in 2015 (139 354) shows a ~7% decrease compared to the numbers of irregular migrants apprehended during the same period in 2014 (149 419). It is estimated that during the autumn period the arrivals of irregular migrants to Italy will continue as the information gathered during interviews suggests that **the number of migrants waiting to cross from Libya, Egypt and Turkey remains high**. Nevertheless the migratory pressure will decrease as weather conditions worsens in the Central Mediterranean sea.

Main Nationalities I

Thus far in 2015, the most common nationalities reported within the framework of the JO Triton have been from the following countries: Eritrea, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Gambia, Bangladeshi, Mali, Senegal, and Ghana.

Central Mediterranean
Main nationalities 2014-2105 (1 Jan - 18 Oct)



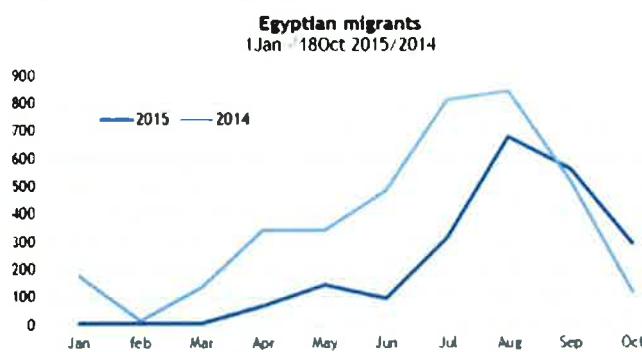
Main nationalities arriving in Italy by sea in 2015.

Main Nationalities II

Trends by Nationalities

EGYPTIANS

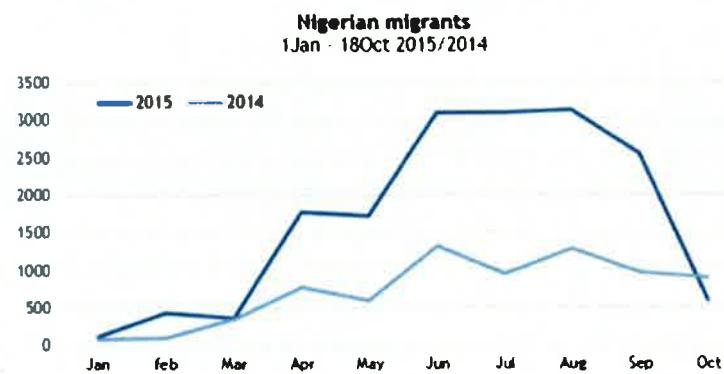
Most of the Egyptians arrived were unaccompanied minors or in some cases adults claiming to be unaccompanied minors in order to avoid an immediate repatriation. Different families were identified travelling with babies, while the rest were adult men travelling alone.



NIGERIANS

Most of the Nigerians were adult men and women travelling alone and to a much lesser extent unaccompanied minors, claiming to be Christians.

The main reason for leaving Nigeria was socio-economic. The second reason mentioned is escaping from Boko Haram.



Main findings during the reporting period I

Fatalities

- Once more, several fatalities were reported during the reporting period in the frame work of JO Triton 2015. A total number of **8 irregular migrants were found dead** on board of a rubber dinghy that was transporting approximately 130 migrants from Libya. **Suffocation seems to be the death of the migrants.** Migrants are piled in rubber boats with no space to move. In some cases, depending on the part of the rubber boat where they are placed there is hardly any ventilation. Consequently they are exposed to a high risk of death by suffocation.
- These 8 new fatalities are only a small example of the rudeness shown by smuggling networks operating in Libya, where migrants are piled in wooden and rubber boats despite the high risk that this implies for their lives.
- During 2015, according to UNHCR (1) and IOM (2) more than 3 100 irregular migrants are considered to have lost their lives in the Mediterranean Sea, showing a slight decrease when compared to the same period of 2014. Most of these fatalities were reported in the Central Mediterranean Sea (2 800) mainly involving migrants trying to reach Italy after departing from Libya.

Main findings during the reporting period II

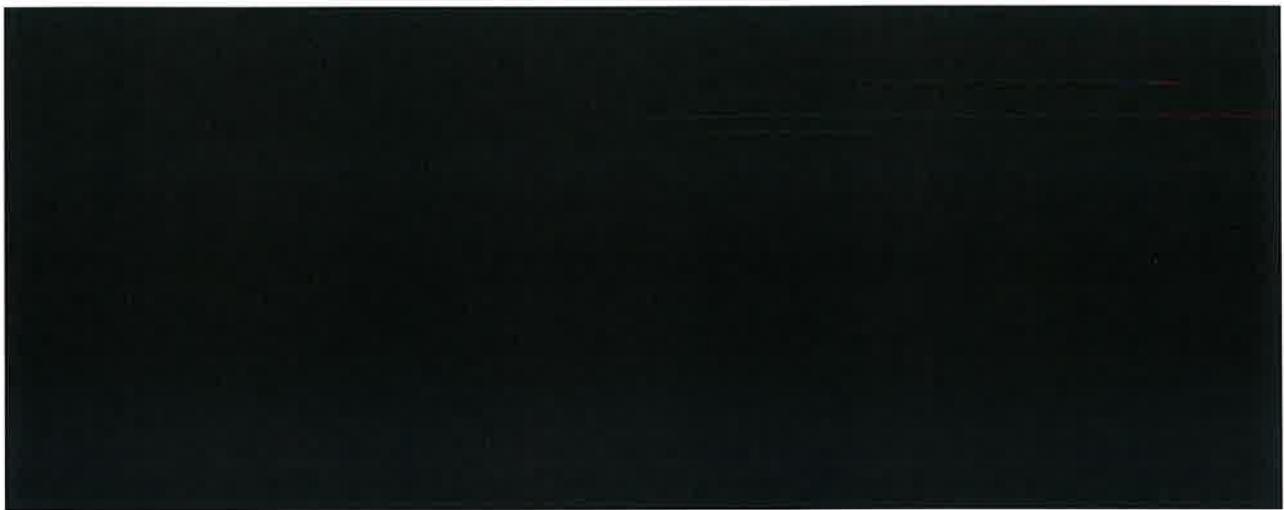
Additional Information

- Increasing numbers of irregular migrants, mainly Afghan and Pakistani nationals are arriving to Crotone following the Balkan route.

- [REDACTED]
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- In terms of percentages:

- 25% of the boats transporting migrants' intercepted in the Central Med in 2015 (916 incidents) were rescued by Commercial vessels.
- 22% of all the migrants apprehended in the Central Med in 2015 (139 358) were rescued by Commercial vessels.
- 22% of the fatalities reported in the Central Med in 2015 (296) occurred during the rescue operation with the involvement of commercial vessels.



Main trends by country of departure in 2015

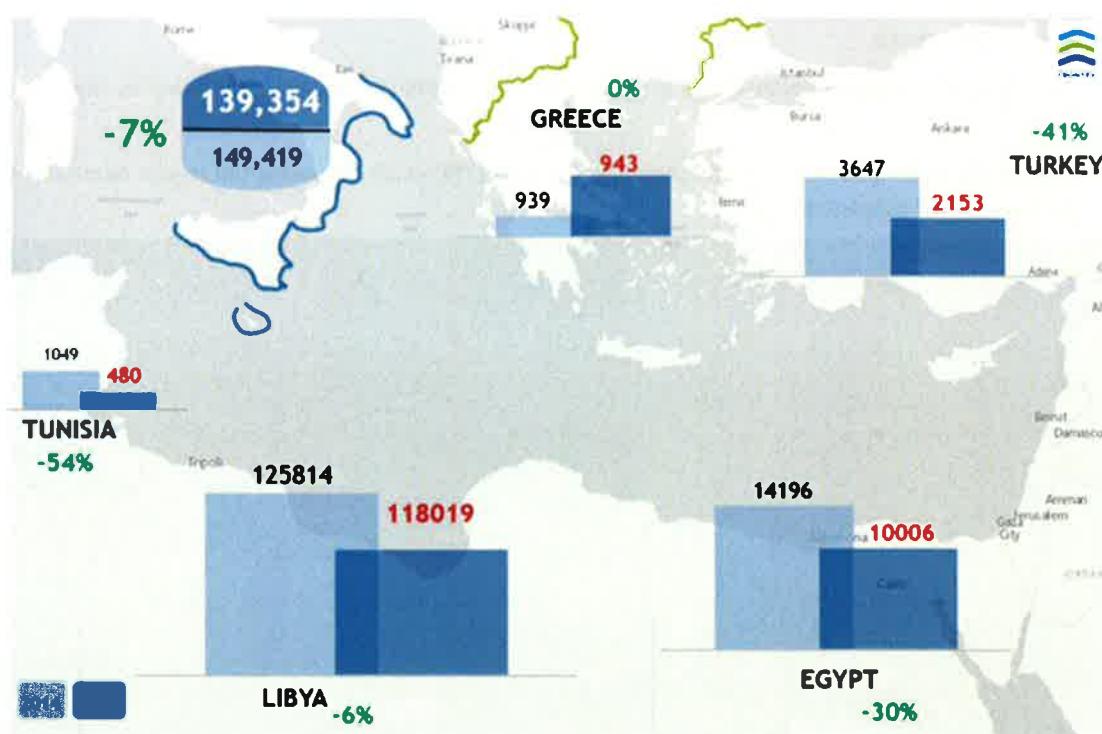
Thus far in October 2015, all the migratory routes towards Italy, except the Turkish route, have reported incidents. Furthermore, thus far in 2015, the breakdown by migratory routes in the Central Mediterranean shows a slight overall decreasing trend (-7%) with decreasing arrivals from Libya (-6%), Turkey (-41%), Egypt (-30%) and Tunisia (-54%) and a stable trend from Greece.

It is worth mentioning that during since July 2015, the flow towards Italy has been decreasing when compared to the previous months and also when compared to the same period of 2014. Among the main reasons of this decrease it should be mentioned the diversion of part of the flow from Libya towards Turkey.

In fact the number of 4 Syrian nationals detected from Libya has decreased of approximately 79% in the period 1 Jan - 18 Oct of 2015 when compared to the same period of 2014 (from 31 278 migrants in 2014 to 6 687 migrants in 2015).

In parallel, migrants prefer the route from the western coast of Turkey to the Greek Eastern Aegean Islands and then towards the Balkan route rather than using the longer, more expensive and less safe sea route from Turkey directly to Italy.

The following map shows the volume of the migratory flows by country of departure since the beginning of 2015:



Total number of migrants by departure country, comparing 1 January - 18 October 2015 to the same period last year, and the total percentage of decrease compared to 2014.

Statistics Weeks 41 – 42 (1 January – 18 October 2015)

The JO Triton 2015 was launched on 1 February 2015 and is scheduled to conclude on 31 December 2015.

916 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

139 358 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Eritrean (33 010), Nigerian (16 838), Somali (10 167), Sudanese (7 777), Syrian (6 708), Gambian (6 248), Bangladeshi (4 820), and Malian (4 760).

The main countries of departure were Libya (118 019), Egypt (10 006), Turkey (2 153), Greece (943), Tunisia (480) & Algeria (133).

366 People smugglers were arrested in 178 incidents (*several incidents pending validation*).

296 Fatalities were reported in 36 incidents.

4 Incidents related to the prevention of departure.

441 Irregular migrants were prevented from departure.

3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

19 Smugglers were arrested.

2 Incident related to third country action.

202 Would-be migrants were reported by a third country.

7 Incidents related to pollution.

~86% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area, ~14% inside.

~90% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

From the beginning of the operation on 1 February to 18 October 2015

886 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

135 745 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

364 People smugglers were arrested in 177 incidents.

294 Fatalities were reported in 33 incidents.

During the reporting period between 5 - 18 Oct 2015

44 Illegal border-crossing incidents occurred.

6 551 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities were Eritrean (1 803), Somali (645), Nigerian (576), Moroccan (486), Egypt (293), Sudanese (267), Gambian (218), Senegalese (130), and Syrian (123).

The main countries of departure were Libya (2 545 migrants), Egypt (359), Tunisia (11), and Algeria (60). The country of departure of over 3 500 irregular migrants is still pending.

0 People smugglers arrested.

8 Fatalities were reported.

~84% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area while ~16% occurred inside.

~82% 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 (22 October 2015, 12:00 hrs.).

Frontex Operations Division

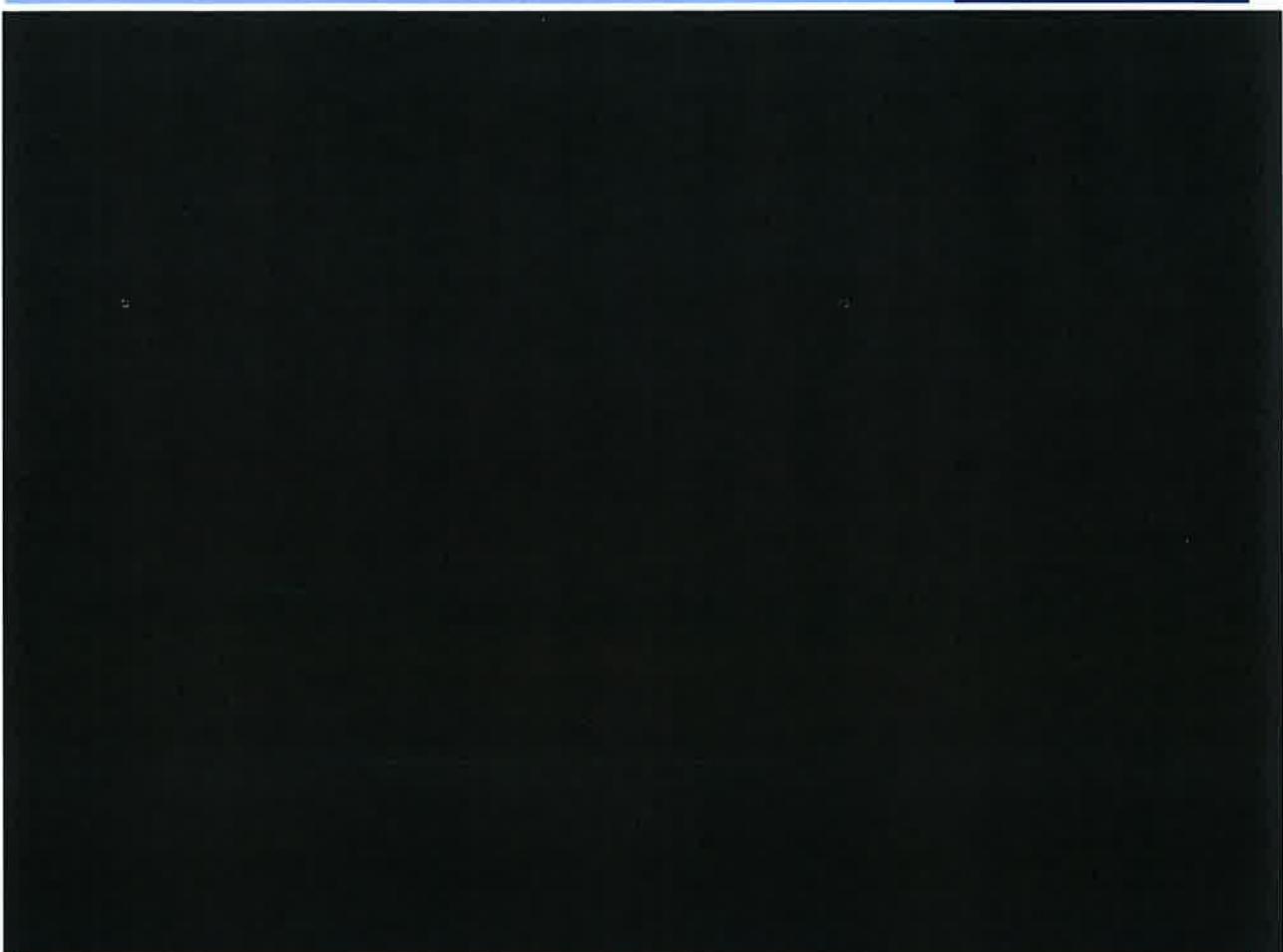
Risk Analysis Unit

Warsaw, Poland

Reference number: 16872/2015

Biweekly No. 19, 19 Oct–1 Nov 2015 (weeks 43-44), Ref.17962/2015

6 November 2015



Key points

- ◆ The number of irregular migrants thus far detected in 2015 on the Central Mediterranean route (over 141 000) shows a slight decrease 8% compared to the number of irregular migrants apprehended during the same period in 2014.
- ◆ During week 43 & 44, the overall decreasing trend continued on all migratory routes in the Central Mediterranean. From 19 October to 1 November, 1 549 irregular migrants were rescued in the Central Mediterranean after having departed from Libya.
- ◆ It is important to highlight that the sharp decrease in the number of Syrian nationals (-81%) travelling across the Central Mediterranean is compensated by the sharp increase in the number of migrants arriving in Italy from Central and West African countries (+81%), and from Horn of African countries & Sudan (+33%).
- ◆ The decrease over the past few weeks has coincided with a lack of departures from Zuwara, which used to be the main point of departure from Libya, in particular for wooden boats, and the onset of adverse weather and sea conditions for the sea crossing in the Central Mediterranean area, mirroring seasonal patterns observed in previous years.



Main Trends

During the period under analysis, **13 illegal immigration incidents** were reported (3 incidents in week 43 and 10 in week 44) involving the apprehension of **1 549 irregular migrants**, most of the vessels arrive from Libya.

The number of irregular migrants thus far detected in **2015 (141 112)** shows an **8% decrease** compared to the number of irregular migrants apprehended during the same period in 2014. The areas of Sabratah, Zliten, Tajoura and, in particular, Gasr Garabulli were identified as the main departure points in Libya during the period under analysis.

General Overview

The Central Mediterranean route which reached a peak during the months of June and July 2015, began decreasing in August 2015. This **decrease also continued during September and October**. The decrease in October coincided with the onset of adverse winter conditions for sea crossings in the Mediterranean area; no irregular migrant arriving in Italy from Zuwara in September and October, which used to be the main point of departure from Libya, in particular for wooden boats; and the start of the EUNAVFOR Med operation that started on 7 October.

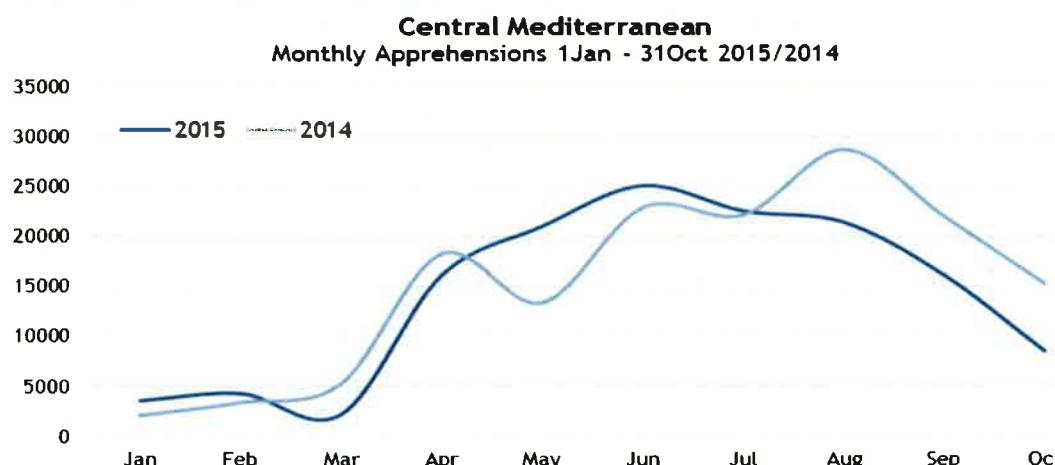
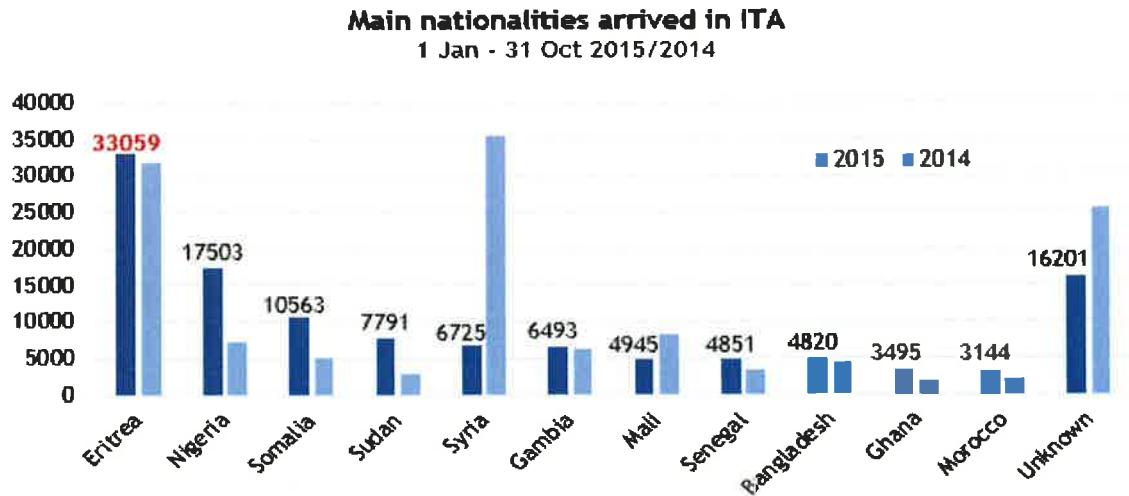


Figure 2: Monthly breakdown of apprehensions in 2015 compared to 2014.

Main Nationalities

Thus far in 2015, the most common nationalities reported within the framework of the JO Triton have been from the following countries: Eritrea, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Gambia, Mali, and Senegal.



In spite of the stable trend, it is important to highlight that the sharp decrease in the number of Syrian nationals (-81%) using the Central Mediterranean, is compensated by the sharp increase in the number of migrants arriving in Italy from Central and West African countries (+81%), and from Horn of African countries & Sudan (+33%).

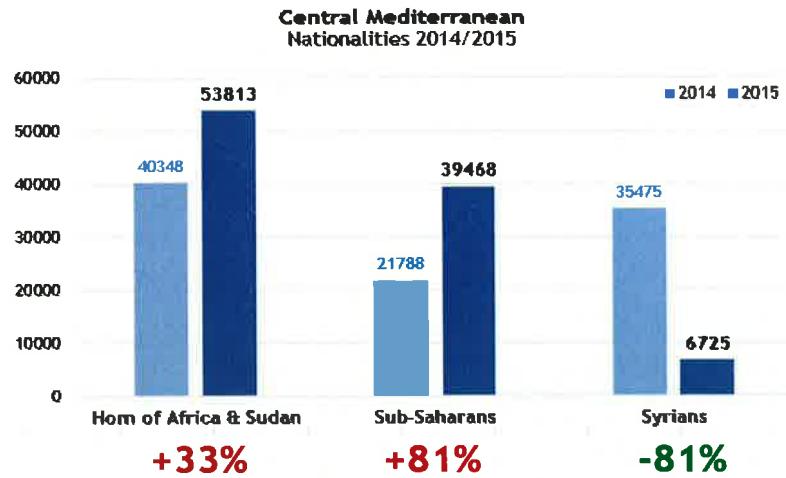
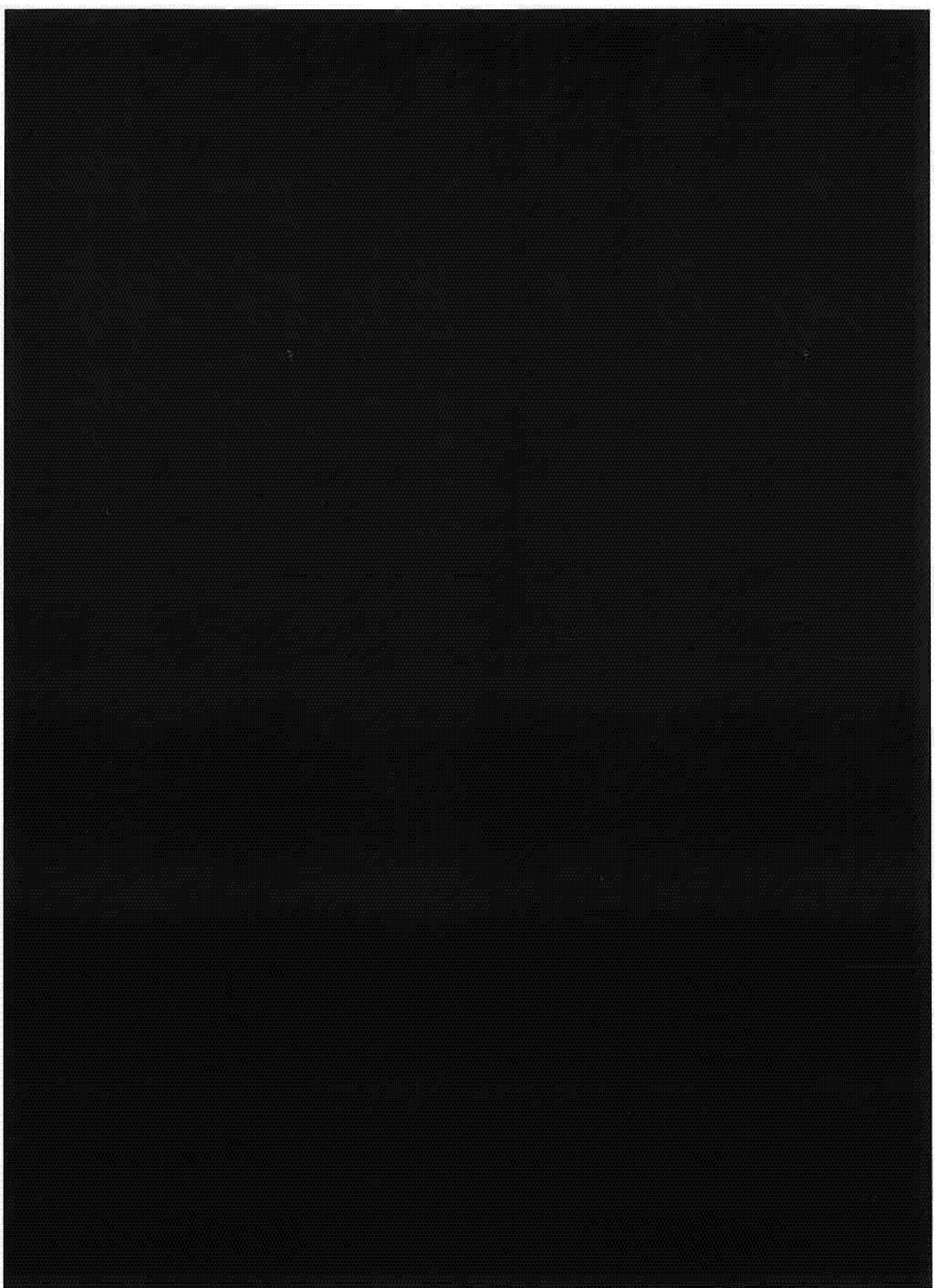


Figure 4: Main nationality trends in 2015 compared to 2014.

Main findings during the reporting period





Zuwara: Local population fighting against people smuggling networks

- Thus far during 2015, the number of irregular migrants which have departed from the Zuwara area has exceeded 31 000, accounting for 22% of the total number of irregular migrants arriving from Libya. Starting from 2014 until late summer 2015, Zuwara had been the main departure area in Libya, involving inflatable dinghies and wooden boats. The Zuwara area was perceived by would-be migrants as the 'safest' departure area, which suggested the presence of very well-organised people smuggling networks.

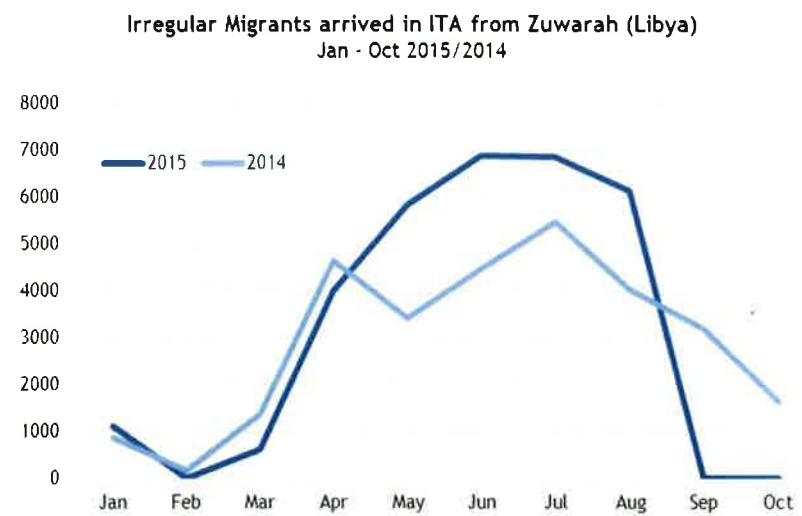
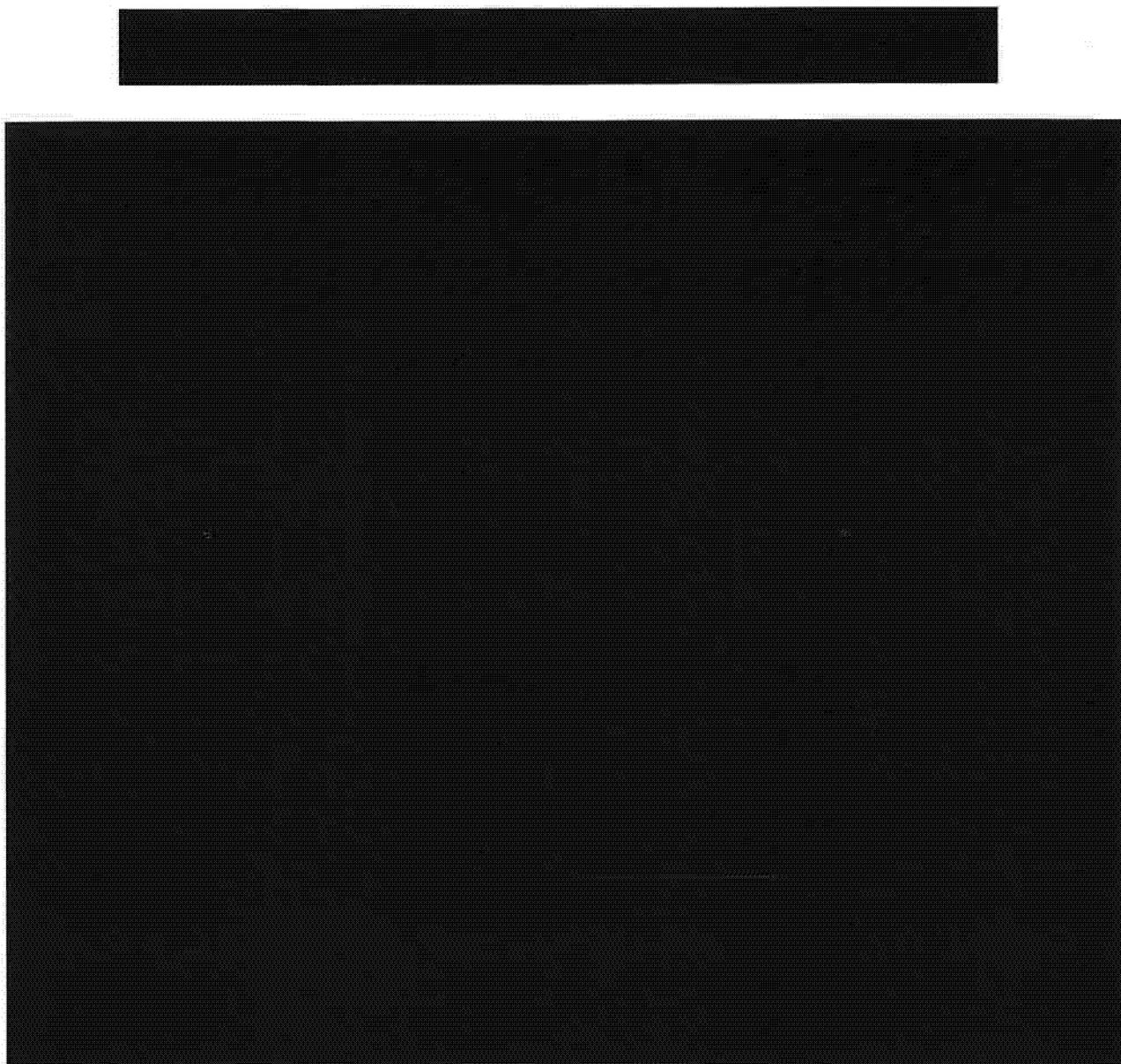


Figure 5: Irregular migrants arrived in Italy from Zuwara.



174

130

Secondary Movements in the EU

A large number of the migrants stated that they have relatives established in the abovementioned EU countries.



Figure 9: Main final destinations declared by the migrants interviewed during the reporting period.

Main trends by country of departure in 2015

Since April 2015, all the migratory routes towards Italy have reported incidents. The breakdown by migratory routes in the Central Mediterranean reports an **overall decreasing trend**: from Libya (-6%), Egypt (-32%), Turkey (-55%), Tunisia (-58%) and Greece (-7%).

The following map shows the volume of the migratory flows by country of departure since the beginning of 2015:

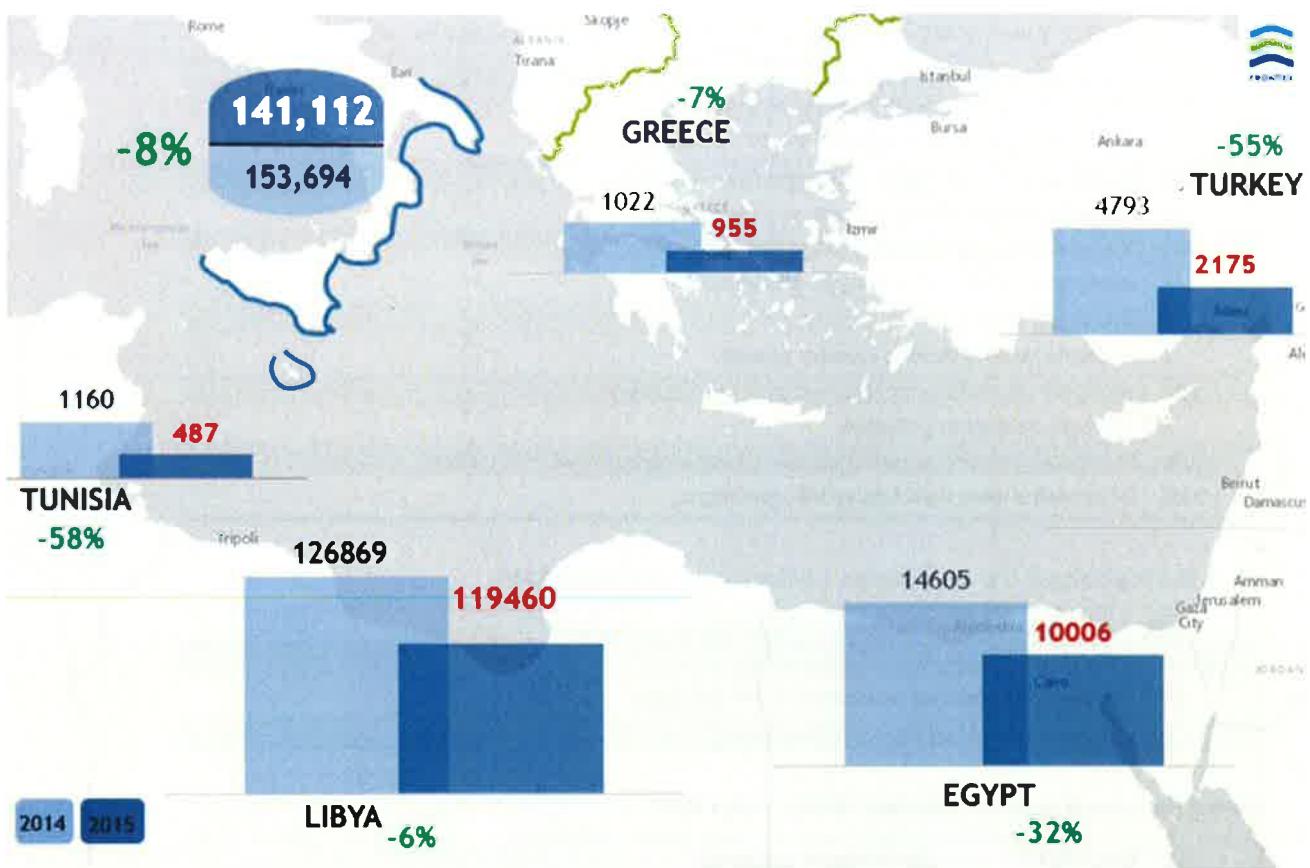


Figure 10: Total number of migrants by departure country, comparing 1 January - 31 October 2015 to the same period last year, and the total percentage of decrease compared to 2014.

Statistics Weeks 41 – 42 (1 January – 18 October 2015)

The JO Triton 2015 was launched on 1 February 2015 and is scheduled to conclude on 31 December 2015.

In 2015 (1 January to 1 November)

929 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

141 112 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Eritrean (33 059), Nigerian (17 503), Somali (10 563), Sudanese (7 791), Syrian (6 725), Gambian (6 493), Malian (4 945), and Senegalese (4 851).

The main countries of departure were Libya (120 510), Egypt (10 006), Turkey (2 175), Greece (955), Tunisia (487) & Algeria (136).

389 People smugglers were arrested in 189 incidents.

296 Fatalities were reported in 36 incidents.

4 Incidents related to the prevention of departure.

441 Irregular migrants were prevented from departing.

3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

19 Smugglers were arrested.

2 Incidents related to third country actions.

202 Would-be migrants were reported by a third country.

7 Incidents related to pollution.

~86% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area, ~14% inside.

~98% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

From the beginning of the operation on 1 February to 1 November 2015

899 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

137 499 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

387 People smugglers were arrested in 187 incidents.

294 Fatalities were reported in 33 incidents.

During the reporting period between 19 Oct - 1 Nov 2015

13 Illegal border-crossing incidents occurred.

1 549 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities were Nigerian, Eritrean, Somali, Ghanaian, Sudanese, Cameroonian and Gambian.

The main countries of departure were Libya (1 210 migrants) and Algeria (3). The country of departure of around 300 irregular migrants is unknown.

2 People smugglers were arrested.

0 Fatalities were reported.

~92% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area while ~8% occurred inside.

~100% 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 (4 November 2015, 15:00 hrs.).

Frontex Operations Division

Risk Analysis Unit

Warsaw, Poland

Reference number: 17962/2015

Key Points

- ◆ As of 15 November, **143 579 irregular migrants** have been intercepted in the Central Mediterranean, which represents a **~8.5% decrease** compared to the same period of 2014.
- ◆ Sharp **increase** in the number of **Moroccan nationals** arriving from Libya.
- ◆ Migrants from **sub-Saharan countries** continue to **arrive from Morocco, transiting Algeria to Libya**.
- ◆ High percentage of **young females** from different sub-Saharan countries travelling alone.



Main Trends

During the period under analysis, 28 illegal immigration incidents were reported (12 incidents in week 45, and 16 in week 46) involving the apprehension of 2 602 irregular migrants (1 511 detections in week 45, and 1 091 detections in week 46); 16 boats arrived from Libya with 2 243 migrants on board, 6 boats from Algeria involving 52 migrants, 5 boats from Tunisia with 52 migrants on board, and 1 boat from Egypt involving 255 migrants.

The volume of irregular migrants thus far detected in 2015 (143 579) shows a ~8.5% decrease compared to the very high number of irregular migrants apprehended during the same period in 2014 (156 920).

It is worth mentioning that since July 2015, coinciding with the increasing flow of irregular migrants arriving on the Greek Eastern Aegean Islands from Turkey, the flow towards Italy has steadily decreased compared to the previous months and also compared to the same period of 2014. It is worth emphasising some of the main reasons of this decrease:

- Displacement of a significant part of the flow from Libya to Turkey, mainly Syrian nationals have decreased by approximately 79% in the period 1 Jan - 15 Nov of 2015 compared to the same period of 2014 (from 33 945 migrants in 2014 to 6 869 migrants in 2015). Moreover, the number of other migrants from Asian and Middle Eastern countries, such as Afghans, Palestinians from Syria and Pakistanis have considerably dropped and are using the sea route from Turkey to Greece.
- There has been a decrease in the number of arrivals from Turkey to Italy. As mentioned previously, migrants prefer the route from the west coast of Turkey to the Greek Eastern Aegean Islands and then towards the Balkan route rather than using the longer, more expensive and less safe sea route from Turkey directly to Italy.

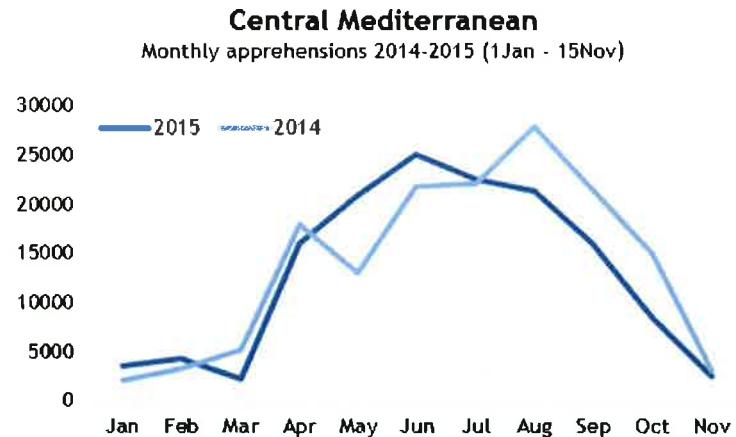


Figure 1: Monthly breakdown of apprehensions in 2015 compared to 2014.

- Weather conditions in the Central Mediterranean Sea: following seasonal patterns, the number of arrivals are decreasing as weather conditions worsen in the Central Mediterranean. During spells of good weather several incidents are reported within a very short period of time (within a few hours), and then there may be no incidents and again several incidents during the next period of good weather.

Main Nationalities

Thus far in 2015, the most common nationalities reported within the framework of the JO Triton have been from the following countries: Eritrea, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Gambia, Bangladeshi, Senegal, Mali, and Ghana.

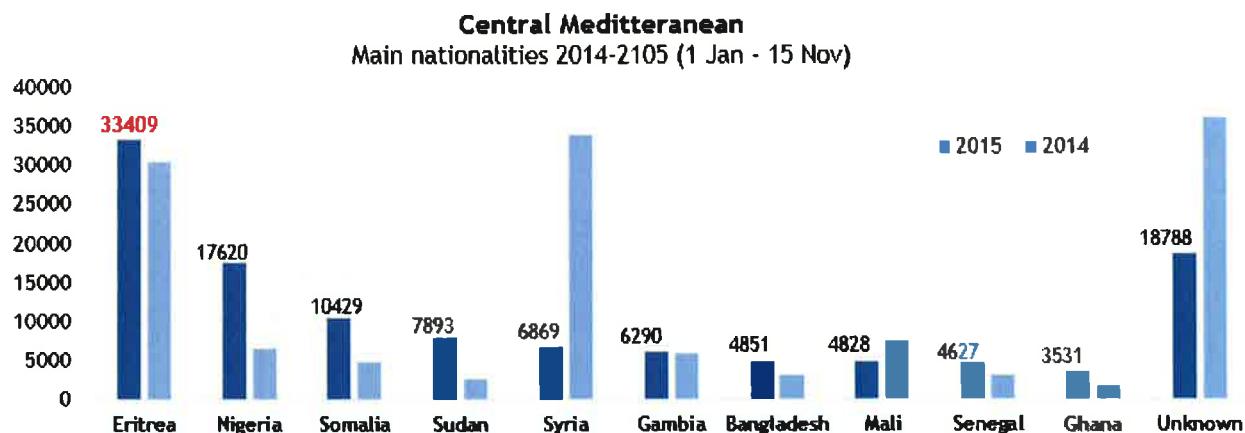


Figure 2: Breakdown by nationalities in 2015 compared to 2014.

As shown in figure 2, nationalities such as Nigerian, Somali and Sudanese have sharply increased during 2015 compared to the same period of 2014, while nationalities such as Syrian, Palestinian, Afghan and Pakistani have decreased or are not among the top ten nationalities thus far in 2015. The main reason for this phenomena is the partial displacement of the migration flow from the Central Mediterranean route towards the Eastern Mediterranean route.

Nationals of Syria, Palestinians from Syria, Afghans and Pakistanis hardly use the Central Mediterranean route

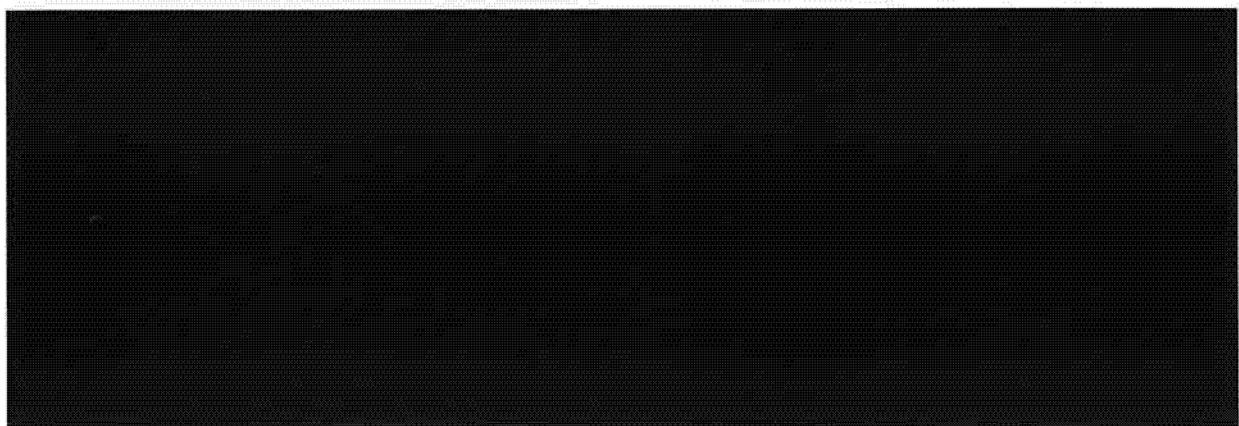
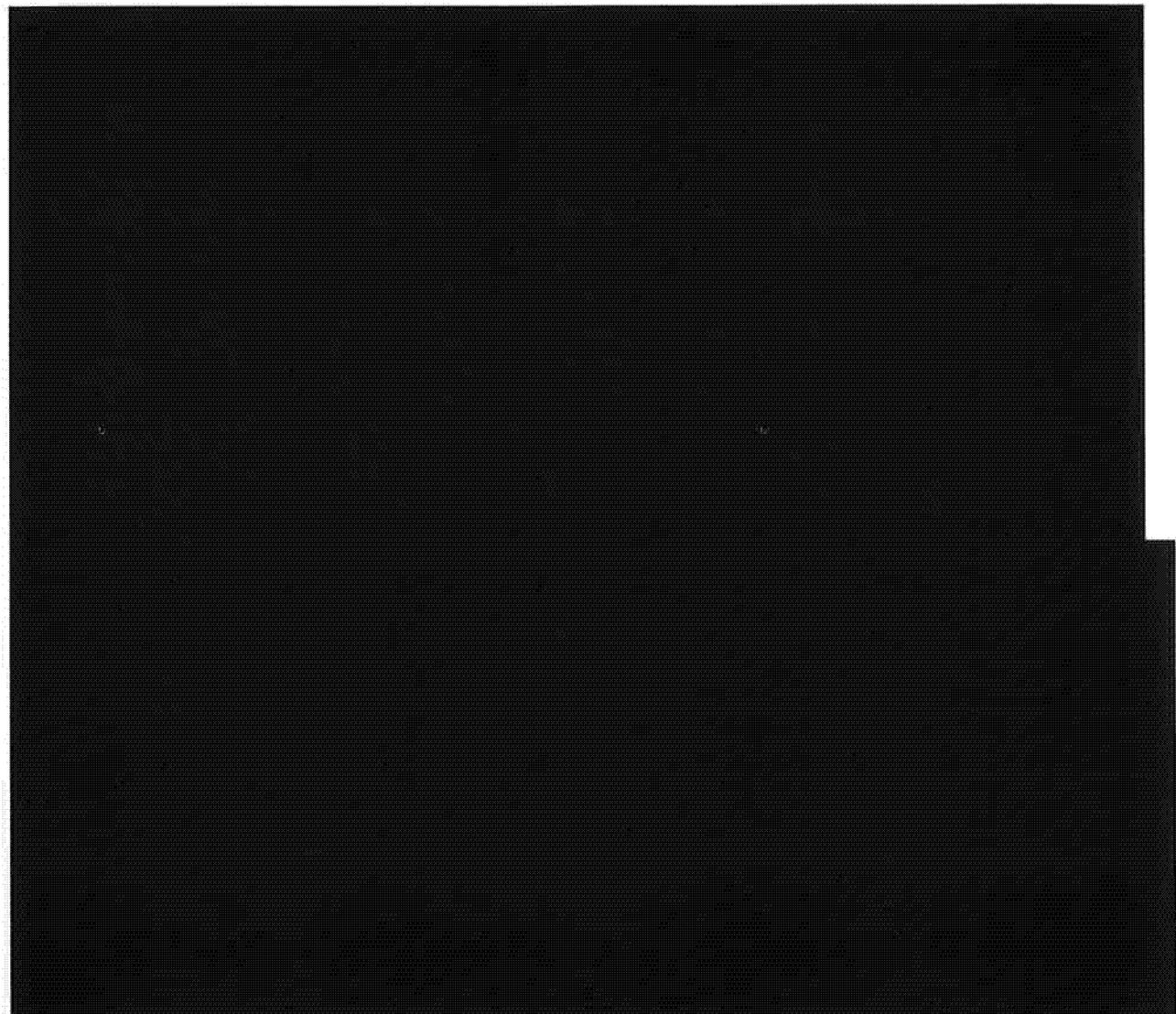
to reach the EU. On the contrary, the migratory flows from African countries, such as Nigerians, Somalis, Sudanese and Eritreans, has sharply increased.

The vast majority of migrants from Asian or Middle Eastern countries arriving in Italy from Libya corresponds to migrants that were living in Libya for a period of time that can reach up to several years and that decided to leave the country because of security and economic concerns.

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Main findings during the reporting period

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Main trends by country of departure in 2015

Since April 2015, all the migratory routes towards Italy have reported incidents. The breakdown by migratory routes in the Central Mediterranean reports an overall **decreasing trend**: from Libya (-5%), Egypt (-28%), Turkey (-60%), Tunisia (-57%) and Greece (-14%).

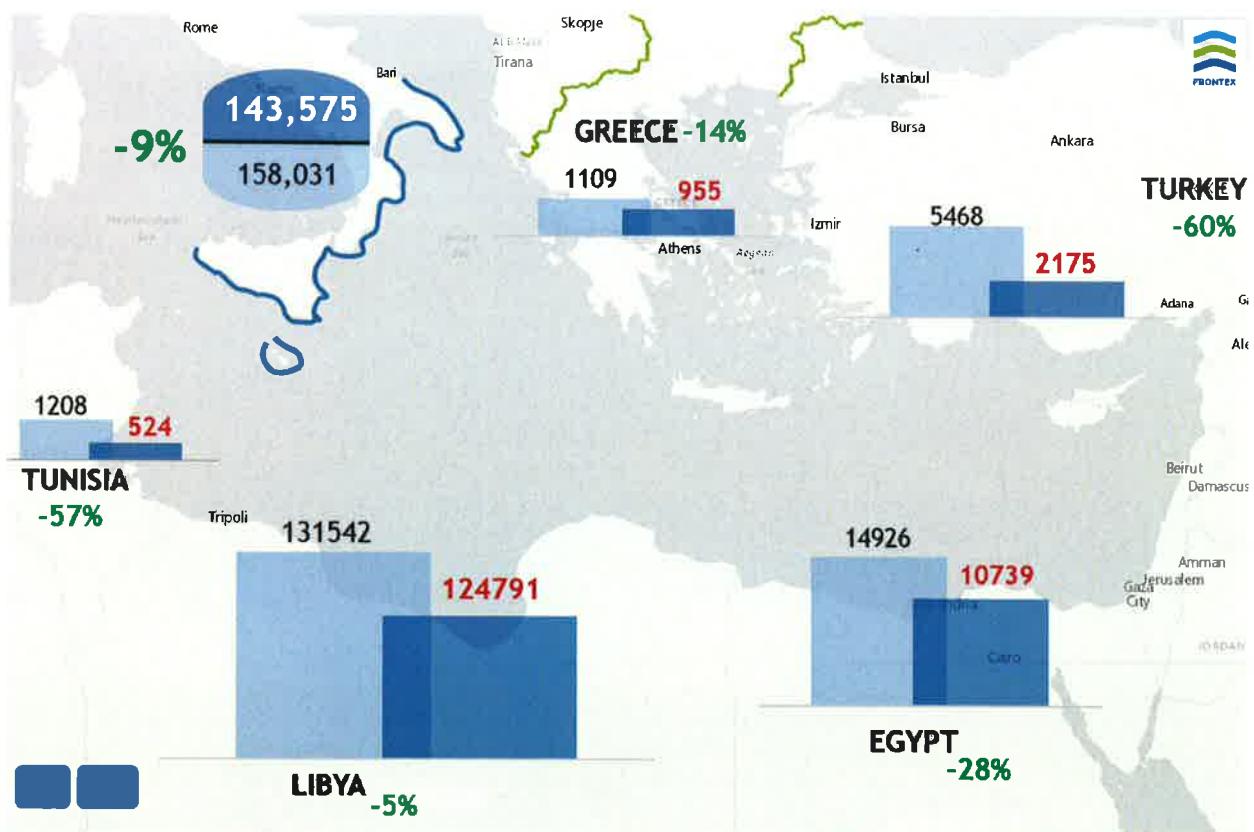


Figure 5: Total number of migrants by departure country, comparing 1 January - 15 November 2015 to the same period last year, and the total percentage of decrease compared to 2014.

Statistics Weeks 45 – 46 (1 January – 15 November 2015)

The JO Triton 2015 was launched on 1 February 2015 and is scheduled to conclude on 31 December 2015.

In 2015 (1 January to 15 November)

957 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

143 579 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Eritrean (33 010), Nigerian (16 838), Somali (10 167), Sudanese (7 777), Syrian (6 708), Gambian (6 248), Bangladeshi (4 820), and Malian (4 760).

The main countries of departure were Libya (118 019), Egypt (10 006), Turkey (2 153), Greece (943), Tunisia (480) & Algeria (133).

411 People smugglers were arrested in 189 incidents.

296 Fatalities were reported in 36 incidents.

4 Incidents related to the prevention of departure.

441 Irregular migrants were prevented from departing.

3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

19 Smugglers were arrested.

2 Incidents related to third country actions.

202 Would-be migrants were reported by a third country.

7 Incidents related to pollution.

-85% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area, ~15% inside.

-90% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

From the beginning of the operation on 1 February to 15 November 2015

927 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

139 966 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

409 People smugglers were arrested in 202 incidents.

294 Fatalities were reported in 33 incidents.

During the reporting period between 1 - 15 Nov 2015

28 Illegal border-crossing incidents occurred.

2 602 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities were Eritrean (1 803), Somali (645), Nigerian (576), Moroccan (486), Egyptian (293), Sudanese (267), Gambian (218), Senegalese (130), and Syrian (123).

The main countries of departure were Libya (2 545 migrants), Egypt (359), Tunisia (11), and Algeria (60). The country of departure of over 3 500 irregular migrants is still pending.

10 People smugglers were arrested.

0 Fatalities were reported.

-61% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area while ~39% occurred inside.

-75% 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 (17 November 2015, 11:00 hrs.).

Frontex Operations Division

Risk Analysis Unit

Warsaw, Poland

Reference number: 18580/2015

Biweekly No. 21, 16–29 Nov 2015 (weeks 47-48), Ref.19611/2015

4 December 2015

Key Points

- ◆ As of 29 November, 144 186 irregular migrants have been intercepted in the Central Mediterranean, which represents a ~11% **decrease** compared to the same period of 2014.
- ◆ Sharp decrease of Eritrean nationals. Nigerians as main nationality.
- ◆ Measures taken by Balkan countries to prevent irregular migration may impact Central Med.
- ◆ Migrants trying to return to countries of origin from Libya are facing problems on exit from Libya.



Main Trends

During the period under analysis, 8 illegal immigration incidents were reported (2 incidents in week 47, and 6 in week 48) involving the apprehension of 624 irregular migrants (124 detections in week 46, and 500 detections in week 47); 7 boats arrived from Libya with 619 migrants on board and 1 boat from Greece involving 5 migrants.

The total number of irregular migrants thus far detected in 2015 (144 186) shows a -11% decrease compared to the very high number of irregular migrants apprehended during the same period in 2014 (162 650).

Following the seasonal pattern, during the reporting period the flow continued to decrease, mainly due to the worsening of weather conditions. Week 47 reported the lowest number of migrants apprehended and incidents since March of 2015 (week 13). The vast majority of the incidents are related to incidents involving boats that departed from Libya heading towards Italy.

It is worth mentioning that after more than two and a half months with no incidents reported from Greece, on 23 November an incident involving the arrival of 5 Iraqi migrants from Greece was reported in the framework on JO Triton 2015. The secondary movements of irregular migrants from Greece to Italy used to be mainly linked to the number of migrants apprehended at the Greek-Turkish sea and land borders.

However, since the start of the phenomenon in July of 2015, which resulted in the massive use of the land route through the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Hungary, later replaced by Croatia of thousands of people on a daily basis the number of migrants arriving from

Central Mediterranean
Monthly apprehensions 2014-2015 (1Jan - 29Nov)

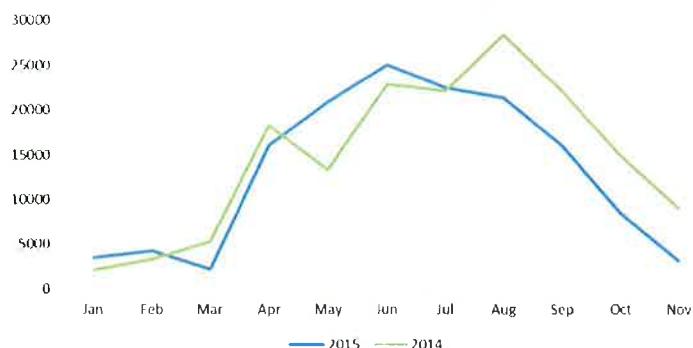


Figure 1: Monthly breakdown of apprehensions in 2015 compared to 2014.

Greece to Italy started to decrease reaching zero during September and October and most of November (see figure 1).

Moreover, during August of 2015, the flow of migrants heading directly from Turkey to Italy has decreased with no arrivals reported since 23 September 2015, showing a sharp decrease when compared to the same period of 2014.

Therefore, it can be deducted that migrants prefer the route from the west coast of Turkey to the Greek eastern Aegean islands and then towards the Balkan route rather than using the longer and less safe route from Turkey straight to Italy or the more expensive route from Greece to Italy.

Migration flow to Italy by Sea from Turkey
1Jan - 29Nov (2014/2015)



Migration flow to Italy by Sea from Greece
1Jan - 29Nov (2014/2015)

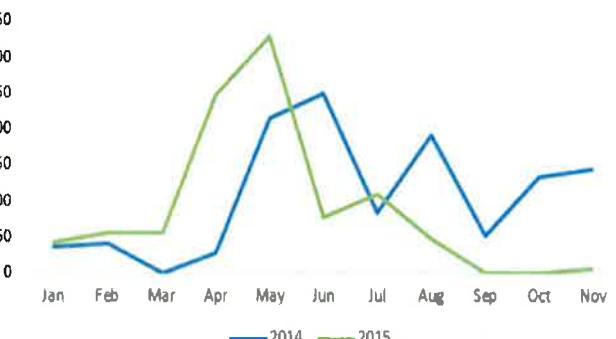


Figure 2: Monthly breakdown of apprehensions from Turkey and from Greece in 2015 compared to 2014.

Main Nationalities

Thus far in 2015, the most common nationalities reported within the framework of the JO Triton have been from the following countries: Eritrea, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Gambia, Bangladeshi, Senegal, Mali, and Ghana.

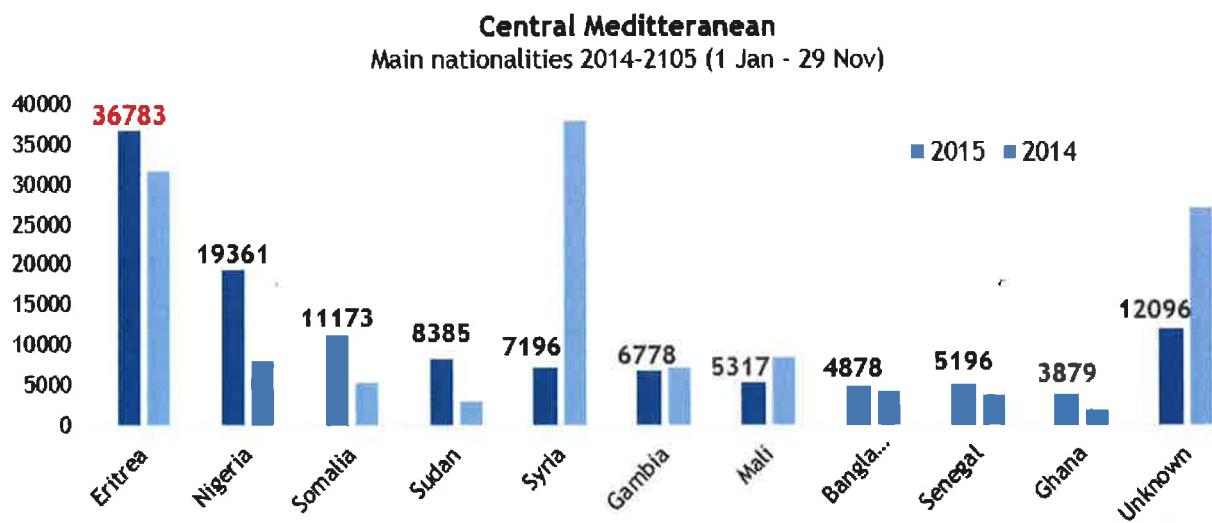


Figure 3: Main nationalities reported in Italy in 2015 compared to 2014.

During November the number of Eritrean nationals have drastically decreased when compared to other nationalities. A diaspora is known to exist in Libya that offers shelter and support to Eritrean nationals who are waiting to cross to Libya.

Over the past five years Eritreans nationals have followed a common pattern: as soon as the weather conditions worsen the number of Eritreans willing to cross the sea decreases until the weather conditions become more favourable for maritime navigation. While this occurs, Nigerians become the main nationality followed by Somalis

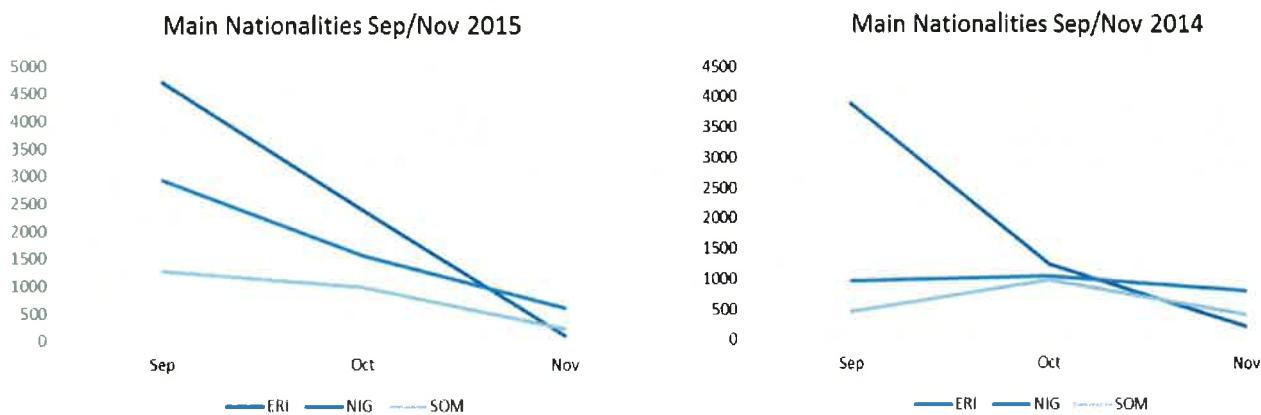


Figure 4: Main three nationalities reported in the Central Mediterranean during the last three months compared to 2014.

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Main findings during the reporting period



Main final destinations



Main trends by country of departure in 2015

Thus far in November 2015, all the migratory routes towards Italy, except the Turkish and Greek routes, have reported incidents. Furthermore, thus far in 2015, the breakdown by migratory routes in the Central Mediterranean shows an overall decreasing trend (-11%) with a decreasing number of arrivals from Libya (-4%), Greece (-16%), Egypt (-27%), Turkey (-67%) and Tunisia (-54%) and a stable trend from Greece.

The following map shows the volume of the migratory flows by country of departure since the beginning of 2015:

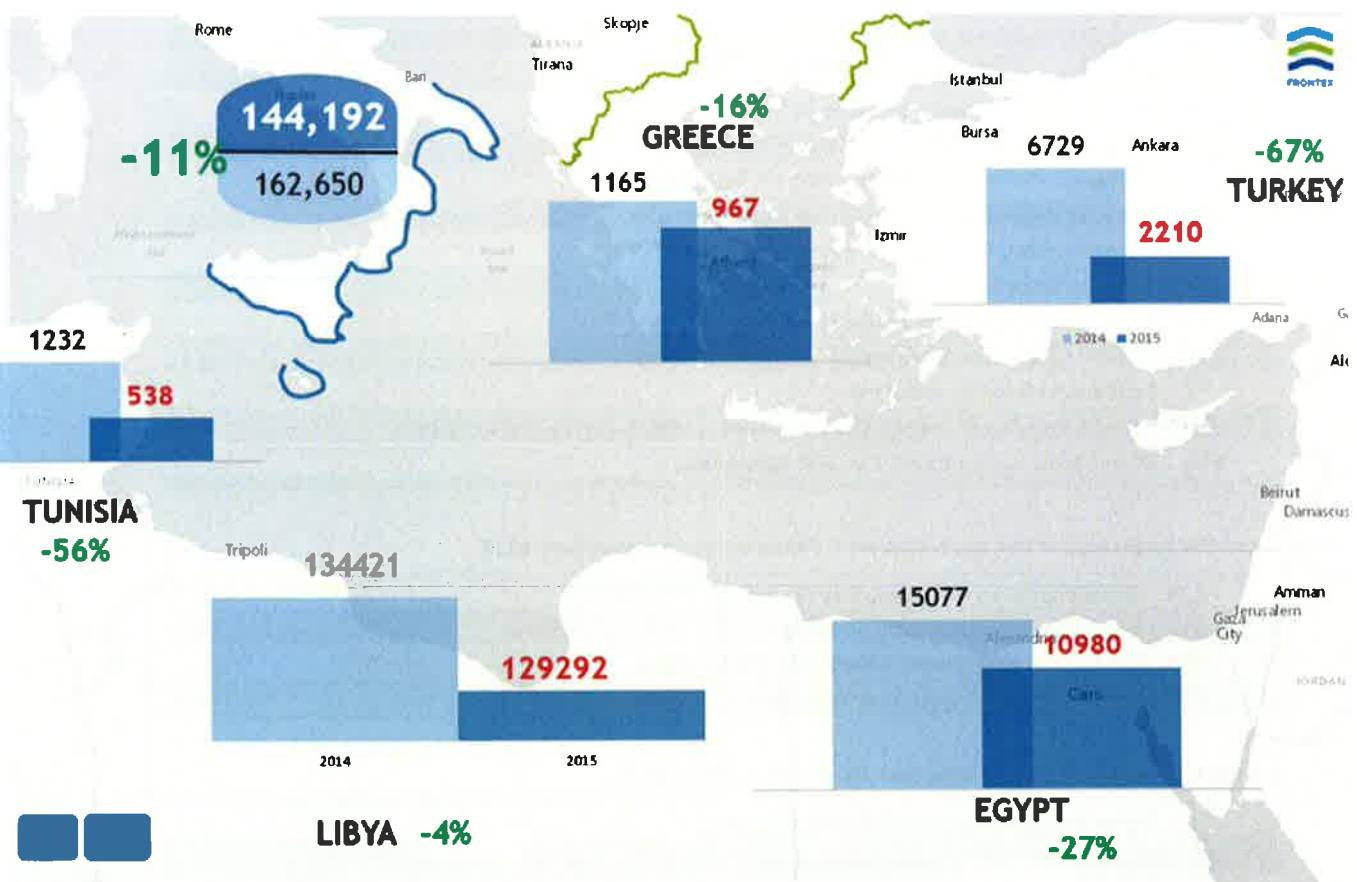


Figure 5: Total number of migrants by departure country, comparing 1 January - 15 November 2015 to the same period last year, and the total percentage of decrease compared to 2014.

Statistics Weeks 47 – 48 (1 January – 29 November 2015)

The JO Triton 2015 was launched on 1 February 2015 and is scheduled to conclude on 31 December 2015.

In 2015 (1 January to 29 November)

965 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

144 186 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Eritrean (36 783), Nigerian (19 361), Somali (11 173), Sudanese (8 385), Syrian (7 196), Gambian (6 778), Bangladeshi (4 878), and Malian (5 317).

The main countries of departure were Libya (129 185), Egypt (10 980), Turkey (2 210), Greece (967), Tunisia (538) & Algeria (179).

426 People smugglers were arrested in 206 incidents.

297 Fatalities were reported in 36 incidents.

4 Incidents related to the prevention of departure.

441 Irregular migrants were prevented from departure.

3 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

19 Smugglers were arrested.

3 Incident related to third country action.

202 Would-be migrants were reported by a third country.

7 Incidents related to pollution.

~85% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area, ~15% inside.

~86% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

From the beginning of the operation on 1 February to 15 November 2015

935 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

140 573 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

424 People smugglers were arrested in 205 incidents.

295 Fatalities were reported in 34 incidents.

During the reporting period between 16 - 29 November 2015

8 Illegal border-crossing incidents occurred.

624 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities were Nigerian (87), Gambian (83), Somali (61), Mali (72), Senegal (46), Ghanaian (23), and Eritrean (17).

The main countries of departure were Libya (619 migrants) and Greece (5).

0 People smugglers arrested.

0 Fatalities were reported.

~75% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area while ~25% occurred inside.

~75% 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 (03 December 2015, 11:00 hrs.).

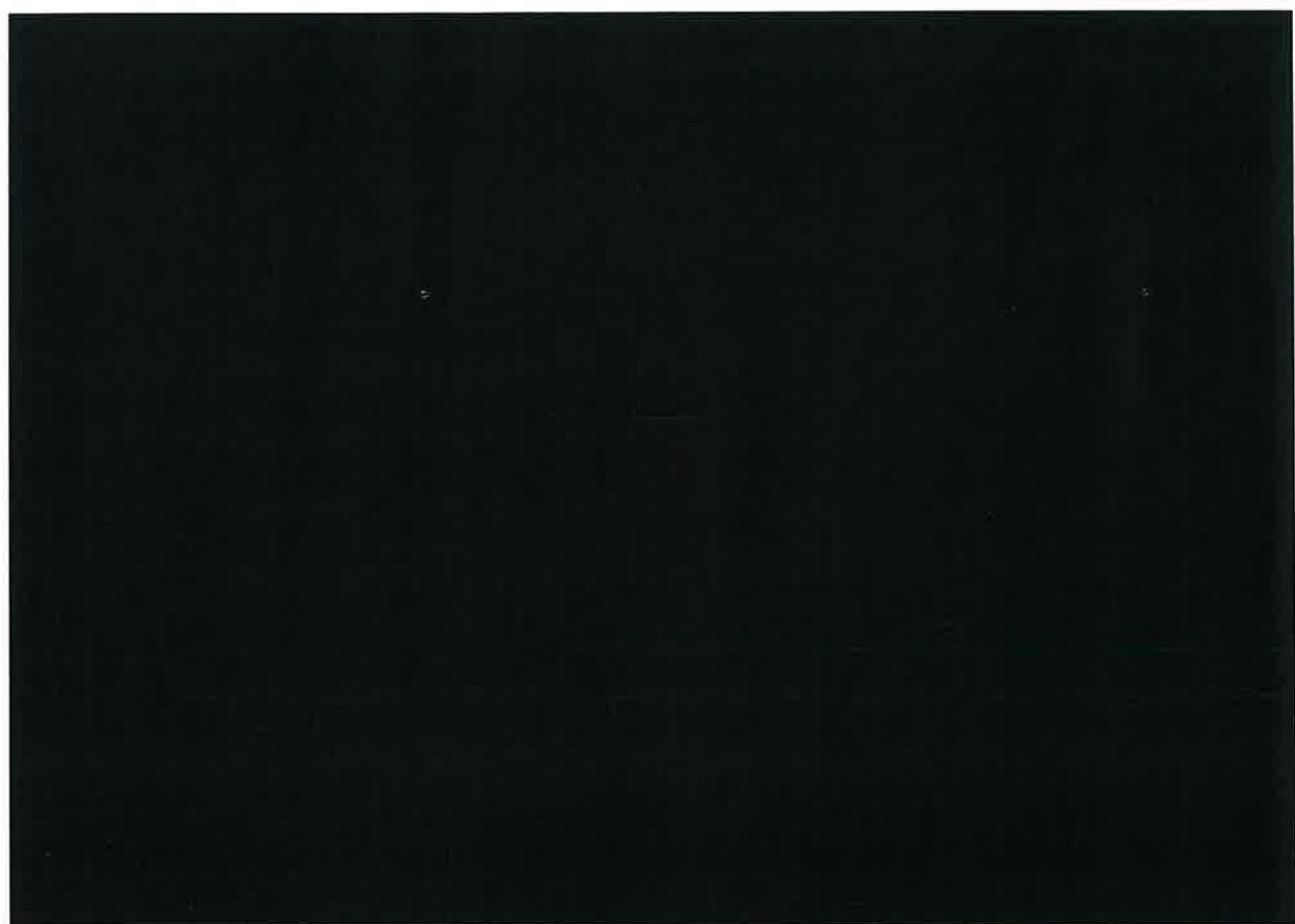
Frontex Operations Division

Risk Analysis Unit

Warsaw, Poland

Reference number: 19611/2015

Biweekly No. 22, 30 Nov–20 Dec 2015 (weeks 49 to 51), Ref.20835/2015 | 22 December 2015



Key points

- ◆ As of 20 December, 150 902 irregular migrants have been intercepted in the Central Mediterranean, which represents a -9 decrease compared to the same period of 2014.
- ◆ [REDACTED]
- ◆ A boat left adrift was recovered by smuggling networks and was used again the following day to smuggling more people towards Italy..
- ◆ [REDACTED]
- ◆ Weather conditions are one of the main factors affecting irregular migration flows from Libya, as weather conditions improve the number of incidents immediately increase.



Main Trends

During the period under analysis, 57 illegal immigration incidents were reported (37 incidents in week 49, 8 in week 50, and 12 in week 51). These incidents involved the apprehension of 6 605 irregular migrants (5 040 detections in week 49, 408 detections in week 50 and 1 057 detections in week 51); 46 boats arrived from Libya with 6 494 migrants on board, 8 boats from Algeria with 89 migrants and 2 boats from Tunisia with 22 migrants on board.

The total number of irregular migrants thus far detected in 2015 (150 902) shows a -9% decrease compared to the number of irregular migrants apprehended during the same period in 2014 (166 515). Nevertheless, during week 49 a sharp increase in the number of irregular migrants was reported in the operational area compared to the previous week and also compared to the same week of 2014.

This sharp increase was related to a sudden improvement of weather conditions in the Central Mediterranean Sea, which was used by smuggling networks to facilitate as many migrants as possible before weather conditions deteriorate again.

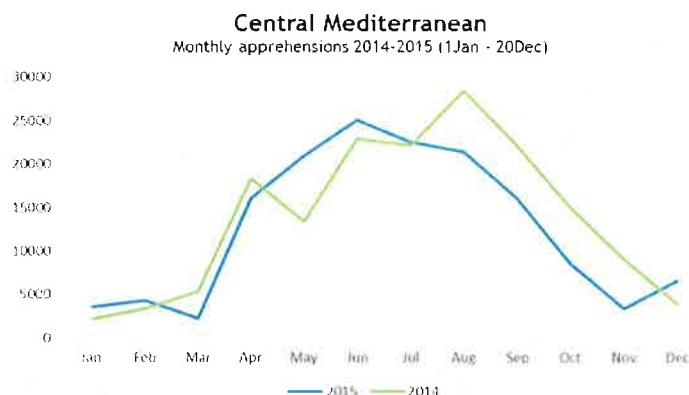


Figure 2: Central med monthly apprehensions 2014/2015.

It is worth noting that peaks in arrivals during periods of good weather have occurred during autumn and winter for the past three years. This can again be highlighted by the number of migrants arriving during week 49 and should be considered as a peak that fits the pattern. Moreover, during week 50 the flow decreased as weather conditions worsened, while during week 51 it increased again as weather conditions improved. Furthermore, it is worth mentioning that the intensity of the flow during autumn and winter is directly related to weather conditions in the Central Mediterranean Sea.

The vast majority of incidents continued to involve boats that had departed from Libya bound for Italy.

It is worth mentioning that most of the migrants interviewed during the reporting period referred to poor weather conditions to explain the lack of departures during the month of November.

Main Nationalities

Thus far in 2015, the most common nationalities reported within the framework of the JO Triton have been from the following countries: Eritrea, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Gambia, Bangladesh, Senegal, Mali, and Morocco.

During 2015 the number of Moroccan nationals has drastically increased (~83%) compared to the same period of 2015, becoming the tenth main nationality (see figure 4) in 2015. Most of these Moroccan nationals arrived in Libya a few weeks or months before they departed for the EU. █

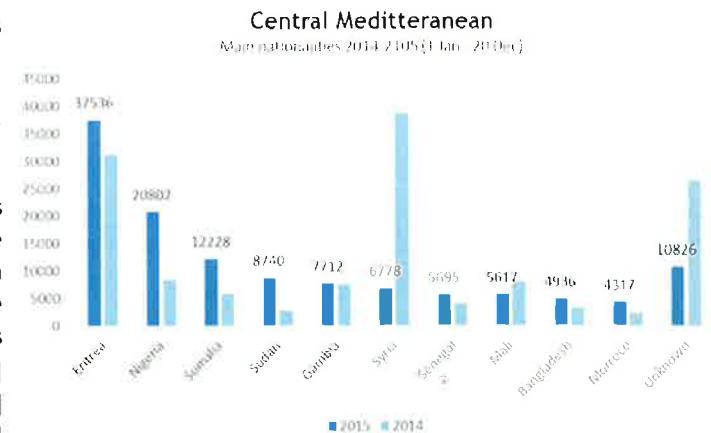


Figure 2: Main nationalities in the Central med 2014/2015

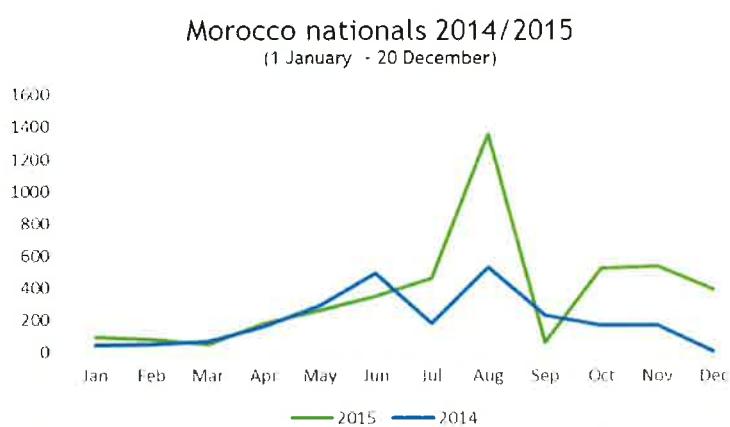
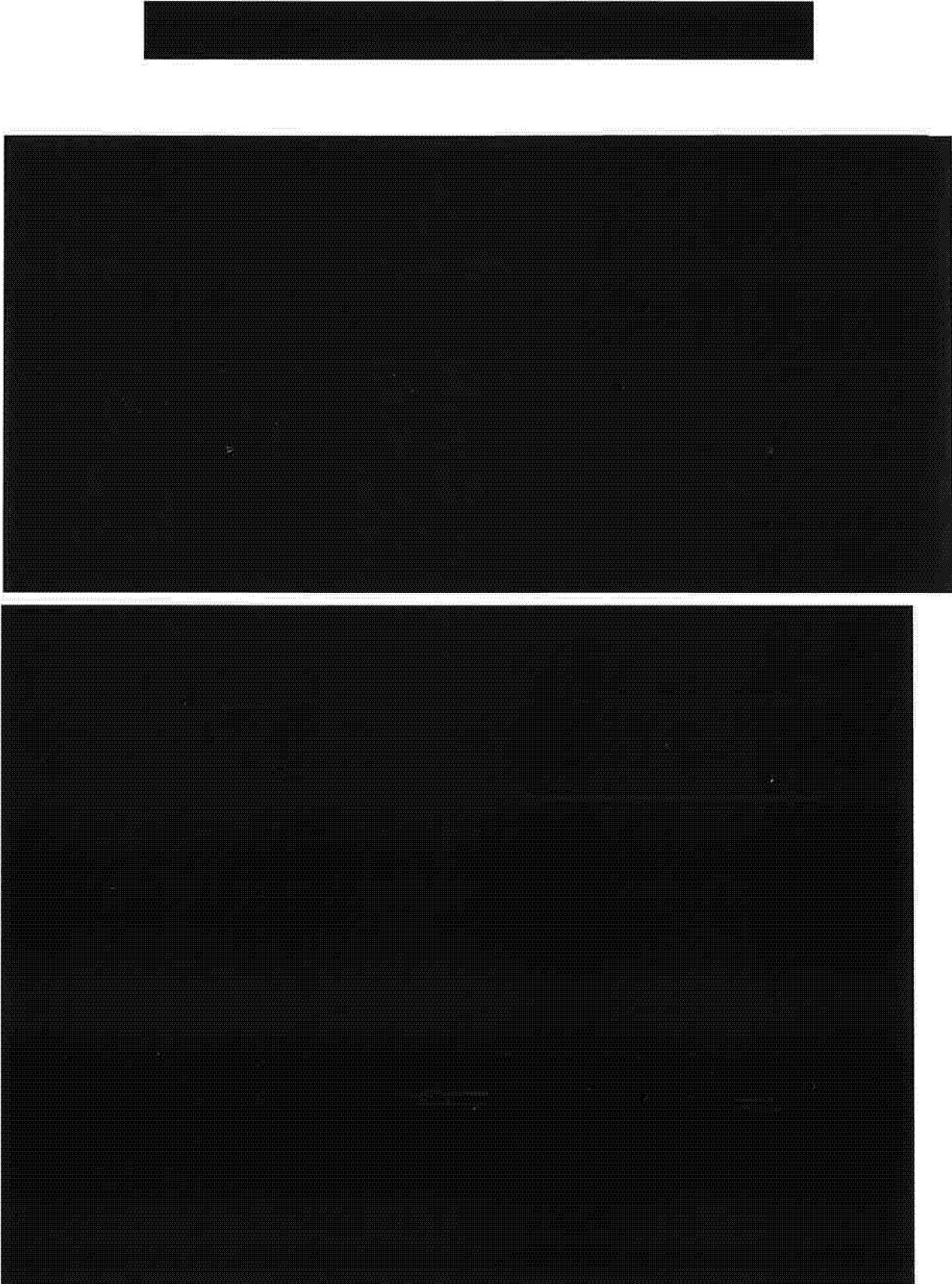


Figure 4: Total number of Moroccan nationals apprehended in the Central med 2014/2015

As reported during previous weeks the main reason for this increase in the number of Moroccans is the impossibility to reach Spain because of the strong presence of Moroccan law enforcement in departure areas and the easiness in which they can be smuggled from Libya to Italy. █

Main findings during the reporting period

- █



- The number of arrivals in Italy has decreased by 27% compared to 2014.
- The number of arrivals in Greece has decreased by 27% compared to 2014.
- The number of arrivals in Turkey has decreased by 76% compared to 2014.
- The number of arrivals in Libya has decreased by 2% compared to 2014.
- The number of arrivals in Egypt has decreased by 27% compared to 2014.
- The number of arrivals in Tunisia has decreased by 55% compared to 2014.

Main trends by countries of departure 2015

- Thus far in 2015, all the migratory routes towards Italy, except the Turkish and Greek routes, have reported incidents. Furthermore, thus far in 2015, the breakdown by migratory routes in the Central Mediterranean shows an overall decreasing trend (-9%) with a decreasing number of arrivals from Libya (-2%), Greece (-27%), Egypt (-27%), Turkey (-76%) and Tunisia (-55%).

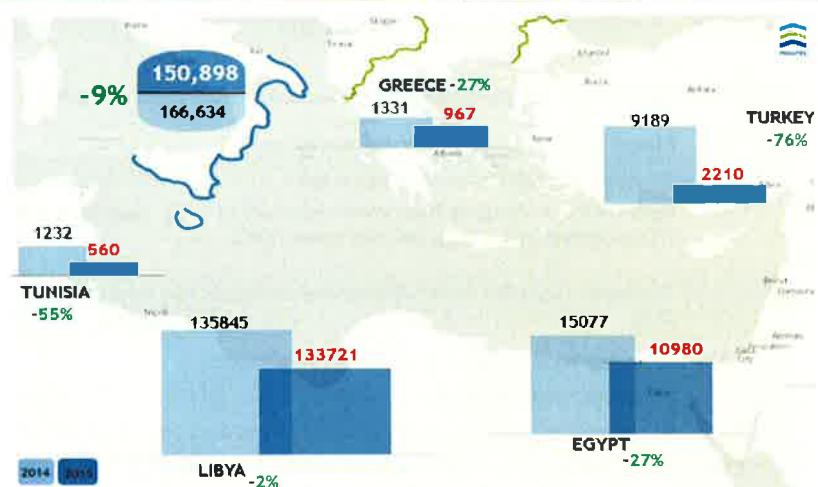


Figure 5: Total number of migrants by departure country, comparing 1 January - 20 December 2015 to the same period last year, and the percentage of decrease compared to 2014.

Statistics

The JO Triton 2015 was launched on 1 February 2015 and is scheduled to conclude on 31 December 2015.

In 2015 (1 January to 20 December)

1 022 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

150 902 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities - Eritrean (37 536), Nigerian (20 802), Somali (12 228), Sudanese (8 740), Gambian (7 712), Syrian (7 274), Senegalese (5 695), and Malian (5 617).

The main countries of departure were Libya (135 904), Egypt (10 980), Turkey (2 210), Greece (967), Tunisia (560) & Algeria (277).

439 People smugglers were arrested in 217 incidents.

297 Fatalities were reported in 36 incidents.

4 Incidents related to the prevention of departure.

441 Irregular migrants were prevented from departure.

4 Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.

30 Smugglers were arrested.

4 Incident related to third country action.

210 Would-be migrants were reported by a third country.

7 Incidents related to pollution.

~85% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area, ~15% inside.

~89% Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

From the beginning of the operation on 1 February to 20 December 2015

992 Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.

147 289 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

436 People smugglers were arrested in 215 incidents.

295 Fatalities were reported in 34 incidents.

During the reporting period between 30 November - 20 December 2015

57 Illegal border-crossing incidents occurred.

6 605 Irregular migrants were apprehended.

Most common nationalities were Nigerian (1 013), Gambian (825), Somali (789), Eritrean (704), Senegalese (444) and Moroccan (387).

The main countries of departure were Libya (6 494 migrants), Algeria (89) and Tunisia (22).

12 People smugglers were arrested in 9 incidents.

0 Fatalities were reported.

~92% Of detections were recorded outside the operational area while ~8% occurred inside.

~92% 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 (4 November 2015, 15:00 hrs.).

Frontex Operations Division

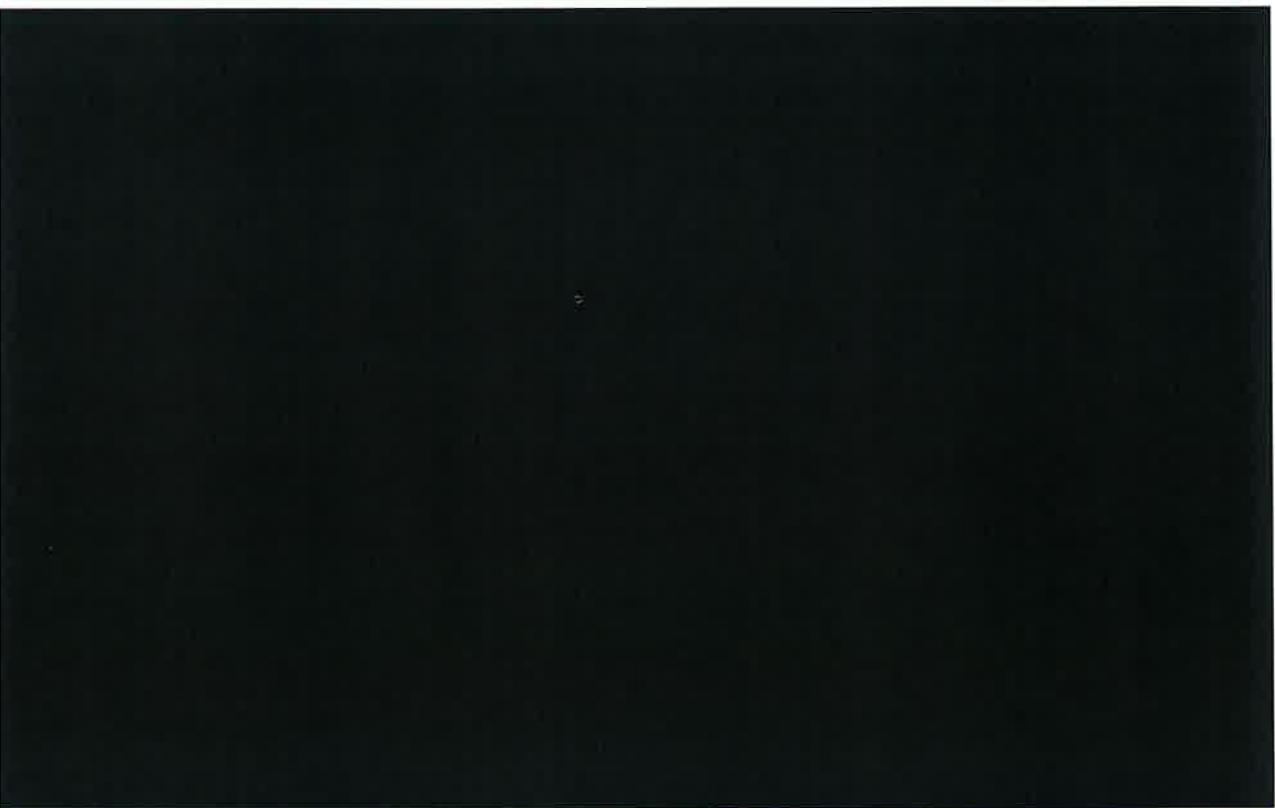
Risk Analysis Unit

Warsaw, Poland

Reference number: 20835/2015

Biweekly No.23, 21 Dec 2015–03 Jan 2016 (weeks 52 & 53), Ref.321/2016

13 January 2016



Key points

- ◆ As of 31 December, 153 988 irregular migrants were intercepted in the Central Mediterranean in 2015, which represents a ~9 % decrease compared to the same period of 2014.
- ◆ Despite this slight decrease, the number of arrivals with Libya as the departure country remain almost the same (-1%).
- ◆ Sharp increase in the number of Nigerian nationals arriving from Libya in 2015, becoming the second main nationality in the Central Mediterranean.
- ◆ During 2015, the number of fatalities increased by 76% compared with 2014.
- ◆ The route via the Central Mediterranean for Syrians and Palestinians remains active.



- ◆ No arrivals from Zuwara since the end of August 2015.



1. Main Trends

During the reporting period from 21 December 2015 until 3 January 2016 (weeks 52 & 53), 33 illegal immigration incidents were reported (31 incidents in week 52, and 2 in week 53), and 2 incidents were reported as third country actions, involving the apprehension of 3 265 irregular migrants (3 079 detections in week 52, and 186 detections in week 53); 30 boats arrived from Libya with 3 220 migrants on board, 3 boats from Algeria involving 41 migrants and 2 boats from Tunisia with 5 migrants on board.

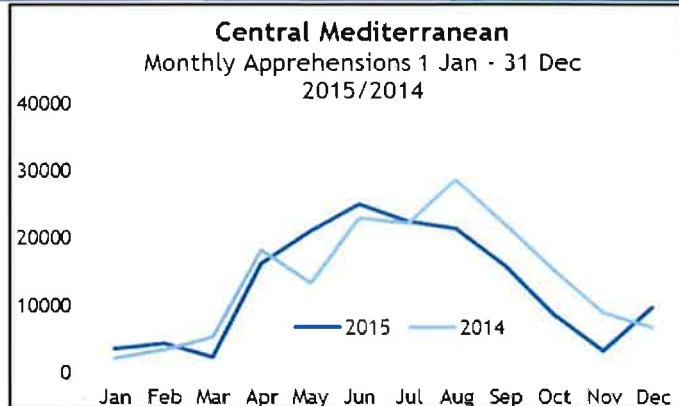


Figure 1: Apprehensions in 2014 and 2015.

The total number of irregular migrants detected in 2015 (153 988) shows a -9% decrease compared to the number of irregular migrants apprehended during the same period in 2014 (169 264).

During the period under review, 33 incidents were reported in the JO Triton involving the apprehensions of 3 265 migrants. During the month of November and due to the bad weather conditions , only 37 incidents were reported in comparison with the 110 in September, 61 in October and 95 in December. This decrease reported during November was directly related to bad weather during November. It is worth noting that once weather conditions improved, the number of detections during December increased by 156%. |

2. Main Nationalities

During 2015, the most common nationalities reported within the framework of the JO Triton were from the following countries: Eritrea, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Gambia, Syria, Senegal, Mali, Bangladeshi and Morocco.

As shown in figure , nationalities such as Nigerian, Somali and Sudanese sharply increased during 2015 compared to the same period of 2014 and Moroccans appear in the top ten in 2015, replacing some of the most common nationalities during the previous year such as Palestinian, Afghan and Pakistani and the sharp decrease of Syrians.

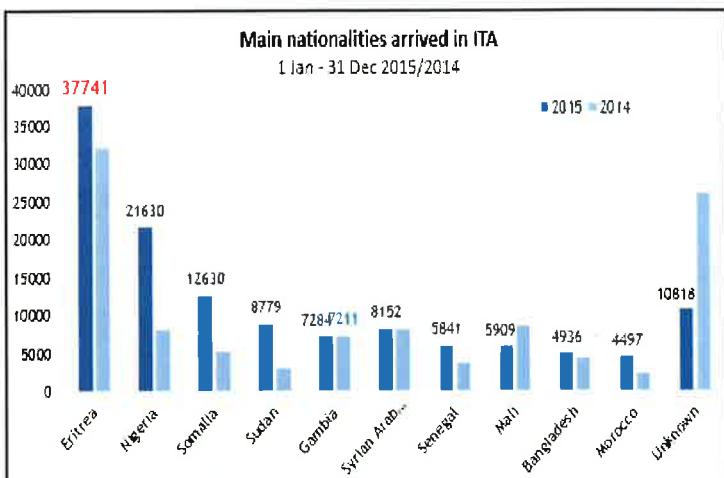


Figure 3: Main nationalities in the Central med 2014/2015

There are two kind of profiles of migrants:

- The first type concerns irregular migrants who intend on reaching the European Union as fast as possible. It is worth mentioning that the development and improvement of the smuggling networks in some transit countries enable migrants to reach the EU within less than a month once they have the financial resources required to pay these networks.
- The second type corresponds to migrants who left their country years ago trying to find a stable place to settle, such as Libya, where they remained until recently, but because of the unsafe situation in Libya, they have decided to leave for Europe.

Those nationalities with the highest increases during 2015 were Nigerian (166% increase) and Sudanese (194% increase). Some different factors are behind this rise:

Nigeria is the most populous country of Africa with about 180 million inhabitants and a growth rate of 4-6 millions people every year. The median age in this country is 17.8 years old. According to IOM, the precarious situation in North-Eastern Nigeria, with continuous attacks perpetrated by insurgents and radical Islamist groups, mainly *Boko Haram*, have led to the internal displacement of over 2.1 million people in Northern Nigeria. Most of the displaced people are settled in host communities and camps, but in precarious conditions, with many of them deciding to try to reach a better place to live.

Furthermore, with the imposition of the Libyan Dinar as the main or even the only currency accepted in Libya, makes difficult to send money back to their home countries, causing many Nigerians who have been living in Libya from many years to try to reach Italy by sea. In addition, the tightening of border controls by Morocco and Spain on the Western Mediterranean route are encouraging Nigerians, as well as other nationalities stranded in Morocco and Algeria to try to reach Libya with the purpose of reaching Italy.

3. Main findings during the reporting period

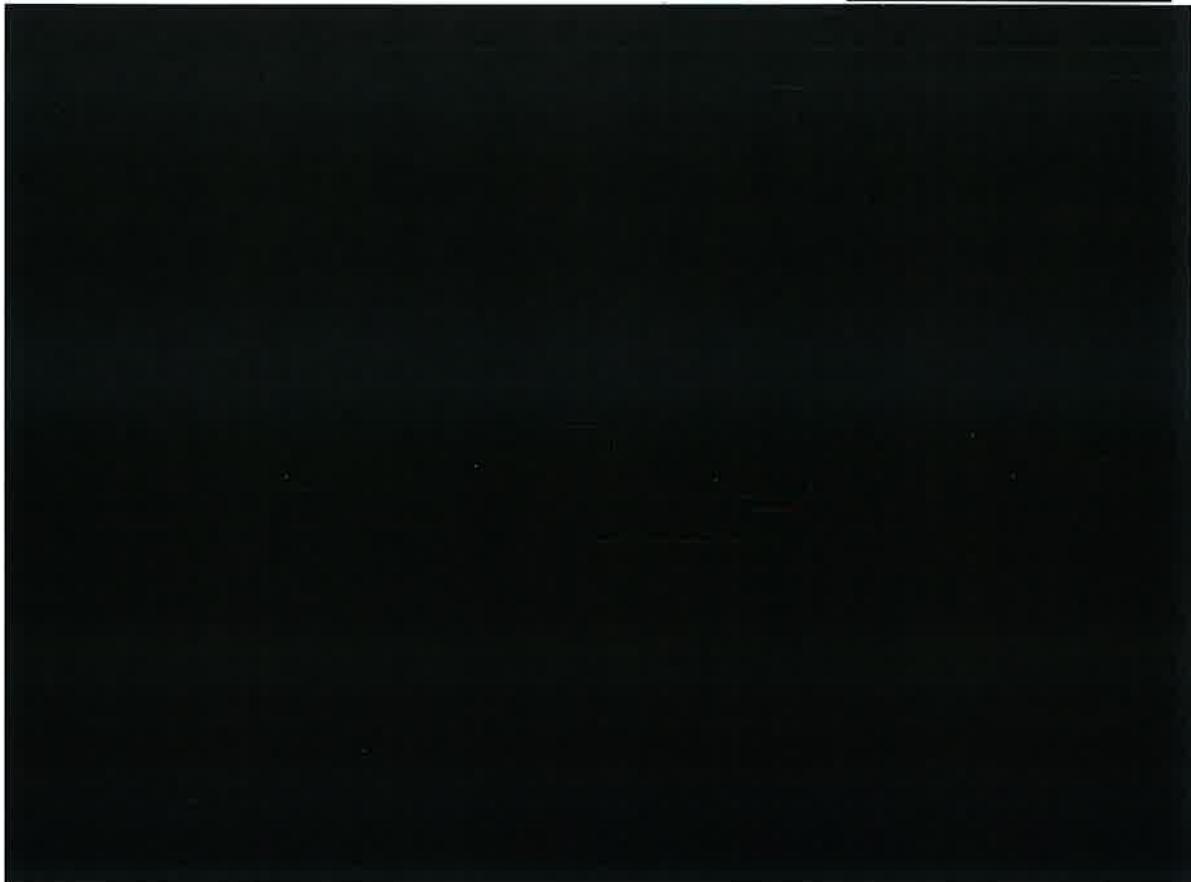
Limited capacity of the smuggling networks in Libya

- The quite similar figures in regard to the number of arrivals from Libya during 2014 and 2015 could point to the limited capacity of smuggling networks to handle the increasing number of migrants arriving in this country from Central and Western African and the Horn of African countries.



Increase in fatalities during 2015

- During 2015 a total of 298 fatalities were been reported in 40 incidents in the framework of the JO Triton. This means an increase of 76% in comparison with 2014 (169 fatalities in 28 incidents), becoming the most dangerous route with about the 80% of the deaths which occurred in the Mediterranean during 2015. The last leg of the journey, meaning the crossing to Italy, is usually where most fatalities are reported.



Shipwrecks and suffocation are the main causes of death in the incident involving fatalities. According to the IOM, it is estimated that the real number of fatalities in the Central Mediterranean during 2015 is over 2 892 people(1).

Increase in fatalities during 2015

-

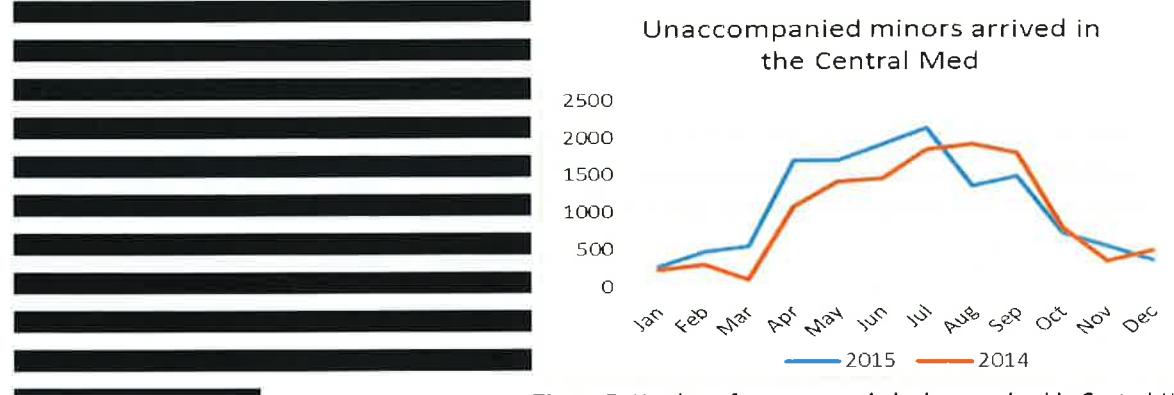


Figure 5: Number of unaccompanied minors arrived in Central Med

Syrians and Palestinians using the Central Mediterranean route

-



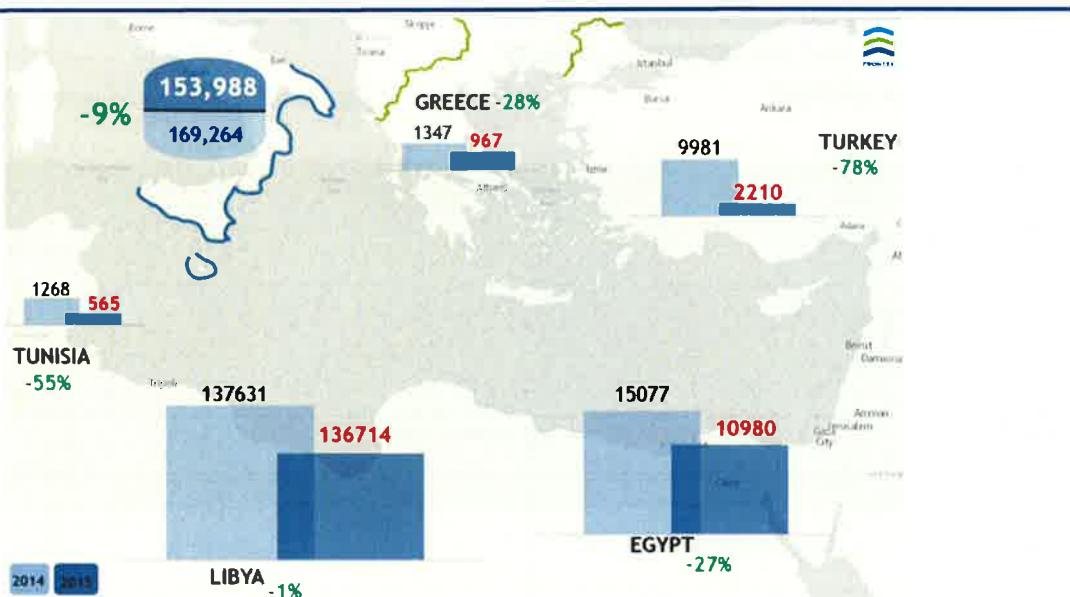
The core message of this trend is that any change in the Eastern Mediterranean route from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan or Pakistan towards Europe could deflect the migration flow towards this active Central Mediterranean route.

Hotspots

- It is worth commenting on the implementation of the “hotspots” in the JO Triton - as a first step, the creation of the European Union Regional Task Force (EURTF) involving different institutions and agencies to enhance the cooperation and the information flow and following the guidelines provided by the EU, three hotspots have been implemented in Sicily, the first one in Lampedusa in October and recently Trapani. The main purpose is to guarantee the proper identification and the relocation process, establishing the difference between refugees and socio-economic migrants.



4. Main trends by countries of departure in 2015



The map above shows the volume of the migratory flows by country of departure since the beginning of 2015

4.1 Departure Country LIBYA

There are several reasons that define the overall stable trend (-1%) of migrants departing from Libya and targeting Italy:

- The migratory pressure and the volume of migrants transiting across Libya remains the same as in 2014.
- The sharp decrease of Syrian nationals (-81%) using the Central Mediterranean, is compensated by the sharp increase in the number of migrants arriving in Italy from West-Central African countries (+81%), and Horn of African countries & Sudan (+33%).
- The growth in the flow and efficiency of smuggling networks in Western Africa allow migrants to arrive in Italy within less than one month after departure from their countries of origin.
- According to open sources, it is suggested that the number of new would-be migrants from West African countries arriving in Agadez (main transit hub of migrants) has increased to around 6 000 persons per week.

4.2 Departure Country EGYPT

The decreasing number of vessels departing from Egypt (-27% decrease in the number of irregular migrants arrived from Egypt in 2015) is due to:

- Change in migratory flows from the Central Mediterranean to the Eastern Mediterranean route, across the Aegean Sea.

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

4.3 Departure Country TURKEY

There are some reasons that explain this overall decreasing trend (-78%) of migrants departing from Turkey and sailing directly to Italy. The migratory flow from Turkey shows the sharpest decreasing trend in the Central Mediterranean compared to the other routes in the Central Mediterranean.

- As mentioned in the bullet points related to Libya, the sharp decrease in the number of Syrian nationals using the Central Mediterranean is one of the main reasons for the decreasing number of vessels departing from Turkey to Italy.
- Since March 2015, Syrian migrants have modified their routing, and reaching the EU from Turkey to the Greek Islands instead of using Libya or Egypt.
- The last cargo vessel to be reported by the Italian authorities was in January 2015. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- The possibility to travel directly by sea from Turkey to Italy is still very high. People smuggling networks are offering this trip to new would-be migrants arriving in Istanbul.

4.4 Departure Country GREECE

There are many reasons, some of them already mentioned in the previous point, which define the decreasing trend (-28%) of migrants arriving in Italy across the Ionian Sea after having departed from Greece:

- As mentioned in the bullet points related to Libya, the sharp decrease in the number of Syrian nationals using the Central Mediterranean is one of the main reasons for the decreasing number of vessels departing from Greece to Italy.
- The unprecedented number of migrants arriving on the Eastern Mediterranean route in 2015 had a direct knock-on effect on the Western Balkans countries. The route across the Western Balkans is preferred by Syrians and Asian migrants because it is cheaper than the sea crossing from the west coast of Greece to Italy, although it takes longer to reach Austria or Germany.

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

4.5 Departure Country TUNISIA

The following are the main reasons, which define the decreasing trend (-55%) of migrants arriving in Italy from Tunisia:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Statistics

The JO Triton 2015 was launched on 1 February 2015 and is scheduled to conclude on 31 December 2015.

In 2015 (1 January to 31 December)

1 055	Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.
153 988	Irregular migrants were apprehended. Most common nationalities - Eritrean (37 741), Nigerian (21 630), Somali (12 630), Sudanese (8 779), Gambian (8 152), Syrian (7 284), Senegalese (5 909), and Malian (5 841).
	The main countries of departure were Libya (136 714), Egypt (10 980), Turkey (2 210), Greece (967), Tunisia (565) & Algeria (309).
455	People smugglers were arrested in 178 incidents (<i>several incidents pending validation</i>).
309	Fatalities were reported in 40 incidents.
4	Incidents related to the prevention of departure.
441	Irregular migrants were prevented from departure.
4	Incidents related to the smuggling of goods.
30	Smugglers were arrested.
6	Incidents related to third country actions.
210	Would-be migrants were reported by a third country.
7	Incidents related to pollution.
-85%	Of detections were recorded outside the operational area, ~14% inside.
-89%	Of incidents were reported as SAR operations.

From the beginning of the operation on 1 February to 31 December 2015

1 025	Incidents occurred related to illegal border-crossing.
150 276	Irregular migrants were apprehended.
453	People smugglers were arrested in 177 incidents.
296	Fatalities were reported in 33 incidents.

During the reporting period between 21 December 2015 - 03 January 2016

34	Illegal border-crossing incidents occurred.
3 275	Irregular migrants were apprehended. Most common nationalities were Nigerian (828), Gambian (436), Somalian (308), Ivoirians (257), Senegalese (211), Malian (196), Ghanaian (186), Guinean (177) and Moroccans (170).
	The main countries of departure were Libya (3 217 migrants), Algeria (54) and Tunisia (4).
12	People smugglers were arrested.
1	Fatality was reported.
-88%	Of detections were recorded outside the operational area while ~16% 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 (03 of January 2016, 15:00 hrs.).

Frontex Operations Division

Risk Analysis Unit

Warsaw, Poland

Reference number: 321/2016

