

The Treatment of Migrants and Refugees Rescued at Sea

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Mixed Migration?

Movement of refugees and irregular migrants increasingly
interconnected



- ✓ irregular travel
- ✓ similar routes
- ✓ similar modes of transport
- ✓ trafficking or smuggling

Boat arrivals in the Mediterranean (Italy, Spain, Greece, Malta, Cyprus)

- 2007: 51, 000 arrivals
- 2008 (until mid June):
 - Italy: 7,793 (of which 7,185 in Lampedusa)
 - Greece: 3,847
 - Cyprus: 449
 - Spain: 4, 120 (Canary Island 2,837)

International protection needs Italy 2007

- Out of a total of 19,900 arrivals roughly 35% applied for asylum
- roughly 65% of these were granted a form of protection (refugee status or humanitarian protection)
- > 22% of arrivals in Italy were found to be in need of international protection

International Protection needs Malta

- Almost all arrivals apply for international protection
- Roughly 80% of those who are applied are granted a form of international protection (refugee or humanitarian protection)

Mediterranean – Dead and missing 2008

- Figures only refer to the sea between Libya, Tunisia, Malta and Italy:
- January 1 missing
- February -
- March: 40 dead, 70 missing
- April: 1 dead
- May: 21 dead, 45 missing
- June: 22 dead, 8 missing
- > **Total: 84 dead, 124 missing**

Gulf of Aden

- boats: 448
- Total arrivals: 21,036
- Somalis: 13,293
- Ethiopians: 2448
- Others: 72

- Total buried: 167
- Total missing: 220

Key problems

- Lack of coastal States' capacity
- Influence of border control objectives
- Unclear responsibility for disembarkation
- Lack of burden sharing mechanisms

- Lack of adequate reception arrangements
- Lack of differentiated solutions
- No comprehensive approach



The treatment of persons rescued at sea: conclusions and recommendations from recent meetings and expert roundtables convened by UNHCR

- International migration by sea
- Preserving the integrity of the search and rescue regime, including through capacity building measures
- Duties of shipmasters, shipping and insurance agencies
- Minimizing the inconvenience for private actors in fulfilling their maritime obligations
- Disembarkation
- Reception standards, profiling and referral to differentiated procedures after disembarkation
- Comprehensive solutions
- Combating smuggling and trafficking
- Prevention: information strategy, addressing root causes
- Improved information management
- Cooperation and responsibility sharing

UNHCR's Ten Point Action Plan on Refugee Protection and Mixed Migration

- 1. Cooperation Among Key Partners
- 2. Data Collection and Analysis
- 3. Protection Sensitive Entry Systems
- 4. Reception Arrangements
- 5. Mechanisms for Profiling and Referral
- 6. Differentiated Processes and Procedures
- 7. Solutions for Refugees
- 8. Addressing Secondary Movements
- 9. Return Arrangements for Non-Refugees and Alternative Migration Options
- 10. Information Strategy