



smuggling of migrants — global news january 2014

This monthly newsletter summarises news items and media commentary from some of the world's leading media outlets. The Migrant Smuggling Working Group takes no responsibility for the content and accuracy of the information provided in these news items.

AMERICAS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Border deaths: The last crossing of Tiger Martinez – 25 January 2014

<http://america.aljazeera.com/features/2014/1/lost-in-the-corridorofdeath.html>

Fewer unauthorized immigrants cross the border from Mexico into the U.S. today. But those who do, like Allan Martinez, are pushed into an unforgiving zone called the Corridor of Death, where they risk everything to cross.

ASIA-PACIFIC

THAILAND

Police rescue hundreds of Rohingya from camp in Thailand – 28 January 2014

<http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/article/1415389/police-rescue-hundreds-rohingya-camp-thailand>

Thai police have rescued hundreds of Rohingya Muslims from a remote camp in a raid prompted by reports of human trafficking, officials said yesterday.

10 gangs in Rohingya people-smuggling racket, says Thai immigration official – 29 January 2014

<http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/article/1416124/10-gangs-rohingya-people-smuggling-racket-says-thai-immigration-official>

A Thai immigration official who raids jungle camps holding Rohingya boatpeople said yesterday that up to 10 gangs were involved in the large-scale people-smuggling operation.

MIDDLE EAST

ISRAEL

Protests in Israel staged by asylum seekers from Africa – 22 January 2014

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/jan/22/protests-israel-asylum-seekers-africa>

Thousands of asylum-seekers who entered Israel illegally from Sudan and Eritrea have staged protests outside UN offices and foreign embassies in Tel Aviv, accusing Israel of neglecting its responsibilities under the 1951

UN Convention on Refugees. At the same time, supporters held parallel protests at Israeli embassies in 12 capitals, including London, Washington and Paris.

EUROPE

BELGIUM

Belgium's Afghan asylum seekers fear being sent home – 18 January 2014

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-25782030>

Hundreds of Afghan asylum seekers are protesting in Belgium against being sent home. The BBC's Duncan Crawford reports from a makeshift camp in Brussels where families say being forced to return would amount to a death sentence.

BULGARIA

Long wait for Syrian refugees in Bulgaria – 31 January 2014

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-25978066>

In the EU's poorest country, on the edge of Europe, another chapter in the story of Syria's desperate struggle is unfolding.

ITALY

Italy: 233 Migrants Are Rescued at Sea - 2 January 2014

<https://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/03/world/europe/italy-233-migrants-are-rescued-at-sea.html>

The Italian Navy said Thursday that it had rescued 233 migrants from an overcrowded smugglers' boat in rough seas south of Sicily.

SWEDEN

Asylum seekers' perilous path to Sweden – 12 January 2014

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2014/01/asylum-seekers-perilous-path-sweden-20141792744288806.html>

Syrians risk their lives and their life savings to reach one of the few EU countries welcoming them.

UNITED KINGDOM

People-smuggling gang jailed after Channel port arrests – 29 January 2014

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/jan/29/people-smuggling-gang-jailed-channel>

Five members of a criminal gang who smuggled Sri Lankans into the UK through Channel ports have been jailed.