



smuggling of migrants — global news december 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.

AFRICA

ALGERIA

Algeria and Niger start repatriation of 3,000 illegal migrants – 11 December 2014

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-niger-algeria/algeria-and-niger-start-repatriation-of-3000-illegal-migrants-idUSKBN0JO23W20141210>

Algeria and Niger have started to repatriate 3,000 citizens of Niger who crossed into Algeria illegally, as part of a bid to stop people-smuggling to North Africa and Europe, authorities said on Wednesday.

AMERICAS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Against the odds, Honduran sisters win their asylum case – 11 December 2014

<http://www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-immigrant-asylum-20141212-story.html>

In October 2013, Silvia Padilla and her husband wired \$8,000 to a *coyote* to smuggle their two daughters from Honduras to the United States. Gang violence in their hometown of Tegucigalpa was on the rise. In recent years, both girls had witnessed murders.

ASIA-PACIFIC

GENERAL

53,000 left Bangladesh and Myanmar on smuggling boats bound for Thailand, Malaysia – 7 December 2014

<http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/article/1657078/53000-left-bangladesh-and-myanmar-smuggling-boats-bound-thailand-malaysia>

About 53,000 people left Bangladesh and Myanmar on treacherous smuggling boats bound for Thailand and Malaysia this year, about 540 of them dying on the journey, the UN refugee agency has said.

INDONESIA

Asylum seekers stuck in Indonesia limbo – 8 December 2014

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-30373794>

There are around 10,000 asylum seekers in Indonesia, mostly from parts of Asia, the Middle East and Africa. They came because they thought they could find onwards passage to Australia.

MIDDLE EAST

YEMEN

Yemen migrant boat carrying Ethiopians sinks killing 70 – 7 December 2014

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-30371917>

A boat carrying African migrants has sunk off Yemen's western coast, killing 70 people, Yemeni officials say.

EUROPE

FRANCE

At least 15 migrants died in 'shameful' Calais conditions in 2014 – 23 December 2014

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/dec/23/15-migrants-trying-enter-uk-die-shameful-calais-conditions>

At least 15 migrants in and around the French port of Calais have died in the past year as an influx of young men and women from east Africa take ever greater risks to get the UK, according to an investigation by the Guardian.

ITALY

Italian police arrest Eritrean gang who smuggled migrants – 3 December 2014

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2014/dec/03/italian-police-arrest-eritrean-gang-who-smuggled-migrants>

Ten suspected migrant smugglers were arrested on Wednesday in Italy and Germany, including the alleged ringleader behind a treacherous journey that killed an estimated 244 people off the coast of Libya in June.