



smuggling of migrants — global news June 2013

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

CAYMAN ISLANDS

Cayman Islands say more Cuban migrant boats spotted in its waters – 6 June 2013

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-cayman-cuba-migrants/cayman-islands-say-more-cuban-migrant-boats-spotted-in-its-waters-idUSBRE95415Z20130605>

Cayman Islands officials say a growing number of Cuban migrant boats are being spotted in its territorial waters, apparently in response to possible changes in U.S. immigration laws migrants fear could make it harder for them to enter the United States.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Former Border Patrol Agents Are Sentenced – 22 June 2013

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/23/us/former-border-patrol-agents-are-sentenced.html>

A federal judge has sentenced two former Border Patrol agents to at least 30 years in prison for running a ring that smuggled hundreds of illegal immigrants into the United States.

Border crossers face high risk in South Texas – 22 June 2013

<http://www.latimes.com/local/la-me-death-corridor-20130623-story.html>

Across the desert expanses of California and Arizona, thousands have perished over the years while attempting to cross illegally into the United States. Now another region, this one in Texas, has become a lethal magnet for increasing numbers of migrants.

Secure enough – 22 June 2013

<https://www.economist.com/news/united-states/21579828-spending-billions-more-fences-and-drones-will-do-more-harm-good-secure-enough>

Whether the country gets a long-overdue reform of its immigration system, including a route to citizenship for the 11m illegal migrants now living there, may hinge on this question. The bill currently being debated in the Senate devotes \$4.5 billion to border security, including yet more drones, fences and guards with guns. But many Republicans, recalling the multitudes that arrived after Ronald Reagan's amnesty in 1986, want even more.

ASIA-PACIFIC

THAILAND

Thai policeman on Rohingya trafficking charge – 29 June 2013

<http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/article/1271259/thai-policeman-rohingya-trafficking-charge>

A policeman has been charged with human trafficking after a Rohingya woman was allegedly lured from a shelter in southern Thailand and subsequently raped by a man from the refugee Muslim minority, police said.

EUROPE

GREECE

Syrians accuse Greece of 'pushing back' migrant boats – 6 June 2013

<http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-22757485>

Some of the Syrians fleeing the conflict in their country have crossed Turkey aiming for Greece, in order to claim asylum in the European Union. But to get there they have to take to boats - and there have been persistent reports of Greek officials pushing them back into Turkish waters, sometimes with fatal results.