



smuggling of migrants – global news

april 2016

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

AFRICA

LIBYA

EU preparing to deploy security mission in Libya, if requested: draft – 15 April 2016

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-libya-eu-idUSKCN0XC1FF>

The European Union are expected to consider moving security personnel into Libya to help to stabilize the chaotic country if requested by a new United Nations-backed Libyan government, according to a draft statement seen by Reuters.

EU nations seek ways to boost unity government in Libya – 18 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--europe-libya-20160418-story.html>

European Union nations are seeking out ways to boost the fledgling U.N.-backed national unity government in Libya and even consider moving their naval mission into territorial waters on request to stamp out illegal migration from the north African nation and save lives at sea.

New Libyan PM seeks EU help to rebuild country, tackle smugglers – 19 April 2016

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-libya-idUSKCN0XF1WV>

Libya's new prime minister called on Monday for European help to combat people smugglers but stopped short of making the formal invitation the EU says it needs to move its Mediterranean naval mission into Libyan waters to stem a new tide of migrants.

Merkel hints at further military effort in Libya after talks – 25 April 2016

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/5bfe7ce4e8924501b8bce5ba7bdafdbf/merkel-hints-further-military-effort-libya-after-talks>

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Monday that she, U.S. President Barack Obama and the leaders of France, Britain and Italy discussed ways of supporting the fragile unity government in Libya and the possibility of expanding military efforts to stop the smuggling of migrants across the Mediterranean.

Italy's plan to combat Libyan migrant smugglers could mean chasing shadows – 25 April 2016

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/apr/25/italys-plan-to-combat-libyan-migrant-smugglers-could-mean-chasing-shadows>

Though migration levels from Libya are no higher than they were last year, European governments are terrified that the closure of the refugee route from Turkey to Greece will lead to a fresh surge through the north African country towards Italy.

US warships may join EU in patrolling waters off Libya – 25 April 2016

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/apr/25/us-warships-may-join-eu-in-patrolling-waters-off-libya>

American warships may join European Union vessels off the coast of Libya by the summer in a Nato-led attempt to slow the flow of refugees from Africa into Europe, it emerged at a meeting of the G5 world leaders in Hanover.

Italian official: No military intervention planned for Libya – 26 April 2016

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/f6ff6bf127c74884a424b9fa7b144708/italian-official-no-military-intervention-planned-libya>

An Italian senator says no military intervention is "on the agenda" for Libya.

Egyptian migrants killed in clash with Libyan smugglers – official – 27 April 2016

<http://www.reuters.com/article/libya-migrants-egypt-idAFL5N17U8XK>

At least nine Egyptian migrants and three people smugglers were killed in a money dispute in the town of Bani Walid, a local official said on Wednesday.

Egyptians and Libyan traffickers killed in dispute – 28 April 2016

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/04/egyptians-libyan-traffickers-killed-dispute-160428101222998.html>

At least nine Egyptians and three Libyan people smugglers have been killed in a dispute over money in the Libyan town of Bani Walid, a local official said.

Migrant crisis: Scores missing after boat sinks off Libya – 30 April 2016

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-36178582>

Eighty-four migrants are missing after their inflatable dinghy sank off the Libyan coast, the International Organization for Migration says.

AMERICAS

COSTA RICA

Costa Rica closes its doors to Cubans – 12 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-tns-bc-costarica-cubans-20160412-story.html>

Costa Rica has issued a warning to the new wave of undocumented Cuban migrants hoping to travel by land from Ecuador to Central America and eventually the United States: They will not pass.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AP Exclusive: Immigrant kids sent to adults lacking status – 19 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-us--immigrant-children-sponsors-20160419-story.html>

The vast majority of immigrant children who arrive alone at the U.S. border are placed by the government with adults who are in the country illegally, federal data reviewed by The Associated Press show.

Frustrated by new U.S. program to take in migrants, Central American parents turn to smugglers – 21 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-central-american-migrants-20160420-story.html>

Parents frustrated by delays in the Central American Minors program are turning to smugglers. State Department officials said it takes about eight months on average to vet families, but acknowledged that after more than a year, among the 8,001 who applied, fewer than 200 came to the U.S.

Cuban players paid smugglers \$15 million, prosecutors say – 26 April 2016

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/1860246efa0d437f99085b69c5a2d981/cuban-players-paid-smugglers-15-million-prosecutors-say>

Cuban baseball players paid a South Florida-based smuggling ring more than \$15 million to leave the communist island in secretive ventures that included phony documents, false identities and surreptitious boat voyages to Mexico, Haiti and the Dominican Republic, federal prosecutors say.

Miami trainer charged in Cuban baseball smuggling ring – 26 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/sports/sns-tns-bc-bbo-miamitrainer-smugglingcharge-20160426-story.html>

A Miami baseball trainer has been charged with a previously indicted agent in what prosecutors claim was a get-rich scheme to smuggle top Cuban talent from Cuba through Mexico to the United States by lying to the federal government about the players' residency and immigration status.

ASIA-PACIFIC

CHINA

19 suspected illegal immigrants on way to Hong Kong rescued after small boat drifts in ocean – 18 April 2016

<http://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/1936845/19-suspected-illegal-immigrants-way-hong-kong-rescued-after-small>

Nineteen suspected illegal immigrants trying to get into Hong Kong had to be rescued from a small boat, according to a state media report.

HONG KONG SAR

Tougher sentences for people smugglers aren't racist, insists Hong Kong security chief – 12 April 2016

<http://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-crime/article/1935510/tougher-sentences-people-smugglers-arent-racist-insists>

Hong Kong's security chief has denied racial discrimination in imposing tougher sentences on snakeheads smuggling people from major source countries.

MIDDLE EAST

AFGHANISTAN

Out of work, Afghan policeman finds a new job: Human smuggler – 9 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/world/afghanistan-pakistan/la-fg-afghanistan-smuggler-20160409-story.html>

As a police officer in western Afghanistan, Hakem enjoyed a steady if meager paycheck. He had five children to support, and when his three-year police contract expired, he went looking for a more lucrative job.

EUROPE

GENERAL

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals in 2016: 169,846; Deaths: 620 – 1 April 2016

<http://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-2016-169846-deaths-620>

At least 170,000 migrants and refugees have entered Europe along sea-borne routes through the first three months of 2016, according to calculations by the International Organization for Migration. This unofficial tally is based on arrivals to Italy reported late Thursday, as well as several hundred migrants and refugees believed to have entered Europe via Spanish waters during the course of 2016.

Austria claims much of the credit for EU migrant deal – 3 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--migrants-austrias-quest-20160403-story.html>

Just weeks ago, thousands of migrants a day were streaming into northern Europe. Now the influx has been dramatically crimped and Austria is claiming much of the credit.

Surge in illegal border crossings adds to militant threat: EU report -5 April 2016

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-frontex-idUSKCN0X213Y>

EU member states reported a record 1.82 million illegal border crossings last year, a surge that made Europe more vulnerable to militant attacks, border agency Frontex said on Tuesday.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals at 172,089; Deaths 714 – 5 April 2016

<http://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-172089-deaths-714>

Over 172,000 migrants and refugees have arrived by sea to Europe through the first weekend of April, according to IOM. These figures include small numbers of migrants arriving in Cyprus and Spain, as well as the busier routes connecting Turkey to Greece and North Africa to Italy.

European Union ponders better way to deal with migrants – 6 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--europe-migrants-20160406-story.html>

The European Union took its first steps Wednesday toward a fundamental reform of its defective migration policy, which has heaped huge pressure on some nations like Greece as over a million migrants and refugees surged into the continent over the past year.

EU proposes new quota system to ease refugee influx – 6 April 2016

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/eu-proposes-new-quota-system-to-ease-refugee-influx/article29547888/>

Days after a wave of deportations of migrants arriving in Europe from Turkey, the European Union's executive arm proposed a new quota system for members accepting asylum seekers to ease the burden on the nations confronted with an overwhelming influx.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals in 2016: 172,458; Deaths: 714 – 8 April 2016

<http://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-2016-172458-deaths-714>

IOM reports that an estimated 172,458 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea into Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Spain through 6 April 2016.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals at 173,761; Deaths 723 – 12 April 2016

<http://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-173761-deaths-723>

IOM reports that an estimated 173,761 migrants and refugees have arrived in Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Spain by sea through 11 April 2016. That is an increase of 1,303 arrivals since IOM reported 172,458 arrivals on Friday, 8 April. Just over a thousand landed in Greece, the balance in Italy.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals in 2016: 177, 207; Deaths: 732 – 15 April 2016

<http://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-2016-177-207-deaths-732>

IOM reports that an estimated 177,207 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea in 2016, arriving in Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Spain, through April 13.

Libyan smuggling route grows 1 year after mass drownings – 17 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--europe-drowned-migrants-20160417-story.html>

One year after Europe's deadliest migrant disaster, humanitarian and security efforts off the lawless coast of Libya face a growing challenge to catch smugglers and bring asylum-seekers to safety. Experts say crackdowns on migration at other EU borders mean that the southern Mediterranean crossing plied daily by smugglers operating out of Libya already is busier now than it was 12 months ago.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals in 2016: 178,882; Deaths 737 – 19 April 2016

<http://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-2016-178882-deaths-737>

IOM reports that an estimated 178,882 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea in 2016, arriving in Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Spain, through April 17. Latest confirmed fatalities stand at 737. Reports Monday of several hundred deaths of migrants from the Horn of Africa have yet to be confirmed by IOM monitors in the region.

NATO says fewer migrants in Aegean, but warns routes could change – 21 April 2016

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/nato-says-fewer-migrants-in-aegean-but-warns-routes-could-change/article29705333/>

The number of migrants and refugees crossing the Aegean Sea from Turkey into Europe is falling significantly but people smugglers can rapidly change routes and authorities must not reduce their security efforts prematurely, the head of NATO said on Thursday.

Greece Says Turkish Demands Obstructing NATO Mission in Aegean – 22 April 2016

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-greece-nato-idUSKCN0XJ15V>

Turkish demands are posing obstacles to a NATO mission in the Aegean Sea aimed at countering the smuggling of migrants and refugees into Europe, Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras said on Friday.

Southern Balkan states agree to work together on immigration – 22 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--europe-migrants-20160422-story.html>

Foreign ministers of Greece, Macedonia, Albania and Bulgaria said Friday they will work to improve coordination along southern Europe's migrant trail.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals in 2016: 180,245; Deaths: 1,232 – 22 April 2016

<http://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-2016-180245-deaths-1232>

IOM reports that an estimated 180,245 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea in 2016, arriving in Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Spain, through 20 April.

Why Unaccompanied Egyptian Children are Migrating to Europe – 22 April 2016

<http://www.iom.int/news/why-unaccompanied-egyptian-children-are-migrating-europe>

“Egyptian Unaccompanied Migrant Children: A Case Study on Irregular Migration” is a new assessment published by IOM Egypt designed to shed light on the irregular migration of Egyptian children to Europe.

EU leaders praise Turkey for its treatment of refugees – 24 April 2016

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/04/merkel-turkey-refugee-camp-160423101251609.html>

European leaders say a new deal with Turkey to stop refugees and migrants from making dangerous journeys is working.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals in 2016: 181,476; Deaths 1,232 – 26 April 2016

<http://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-2016-181476-deaths-1232>

International Organization for Migration reports an estimated 181,476 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea in 2016, arriving in Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Spain, through April 25. Latest fatalities stand at 1,232.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals in 2016: 183,017; Deaths 1,244 – 29 April 2016

<http://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-2016-183017-deaths-1244>

IOM reports an estimated 183,017 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea in 2016, arriving in Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Spain, through April 27. Latest fatalities stand at 1,244.

AUSTRIA

Austria re-imposes controls on its border with Hungary – 25 April 2016

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/9a073ee858e14c03953b5bb6a00c4f26/austria-re-imposes-controls-its-border-hungary>

Austria has re-imposed controls on its border with Hungary, with police checking vehicles at the main regular crossings and soldiers patrolling other stretches of the border.

Migrant crisis: Austria passes controversial new asylum law – 27 April 2016

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-36152927>

Austria has passed a controversial new law that restricts the right of asylum and allows most claimants to be rejected directly at the border.

DENMARK

Grandmother who gave refugees a ride is branded a people smuggler, as Denmark takes hardline stance – 12 April 2016

<http://www.scmp.com/news/world/europe/article/1935400/grandmother-who-gave-refugees-ride-branded-people-smuggler-denmark>

Lise Ramslog was out for a barefoot amble on a warm day last September, when Europe's refugee crisis came to her remote village in southern Denmark.

Danes face smuggling charges for giving migrants a lift – 27 April 2016

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/6c0d9891cd3c4035a3f2dbb896fa12fb/danes-face-smuggling-charges-giving-migrants-lift>

Already under fire for ordering police to seize jewelry from asylum-seekers, Denmark is seeing its humanitarian credentials once again being questioned as it presses smuggling charges against people who gave migrants a ride to neighboring Sweden.

GREECE

Protests against migrants' presence in Greece and Turkey – 3 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--europe-migrants-20160402-story.html>

A plan to send back migrants from Greece to Turkey sparked demonstrations by local residents in both countries Saturday, two days before the deal brokered by the European Union is set to be implemented.

The migrant trail to Europe is about to start running in reverse – 3 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/ct-greece-deports-migrants-to-turkey-20160403-story.html>

Amid protests and widespread criticism, Greece on Monday is poised to begin implementing a plan that will see thousands of migrants returned to Turkey, part of a broader deal aiming to stem the massive flow of people from Turkish shores to mainland Europe.

Deportation of migrants from Greece to Turkey starts Monday – 3 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--europe-migrants-20160403-story.html>

An agreement between the European Union and Turkey to deport migrants currently on Greek islands back to the Turkish mainland is to take effect Monday morning, but the operation is threatened by a shortage of personnel.

EU begins sending people back across the sea, despite human rights outcry – 4 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/ct-migrant-deportations-20160404-story.html>

The European Union began offloading its refugee crisis onto its Turkish neighbors Monday, sending back more than 200 migrants in the first stage of a plan to deport thousands that has drawn condemnation from human rights groups.

Migrant crisis: Greece starts deportations to Turkey – 4 April 2016

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35956836>

The first boats carrying migrants being deported from Greece have arrived in Turkey as part of an EU plan aimed at easing mass migration to Europe.

EU begins shipping migrants in Greece back to Turkey – 5 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-ap-eu--europe-migrants-20160404-story.html>

A controversial European Union plan to stem the flow of refugees began Monday with the deportation of more than 200 people from Greek islands to Turkey, despite concerns over human rights and criticism that Europe was turning its back on refugees.

Greece resumes migrant deportations to Turkey amid protests – 8 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--europe-migrants-20160408-story.html>

Greece on Friday resumed deportations of migrants to Turkey after a four-day pause, despite mounting desperation among refugees and attempts by activists to stop the two boats from leaving Lesbos with 124 people onboard.

Back where they came from – 9 April 2016

<http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21696543-eu-agreement-turkey-starts-shipping-migrants-out-greece-back-where-they-came>

The police had prepared for violence, but in the end the deportees went quietly. A group of 202 migrants, the first to be sent back from Greece under the European Union's new agreement with Turkey, left the islands of Lesbos and Chios on April 4th aboard vessels chartered by Frontex, the EU border agency.

Iraqis and Afghans drown as boat sinks off Greek island – 9 April 2016

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/04/iraqis-afghans-drown-boat-sinks-greek-island-160409151736786.html>

At least five people, including a child, drowned on Saturday after their small vessel carrying Iraqis and Afghans capsized in the eastern Aegean Sea, the Greek coastguard told Al Jazeera.

HUNGARY

Hungary's border war on refugees – 1 April 2016

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2016/03/hungary-border-war-refugees-160329102030588.html>

Built in September, the fence was a response to the hundreds of thousands of refugees and migrants who in 2015 crossed through Hungary in hopes of reaching Western Europe and obtaining asylum after leaving their countries in the Middle East, Southeast Asia and many parts of Africa.

ITALY

Migrant influx into Italy from Libya resurging: IOM – 15 April 2016

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-italy-iom-idUSKCN0XC1WL>

Almost 6,000 migrants and refugees have sailed from Libya to Italy in the past three days in what appears the start of a wave of at least 100,000 and "possibly many, many more" this year, the International Organization for Migration said on Friday.

IOM Confirms Reports of Hundreds of Migrants Killed in Latest Mediterranean Shipwreck Tragedy – 20 April 2016

<http://www.iom.int/news/iom-confirms-reports-hundreds-migrants-killed-latest-mediterranean-shipwreck-tragedy>

On April 19, staff of International Organization for Migration traveled to Kalamata, Greece to gather information from witnesses to a reported shipwreck that may have caused the deaths of upwards of 400 migrants and refugees in the Mediterranean Sea.

500 Migrants May Have Died in Sinking of Boat in Mediterranean, U.N. Says – 20 April 2016

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/21/world/europe/500-may-have-died-in-sinking-of-migrant-boat-in-mediterranean-un-says.html>

The United Nations refugee agency said on Wednesday that 500 people may have died in the choppy waters of the Mediterranean last week, when a large boat packed with migrants from Africa and the Middle East capsized in an unknown location between Libya and Italy.

Boat transfer in Mediterranean turns deadly; 500 migrants feared dead, U.N. says – 20 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/world/worldnow/la-fg-mediterranean-shipwreck-20160420-story.html>

The smugglers wanted passengers on smaller boats to move to a larger vessel, one already filled with hundreds of migrants trying to make their way across the Mediterranean Sea to Europe.

500 migrants feared dead in Mediterranean shipwreck last week – 20 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/ct-mediterranean-shipwreck-20160420-story.html>

As many as 500 people are feared dead after a shipwreck last week in the Mediterranean Sea, two international groups said Wednesday, describing survivors' accounts of panicked passengers who desperately tried to stay afloat by jumping between vessels.

Up to 500 feared dead in Mediterranean shipwreck – 20 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-tns-bc-europe-migrants-20160420-story.html>

ROME Dozens of survivors have reported a major shipwreck in the Mediterranean that may have cost the lives of up to 500 people, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) said Wednesday, backing up previous media reports.

Hundreds feared dead in migrant shipwreck off Libya – 20 April 2016

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/apr/20/hundreds-feared-dead-in-migrant-shipwreck-off-libya>

Hundreds of people are feared to have drowned in the southern Mediterranean last week, in what would be the deadliest migrant shipwreck in months.

Survivor Tells of Mediterranean Sea Disaster That May Have Killed 500 Migrants – 21 April 2016

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/22/world/europe/survivor-tells-of-sea-disaster-that-may-have-killed-500-migrants.html>

Mr. Mahmud and another survivor of last week's shipwreck recounted grim details of the sinking, in which 500 passengers may have died, making it the deadliest episode for asylum seekers trying to reach Europe since more than 800 drowned last April in a boat trying to reach Italy.

2 men describe surviving big migrant shipwreck last week – 21 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--europe-migrants-20160421-story.html>

Two men who were among 41 people picked up over the weekend from a boat found adrift in the Mediterranean Sea described on Thursday surviving what they say was a shipwreck that might have killed up to 500 people.

Survivors of Mediterranean shipwreck say human traffickers blocked rescue – 21 April 2016

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/survivors-of-mediterranean-shipwreck-say-human-traffickers-blocked-rescue/article29708346/>

A knife-wielding human trafficker prevented survivors of a shipwreck from pulling others to safety, leaving them to drown in the dark, one of the surviving migrants said on Thursday.

MACEDONIA

Macedonia calls on Greece to prevent migrant riots – 11 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--europe-migrants-20160411-story.html>

A rift between Macedonia and Greece over the refugee crisis deepened Monday, with Macedonia accusing its southern neighbor of not reacting to prevent hundreds of migrants and refugees from attempting to breach a border fence between the two countries.

Migrants clash again with Macedonian police on Greek border – 13 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--europe-migrants-20160413-story.html>

More than 100 migrants engaged in running battles Wednesday with Macedonian police on the other side of a fence on Greece's border with the country, in clashes that sent clouds of tear gas wafting over a crowded tent city of stranded refugees and other migrants.

Migrants seek new routes into Balkans after formal borders sealed – 24 April 2016

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-greece-border-idUSKCN0XLOGT>

After weeks stranded at a closed border in northern Greece, migrants and refugees are seeking out new, irregular routes to get into Macedonia, clambering through forests and over hills under the cover of darkness.

SERBIA

Migrants stuck in limbo in Serbia after Balkan route closure – 10 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--serbia-stranded-migrants-20160410-story.html>

Walking a winding path inside a thick oak forest at the border between Serbia and Croatia, Jijan Ali cannot believe his misfortune: he barely made it to Europe across rough seas and rugged mountains, only to be abruptly halted just meters away from his dream destination — the European Union.

TURKEY

First migrants sent back on boats from Greek islands arrive in Turkey – 4 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-tns-bc-europe-migrants-20160404-story.html>

The first groups of migrants being sent back to Turkey under a deal reached between Ankara and the European Union arrived Monday in the western Turkish port town of Dikili.

UNITED KINGDOM

Afghan boy smuggled in lorry texted: 'No oxygen' – 8 April 2016

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-35998273>

A seven-year-old Afghan boy who was in a sealed lorry was rescued by UK police after texting he was suffocating.

No action over Rochester 'people smuggling' video – 8 April 2016

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-kent-36001280>

A woman who filmed suspected illegal immigrants apparently being brought into Kent on a car transporter has been told no-one will be prosecuted.

UK says hundreds of Britons involved in people-smuggling – 12 April 2016

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/sns-bc-eu--britain-people-smuggling-20160412-story.html>

A top-level UK National Crime Agency task force charged with breaking up people-smuggling gangs has determined that hundreds of Britons are working with overseas organized crime gangs to facilitate the trade in people fleeing poverty and war.

People smugglers 'using less busy UK ports' – 12 April 2016

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-36027646>

Crime gangs are attempting to smuggle migrants into the UK at "less busy" ports after a clampdown at major ports, the National Crime Agency has warned.

Smugglers charging migrants £13,500 to get to the UK, says crime agency – 12 April 2016

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/apr/12/smugglers-tariffs-for-getting-migrants-to-the-uk>

Migrants attempting to reach the UK are paying smuggling gangs as much as £13,500 to arrange their journey, the National Crime Agency (NCA) has revealed.