last update: 26.04.2016 – updates highlighted

COMPILATION OF DATA, SITUATION AND MEDIA REPORTS ON CHILDREN IN MIGRATION

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1. LINKS TO MAIN SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The following document compiles relevant data and information from, amongst others, the following portals that are regularly updated (hyperlinked)

Please write to <u>JUST-CHILDRENS-RIGHTS@ec.europa.eu</u> to contribute data or information portals to this document.

<u>EUROPEAN COMMISSION, DG HOME, EUROPEAN AGENDA ON</u>

MIGRATION (including information on legislation, relocation, implementation etc.)

EUROPEAN COMMISSION, DG ECHO, CIVIL PROTECTION MECHANISM

EUROSTAT (main tables on asylum and migration)

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AGENCY (including monthly overviews)

UNHCR (Mediterranean Portal)

UNICEF (Situation reports)

IOM (Migration portal)

MDM (European network portal)

2. Some key figures

Currently in Europe, one in four asylum applicants are a child (800 per day). **In 2015**, of the 1.015.718 people who arrived by sea, 31% were children, 19% women and 50% men). Trends indicate that the number of children among sea arrivals is increasing, from 16% in June 2015 to 35% in April 2016. More than quarter of a million children arrived by sea to Europe in 2015 (314.873 children).

As at **26 April 2016**, 181.673 people had arrived by sea of whom 35% were children, 20% were women and 45% were men.²

Children are 38% of those arriving to Greece (as at 24.04.2016)³

2 645 unaccompanied children applied for asylum in February 2016 (2.4% of the total number of applications – 3.6% in January and 7% in December 2015). 36% of

³ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/country.php?id=83

¹ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=490

² http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/regional.php

unaccompanied children were nationals of Afghanistan, followed by Syrians (11%) and Iraqis (8%)⁴.

As at 22 April 2016, there were 1 232 dead or missing persons (adults and children) for 2016⁵. Ninety-one children lost their lives on the route to Europe since the beginning of 2016⁶.

Children - 38% of migrants who arrived in Greece since January 2016⁷

Children - 16% of migrants who arrived in Italy since January 2016⁸

3. EU DATA

- 3.1. European Agenda on Migration, Home Affairs⁹: Relocation figures¹⁰
- Relocation figures and places made available by Member States
- Appointment of National Contact Points and liaison officers

Please refer to the provided link for the most up-to-date information

3.2. European Agenda on Migration. Report from the Commission to the Council. Assessment of Greece's Action Plan to remedy the serious deficiencies identified in the 2015 evaluation on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of management of the external border, 12.04.2016¹¹

Extract:

- As of 20 March, temporary stay documents should no longer be issued. Under EU-Turkey agreement, migrants will be subject to readmission to Turkey, following a case-by-case assessment.
- The Commission pointed out that the capacity of the Greek hotspots was not sufficient to accommodate children and other vulnerable groups.
- Under the EU-Turkey agreement, Greece is encouraged to follow the national procedures (exemption under article 2(2)(a) of the Return Directive. In such case the level of protection for children and other vulnerable groups should be in line with article 4(4) of the Return Directive and/or safeguards under the EU asylum acquis, where applicable.

6 http://doe.iom.int/docs/WEEKLY%20Flows%20Compilation%20No%2013%207%20April%202016.pdf

⁴ https://eas<u>o.europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/Latest-Asylum-Trends-Febuary.pdf</u>

⁵ http://missingmigrants.iom.int/

⁷ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/country.php?id=83

⁸ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/country.php?id=105

⁹http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/press-material/index en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/press-material/docs/state of play - relocation en.pdf

¹¹http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/proposal-implementation-package/docs/20160412/communication_assessment_greece_action_plan_en.pdf

3.3. European Agenda on Migration. Report from the Commission to the European parliament, the European Council and the Council. Second report on relocation and resettlement, 12.04.2016¹²

Extract:

- Only 208 persons were allocated between 16 March (First report on relocation and resettlement) and 12 April (second report). The target was 6 000.
- As regards resettlement, 5 677 people have been resettled (out of 22 504 agreed).
- As of 4 April, 79 persons have been resettled from Turkey to EU under the 1:1 mechanism
- The total number of formal pledges by MS amounts to 4 516, which is 2.28% of total.
- Austria, Croatia, Hungary and Slovakia have still not submitted any pledge.
- Czech Republic, Poland, and Slovenia have no yet delivered on their pledges.
- Unaccompanied children:
 - o 250 children have been relocated (234 from Greece and 16 from Italy), including four unaccompanied children relocated to Finland since the beginning of the implementation of the relocation scheme.
 - o Belgium offered 10 places out of 100 for unaccompanied children
 - The Public prosecutor is supported by lawyers who represent unaccompanied children in the islands. Ongoing discussion to provide similar services in the Athens and Thessaloniki areas.
 - Meeting taking place with the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Interior to discuss the relocation procedures for unaccompanied children.
- EASO has created an <u>EU Relocation Programme Facebook</u> page in English and Arabic as a communication platform for people interested in relocation and to promote successful stories.
- EASO is preparing a **relocation communication package for children** and a mobile application.
- EASO is finalising the tool on the best interests of the child assessment for relocation purposes.

3.4. Civil Protection Mechanism¹³

Requests for assistance and a log of Member States' Support to Civil Protection Mechanism for Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia and Greece

Last communication, as of 17 December 2015: the state of play at the link below is regularly updated.

 $^{^{12}} http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/proposal-implementation-\\$

package/docs/20160412/communication second report relocation resettlement en.pdf

¹³http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/press-material/docs/state_of_play_-_ucpm_support_en.pdf

Eurostat data¹⁴ 3.5.

Data on Asylum and managed migration:

February 2016: 23.575 child asylum seekers (age 0-17) – approximately 31% of all applications filed in February 2016 (75.095)¹⁵.

January 2016: 17.690 child asylum seekers (age 0-17) – approximately 31% of all applications filed in January 2016 (57.290).

3.6. Frontex Migratory Routes Map¹⁶

Main migratory routes into the EU by land and sea.

Frontex Risk Analysis Network Quarterly Report for Q4 2015 (published 10.03.2016)¹⁷

Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) updates¹⁸

Regular updates on data collection about the fundamental rights situation of people arriving in those Member States that have been particularly affected by large migration movements. Eight weekly overviews were produced during the period September-November 2015.

As from December 2015, the updates are being provided on a monthly basis.

3.7.1. FRA- Monthly data collection 4: 1-31 March 2016¹⁹

Extract Greece:

- Approximately 9 400 children arrived to Greece by sea in March 2016 (35% of new arrivals). The majority were Syrian, Iraqi and Afghan nationals.
- The proportion of young unaccompanied children under the age of 12 years increases in Greece.
- The First Reception Service registered in March 800 third-country nationals (out of 26 609 newly arrived people), out of which 500 were children between 0 and 17 years old.
- In the same period, the First Reception Service registered 222 unaccompanied children. About 200 of them were boys under the age of 12 years.
- About 600 people were relocated between 12 October 2015 and 27 March 2016, including five unaccompanied children.
- People arriving after 20 March stay in the closed centres while they wait for their return to Turkey.
- Mainland facilities for children are overcrowded; children wait on the islands for transfer.
- Around 4 000 children remain stranded in Idomeni, in very poor conditions.

¹⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/asylum-and-managed-migration/data/main-tables

http://ec.europa.eu/euros<u>tat/web/asylum-and-managed-migration/data/main-tables#</u>

http://frontex.europa.eu/trends-and-routes/migratory-routes-map/

http://frontex.europa.eu/assets/Publications/Risk_Analysis/FRAN_Q4_2015.pdf

¹⁸ http://fra.europa.eu/en/theme/asylum-migration-borders/overviews

¹⁹ http://fra.europa.eu/en/theme/asylum-migration-borders/overviews/march-2016

In March 216, almost 480 returned with IOM, including 30 children (one unaccompanied child).

Germany:

- Children still have to stay in airport halls, gyms and other temporary mass shelter for up to six months.
- People whose claim of being registered as an unaccompanied child has been rejected often do not know about the possibility to appeal.

Hungary:

- About 3 200 people crossed the border into Hungary in March, including 300 children (28 of them registered as unaccompanied children).
- About 95% of children stay in children's' homes only couple of days.

Italy:

- The number of arrivals doubled in Italy.
- Children stay for several weeks in hotspot in Pozallo (Italy) despite poor conditions.

Slovenia:

- Around 1 600 people, including 80 children entered Slovenia in March.
- Slovenia transferred an unaccompanied child from Syria within the family reunification procedure.

Sweden:

- Around 120 asylum applications in March were filed by unaccompanied children (out of 2 250 applications).
- Children do not always have access to health, education and social services since they might not be accommodated in the municipality responsible for these services |
- There is an increase in the number of unaccompanied girls arriving in Sweden
- Between seven and eight unaccompanied children are reported missing from their accommodation in Sweden each week.

3.7.2. FRA -Thematic focus: Healthcare (March 2016)²⁰

Extract

- In most cases, health screenings target person in need of international protection.
- None of the MS covered by the study collects systematic data on the health status of newly arrived migrants
- Main challenges:
 - limited entitlement to healthcare or practical/administrative barriers
 - o cost of treatment and/or medicines
 - limited availability of healthcare professionals
 - o poor sanitation conditions and overcrowded spaces
 - lack of interpreters
- Most MS do not have specific mechanisms in place to prevent violence against women at reception or detention centres.
- In some MS, the health screening is also used to identify vulnerable groups (Bulgaria, Greece, and Italy).
- Respiratory diseases identified as a main health issue among children.
- Gastrointestinal problems and colds detected among children in Greece.
- Cases of children having tuberculosis were reported in Germany.

²⁰ http://fra.europa.eu/en/theme/asylum-migration-borders/overviews/focus-healthcare

- About 10-20% of unaccompanied children are traumatised
- Children often suffer from nervousness and a feeling of restlessness.
- In Hungary, children in migration are at high risk of infections due to the poor hygienic conditions during their journeys and the lack of mandatory vaccinations.
- It is generally difficult to trace the level of received vaccinations and the vaccinations regimes differ from one MS to another:
 - o In Sweden it is regulated at a national level and the vaccination calendar applies to all children
 - In Austria and Germany, vaccinations are not mandatory, thus not systematic.
 - o In Hungary, children receive vaccinations specific for their age.
 - o In Bulgaria, children in migration are vaccinated only if their medical file with information about previous vaccinations is available.
 - o In Slovenia, new born babies are now vaccinated as well as children staying in the asylum homes before they start school.
- In Bulgaria, it happens that newly arrived migrants do not agree on the treatment for their children, as they wish to leave the country immediately.
- In Sweden, maternity healthcare unit are conducting all antenatal tests that pregnant women could not carry out earlier.
- There is an increase in early labour and complicated childbirths in Sweden and Greece.
- In Hungary, the authorities occasionally identify unwanted rape-related pregnancies among migrant women.

3.7.3. FRA- Cost of exclusion from healthcare. The case of migrants in an irregular situation, September 2015²¹.

Extract

The report presents an economic model to analyse and compare the costs of providing regular access to healthcare for individuals with the costs incurred if these persons are not provided such access.

The model has been applied to Germany, Greece and Sweden and it's based on analysis of two medical conditions: hypertension and prenatal care.

The report shows that providing regular preventive care is cos-saving for healthcare systems and treating a condition when it becomes an emergency not only endangers the health of a patient, but also results in a greater economic burden to health care system.

3.7.4. Monthly data collection 3: 1-29 February 2016²² - thematic focus on children

The February update included a special focus on children.

Extract

 $^{^{21}\} http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2015/cost-exclusion-healthcare-case-migrants-irregular-situation$

²² http://fra.europa.eu/en/theme/asylum-migration-borders/overviews/february-2016

- Missing unaccompanied children: in Hungary, children disappear at an estimated rate of 90-95%; in Slovenia, about 80% of children went missing; and in Sweden about 7-10 children are reported missing each week. However, Greece recorded a decrease in the absconding rate of children. One hundred children went missing from one centre in Austria and 4700 unaccompanied children were recorded as missing in Germany as at 1.1.2016. In Hungary, fluctuation remains very high in the children's homes as most of the children (90-95%) leave after spending one to three days in these institutions
- **Accommodation:** In Italy, more than 135 unaccompanied children stay at facilities in Lampedusa despite poor conditions. In Greece, mainland reception capacity for unaccompanied children does not meet the actual need. Many children stay in detention facilities or in police custody.
- **Guardianship:** In Greece, the procedure to appoint a guardian slows down transfer to child protection facilities. Guardians are generally not systematically appointed and there are significant delays in their appointment (in Germany up to eight months). This causes delays in school enrolment and health care appointments, In Germany one guardian was responsible for up to 150 children,
- **Communication:** Lack of interpreters (e.g. in Croatia, Germany, Slovenia and Sweden) makes it difficult to inform children about their situation. Children still continue to try to be registered as adults after receiving misleading information on possible returns. Children sign papers without understanding them.
- Child safety: Organisations working on the ground don't always have sufficiently trained staff. EU level guidance is still insufficiently used and followed. Unaccompanied children travelling with relatives other than parents are not always considered as unaccompanied children. Family links are not adequately checked and they can be placed in a general reception facility.

Austria:

- Nearly 35,000 persons arrived in Austria between 01 and 20.02.2016.
- Asylum Coordination Austria considers the identification of children's needs as insufficient.
- An **estimated 100 children** have disappeared from the initial reception centre in Traiskirchen in February, and are temporarily untraceable.
- Families are sometimes separated at the Spielfield border crossing point.
- Trainings are organised for future foster parents for unaccompanied children.

Bulgaria:

- 240 boys and 200 girls (aged between 0 and 17 years) applied for asylum in February 2016 (out of 1200 applicants).
- Identification of unaccompanied children is done by checking the documents they present and noting the age they claim.
- Authorities start the asylum procedure without waiting for the appointment of the guardian.
- As a measure to prevent children going missing, authorities decided to place all unaccompanied children in a special floor in the Ovcha Kupel reception centre, where social workers are available. At the end of February 2016, there were no unaccompanied children accommodated there.
- Some 20-30 unaccompanied children are currently staying in the Voenna rampa reception centre because of bad living conditions in Ovcha Kupel reception centre.

- Unaccompanied children are not detained as the law explicitly forbids such detention. Children are placed in detention only if they wish to stay with their relatives.
- A women and a teenage girl died of hypothermia after crossing a river near the Turkish border.
- 11 children were hospitalised due to hypothermia.

Croatia:

- During the reporting period, the overall share of children increased. On certain days, the children even outnumbered the adult men.
- In February 2016, the overall number of arrivals further decreased compared to January 2016 around 36,400 people arrived to Croatia altogether.
- The Protocol on the treatment of children separated from their parentsforeign nationals applies to unaccompanied children as a general rule.
- A special protocol regarding Unaccompanied and Separated child was agreed on 3 October 2015 in the Opatovac camp, governing such situations in the transit camps. According to the special protocol, police officials carry out the initial identification of separated children during the registration process in the camp.
- The Ministry of Social Policy and Youth and the Croatian Red Cross reported a lack of qualified interpreters available to assist in the communication with children
- Children returned from Slovenia are being held in closed sectors for more than a week

Germany:

- Due to the significant decline of new arrivals in February, criminal proceedings for illegal entry decreased
- Unaccompanied children who travel without their parents but with other relatives are not taken into care. Instead, they are accommodated with their family members in reception centres even though taking into care might be a necessary measure for their protection. In many cities, the degree of relationship is not verified by the authorities
- Over 4,700 unaccompanied children were listed as missing on 1 January 2016
- There is no regulation that ensures the implementation of specific measures to protect children and to consider specific needs for children in accommodation facilities
- A guardian is not immediately appointed to an unaccompanied child in the asylum procedure. Children are first taken into provisional care where no guardians are appointed and the child is represented by the youth welfare office
- It takes several months until a child gets access to education.
- In February, a single mother with two children, one of them with a serious disability, was deported to Albania

Greece:

• Some 56,000 arrived in Greece by sea in February 2016, including around **18,100** Children (30%)

- In February 2016 the First Reception Service registered **150 unaccompanied children**; of whom there were 135 boys under the age of 12 years old
- **2 unaccompanied children** were relocated from Greece from 12 October 2015 to 6 March 2016.
- There were around 1,500 asylum applications in February, **including 70** unaccompanied children
- In Chios, there was no special residence area for unaccompanied children.
 Children were detained in the police headquarters in places used as rest houses for police officers
- The Ministry for Migration Policy has submitted a draft law, which, inter alia, establishes an Unaccompanied Minors Protection Department responsible for the study, design and monitoring of the implementation of policies for the reception and social protection of unaccompanied children.
- Greece is revising the guardianship system for unaccompanied children
- Unaccompanied children are held in Eidomeni's police station until their transfer to accommodation facilities.
- Children are kept in police custody before being transferred to open reception facilities in the mainland.

Hungary:

- The guardianship authority has an obligation to appoint a guardian for the unaccompanied child in a maximum of eight days
- Transit zones are typically not equipped with special containers to provide a child friendly space.
- There are two special institutions that operate in the country to assist refugee children (Fot, Hodmezővasarhely). Both children's homes are equipped with child friendly community spaces, they offer professional care, access to education and leisure activities. In the reporting period the two institutions accommodated around 25 children on an average day, that is about a third of their total capacity (88 beds). Fluctuation remains very high in the children's homes as most of the children (90-95%) leave after spending one to three days in these institutions
- The majority of unaccompanied children are boys over 14 years.

Italy:

- On 3 February 2016, five children (around 120 people altogether) were rescued by the Italian Navy ship 'Vega'
- On 12 February 2016, 30 children (around 90 people altogether) were rescued by the Italian Navy ship 'Borsini'
- On the weekend of 20–21 February, 15 children were rescued in eight operations coordinated by the Italian Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre
- On 28 February 2016, the Italian Navy ship 'Bettica' disembarked 28 children in Augusta
- The hotspot in Lampedusa features poor reception conditions. More than 135 unaccompanied children are living in the hotspot without any kind of assistance or protection
- On 8 February 2016, a parliamentary question was submitted to the Government on the disappearance of unaccompanied children. The aim of the question is to foster the creation of a national database connected with European databases containing data on unaccompanied children arriving in Italy and living in

reception centres specifically targeted at children. Moreover, the question concerned identification procedures aimed at assessing children's age and the funding of the reception system for children. The Ministry of the Interior has not answered yet.

• Children living with irregular migrant parents in Veneto do not have the possibility to register in the national healthcare system, and consequently cannot be assisted by a paediatrician.

Slovenia:

- 11,600 children out of 34,800 people. Five of the children were unaccompanied. and entered the territory of Republic of Slovenia between 1 and 29.02.2016
- UNICEF Slovenia consider that the percentage of children and women crossing the country is increasing, estimating it at around 60%
- One third of asylum applicants are children 103 children, including 46 unaccompanied.
- The Asylum Home (Azilni dom) reports that age assessment in the asylum procedure is done according to Article 44 of the International Protection Act.
- The Asylum Home (Azilni dom) reported that during the reporting period, 20 unaccompanied children left and did not return to the Asylum Home and Crisis Centres. Disappearances occur regularly: some respondents estimated that **about** 80% of children disappear from the Asylum Home
- Children returned from Austria are accommodated in inappropriate conditions.
- Six unaccompanied children were detained at the Centre for foreigners for the readmission procedure
- 28 unaccompanied children were detained at the Centre for foreigners on the basis of establishing identity or removal from the country.
- Two unaccompanied children (from Albania and Afghanistan) were returned
- Parents and school teachers protested against accommodation of unaccompanied children in the Kranj Student Dormitory.

Sweden:

- 185 unaccompanied children were registered in February 2016 (January: 640)
- All asylum seekers over 14 years must submit their fingerprints to the Migration Agency.
- The Government has ordered the Migration Board to increase age assessments of unaccompanied children both at registration and in asylum proceedings.
- An estimated 1,000 unaccompanied children disappeared from their temporary accommodation
- According to Save the Children, younger children are placed in the same accommodation centres as older teenagers. 12-13 years olds are accommodated together with 16-17 year olds, which the organisation sees as a concern
- On 1 March 2016, around 35,100 unaccompanied children were staying in specially designated accommodation centres
- As of 1 February 2016, 1,200 accommodation centres were designated for unaccompanied children.
- There is a backlog in assessing children's needs for health and social care. This has led to situations where children in need of targeted psychiatric treatment are placed together with others, without necessary and/or suitably trained personnel

- According to the Police, approximately 7-10 children are reported missing from their accommodation each week
- There are not enough interpreters to ensure a proper communication between children and the custodians.
- Save the Children notices a worrying tendency where many children are experiencing mental health problems and the responsible authorities appear to be unable to handle the situation

Monthly data collection 2: 1-31 January 2016

Extract

Austria:

- The Child- and Youth Ombud Styria reported that the asylum procedures for 17 year old children sometimes appear to be delayed until they are 18
- Amendments to the Asylum Act 2005 are expected to restrict family reunification possibilities
- **6,296 unaccompanied child asylum** seekers in Austria according to The Childand Youth Ombud Styria
- People living close by a new facility for unaccompanied children in Graz expressed their concern. The perception of young asylum seekers depends on their country of origin

Bulgaria:

- 2000 asylum application in January 2016 **610** filed by children
- Children at first reception centres do not have access to regular schooling in Bulgaria and Germany.
- 120 unaccompanied children in the reception centres. All of them in the asylum procedure.

Croatia:

- Transit in Croatia continues to be very short making it difficult to identify cases of child trafficking and other vulnerable children.
- Almost half of the arrivals in Croatia and Slovenia are children.

Germany:

- Unaccompanied children are identified only after redistribution to the Laender, which may take up to several weeks.
- Some children older than 14 years were grouped together with adults and taken care of only after arrival to the reception centre.
- Facilities for unaccompanied children are insufficiently available, and often children stay in overcrowded hostels or gyms.
- Lack of qualified staff in those temporary shelters.
- Children at first reception centres do not have access to regular schooling in Bulgaria and Germany.

Greece:

- Between 1 and 31 January 2016, the First Reception registered 950 third country nationals. Children over 350 of them (incl. 160 unaccompanied children)
- 1200 asylum applications filed in January **50 from unaccompanied children**
- Arrivals to Greece remain at the high level, while the number of migrants arriving to Italy has decreased.
- 650 relocation-take charge-requests (period 12.10.2015-24.01.2016, incl. 230 (app. 40%) children. Some 415 are already accepted.
- **20 children died** in the several shipwrecks which occurred in the reporting period.

Hungary:

- 648 new arrivals 26 children (incl. 11 unaccompanied children)
- The Hungarian Association for Migrants (*Menedék Migránsokat Segítő Egyesület*) has organised cultural and educational events and programmes for children in the refugee camp of Vámosszabadi (e.g visit to the Fairy Tale Museum in Budapest).

Italy:

- Ministry of Interior published a new guide for unaccompanied migrant children living in Italy²³
- ASGI (the Association for Juridical Studies on Immigration) requested the Juvenile Football Federation to open the football championships to unaccompanied migrant children living in Italy

Slovenia:

- 62.785 people arrive to Slovenia in January incl. 18.286 (2 of them were unaccompanied)
- Almost half of the arrivals in Croatia and Slovenia are children.
- Registration practices in Slovenia create a risk for extended families to be separated.
- Some 400 people, including **children**, are detained in Slovenia prior to their removal.
- Rules concerning unaccompanied children seem unclear in Slovenia, as some children are detained and others permitted transit.

Sweden:

- 4.100 asylum applications filed in January **640 by unaccompanied children.**
- Simplified registration procedures in Sweden may make it difficult to identify vulnerable persons early on in the asylum process.
- In Sweden, unaccompanied children have to wait several months to be assigned a guardian.
- Police (south of Sweden) estimates that each day at least 2-3 children disappear from their asylum accommodation.

²³ English version:

http://www.libertaciviliimmigrazione.interno.it/dipim/export/sites/default/it/assets/pubblicazioni/UNH CR_ENGprint.pdf

- Difficulties with temporary asylum accommodation and family placements were reported.
- There is a lack of social workers
- Save the Children Sweden reported an increase in number of phone calls reporting violence and sexual abuse at the accommodation centres for unaccompanied children.

Monthly data collection 1: 23 November-31 December 2015²⁴.

Extract

Austria:

- An increasing number of unaccompanied children arrive in Austria.
- Some 4,000 asylum seekers, more than half of whom are children, are not yet cared for at the provincial level, which is blocking the capacities of transit facilities.
- Unaccompanied children have to sign documents on applicable procedures without understanding them. Delays in appointing guardians to unaccompanied children are reported with respect to the situation in Austria, Slovenia and Sweden.
- In Styria, The Association of Foster Parents (*Pflegeelternverein*) offers training for future foster parents to allow for a quicker transfer of unaccompanied children to foster families.

Bulgaria:

- A total of 690 people were apprehended at the border in December 2015 (out of these 286 children)
- Asylum seeking children are outside education system and attend no language course.
- In Bulgaria, asylum seeking children continue to be outside the education system, and in Germany, children wait up to several months before accessing compulsory education.

Croatia:

• Children are spotted alone crying before being picked up by Red Cross interpreters in Croatia.

Greece:

- 19.578 children arrived in December 2015 by sea
- 45 unaccompanied children filed asylum applications in December 2015
- Lack of appropriate shelters for children in almost all reception facilities on the islands.
- In some places children are kept in police custody before being transferred to open reception facilities on the mainland

Hungary:

• 43 children crossed the border between 23.11 and 31.12

²⁴ http://fra.europa.eu/en/theme/asylum-migration-borders/overviews/december-2015

 According to NGOs, the age assessment was not always performed and as a result some unaccompanied children were put in asylum detention and not in reception centres for children.

Sweden

- 13.872 asylum applications registered in December 2015, of whom 6.881 were children (almost half 3.217 were unaccompanied children)
- According to the Migration Agency, the number of cases of trafficking in human beings has increased during 2015. Special attention was given to unaccompanied children, underage girls married to much older men or underage pregnant girls.
- According to the Swedish Police, about 25 percent of unaccompanied children disappear from their accommodation.

3.8. EASO – European Asylum Support Office

EASO collects data in the framework of its Early warning and Preparedness System (EPS). The data are provided within 15 days following the reporting month. The EPS data shows persons claiming to be UAMs.²⁵

3.8.1. EASO – Latest asylum trends – February 2016²⁶

Key figures:

- 108.490 asylum applications were filed in EU+ countries in February 2016
- **2 645 unaccompanied children**²⁷ applied for asylum in February 2016 (2.4% of the total number of applications;3.6% in January and 7% in December 2015)
- 36% of unaccompanied children were nationals of Afghanistan, followed by Syrians (11%) and Iraqis (8%).

3.8.2. EASO - Latest asylum trends – January 2016²⁸

Key figures:

- 97.222 asylum applications were filed in EU+ in January 2016
- **3 488 (self-declared) unaccompanied children** applied for asylum in January 2016 (4% of the total number of applications 7% in December 2015)
- 46% of unaccompanied children were nationals of Afghanistan, followed by Syrians (11%) and Iraqis (7%).

3.8.3. EASO – Latest asylum trends – 2015 overview²⁹

Extracts:

²⁵ https://easo.europa.eu/analysis-statistics/

²⁶ https://easo.europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/Latest-Asylum-Trends-Febuary.pdf

²⁷ self-declared

²⁸ https://easo.europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/Latest-Asylum-Trends-January-2016.pdf

²⁹ https://easo.europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/LatestAsylumTrends2015.pdf

1 349 638 asylum applications were filed in EU+ in 2015 (twice the number of 2014)

85 482 unaccompanied children applied for asylum in 2015 (6% of applications, three times more than in 2014). The majority of unaccompanied children were nationals of Afghanistan (54%), followed by Syrians (13%), Eritreans (7%), Iraqis (5%) and Somalis (4%).

3.9. ECHO-REACH³⁰

3.9.1. January 2016 issue: "Situation overview: European Migration Crisis"

A snapshot of ongoing migration into Europe via the Western Balkans in January 2016 based on structured interviews with 1 313 migrants at major transit points in Serbia.

Extracts:

- As in December, most migrants travelled directly from their country of origin
- Families remain the majority of those travelling, but the percentage of men travelling alone/without family have increased since December, a finding particularly true for groups travelling from North Africa and other non-preferred nationalities
- Unaccompanied children: 10 % of respondents

3.9.2. December 2015 issue: "Situation overview: European Migration Crisis, Western Balkans" 132

4. REPORTS ON SITUATION AND DATA OF CHILDREN IN MIGRATION

4.1. Greek asylum service³³

Statistical Data of the Greek Asylum Service for the period between 1.1.2015 and 31.12.2015.

Data for unaccompanied children:

- Asylum applications filed in 2015: 426 (451 in 2014)
- Asylum applications filed in December 2015: 45 (37/month on average in 2014)

³⁰ http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/

³¹ http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource-

documents/srb situation overview european migration monitoring monthly overview january 2016 _0.pdf

³²http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource-

documents/reach eu situation overview european migration trends december 2015 5.pdf

³³ http://asylo.gov.gr/en/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Greek-Asylum-Service-statistical-data-2015_en.pdf

4.2. Council of Europe³⁴

4.2.1. 5th general report on GRETA's activities covering the period from 1 October 2014 to 31 December 2015³⁵

Extracts:

- The report reminds about the Council of Europe convention against trafficking in human beings and states obligations to ensure that trafficked children or children at risk of trafficking, are properly identified and have effective access to asylum, or other forms of protection.
- Migrants are at a high risk of falling victim to human trafficking.
- They often face barriers in being identified and relevant accessing assistance (children in particular).
- Identification of victims of trafficking, especially among young asylum seekers and unaccompanied children is still problematic in many MS.
- Age assessment must be conducted in a safe, child and gender sensitive manner, with due respect for human dignity. The benefit of doubt should be given to a child.
- In many countries unaccompanied children disappear within a few days of being placed in reception centres. That increases the risk of falling victim to trafficking.
- Family reunification and return to countries of origin must be closely monitored to avoid risks of re-trafficking.
- The report gave examples of good practices, e.g. in the Netherlands (two protected centres with addresses kept secret) and Ireland (children placed in small residential centres or foster care).
- No sufficient data in monitoring whether child victims of trafficking have effective access to asylum.

4.2.2. Report: Report on GRETA's activities 2014-2015

GRETA has urged 36 out of 40 European countries evaluated so far to improve the identification of child victims of human trafficking – and the assistance and support which is given to them – in line with their legal obligations under the convention. The report states that children at risk are frequently being treated as offenders or irregular migrants by law enforcement officials who may lack sufficient training and often do not look for indicators of trafficking. It also expresses concern that significant numbers of unaccompanied children – including child victims of trafficking and possible victims – go missing shortly after being placed in reception centres, which exposes them to further risks of trafficking or re-trafficking.

4.3. UNHCR

4.3.1. UNHCR Information Portal for the Mediterranean³⁶

This information portal contains the latest up-to-date information and data on Refugees/Migrants in the Mediterranean.

36 http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/regional.php

³⁴ http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/trafficking/Docs/Gen_Report/GRETA_2016_1_Web_en.pdf

https://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/trafficking/Docs/Gen_Report/GRETA_2016_1_Web_en.pdf

Key figures:

- 1,015,078 arrivals by sea in 2015
- 172.945 arrivals by sea in 2016 as at 11.04.2016
- 3,703 dead/missing in 2015
- 711 dead/missing in 2016 as at 07.04.2016
- Demographics (based on arrivals since 01.01.2016 and as at 31.03.2016):
 - o 35% children
 - o 20% women
 - o 45% men
- Top-10 nationalities of Mediterranean sea arrivals ((based on arrivals since 01.01.2016, represents 92% of the sea arrivals as at 07.04.2016):
 - o Syrian Arab Republic: 43%
 - o Afghanistan: 23%
 - o Iraq: 14%
 - o Iran: 3%
 - o Pakistan: 3%
 - o Nigeria: 2%
 - o Gambia: 1%
 - o Guinea: 1%
 - o Senegal: 1%
 - o Cote d'Ivoire: 1%

4.3.2. *UNHCR – Greece data snapshot*, 23.04.2016³⁷

Key figures:

154 439 – total number of migrants who arrived in Greece between 01 January and 23 April 2016

2 987 – total arrivals in Greece in April 2016

130 – average daily arrivals during April 2016

Children - 40% of migrants who arrived in Greece in March 2016

4.3.3. UNHCR – Greece data snapshot, 10.04.2016³⁸

Key figures:

153.156 – total number of migrants who arrived in Greece between 01 January and 10 April 2016

1 704 – total arrivals in Greece in April 2016

170 – average daily arrivals during April 2016

Children - 40% of migrants who arrived in Greece in March 2016

4.3.4. UNHCR – Greece data snapshot, 06.04.2016³⁹

Key figures:

³⁷ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=1095

³⁸ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=1026

³⁹ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=1015

152.476 – total number of migrants who arrived in Greece between 01 January and 6 April 2016

1 372 – total arrivals in Greece in April 2016

229 – average daily arrivals during April 2016

Children - 40% of migrants who arrived in Greece in March 2016

4.3.5. UNHCR - Refugees/Migrants Emergency Response - Italy, 03.04.2016

Key figures:

19.340 – total number of migrants who arrived in Italy in 2016

Children - 15% of migrants who arrived in Italy since January 2016

4.3.6. *UNHCR* – *Greece data snapshot*, 01.04.2016⁴⁰

Key figures:

151.659 - total number of migrants who arrived in Greece between 01 January and 1April 2016

555 – total arrivals in Greece in April 2016

555 – average daily arrivals during April 2016

Children - 40% of migrants who arrived in Greece in February 2016

4.3.7. UNHCR urges immediate safeguards to be in place before any returns begin under EU-Turkey deal. Briefing notes, 01.04.2016

A summary of what was said by UNHCR spokesperson at the press briefing, on 1 April 2016, at the Palais des Nations in Geneva

Extract:

- There are currently around 51.000 refugees and migrant in the country
- Deteriorating conditions on Lesvos –people sleeping in open, food supply is insufficient.
- Since 20.03 people are detained at the Moria hotspot.
- Many families have become separated.
- Increasing frustration and anxiety among migrants.

4.3.8. *UNHCR* – *Greece data snapshot*, 30.03.2016⁴²

Key figures:

150.703 – total number of migrants who arrived in Greece between 01 January and 30 March 2016

26.222 – total arrivals in Greece in March 2016

874 – average daily arrivals during March 2016

⁴⁰ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=992

⁴¹ http://www.unhcr.org/56fe31ca9.html

⁴² http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=978

Children - 40% of migrants who arrived in Greece in February 2016

4.3.9. UNHCR – Legal considerations on the return of asylum - seekers and refugees from Greece to Turkey as part of the EU-Turkey Cooperation in Tackling the Migration Crisis under the safe third country and first country of asylum concept⁴³

Extract:

- Family unity needs to be maintained
- The best interests of the child must be a primary consideration in any transfer process
- Syrians cannot be recognised and granted refugee status within Turkey under the Geneva Convention
- It is not clear how Syrians can apply for or re-avail themselves of temporary protection under the Temporary Protection Regulation in Turkey
- Under the Dublin Regulation, it needs to be ensured that the unaccompanied child has a qualified representative and that the appropriate actions to identify the family members on the territory of a Member State are taken.

4.3.10. UNHCR - redefines role in Greece as EU-Turkey deal comes into effect. Briefing notes, 22.03.2016⁴⁴

A summary of what was said by UNHCR spokesperson at the press briefing, on 22 March 2016, at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

Extract:

- Greek authorities started to separate migrants who arrived before 20.03.2016 and people arriving after that date
- UNHCR has suspended some of their activities at the closed centres on Greek islands
- Migrants are missioning information about their situation
- Under the EU's Emergency Relocation Mechanism, 7015 places were made available and 953 asylum seekers had been relocated (as of 21.3.2016)
- 4000 children are camping in Idomeni in an informal site near the border in bad conditions.
 - 4.3.11. UNHCR Legal considerations for cooperation between the European Union and Turkey on the return of asylum-seekers and migrants, 10.03.2016⁴⁵

Extract:

- Turkey is the largest refugee-hosting country in the world -2.7 million Syrian refugees and almost 258.000 refugees and asylum seekers of other nationalities
- Family unity needs to be maintained and family links mitigating against transfer need to be respected.
- The best interests of the child must be a primary consideration in any transfer process

⁴³ http://www.unhcr.org/56f3ec5a9.pdf

⁴⁴ http://www.unhcr.org/56f10d049.html

⁴⁵ http://www.refworld.org/docid/56ebf31b4.html

• UNHCR is working to support government to end the detention of children, ensure that alternatives to detention are available and that, where detention is used – which should be only a measure of last resort, conditions meet international standards.

4.3.12. UNHCR - 6-point proposals on stabilising the situation of refugees and migrants in Europe. Proposal to the Meeting of EU Heads of State or Government and Turkey on 07.03.2016⁴⁶

Extract:

- Implement the hotspot approach and the relocation schemes
- Support the emergency response in Greece
- Improve compliance with the EU asylum acquis
- Expand opportunities for resettlement and other pathways for admission
- Develop protection safeguards for individuals at risk, incl systems to protect unaccompanied and separated children:
 - o To establish specialist child protection services
 - o Improve age assessment, family tracing, inter–State collaboration and reunion with parents in countries of asylum up- or downstream
- Develop effective European systems for allocating responsibility for asylumseekers in the mid-term.

4.3.13. UNHCR - Greece data snapshot, 21.03.2016⁴⁷

Key figures:

148.317 – total number of migrants who arrived in Greece between 01 January and 21 March 2016

23.836 – total arrivals in Greece in March 2016

1 135– average daily arrivals during March 2016

Children - 40% of migrants who arrived in Greece in February 2016

4.3.14. UNHCR- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Unaccompanied and separated children⁴⁸, 18.12.2015-08.02.2016

358 Unaccompanied and separated children were identified and interviewed in Vinojug and Tabanovce transit centres.

Key figures:

- Nationality: 51% Afghan nationals, 38% Syrians, 10% Iraqis
- Gender: 97% boys, 3% girls
- Age: 85% of children are between 15 and 17 years old
- 79% of respondents were unaccompanied children, 21% separated children
- 78% of separated children declared their parents were living in the country of origin

⁴⁶ http://www.unhcr.org/56d94f7e9.html

⁴⁷ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=937

⁴⁸ https://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=665.

- 74% of children declared to have both parents living in the country of origin two were 6 and 9 years old.
- 70% of children declared Germany as their final destination
- 37% declared that they had no family members or relatives in the country of destination

4.3.15. UNHCR - Greece data snapshot, 02.03.2016⁴⁹

Key figures:

126.166 – total number of migrants who arrived in Greece between 01 January and 2 March 2016

2 771 - total arrivals in Greece in March 2016

1 386 – average daily arrivals during March 2016

Children - 40% of migrants who arrived in Greece in February 2016

4.3.16. UNHCR - Refugee/Migrant crisis in Europe. Situation analysis – March 2016, 1.03.2016⁵⁰

Extract:

- Sea arrivals to Greece in February: 12.800 per week (January 2016 13.500, December 2015- 22.500)
- Increasing number of migrants are being prevented from crossing borders along the route and are stranded in transit countries: by 26.02 between 12.000 and 15.000 refugees were stuck in Greece.
- Smuggling of migrants is expected to increase
- Reverse flow is observed in many places (Austria-Slovenia, Slovenia-Croatia, Croatia-Serbia, Serbia – former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - Greece)
- Children 40% of migrants of Syrian, 35% of Afghan and 39% of Iraqi origin arriving to Greece in January, 2016

4.3.17. UNHCR - Greece data snapshot, 25.02.2016⁵¹

Key figures:

112.538 – total number of migrants who arrived in Greece between 01 January and 25 February 2016

45.123 – total arrivals in Greece in February 2016

1.805 – average daily arrivals during February 2016

Children - 36% of migrants who arrived in Greece in January 2016

4.3.18. UNHCR -Update no5 - Italy - Sea Arrivals, (January 2016)⁵²

Key figures:

⁴⁹ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=792

⁵⁰ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=780

⁵¹ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=756

⁵² http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=755

5.270 - persons arriving by sea in January 2016

645 - Unaccompanied and separated Children arrived by sea in 2016

4.3.19. UNHCR - Europe refugees &migrants emergency response. Gender breakdown of arrivals to Greece and Italy⁵³

Key figures (Based on Government data from June 2015 to January 2016):

GREECE

856.723: total arrivals in 2015

67.415: total arrivals in January 2016

June 2015:

- men 73% of arrivals
- children 16% of arrivals
- women 11% of arrivals

January 2016:

- men 43 % of arrivals
- children 36 % of arrivals
- women − 21 % of arrivals

ITALY

153.842: total arrivals to Italy in 2015

5 273: total arrivals to Italy in January 2016

June 2015:

- men 76% of arrivals
- children 9% of arrivals
- women 15% of arrivals

January 2016:

- men 79 % of arrivals
- children 12 % of arrivals
- women − 9 % of arrivals

4.3.20. UNHCR – Greece data snapshot, 14.02.2016⁵⁴

Key figures:

933.381 - total number of migrants who arrived in Greece between 01 January 2015 and 14 February 2016

76.607 – arrivals by sea in 2016

16.156 – total arrivals in Greece in February 2016

Children - 36% of migrants who arrived in Greece in January 2016

 $[\]frac{^{53}}{^{54}}\frac{\text{http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=789}}{\text{http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/country.php?id=83}}$

4.3.21. UNHCR – Briefing note: UNHCR concerned over increasing restrictive measures, urges effective comprehensive response, 12.02.2016⁵⁵

Extracts:

- More people arrived in Europe during the first six weeks of 2016 than during the first four months of 2015.
- 58% of those arriving in 2016 were women and children
- Children **one in three** people arriving to Greece

4.3.22. UNHCR - Greece data snapshot, 10.02.2016⁵⁶

Key figures:

932.519 – total number of migrants who arrived in Greece between 01 January 2015 and 10 February 2016

74.725 – arrivals by sea in 2016

15.294 – total arrivals in Greece in February 2016

1 529 – average daily arrivals in February 2016

Children - 36% of migrants who arrived in Greece in January 2016

4.3.23. <u>UNHCR – UNFPA – Women's Refugee Commission – Initial assessment report: protection risks for women and girls in the European refugee and migrant crisis</u>⁵⁷

Further to a seven-day assessment mission to Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, this report presents the findings and key recommendations for action for the EU, transit and destination country governments, humanitarian actors and civil society organisations. Findings included that women and girls face grave protection risks and that responses are inadequate. Urgent need to scale up response efforts, implement innovative solutions and strengthen protection mechanisms and services across borders.

4.3.24. UNHCR - Greece data snapshot, 03.02.2016⁵⁸

Key figures:

924.136 – total number of migrants who arrived in Greece between 01 January 2015 and 03 February 2016

6 911 – average daily arrivals in February 2016

Children - 36% of migrants who arrived in Greece in January 2016

⁵⁵ http://www.unhcr.org/56bdcaae6.html

http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=625

http://www.unhcr.org/569f8f419.html

http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=582

- 4.3.25. UNHCR Europe's Refugee emergency response, update #20, 02.02.2016 (22-28.01.2016)⁵⁹
- 4.3.26. UNHCR Refugees/ Migrants Emergency Response Mediterranean, 1.02.2016⁶⁰
- 4.3.27. UNHCR former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Weekly Refugee and Migrant Statistics, 31.01.2016⁶¹

Key figures:

61% of those registered were **women and children** (based on MoI registration for the week 25-31.01.2016)

Children (0-17) - 39% of those registered

67% of registered migrants coming from Syrian Arab republic were women and children

4.3.28. UNHCR -Italy - Sea Arrivals, 27.01.2016 (December 2015) http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=528⁶²

Key figures:

153.850 persons arriving by sea in 2015 (9 640 in December)

12,360 Unaccompanied and separated Children arrived by sea in 2015

52% - average EU asylum, subsidiary and humanitarian protection rate of top nationalities arriving by sea in Italy (as of November)

Top nationalities of sea arrivals in 2015:

Eritrea – 25%, Nigeria – 14%, Somalia – 8%, Sudan – 6%, Gambia - 5%, Syrian Arab Republic – 5%

4.3.29. UNHCR Regional Refugee and migrant response plan for Europe, 26.01.2016⁶³

Extracts:

Children – appr. 30% of the total movement from Turkey to Greece

In total -250,000 in need of specific protection and assistance in 2015

An increase in the number women and children arriving at the shores of Europe was observed in recent months.

⁵⁹ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=569

⁶⁰ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/country.php?id=105

⁶¹ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=581

⁶² http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=528

⁶³ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=521

- 4.3.30. UNHCR, Monthly Trends of Nationalities, Arrivals to Greece, Italy and Spain, 26.01.2015⁶⁴
- 4.3.31. UNHCR, Greece data snapshot, 24.01.2016⁶⁵
- 4.3.32. UNHCR, Greece data snapshot, 16.01.2016⁶⁶
- 4.3.33. UNHCR, Men, Women and Children Trends of arrivals to Greece, June 2015 January 2016, 16.01.2016⁶⁷

January 2016: Men (45%), Children (34%), Women (21%)

June 2015: Men (73%), Children (16%), Women (11%)

4.3.34. UNHCR, Nationalities breakdown of arrivals in Greece (December 2015 – January 2016), 16.01.2016⁶⁸

Extracts:

1 – 16th January 2016: Syria (44%), Afghanistan (31%), Iraq (13%), Other (11%)

December 2015: Syria (36%), Afghanistan (25%), Iraq (26%), Other (13%)

- 4.3.35. UNHCR, The Balkan Migrant Crisis, An Introduction, 16.01.2016 69
- 4.3.36. UNHCR, Europe's Refugee Emergency Response, Update #18, 13.01.2016⁷⁰

Extracts

Highlights

- On 2 January, a drowned 2-year-old boy became the first recorded refugee casualty of the year.
- 1,018,770 refugees and migrants arriving by sea to Europe as of 7 January 2016. 3,810 refugees and migrants estimated to have died/gone missing at sea as of 7 January 2016.

Operational context

• At the Serbian border an increase in numbers of unaccompanied and separated children from Syria and Afghanistan was noted.

66 http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/documents.php?page=4&view=grid

⁶⁴ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/documents.php?page=1&view=grid

⁶⁵ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/country.php?id=83

⁶⁷ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/documents.php?page=4&view=grid

http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/documents.php?page=4&view=grid

⁶⁹ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/documents.php?page=4&view=grid

⁷⁰ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/documents.php?page=4&view=grid

Identified needs

• Slovenia: There are still no specific child friendly spaces to address protection needs of children, particularly UASCs.

4.3.1. UNHCR, Europe's Refugee Emergency Response, Update #17, 07.01.2016⁷¹

Extracts

Some 17,072 people entered **Serbia**, 16,821 from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and 251 from Bulgaria. An increase in numbers of unaccompanied and separated children (UASCs) from Syria and Afghanistan was noted

Slovenia: There are still no specific child friendly spaces to address protection needs of children, particularly UASCs.

Serbia

Due to the harsh weather conditions leading to poor and risky road conditions, UNHCR, in consultation with the authorities, suspended the UNHCR-funded bus rotations between Miratovac and Presevo reception centre during the night. As a result, a number of asylum-seekers, mainly families with children, stayed overnight at the Miratovac RAP. UNHCR advised the PoCs at Tabanovce to wait there until the morning, when the transportation from Miratovac to the Presevo reception centre resumes.

4.3.2. UNHCR, Europe's Refugee Emergency Response, Update #16, 31.12.2015⁷²

Extracts

Highlights

• In Greece, a shipwreck occurred off Farmakonissi island on 22 December 2015. Twenty-nine people were on board, 15 were rescued and 13 bodies (mostly children) were found.

Operational context

• In the reporting period, 41,878 refugees and migrants arrived in **Serbia**: 40,428 from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and 1,450 from Bulgaria. The majority were Syrian families with small children, followed by an increasing number of Iraqi Kurdish families and Afghans.

UNHCR and partner organizations continued to identify age-disputed children in

Hungary

detention - 15 children at asylum detentions/prisons in Bekescsaba Kiskunhalas and Vac. The Hungarian Helsinki Committee intervened to expedite the transfer of children to FOT Children's home. UNHCR identified several PSN in detention

72 http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/documents.php?page=8&view=grid

⁷¹ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/documents.php?page=8&view=grid

(medical and psycho-social needs) and referred them for adequate assistance to the Cordelia Foundation.

- The number of PoC in detention is 753 held in the Office of Immigration and Nationality (OIN) asylum detention facilities and Alien Police detention for irregular crossing, pending deportation/expulsion to Serbia. Detention conditions for asylum-seekers remain poor. Medical assistance provided at asylum detention facilities is limited. Children are kept in asylum-detention facilities for long periods without age assessment. UNHCR has identified children in detention during its visits and is working on their transfer to children's home.
 - 4.3.3. UNHCR, Mediterranean Sea Arrivals, Greece 2015, 31.12.2015⁷³
 - 4.3.4. UNHCR, Greece data snapshot, 22.12.2015⁷⁴
 - 4.3.5. UNHCR, Chios data snapshot, 22.12.2015⁷⁵
 - 4.3.6. UNHCR, Chios data snapshot, 15.12.2015⁷⁶
- Total arrivals in Chios (Jan. 15 Dec. 2015): 109,396
- Total arrivals in Chios during December: 11,568
- Average daily arrivals during December in Chios: approx. 820/day
- Average daily arrivals during November in Chios: Approx. 780/day

4.3.7. UNHCR, Greece data snapshot, 15.12.2015⁷⁷

Total arrivals (Jan. – 15 Dec. 2015): 797,372

Total arrivals during December: approx. 51,191

Average daily arrivals during December: approx. 3,400/day

Average daily arrivals during November: approx. 5,040/day

Percentage of arrivals:

men: 55%women: 17%children: 28%

75 http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=281

⁷³ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/documents.php?page=8&view=grid

⁷⁴ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=496

⁷⁶ http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ChiosIslanddatasnapshot15Dec.pdf

http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Greecedata15Dec2015.pdf

4.3.8. UNHCR, Breakdown of men, women, children, June – November 2015⁷⁸

Hellenic Police information, breakdown of men, women and children.

4.3.9. UNHCR, Europe's Refugee Emergency Response, Update #14, 4-10.12.2015⁷⁹

Extracts

- Sea arrivals in Greece as of 10 December: 768,916
- Average daily sea arrivals in Greece from 4-10 December 2015: 3,720
- Sea arrivals in Italy as of 10 December: 149,500

Highlights:

- **Eight infringement decisions** adopted by the European Commission towards MS for not fully transpose and implement the provisions of the **Common European Asylum System**.
- Response to the **humanitarian aspects of the refugee crisis** by representatives of Egypt, Cyprus and Greece
- On 4 December the Justice and Home Affairs Council, ministers discussed on hotspots, relocation mechanism and Schengen agreement.

Operation context (as of the reporting period)

- **Greece:** 791,570 arrivals in Greece (of which 26,042 from 4 to 10 December)
 - O Some shipwrecks occurred: in one shipwrecks, 12 people were killed and 10-13 have not yet been found. In another, 4 people died and 27 are still missing.
 - Restrictions on the Balkans route based on nationality. Evacuation of persons of nationalities not allowed to cross the border between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
 - O Construction of the hotspot in Linopati (Kos) has not yet started, as there were some protests from the local community.
- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: 23,131 people entered in the reporting period

⁷⁸http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/20151130MenWomenandChildren-trendsofarrivalstoGreeceJune-Nov2015 0.pdf

http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=282

- denial of access to the territory and deportation of persons (who are not Syrian, Afghani or Iraqi) and return of people to Greece (363 from 4 to 9 December)
- **Serbia:** 23,202 arrivals (during the reporting period)
 - o 500,000 asylum-seekers
- **Hungary:** total number of arrivals during 2015: 391,216
 - o apprehension of 80 refugees and migrants
- **Croatia:** 21,385 arrivals (during the reporting period)
- **Slovenia:** 22,352 new arrivals (during the reporting period)
 - o Since 17 October 2015, more than 300,000 people have arrived
- **Austria:** 25,084 arrivals.
 - o Construction of a fence on the Austrian/Slovenian border: the authorities have stated that it is only to channel arrivals
- **Italy:** 5,300 sea arrivals during the reporting period. Among the people who arrived, 650 are eligible for the relocation scheme.
- **Germany:** 4,983 new arrivals on 9 December. As of summer 2016, an identity document called "Ankunftsausweis" (arrival ID) will be issued, which will contain information of the ID holder.

Identified Needs and remaining Gaps:

• Greece:

- <u>Leros island</u>: unaccompanied and separated children waiting to be transferred to Kos are kept in police custody, sharing common spaces with others
- o <u>Chios:</u> reception capacity overstretched, due to the large number of arrivals and limited departures

• Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

- o **Reception conditions** are inadequate in the transit centre of Tabanovce
- o **Registration** at a very high rate in Gevgelija, but problems have been raised concerning the receipt of documents
- People being deported from Vinojug transit centre and the Police screened documents at the border check-point

• <u>Serbia</u>

 Increase risk of exploitation by smugglers or traffickers for those who are not allowed to continue to Serbia – those from Syrian, Iraqi and Afghan nationality Lack of adequate space for women and children in Dimitrovgrad (waiting space for registration)

• Hungary

- Border transit zones lack protection-sensitive regulations for their operation (either inaccessible or serve as an expulsion channel to Serbia)
- Detained people: 805 (of which 443 are asylum-seekers and 362 are "foreigners" held in Alien Police detention for illegal crossing, pending deportation/expulsion to Serbia).
- Health care access is of very low quality at asylum detention facilities

Croatia

Family separations in cases of cases for medical interventions

Slovenia

- Deterioration of reception conditions in Lampedusa hotspot due to the increase of sea arrivals (a centre with 400-500 people capacity hosts around 700 persons)
- O People held in Lampedusa hotspot since 5 November as they refused to be fingerprinted (family of Palestinian from Iraq, women from Somania and an Eritrean)
- 4.3.10. UNHCR, Greece data snapshot, 9.12.2015⁸⁰
- 4.3.11. UNHCR, Lesbos island snapshot, 8.12.2015⁸¹
- Total arrivals in Lesbos (Jan. 8 Dec. 2015): 447,958 (% of arrivals in Lesbos compared to total: 58%)
- Total arrivals in Lesbos during December: 15,904
 - O Average daily arrivals during December in Lesbos: approx. 1,988/ day
- Total arrival in Lesbos during November: 89,183 (65% of arrivals in Greece during November)
- Top nationalities of arrivals in Lesbos during November:
 - o Syria: 40%

o Afghanistan: 35%

Iraq: 11%
 Iran: 6%
 Morocco: 3%
 Pakistan: 2%

Top nationalities of arrivals in Lesbos during October:

37

 $^{^{80}\} http://\underline{reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Greecedata09Dec2015\%5B1\%5D.pdf}$

⁸¹ http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=254

Syria: 42%

o Afghanistan: 40%

Iraq: 12%Iran: 4%

4.3.12. UNHCR, Syrian Refugee Arrivals in Greece, Preliminary Ouestionnaire Findings, April – Sept. 2015⁸²

Extract

Questionnaire

- <u>Main findings</u> (considering that it is a questionnaire, whose findings cannot be considered as representative of the whole Syrian refugee population)
 - Missing family members: 20% of people interviewed stated that they had been separated from one or more family members in Syria (and they did not know where they currently are)
 - Specific needs:

o 65%: did not report any specific needs

o 6%: unaccompanied or separated children

5%: victims of torture
3%: chronic disease
3%: single parent

- **Intention:** most interviewed refugees had the intention to apply for asylum. Germany is the country where most refugees intended to apply for Asylum, followed by Sweden. They considered employment opportunities, assistance and rights of refugees, existing family and social network and educational opportunities
- 63% of the interviewees had **left Syria in 2015**
- Time spent in country of first asylum or transit and legal documentation: little time was spent in a country of first asylum or transit, and did not had legal documentation to enter or be in the country of transit or first asylum
- **Type of accommodation:** the vast majority of Syrians had lived in a private accommodation (91%), while 3% had stayed in camps
- Assistance: 18% interviewees had received some assistance in a third country
- Reasons for leaving country of first asylum: employment opportunities did not fit into their adequate stills, financial needs, security and protection concerns, as well as look for better opportunities for their children and hope for educational opportunities
- Greece was reached at their first attempted crossing (85% interviewees)

Other information

• Family status:

Single: 50%Married: 45%

⁸² http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/UNHCR-Greece SyrianSurvey%20%281%29.pdf

Widowed/divorced/other: rest

Interviewees:

- Without children: 56%
- With children (with them or in another country): 44%

Plans to bring family member to country of asylum:

- o 58%: intend to bring their family members to their country of asylum
- o 34%: no intend to bring their family members to their country of asylum
- o 7% undecided

Reception conditions in Greece:

- o 72%: had not regularly received hygiene items
- o 67%: facilities not cleaned on a regular basis
- o 59% not been examined by a doctor
- o 56%: women and children did not sleep in a separate space from men
- 56%: they had not received a blanket or sleeping bag
- o 54%: had not had access to showers
- o 52%. Had not had access to phone
- o 47%: had not slept in a bed

4.3.13. UNHCR, Europe's Refugee Emergency Response Update #13, $27.11 - 03.12.2015^{83}$

Extract

Figures (until the reporting date)

- 4,560 average daily sea arrivals in Greece from 27 Nov.-3 Dec. 2015
- 144,100 sea arrivals in Italy as of 3 November

Highlights:

- Restrictions in the Balkans borders: only some nationals are allowed to cross the border: Syrian, Iraqi and Afghan.
- Tensions at Eidomeni (Greece/former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), which lead to violence and temporary closure of the border
- "Anti-refugee" campaign launched by Hungarian Government through newspaper advertisements

Operation context (on the reporting date)

- **Greece:** arrivals have increased (after improved weather). Total arrivals during November: 136,827 (average 4,560 arrivals/day).
 - o Restrictions along the Western Balkans route to the admission of refugees and migrants (only from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq nationality), which lead to tensions at Eidomeni (Greek/former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)

⁸³ http://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/UNHCR%20Update%20%2313%20on%20the%20Emergenc y%20Response%20in%20Europe%20-%2027NOV-3DEC15.pdf

- **Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:** 17,669 people entered (from 27/11 03/12)
 - o Setting up of a fence that separates the border with Greece
- **Serbia:** 19,043 asylum-seekers arrived (from 27/11 03/12), daily average 3,000 (an increase of refugees arriving from Bulgaria was noted)
- **Hungary:** Number of arrivals in 2015: 391,148
 - \circ Apprehension of 35 refugees and migrants after irregular entry (from 27/11-03/12)
 - o Asylum-applicants: 176,892 (this year)
 - o November: asylum-applicants 300 (which meant a decrease in 89% of the applications)
 - \circ 805 individuals detained in asylum detention centres and in prison facilities
- Croatia: 21,272 entered
- **Slovenia:** 20,344 arrivals. Fence erection at the Croatian border (Slovenia has stated that they will remove the fence when the flow towards Slovenia has stopped)
- Austria: 20,959 arrivals.
 - o Restrictions to the right to family reunion and the automatic review of positive decisions 3 years after recognition of refugee status
- Italy: No sea arrivals in the reporting period.
 - o In November 2015 only 3,100 persons arrived by sea

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Greece:** in Samos, some tensions arose among population during distribution (e.g. food distribution)
- Hungary: increasing number of detained people: 805, of whom 443 are asylum-seekers held in asylum detention facilities and 362 "foreigners" held in Police detention for irregular crossing. The detention lasts sometimes for months
- Slovenia: the need of protection information provided to children was noted (particularly for unaccompanied and separated children). They will draft information materials for children on the move, including information on the national children protection mechanism.
- Italy: more than 100 persons are waiting to be relocated.

- 4.3.14. UNHCR, Lesbos data snapshot, 3.12.2015⁸⁴
- 4.3.15. UNHCR, Greece data snapshot, 2.12.2015⁸⁵
- 4.3.16. UNHCR, Europe's Refugee Emergency Response Update #12, $20-26.11.2015^{8\bar{6}}$

Extract

Figures (as of the reporting period)

• 144,000 sea arrivals in Italy as of 26 November

Situation:

- Governments in the Balkans only allow border crossing for Syrian, Iraqi and Afghan nationals.
- Fluctuations in the number of arrivals in Greece due to weather conditions. Rescue of a ship (with 88 people, including children) by the Hellenic Coast Guard and lifeguards

More data (disaggregated by country, in the reporting period. Unless otherwise specified):

- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: 26,103 arrivals (On 25 and 26 November, and an average of 100 people/day were returned to Greece on the grounds that there was no possibility to check authenticity of their documents)
- **Serbia**: 23,761 (average of 3,390 persons/day).
- **Hungary**: 36 refugees and migrants entered Hungary and were apprehended by the policy.
- **Croatia**: 25,659 arrivals. Restrictions of nationalities accepted.
- **Slovenia**: 27,634 new arrivals
- Austria: 36,230 new arrivals. Reception and accommodation facilities overstretched
- Italy: 606 refugees and migrants arrived by sea

Identified needs and remaining gaps:

- Greece: in Lesbos, some individuals reported fraud and concerns about sexual and gender-based violence.
- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: some families have been separated due to the fact that they are mixed couples (from different nationalities).
- Serbia: only some nationalities are granted access to registration and can continue their journey
- Hungary: there is the possibility to access transit zones along the Serbian/Croatian border (but they encounter legal and physical obstacles). In

⁸⁴ http://reliefweb.int/report/greece/greece-Lesbos-island-snapshot-2-dec-2015 http://reliefweb.int/report/greece/greece-data-snapshot-02-dec-2015

⁸⁶ http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/UNHCR_Update%2312_on_the_Emergency_Respo nse in Europe-20-26November%20%281%29.pdf

some transit zones, there is a strict admissibility policy only restricted to families and vulnerable persons.

- Croatia: there was a coordination meeting for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) (UNHCR, UNICEF, Save the Children and the Croatian Red Cross): agreement to give more attention to potential cases of trafficking in human beings.
- Slovenia: a Refugee Protection Working Group meeting had to take place
- Italy: to some new arrivals, information is not systematically and effectively provided and there is an obstacle to access the procedure

4.3.17. UNHCR, Greece Refugee Emergency Response – Update #7, 15 – 28.11.2015⁸⁷

Extracts

Highlights:

- The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has implemented restrictions of border crossing and only allows entrance to nationals from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria. This has led to tensions to people present at the border (including a hunger strike or mouth stitch up)
- Due to the coolness of temperatures, winterization plan is further implemented by UNHCR.
- A shipwreck off Kos took lives of nine persons (and 2 children went missing)
- Top nationalities of arrival:

o Syria: 46%

o Afghanistan: 28%

Iraq: 11%Other: 9%Iran: 6%

- Weather conditions have a direct effect on the number of arrivals in Greece
- In November, there has been a shift on the nationals arriving: Syrian nationals have decreased (although still amounting 60% of the arrivals in Greece in 2015) while a significant increase of Iraqis and Iranians has been observed.
- Due to the decrease in arrivals, reception capacity is less pressured (it has been lowered to around the half of arrivals), although there is a need for winterized accommodation.
- Implementation of the relocation process and pilot project in Lesbos has been supported by UNHCR.

Achievements (with a special focus on children):

• Improvements on **child protection**:

87 http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/GreeceOperationalUpdate%237-15-28Nov.pdf

- Standard Operating Procedures are in place to ensure a standardised approach on Unaccompanied and separated children (UASCs).
- o Transfer of UASCs to limit their detention
- o Set up of child-friendly spaces in some islands

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps (with a special focus on children):

- Protection of UASCs: their protection is still of concern due to lack or insufficient reception capacity. UASCs are still detained in common cells (in Leros) until they are transferred to Kos facility. There have been problems of a child who was deprived of food provision while detained. And in another island (Chios), UASCs remained in the policy premise, as there was no dedicated facility (although he was not detained)
- **Registration:** it is not carried out according to EU standards, with parallel systems of registration to avoid backlogs.
- **Family separation:** there are serious problems on family separation, due to poor organisation (*e.g.* change of registration place or in Leros, where authorities gave priority to women and children, separating them from men)
- **Relocation:** a limited interest has been observed

4.3.18. UNHCR, Europe's Refugee Emergency Response Update #11 (13-19.11.2015)⁸⁸

Extract

Key figures:

• 129 relocated people from Italy (since the start of the EU relocation scheme)

Operational context:

- As of 18 November, Syrians, Afghans and Iraqis have been authorised to move onward
- Top nationalities of arrival (in November):
 - o Syria: 54%
 - o Afghanistan: 25%
 - o Iraq: 8%
- Two shipwrecks in Greek territorial waters (13-17 November), **death of 10** people

Identified needs and remaining gaps in some countries

- Greece:
 - o Moria: limited accommodation facilities
 - o Samos: **fingerprinting** is slow at the port for Syrian and other nationals (reports of people who have waited more than 15 days)

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⁸⁸ http://www.refworld.org/docid/565fe3774.html

- o Farmakonissi: reports on lack of shelter, medical assistance and irregular provision of food and water as well as delays in transfer of men.
- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:
 - o **Registration** remains a challenge
- Serbia:
 - o there is still a problem of identification and effective protection for UASC
 - o reunification for separated family are underway (children are separated from their family members due to the rush or get disoriented during disembarkation)

Hungary

- There are some irregular border crossings mainly from Serbia (avoiding Serbia/Croatia operational border)
- High number of **detained persons** in asylum detention facilities (1,003, of which 414 are asylum-seekers) and 587 foreigners in police detention, who are pending deportation orders
- Asylum detention conditions are very poor, and there is a prolonged detention period (exceeding 3 months)

• Slovenia

o Improvement of identification of persons with specific needs, although there are still some problems on referral and access to services

• Italy

 Various screening procedures of persons who wish to apply for asylum, depending on the arrival point without a systematic individual assessment

4.3.19. UNHCR, Europe's Refugee Emergency Response Update #10, 6-12.11.2015⁸⁹

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Greece

- Reception conditions and capacity **overstretched and inadequate** (lack of lighting, latrines, heating and site management)
- Lack of reception places (there are only 2,800 reception places for the more than 10,000 refugees and migrants in Lesbos. Many people, including women, children and new-born babies sleep outside, light fires to keep themselves warm)

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

- assistance to persons with special needs: 1,604 children and 818 women in UNICEF child Friendly Spaces at the Vinojug centre
- registration standards remain a concern
- refugees and migrants have no financial means to cover travel costs
- no heating is available in the Vinojug centre

Serbia

-

• increased number of **family separations**

⁸⁹http://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/UNHCR%20Update%20%2310%20on%20the%20Emergency%20Response%20in%20Europe%20-%206-12NOV15.pdf

• need of experts on **psychiatric care**, as there is an increasing number of persons suffering from mental health conditions or showing signs of trauma

Hungary

- concern as detentions are carried out for people crossing the border irregularly and detention conditions remain precarious
- a group of UASC (from Afghanistan and Syria) are kept in asylum detention facilities (sharing facilities with adults), with little or no support from social services. Some were registered as adults.

Croatia

- lack of information concerning their destination
- problems observed in provision of food, playing area for children
- concerns as winter is approaching

Slovenia

- need for separate spaces to change baby nappies and breastfeeding
- improvement is needed considering winterization and WASH

Italy

- lack of systematic referral mechanisms for specific needs people (particularly for individuals suffering from trauma, victims of trafficking, SGBV and torture)
- UASC (particularly Eritreans, Syrians and Somalis) avoid identification, as they consider Italy a transit country. Therefore, they are put at greater risk and without access to specialised services
- as a result of the **relocation scheme**, there is a need to strengthen coordination mechanisms and develop standard operating procedures in hotspots (particularly on information and identification of persons with specific needs)
 - 4.3.20. UNHCR, Briefing Notes 13.11.2015⁹⁰
 - 4.3.21. UNHCR, Factsheet. Lesbos Island (Greece) 12.11.2015⁹¹
 - 4.3.22. UNHCR, Update. Lesbos and the Greek islands 6.11.201592
 - 4.3.23. UNHCR, Winterisation Plan for the Refugee Crisis in Europe, 5.11.2015⁹³
 - 4.3.24. UNHCR Europe's Refugee Emergency Response Update, 30.10 5.11.2015⁹⁴
 - 4.3.25. UNHCR Extract Update #8 Greece 23-29.10.2015 95
- The prevention of family or group separation is a challenge due to overcrowded reception sites and during transfers from small arrival islands to bigger islands for registration.

⁹⁰ http://www.unhcr.org/564b327b6.html

⁹¹ http://www.unhcr.org/5645ddbc6.html

http://www.unhcr.org/563c934a6.html

http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/10245

⁹⁴ http://www.refworld.org/docid/5641abd44.html

⁹⁵ http://www.refworld.org/docid/563888814.html

- There is a need to improve the identification and assistance to individuals with specific needs, including survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) and persons with mobility deficiency. UNHCR and other actors are supporting the authorities to address this issue.
- Gaps remain in the protection of Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC). There is a lack of appropriate shelters on almost all islands, resulting in cases of children remaining in police custody in substandard conditions, before being transferred to open reception facilities in the mainland.
 - 4.3.26. UNHCR, Briefing Notes. Lesbos and the Greek islands, Update 6.10.2015⁹⁶
 - 4.3.27. UNHCR, Briefing Notes 23.10.2015⁹⁷

Extract

Testimonies of abuse and sexual violence against refugee and migrant women and children on the move in Europe

- Risks and abuses faced by children and women are during the route but also during movement throughout Europe. There is a high risk of violence and abuse, including sexual violence, especially in overcrowded reception sites, or in many locations where refugees and migrants gather (such as parks, train stations, bus stations and roadsides).
- Children engaged in survival sex to pay smugglers to continue their journey (either because they have run out money, or because they have been robbed).
- Reception centres: overcrowded and lacking lighting and separated spaces for women and families with children
 Problems of detention of children were raised
 - 4.3.28. UNHCR Briefing Notes 20.10.2015⁹⁸
 - 4.3.29. UNHCR Briefing Notes 16.10.2015⁹⁹
 - 4.3.30. UNHCR Briefing note on Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC), 14.10.2015¹⁰⁰

Extract

Figures

Top nationalities: Syrians, Afghans and Eritreans

Most are boys 14-17, but noted increase in % of girls

Two profiles, those who started their journey as UASC and those who were separated while travelling. The second group in particular are very exposed, unprepared and traumatised.

⁹⁶ http://www.unhcr.org/563c934a6.html

http://www.unhcr.org/562a150f6.html

⁹⁸ http://www.unhcr.org/562617c36.html

⁹⁹ http://www.unhcr.org/5620ed2d6.html

http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=85

Reporting difficulties re exact numbers, e.g. because many are only registered if they apply for asylum, and there is high mobility, some pretend to be adults, some may be registered in more than one country

- **Hungary:** tenfold increase over 2014 by 11.8.2015
- **Serbia** 1,047 girls in 2015, compared to 85 in 2014
- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: by 22.9.2015 2,844 registered of whom 75 applied for asylum, 3% of total applications in Greece and Italy.
- **Italy:** decrease since 2014
- Greece: decrease since 2014, more likely due to challenges in identification and referral – 282 applications
- **Germany:** 31.8.2015: 3,375 applications (compared to 4,390 for all of 2014)
- **Austria:** 30.7.2015: 4,789 (2082 in 2014) 1,380 accommodated in largest reception centre, inadequate care, e.g. unheated tents.

Protection risks:

- Violence and abuse
- Detention
- New separations
- Psychological distress
- Smuggling and exploitation

Challenges in responses for UASC arriving in Europe

- Identification and assessment
- Reception facilities overwhelmed
- Procedures for UASC are overwhelmed and not well adapted to high numbers and high mobility
- Dublin family reunification procedures are lengthy

4.3.31. UNHCR Briefing Notes, 9.10.2015¹⁰¹

4.4. International organisation for Migration (IOM)

4.4.1. IOM Migration Flows - Europe¹⁰²

Portal with up-to-date information

4.4.2. IOM Missing Migrants Project 103

This portal centralises information on data on incidents and the **number of people** who died in them.

http://www.unhcr.org/56178fd06.html http://migration.iom.int

http://missingmigrants.iom.int/incidents

4.4.3. IOM Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond. Compilation of available data and information, First Quarter 2016¹⁰⁴

Key figures:

- 174.395 total arrivals to Europe between 01.01 and 31.03.2016 (21.018 arrivals in the same period of 2015)
- 170.905 total arrivals to Europe by sea between 01.01 and 31.03.2016
- 3 490 total arrivals to Europe by land between 01.01 and 31.03.2016
- 56.814 total number of migrants and refugees stranded in Greece and in Western Balkans as of 31 March 2016
- 42% of migrants arriving to Italy and Greece between 01.01 and 31.03.2016 were of Syrian origin, 22.5% were coming from Afghanistan, 13.7% from Iraq.
- 714 the number of migrants dead/missing during the first three months of 2016.
- 91 children died during the first three months of 2016on the Eastern Mediterranean route to Greece.

4.4.4. IOM Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond - compilation of available data information 7-20/04/2016¹⁰⁵

Key figures:

- 184.599 total arrivals to Europe in 2016
- 7 641 total arrivals to Europe between 7 and 20 April 2016
- 58.720 total number of migrants and refugees stranded in Greece and in Western Balkans
- 518 the number of migrants dead/missing during the reporting period.
- 14 children died in March 2016 on the Eastern Mediterranean route to Greece.
- 38% of decrease in numbers of arrivals compared with the previous week in countries of first arrival (Italy, Greece, Bulgaria).
- 56% of increase in numbers of arrivals for Greece compared to previous period.
- On 4 April first migrants were readmitted from Greece to Turkey under the EU-Turkey agreement. The majority of migrants were Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan and Moroccan nationals.

4.4.5. IOM Europe/Mediterranean migration response. Situation report, 7/04/2016

Extracts

• On 4 April, 202 migrants were deported to Turkey under the EU-Turkey agreement (from Lesvos and Chios).

 $^{^{104}~}http://doe.iom.int/docs/Q1\%202016\%20Flows\%20Overview_final.pdf$

http://dtmodk.iom.int/docs/WEEKLY%20Flows%20Compilation%20No14%20%2021%20April%2020 16_Final.pdf

- As of 9 March, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Croatia and Slovenia closed their borders.
- As of 3 April, the Turkish Coast Guards have rescued 22 547 migrants.
- As of 6 April, approximately 19.322 migrants arrived by sea to Italy.

4.4.6. IOM Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond - compilation of available data information 31/03 - 6/04/2016¹⁰⁶

Key figures:

- 175 797 total arrivals to Europe in 2016
- 8 283 total arrivals to Europe between 31 March and 6 April 2016
- 57 812 total number of migrants and refugees stranded in Greece and in Western Balkans
- 9 the number of migrants dead/missing during the reporting period.
- 14 children died in March 2016 on the Eastern Mediterranean route to Greece.
- 33% (59% for Italy) of decrease in numbers of arrivals compared with the previous week in countries of first arrival (Italy, Greece, Bulgaria).
- On 4 April first migrants were readmitted from Greece to Turkey under the EU-Turkey agreement. The majority of migrants were Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan and Moroccan nationals.
 - 4.4.7. IOM Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond compilation of available data information 24-30/03/2016¹⁰⁷

Key figures:

- 171 494 total arrivals to Europe in 2016
- 5 031 total arrivals to Europe between 24 and 30 March 2016
- 56 578 total number of migrants and refugees stranded in Greece and in Western Balkans
- 89 the number of migrants dead/missing during the reporting period
- 14 children died in March 2016 on the Eastern Mediterranean route to Greece
- 40% of decrease in numbers of arrivals compared with the previous week in countries of first arrival (Italy, Greece, Bulgaria)
 - 4.4.8. IOM Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond compilation of available data information 10 -16/03/2016¹⁰⁸

Key figures:

• 157.190 – total arrivals to Europe in 2016

 $^{^{106}} http://doe.iom.int/docs/WEEKLY\%20 Flows\%20 Compilation\%20 No\%2013\%207\%20 April\%202016.pd$

¹⁰⁷ http://doe.iom.int/docs/WEEKLY%20Flows%20Compilation%2030%20Mar%202016.pdf

¹⁰⁸ http://doe.iom.int/docs/Weekly%20Flows%20Combilation%20No%2010%2017%20Mar%20Final.pdf

- 2 304 total arrivals to Europe between 10 and 16 March 2016
- 16 the number of migrants dead/missing during the reporting period
- 13 children died in February 2016 on the Eastern Mediterranean route to Greece
- 42% of decrease in numbers of arrivals compared with the previous week in countries of first arrival (Italy, Greece, Bulgaria)

4.4.9. IOM Europe/Mediterranean Migration Response, 10.03.2016¹⁰⁹

Key figures:

- 148.355 total arrivals to Europe by land and sea since 2016 as of 9.03.2016
- 131.847 total estimated arrivals to Greek islands between 01.01.2016 and 6.03.2016
- Children 40% of those entering Croatia in the first week of March 2016.

4.4.10. IOM Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond - compilation of available data information 18 -24/02/2016¹¹⁰

Key figures:

- 121.051 total arrivals to Europe in 2016
- 24.506 total arrivals to Europe between 18 and 24 February 2016
- 7 the number of migrants dead/missing during the reporting period
- 64 children died in January 2016 on the Eastern Mediterranean route to Greece
- 260% of increase in numbers of arrivals compared with the previous week in countries of first arrival (Italy, Greece, Bulgaria)

4.4.11. IOM Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond - compilation of available data information for 2015¹¹¹

Key figures:

• 1.046.599 – total arrivals to Europe in 2015

- 34.887 total arrivals to Europe in 2015 by land
- 1.011.712 total arrivals to Europe in 2015 by sea
- 3 770 the number of migrants dead/missing in 2015
- 267 children died in on the Eastern Mediterranean route to Greece between September and December 2015

111 http://doe.iom.int/docs/Flows%20Compilation%202015%20Overview.pdf

http://doe.iom.int/docs/Europe%20Med%20Migration%20Response_Sitrep%2016%20-%2010%20March%202016 Final.pdf

 $[\]frac{110}{\text{http://doe.iom.int/docs/WEEKLY\%20Flows}} \ \frac{\text{Compilation\%20No7}}{\text{Compilation\%20No7}} \ \frac{25\%20\text{Feb\%202016.pdf}}{25\%20\text{Feb\%202016.pdf}}$

4.4.12. IOM Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond – reporting period 04-10.02.2016¹¹²

Key figures:

- 84.406 total arrivals to Europe in 2016
- 8.804 total arrivals to Europe during the reporting period
- 36 the number of migrants dead/missing during the reporting period
- 64 children died in January 2016 on the Eastern Mediterranean route to Greece
 - 4.4.13. IOM Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond reporting period 21-27.01.2016¹¹³
 - 4.4.14. IOM Europe/Mediterranean Migration Response, 28.01.2016¹¹⁴
 - 4.4.15. IOM Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond reporting period 14-20.01.2016¹¹⁵
 - 4.4.16. IOM Mediterranean Migration Update, 11.12.2015¹¹⁶

Extracts

- High number of migrants and refugees continue to arrive to Greece by sea from Turkey
- Sea accidents continue to rise: two shipwrecks occurred on 3 and 9 December, accounting 25 died and 15 missing people
- Total number of recorded deaths: 3.671, of which:
 - o 2,889 on the Central route (from north Africa to Italy)
 - o 684 on the Eastern route (from Turkey to Greece)
 - o 94 on the West Africa route
 - At the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia: 23,707 border crossing between 30 Nov. 8 Dec. (by Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan nationality)
 - At the Idomeni Exist Camp (Greece): around 2,300 migrants (mainly from Pakistan, Somalia, Morocco, Bangladesh and Algeria) were stranded and moved to Athens
 - Relocation is being carried out in Italy and Greece

¹¹² http://doe.iom.int/docs/WEEKLY%20Flows%20Compilation%20No5%2011%20Feb%202016.pdf

http://doe.iom.int/docs/WEEKLY%20Flows%20Compilation%20No3%2028%20January%202016.pdf

http://doe.iom.int/docs/Europe%20Med%20Migration%20Response_Sitrep%2013%20-%2028%20Jan%202016.pdf

http://doe.iom.int/docs/WEEKLY%20Flows%20Compilation%20No2%2021%20January%202016.pdf

http://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migration-update

Extracts

Situation overview

- Top five nationalities arriving **in Italy** are: Eritrea, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan and Syria
- Top five nationalities arriving **in Greece** are: Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan and Albania
- Substantial **decrease in number of arrivals** (as of 30 November, compared to 19 November): Decrease in 42% in Italy, and of 43% in Greece
- Closure of former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia-Greece border (Edomeni) due to extensive protests (approx. 3,500 migrants and refugees in the area)
- Hungary: police reports a total of 391,140 migrants and refugees who have entered the country (as of 30 November).
- Serbia: 484,958 migrants and refugees registered (as of 1 December).
 - 4.4.18. IOM Situation report, 19.11.2015¹¹⁸
 - 4.4.19. IOM Situation Report on Mediterranean Migration Response 5.11.2015¹¹⁹
 - 4.4.20. IOM Response Plan for the Mediterranean and beyond 120

4.5. UNICEF

4.5.1. UNICEF - Analysis and recommendations on issues related to return of children and border control. Refugee and migrant crisis in Europe, 20.03.2016¹²¹

Extract

- 433.203 asylum applications filed by children in EU MS between January and November 2015 (out of 1.201.970)
- Many children arriving in Europe flee war and conflict
- According to Article 2 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the State on whose territory a child find him/herself is obligated to extend to this child all of the rights guaranteed by the convention, without discrimination.
- Latest developments, such as border closures or extension of the list of "safe country nationalities" raises concerns about child rights

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^{117. &}lt;a href="https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/situation-reports/file/Europe-Med-Migration-Response-Sitrep-3-Dec-2015.pdf">https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/situation-reports/file/Europe-Med-Migration-Response-Sitrep-3-Dec-2015.pdf

http://doe.iom.int/docs/IOM-Europe-Med-Migration-Response-Sitrep-19-Nov-2015.pdf

http://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/situation_reports/file/Europe-Med-Migration-Response-Sitrep-6-5-Nov-2015-Final.pdf

http://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/press_release/file/IOM-Response-Plan-for-the-Mediterranean-and-Beyond-Oct2015.pdf

http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=1064

- Return (also to a transit country) of a child should not take place it would result in violations of the fundamental human rights of the child
- The principle of nor-refoulement protects also against "real and substantiated" risk of torture or inhumane or degrading treatment of punishment.
- Some states (e.g. Italy) do not return unaccompanied children as a matter pf policy they are issued a temporary permit until they become 18.
- UNICEF recommendations:
 - MS should always conduct and document a best interest assessment prior to a decision to return of a child (also in cases on children with families)
 - Extensive child rights assessment in the country of origin should be done.
 - UNICEF considers institutionalised care as only a last resort and not an adequate long-term care for children. Children should not be returned if the only care agreement immediately available upon that return us institutionalised care.
 - The views and opinions of the child should be heard and taken in =to account in determining the child's best interests.
 - The provisions of assistance to child victims of trafficking, including the possibility to remain in the host country, should not depend on the collaboration or not with law enforcement authorities.
 - A child must have a right (according to article 13 of the EU Return Directive) to appeal a decision.
 - States should ensure the access to free legal services. Lawyers, judges and immigration authorities in charge of considering appeals filed by children should receive specific training on child rights and childfriendly interviewing.
 - Every child and family subject to a return decision should receive adequate support to prepare for return.
 - A period for voluntary return should be extended when required by the best interest of the child (e.g. child attending school, vocational training, medical concerns, etc.).
 - No child should be detained pending removal.
 - UNICEF calls for enforcement of removal orders in a childappropriate and gender sensitive mange.
- 4.5.2. UNICEF Regional humanitarian situation report No 9, 15
 March 2016. Refugee and migrant crisis in Europe¹²²

Key figures:

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- Children 41% of total number of refugees and migrants crossing from Greece into the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in February 2016
- Proportion of children and women among newly arrived migrants continued to increase in February and March (63%)
- New border restrictions along the Western Balkan route left thousands of children stranded, distressed and at risk of poor health and exposed to abuse.
- Adolescent boys often register as adults.

4.5.3. UNICEF Regional humanitarian situation report No 8, 16 February 2016. Refugee and migrant crisis in Europe¹²³

Key figures:

- \bullet Children 37% of total number of refugees and migrants crossing from Greece into the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- The number of arrivals in January 2016 is 35 times higher than in January 2015
- 76 children (almost two per day) lost their lives on the route to Europe since beginning of 2016
- Germany hosts around 60.000 unaccompanied children primarily from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq.
- 35.369 unaccompanied children applied for asylum in Sweden in 2015 (mostly young Afghans)
- According to IOM **only 11 unaccompanied and separated children** were registered in Greece between 28.01 and 03.02.2016.
- Cases of hypothermia were recorded in Western Balkans

4.5.4. Palermo Call For Action: Protecting the rights of refugee and migrant children arriving in Europe, 15.1.2016¹²⁴

Extract

10 Child Rights Priorities:

- Protection and care for children is ensured during rescue, interception, transport and transfer operations
- No detention of children due to their migration status
- The right to claim international protection
- Reception centres comply with child protection minimum standards
- Professionals and volunteers in contact with children are sufficient in numbers and qualified
- Non-separation and family reunification in line with the best interests of the child
- Screening, interviews and other processes are child-sensitive
- Children should be protected against abuse, violence, exploitation and trafficking
- Existing child protection systems should be enhanced
- Durable solutions guided by a thorough determination of the best interests (BID) of the child

¹²³ http://www.unicef.org/appeals/files/UNICEF_Regional_Humanitarian_SitRep_16Feb2016.PDF

¹²⁴https://gallery.mailchimp.com/fc4ac7fde54f92621db20b2e1/files/UNICEF Palermo Call for Action f or_refugee_and_migrant_children_15_01_16.pdf

4.5.5. UNICEF and IOM Data Brief: Migration of Children to Europe, 30.11.2015¹²⁵

Extract

Figures (until reporting date):

- Of 870,000 refugees and migrants arriving by sea in Europe in 2015, **1 in 5 is a child.**
- Of the 730,000 sea arrivals in Greece, children make up an estimated one-quarter.
- Children represent more than 30 per cent of all recorded deaths in the Aegean sea this year.
- In October 2015, at least 90 children died in the Mediterranean sea, the majority of which in the Central Mediterranean between Libya and Italy. On 28 October, more than 50 people drowned in the largest shipwreck this year in Eastern Mediterranean, of them 20 were children and infants. Most of the children who have drowned this year are from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq and are under the age of 12.
- Asylum applications: in total 802,205 between Jan-Sep 2015, child applicants 214,355 representing 27% of all asylum claims. Of these, 25% are Syrian, 18% are Afghani, 27% are from the Balkans and 6% from Iraq.
- **Child asylum seekers** to the EU by country of destination:

- Germany: 82.520 applications

- Hungary: 45.625 applications

- Sweden: 27.975 applications

- Austria: 15.310 applications

- Growing number in **children on the move:** in June 2015 1 in 10 refugees registered at border between Greece/former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was a child, by October this was **1 in 3**. In Greece similar: 1 in 6 in June, and 1 in 3 in October. Italy has registered 10.820 UASCs arriving by sea, whilst former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia registered over 15,000 UASCs crossing the border with Greece from mid-June to late November.
- Unaccompanied/separated children: In Sweden, Jan-Sep 2015: 23,300 asylum claims (9,300 in October alone) over 60% are from Afghanistan. Record numbers of refugee and migrant children have arrived, but it is difficult to get numbers of UASCs as formal registration procedures in some countries in Europe do not allow for their identification.
- **Trafficked children:** Italy has 300% increase in number of Nigerian victims of trafficking arriving by sea,

Identified problems:

- Particularly vulnerable groups of children: babies, small children, children with disabilities, separated children, stranded children who have exhausted resources, unaccompanied and separated adolescents and trafficked children all have different protection needs and risks.
- Concern also for **babies/new-borns**: women who have recently given birth, or who give birth along the migration route ("babies are born every day along the migration routes in very unfavourable conditions and carried along as newborns").

¹²⁵ https://www.iom.int/news/children-account-20-maritime-arrivals-europe-2015-iom-and-unicef

4.5.6. UNICEF Europe Refugee and Migrant Crisis Regional Humanitarian Situation Report #4, 24.11.2015¹²⁶

Extract:

Figures (until reporting date)

- "The Mediterranean Sea is one of the world's deadliest migration routes, which has taken the lives of nearly 1,300 children in only 10 months in 2015".
- The proportion of women and children registered at the border between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has increased from 36 per cent in September, to 44 per cent in October, reaching 49 per cent during the first half of November.
- Between 1 and 17 November, more than 12,890 children have rested and played in UNICEF child-friendly spaces in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Croatia.
- More than 2,000 babies and infants used UNICEF mother-and-baby care spaces in Serbia and Croatia during the first half of November.

Protection gaps:

- The speed of population movements, unpredictable border closure and limited government registration capacities remain the major challenges for UNICEF's response to the crisis.
- UNICEF requires US\$7,442,448 out of a total appeal of US\$14,019,135 to respond to the crisis, with a funding gap of 53 per cent. So far, UNICEF has received US\$ 6,576,687.

UNICEF, Regional Humanitarian 4.5.7. Situation Report #3, 27.10.2015¹²⁷

Extracts

- Refugee and migrant flows in Europa are at an unprecedented high
- The month of October has seen an increasing number of families with children and babies, unaccompanied children and children with disabilities
- UNICEF has started winterization activities in a number of countries
- The speed of population movements and the limited government registration capacities is one of the major challenges for UNICEF in order to respond to the crisis
- 225,000 children in need of assistance between September and December 2015

¹²⁶http://www.unicef.org/appeals/files/UNICEF_Europe_Refugee_and_Migrant_Crisis_Regional_Humanit arian SitRep 24Nov2015.pdf

http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/UNICEF%20Europe%20Refugee%20and%20Migr ant%20Crisis%20Regional%20Humanitarian%20SitRep%20%233%20-%209Nov2015.pdf

4.5.8. UNICEF, Regional Humanitarian Situation Report #2, 27.10.2015¹²⁸

Extract

Identified problems are:

- o children on the move who do not complete registration process
- o address urgent needs of children stranded at borders
- o protect unaccompanied and separated children in an effective way

UNICEF main focus areas are: Turkey, Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia, Hungary, Austria, Slovenia and Italy

UNICEF Analysis of Programme Response on Child Protection, through

- Child friendly spaces
- o Mobil approach to child friendly spaces
- o **Family tracing and reunification** of children with their families as well as identification and referral of vulnerable children and families

4.5.9. UNICEF: The Syrian conflict and Europe's refugee crisis in numbers (infographics), 30.09.2015¹²⁹

- There is a high number of unaccompanied and separated children
- Migration flows include higher number of families with children, unaccompanied and separated children, single women or pregnant women, elderly people or sick and injured migrants
- Women and children are at a particularly high risk of gender-based violence and sexual abuse and exploitation

4.5.10. Addressing Human Trafficking and Exploitation in times of Crisis 130

https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/press_release/file/CT_in_Crisis_FINAL.pdf

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¹²⁸http://reliefweb.int/report/greece/unicef-refugee-and-migrant-crisis-europe-regional-humanitarian-

situation-report-2-27

https://blogs.unicef.org/blog/the-syrian-conflict-and-europes-refugee-crisis-in-numbers/ (Eurostat data)

4.6. SAVE THE CHILDREN

4.6.1. Save the Children suspends support service on Greek island detention centres following EU-Turkey deal, 23.03.2016¹³¹

Extract:

- All asylum seekers and migrants, regardless of their status are being detained in the new detention centres.
- Children are among those detained.
- Save the Children suspended basic services in detention centres on Lesvos, Chios, Samos and Leros. Many of those activities were taken over by Greek Armed Forces.
- Child protection activities in all camps will be continued.

4.6.2. Save the Children. The impact of border closure on children. Briefing – Save the Children, 15.03.2016¹³²

Extract:

• Women and children are 56% of those who arrived to Europe in 2016.

- 76 children have gone dead or missing since the beginning of 2016.
- At that moment 800 children per day apply for asylum (one in four asylum seekers is a child).
- By 26 February, between 12.000 and 15.000 refugees, a large part of which women and children, were stuck in deplorable conditions at camp Idomeni.
- Restrictive borders policies and temporary suspensions of Schengen rules hamper children's access to protection.
- EU Turkey agreement puts children in migration at even greater risks.
- As of 8 March Western Balkan route is officially closed. Migrants have been trapped in camps for over a month with an unclear legal status and adequate information.
- All children arriving to Europe are at heightened risk of violence and abuse from authorities, smuggler or traffickers, especially in the overcrowded and substandard reception conditions.
- Children are being detained without access to essential minimum services.
- Children risk being separated from their parents or caregivers on the route.
- Children on the move are especially prone to diseases.
- Many children suffer from psychological distress. Research conducted among 311 children living in a camp close to Turkish border showed that 74% of them experienced death of somebody they cared strongly about, 60% had symptoms of depression, 45% PTSD.
- Children are at risk of forceful and illegal push-backs and mass expulsions.
- Recommendations:

¹³¹http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/2016-03/save-children-suspends-support-services-greek-island-detention-centres-following-eu-turkey-0

¹³²https://karenmetssave.files.wordpress.com/2016/03/the-impact-of-border-closures-on-children-15_03_2016.pdf

- Fulfil obligations towards the migrants and refugees in line with the 1951 Refugee Convention and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- o Prevent children from risking their lives to reach Europe by offering safe and legal migration channels.
- Ensure that asylum claims are assessed based on vulnerability and the principle of *non-refoulement*.
- o Include children on the move as an integral part of the EU agenda on migration.
- Ensure appropriate protection and services for children stranded along the
- o Fight against the negative perception on children in migration and their families.
- o Tackle the root causes when cooperating with third countries.
- o Reach out to long-term solutions.

Save the Children Greece Response – March 2016¹³³ 4.6.3.

Extract

- Children were almost 40% of those arriving in Greece since the beginning of 2016.
- An average of two children per day lost their lives crossing the sea since the start of 2016.
- There are approximately 369 spaces in mainland Greece and 71 on the island to host unaccompanied children.
- In the current circumstances the number of unaccompanied and separated children getting stranded and/or seeking asylum in Greece is increasing.
- Children are often held in detention and/or police custody.
- Unaccompanied and separated children lack access to age assessments, family link evaluations by trained staff and to appointed legal guardians.
- The presence of long existing smuggling networks in the North of Greece poses high risks for unaccompanied and separated children.
- 1 255 identified unaccompanied children have been referred to EKKA since January 2016.
- As of 23 March 277 unaccompanied children were on the waiting list of EKKA.
- All long-term shelters for unaccompanied children on the mainland are full.
- Lesvos:

- 139 unaccompanied children staying at the First Reception Centre
- Many of them fall ill regularly (flu, upset stomachs)
- Two were transferred to hospital after panic attacks
- 50 unaccompanied children stay in the hotspot in Samos without any specialised care.

4.6.4. Save the Children Italy - An open call to the EU to improve search and rescue system in the Mediterranean Sea¹³⁴

In 2015: 16.362 children arrived to Italy (total number of arrivals 153,362); among them, 12.272 were unaccompanied children

http://www.savethechildren.it/IT/Tool/Press/All/IT/Tool/Press/Single?id_press=1013&year=2016.

¹³³ https://www.dropbox.com/sh/w3ay0yk80dhkljo/AABphKIvDzXrFcSD0f bzXQZa?dl=0

- coming mainly from Eritrea (3,089), Egypt (1,711), Somalia (1,296), Gambia (1,268), and Nigeria (1,006).
- From 1 to 15 January 2016, **105 children arrived to Italy 100 unaccompanied** (780 migrants in total), -
- 4.6.5. Save the Children Operational Report Greece January 2016¹³⁵
- 4.6.6. Save the Children Multi-Sectorial Needs Assessment of Migrants and Refugees in Greece (research in Athens, Lesbos, Chios, Kos), 5 18.07.2015. Published 08.09.2015¹³⁶

Extract

- Sexual violence/trafficking risk for children and women
- **Incidents of sexual abuse**, including 10 year-old boy raped in Athens

Data (until reporting date)

- Main entry point of new arrivals, by far is Lesbos (Greece).
- Forecast of new arrivals in 2015: by December, 200,000
- According to Amnesty International in 2014 1,097 unaccompanied children arrived on the islands and crossed the Evros border. However, a lack of screening procedures and a failure to identify members of vulnerable groups such as unaccompanied and separated children. Between January and May 216 UASC are reported to have arrived in Greece, but the actual number likely to be much higher as large number of children claim to be older than they are or to be travelling with family members (most of the time these are in fact families or single men they met during their journey to Greece).

Identified risks

Women and children in particular face many protection risks on their journey to Greece and onwards. Lack of basic services and adequate protective measures (shelter, adequate toilets, clean water, health facilities and safe spaces) put children and women at high risk of sexual harassment, physical violence and trafficking. Unaccompanied children are at particular risk. During Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and individual interviews carried out by the assessment team, children spoke about their fear of being kidnapped by strangers, of having heard about men taking children to sell their organs. One boy explained that he felt uncomfortable passing by single men in the camp or when he goes to the toilet in the camp as they stare at him. One girl described how a man had grabbed her hand while going to the toilet, but she managed to run away from him.

The **risk to young children and women of sexual abuse**, in this context is high: lack of adequate sanitation facilities means that women and children have to share toilets with men or are forced to defecate in the open; lack of resources and formal camps forces women and children to share tents with other single men, often strangers to them. In

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^{135.} http://images.savethechildren.it/f/download/Op/Operational_update_Jan_2016_-

Save the Children in Greece.pdf

 $[\]frac{136}{http://resourcecentre.savethechildren.se/sites/default/files/documents/greece_assessment_report.pdf}$

Athens this risk is even higher as women and children stay in squares and parks that are frequented by drug dealers, traffickers and prostitution rings. During the period of the assessment, a 10 year-old-boy was raped in a park in Athens.

Unaccompanied children, once in the hands of the authorities, are sometimes placed in detention with adults, again exposing them to risks of sexual and physical harassment. Greece only has 323 places in shelter facilities for unaccompanied children. This lack of spaces has led to prolonged detention of UAC (up to 3 weeks and more), whilst suitable shelter is being identified for them, as well as under-reporting of their UAC status by the children. 137

Even when suitable shelter is identified, most children end up leaving the shelters soon after they have arrived, in an attempt to reach the original destination, often in Northern Europe. In a struggle to survive, they often end up exposing themselves to further risks of being trafficked and exploited.

Currently: Save the Children: "We are moving forward with child protection initiatives to build the capacity of government authorities and civil society organizations to help vulnerable children — especially those who are unaccompanied — and to coordinate a protective environment for children in informal camps. We are also distributing emergency shelters, hygiene kits and baby kits." 138

4.6.7. Save the Children – Report – Childhood under siege. Living and dying in besieged areas of Syria –March 2016¹³⁹

Extract

Main identified pressing issues for children:

- Children are dying due to lack of medication. Children have died from illness because medicine or adequate healthcare is unavailable.
- **Children are malnourished**. Children are not able to eat a meal a day, they are not able to eat fresh fruits or vegetables.
- **Lack of access to education.** Children are not able to go to school or they are too afraid to go to school

Data (until reporting date)

Around 3% in besieged areas received UN received health assistance

- Less than 1% of people in besieged areas received UN food aid in 2015
- In December 2015, the only aid the UN was able to deliver to besieged areas was school textbooks for 2.661 children.

Identified issues

Ensure sustained safe passage for humanitarian agencies to deliver aid to children in need, including the delivery of food, medical and heating supplies for emergency and life-saving operations.

¹³⁷ http://www.barnaheill.is/media/PDF/Greece_Assessment_Report.pdf

http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.9311443/k.5C24/Refugee_Children_Crisis.ht m?msource=weklpchr0915

http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/sites/default/files/images/Childhood_Under_Siege.PDF

- Ensure delivery of childhood vaccines, therapeutic food and nutrients for children and other child focused aid, given their increased vulnerability in siege situations.
- Allow free movement of children; and, in accordance with humanitarian standards, immediately facilitate the medical evacuation of those needing lifesaving treatment, with priority given to children.
- Cease all attacks on schools, hospitals, and other critical civilian infrastructure
 - 4.6.1. Save the Children Needs Assessment of Migrants and Refugees in Greece, July 2015¹⁴⁰

4.7. $ECPAT UK^{141}$

4.7.1. ECPAT UK. Guest blog: Failure to adhere to child protection rules puts refugee children at risk on arrival in Europe. 19.10.2015.¹⁴²

A strong testimony given by Kalvir Kaur, who worked as a volunteer in Lesvos in 2015. He reported about situations when security measures were not put in place, which were clearly lacking safeguards for children and which could potentially put children at risk of being trafficked. Examples of such situations:

- At the moment of disembarkation, children were passed from one hand to another, sometimes losing their parents from the sight.
- Various people work directly with children. It is not always clear whether their background and/or criminal record was checked and whether they were properly trained.
- Unethical and potentially harmful behaviour of media pictures were taken without any consent of migrants and without any information what was the purpose of taking them, how and where they will be used/published.

4.8. Missing Children Europe¹⁴³

4.8.1. Summit Report: Best practice and key challenges for interagency cooperation to safeguard unaccompanied migrant children from going missing 144

Key figures:

- In 2014: 23.075 asylum applications were filed by unaccompanied children in the EU.
- 2 240 of the applicants were under 14 years old.

144 http://missingchildreneurope.eu/SUMMIT

¹⁴⁰http://resourcecentre.savethechildren.se/library/multi-sector-needs-assessment-migrants-and-refugeesgreece
141 http://www.ecpat.org.uk/

http://www.ecpat.org.uk/blog/guest-blog-failure-adhere-child-protection-rules-puts-refugee-childrenrisk-arrival-europe

¹⁴³ http://missingchildreneurope.eu/

- In 2013 only 13 MS were able to provide data on recognised UAC not applying for asylum.
- 10.000 UAC or separated children arrived in Italy and Malta between January and September 2015.
- 15.000 UAC registered on the border between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia between June and late November 2015.
- 50% of UAC accommodated go missing from reception facilities and in many cases their whereabouts remain unknown.

4.9. Amnesty International

4.9.1. Greece: Refugees detained in dire conditions amid rush to implement EU-Turkey deal, 07.04.2016¹⁴⁵

Extracts:

- Around 4 200 people are currently detained in Moria on Lesvos and at VIAL on Chios (as at 07 April 2016).
- Amnesty International interviewed 89 migrants on Lesvos and Chios. Only two of the interviewees were able to show their detention orders.
- Greek army and police control the detention centre on Lesvos.
- Needs of the vulnerable groups are not being taken into account.
- Migrants with urgent medical needs are not being taken care of: there are three doctors to provide medical care for 3 150 people in Moria and health service at VIAL is only available during limited hours.
- There is lack of blankets, milk for babies and food for young children.
- Majority of those detained in Moria and more than 830 at VIAL filed asylum applications.
- Migrants don't receive sufficient information about what awaits them.
- Interpreters are not always available and migrants sign papers without understanding them.
- There were cases of migrants who arrived before 20 March, but were registered only after.
- According to new Greek asylum system, firstly it will be assessed if Turkey is a safe third country for an applicant. Only if found unsafe, the asylum application will be processed further.
- Amnesty International recorded testimonies of people experiencing violent from Turkish police when sent back.

4.10. Human Rights Watch

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https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2016/04/greece-refugees-detained-in-dire-conditions-amid-rush-to-implement-eu-turkey-deal/

4.10.1. Human Rights Watch, Greece: Chaos, Insecurity in Registration Centre¹⁴⁶

At the Greek island of Lesbos, chaos and insecurity reigns at a police registration centre and surrounding informal camp for asylum-seeker and migrants, due to the deficiency of organization and lack of personnel.

Problems of **identification as vulnerable groups** or not ensured to be registered and get proper access to basic services (food and health care), are encountered in cases such as women with young children, pregnant women and disabled people or with medical conditions.

Several changes in procedures cause uncertainty, jointly with the lack of interpreters and an effective communication system.

Very **poor hygienic conditions**. And many people sleep outdoors. There is **no separation** foreseen **for women and children** from men, which puts them at **risk of sexual harassment and violence**.

4.11. ENOC – European Network of Ombudspersons for Children 147

ENOC Report, 25 January 2016: Safety and fundamental rights are at stake for children on the move¹⁴⁸

4.12. Ombudsperson for children in Greece¹⁴⁹

4.12.1. Detention of children due to lack of reception facilities 150

- 1150 unaccompanied children were registered in the first guarter of 2016.
- 240 unaccompanied children are detained in closed premises and police stations due to lack of accommodation facilities. (data of 29 March)
- Maximum capacity of places for unaccompanied children at national level 432.
- In 2015, 2258 unaccompanied children were accommodated by EKKA in 432 places. These numbers show the frequency and the number of children absconding from the reception facilities.
- Today children are staying longer (more difficult to leave Greece illegally north borders are closed) and therefore more and more children are detained pending a place for accommodation.

4.13. Joint letter to European Leaders ahead of the EU Council Summit on 17-18 March 2016l. ¹⁵¹

Extracts:

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¹⁴⁶ http://www.refworld.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/rwmain?page=printdoc&docid=561ccc9b4

http://enoc.eu/

http://www.dekinderombudsman.nl/92/ouders-professionals/publicaties/children-on-the-move/?id=603

http://www.synigoros.gr/

http://www.synigoros.gr/resources/dt-asynodeytoi-anilikoi-3032016.pdf

http://reliefweb.int/report/world/joint-letter-european-leaders-ahead-eu-council-summit-17th-18th-march-2016

- Organisations working directly with migrants and refugees urged EU MS to address the current situation:
 - To create safe and legal migration routes, including more flexible family reunification policies.
 - o To make new commitments to resettle refugees in need of protection.
 - o To ensure safety at sea and at land borders.
 - o To provide sufficient and humane reception conditions for all people arriving to Europe.
 - To take action to protect the most vulnerable. Women and children are up to 58% of people arriving to Europe. Children in migration, unaccompanied or travelling with families, are exposed to high risks.
 - o To ensure that all people arriving to Europe have access to asylum procedures.
 - o To protect human rights and dignity of all people arriving to Europe regardless of their status.

4.14. <u>Joint open letter from 59 organisations dated 30.10.2015 to the European</u> Council on children in migration 152

4.15. Doctors of the World- Médecins du Monde

4.15.1. Access to healthcare for people facing multiple health vulnerabilities

– obstacles in access to care for children and pregnant women in
Europe¹⁵³, 18.05.2015

2014 Survey conducted in 11 countries (9 European countries, Canada and Turkey) with 23, 341 patients (8,849 women)

6.4% of patients were nationals, 15.6% were migrant EU citizens, 78% were third – country nationals

Only 9.5% of migrants who suffered from chronic diseases were aware of them before coming to Europe.

91.3% of foreign citizens (migrant EU citizens and citizens of non-EU countries) were living below the poverty line, 29.5% declared that their accommodation was harmful to their health or their children.

4.15.2. Age assessment for unaccompanied children. When European countries deny children their childhood¹⁵⁴, 28.08.2015

An analysis of the techniques of the age assessment of unaccompanied children, the accuracy of age assessment techniques and the legal framework for their use.

https://mdmeuroblog.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/age-determination-def.pdf

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http://picum.org/picum.org/uploads/file_/Joint% 20open% 20letter% 20to% 20the% 20European% 20Counc il_Time% 20to% 20act% 20to% 20ensure% 20children% E2% 80% 99s% 20rights% 20in% 20the% 20EU% E2% 80% 99s% 20migration% 20policy_10% 20action% 20points_30% 20October% 202015.pdf

http://mdmgreece.gr/app/uploads/2015/05/MdM-Intl-Obs-2015-report-EN.pdf

4.15.3. Legal report on access to healthcare in 12 countries 155, 08.06.2015

An analysis on legal healthcare framework and access to healthcare in Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Luxemburg, The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Canada and Turkey with a special focus on migrants.

4.16. ECRE – European Council on Refugees and Exiles

4.16.1. AIDA - Wrong counts and closing doors. The reception of refugees and asylum seekers in Europe. ¹⁵⁶

Report on reception conditions in 20 countries (including Switzerland, Serbia and Turkey). It presents statistics on the arrivals and asylum applicants, data on reception capacities. It analyses relevant policies and provides an update on the situation of asylum seekers in practice.

Extracts:

- 86.961 asylum applications were filed by unaccompanied children in 2015 in 14 AIDA countries (35.369 in Sweden, 14.440 in Germany, 9 331 in Austria).
- 3 917 unaccompanied children applied for asylum in January and February 2016 in Sweden.
- In Calais, over 400 out of 5000 residents were identified as unaccompanied children. Delays in appointing legal representatives have prevented children from filing an asylum application before they reach the age of 18.
- In Sweden, an increase in the numbers of unaccompanied children put a pressure on accommodation capacity. Supported accommodation is foreseen for children between 16 and 20 years old.
- In UK more and more children were detained at Dover Seaport. Women and children were put together with unrelated males adults. No medical and vulnerability screening was undertaken. Lack of resources and guardians for unaccompanied children were present in Kent.
- In Germany children were accommodated in hostels or gyms as temporary shelters.
- In Cyprus facilities for unaccompanied children are overcrowded. Children are being detained in Italy and Greece.
- In Greece facilities for children are overcrowded. There is a lack of trained staff.
- In Greece, Sweden and Croatia children were not always properly identified.
- According to new law, children can be detained in Bulgaria.
- In Austria, in 2015 women and children were staying in dire conditions and without access to healthcare.
- In the Netherlands delays between filing an asylum application and the start of the procedure were noted.

https://mdmeuroblog.files.wordpress.com/2014/05/mdm-legal-report-on-access-to-healthcare-in-12-countries-3rd-june-20151.pdf

http://www.asylumineurope.org/sites/default/files/shadow-reports/aida_wrong_counts_and_closing_doors.pdf

4.16.2. Asylum Information database (AIDA)¹⁵⁷

The Asylum Information Database (AIDA) is a database containing information on asylum procedures, reception conditions and detention across 18 countries. Each country report includes a section on unaccompanied minors. This includes 16 European Union (EU) Member States (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Germany, France, Greece, Croatia, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom) and 2 non-EU countries (Switzerland, Turkey).

The AIDA Annual Report provides a thorough comparative analysis of practice relating to the implementation of asylum standards across the countries covered by the database, in addition to an overview of statistical asylum trends and a discussion of key developments in asylum and migration policies in Europe. The Annual Report 2014/2015, "Common Asylum System at a Turning Point: Refugees Caught in Europe's Solidarity Crisis", was launched on 10 September 2015.

In addition to the reports, we regularly publish legal briefings. The latest briefing discusses legal and ethical issues regarding age assessment.

4.16.3. the European Database of Asylum Law (EDAL)¹⁵⁸

The European Database of Asylum Law (EDAL) is an online database containing case law from 17 EU Member States interpreting refugee and asylum law as well as from the CJEU and ECtHR. EDAL summarises relevant case law in English and the Member State's national language and provides a link to, and/or pdf. of, the full text of the original judgment where available.

4.17. Platform for international cooperation on undocumented migrants - PICUM¹⁵⁹

4.17.1. Protecting undocumented children: Promising policies and practices from governments, March 2015¹⁶⁰

This report analyses the situation, available data and relevant policy documents on undocumented children in Europe and provides some examples of promising practices in the areas of education, health care, and protection from violence and non-detention.

Extracts:

- Rights of undocumented children, particularly those accompanied by parents or other caregivers are systematically violated.
- There is no reliable data on undocumented children in the EU
- Undocumented children face restrictions on access to services, protection and justice. They are subjected to immigration enforcement, including detention and deportation.

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¹⁵⁷ http://www.asylumineurope.org

http://www.asylumlawdatabase.eu/en

http://picum.org/en

¹⁶⁰http://picum.org/picum.org/uploads/publication/Protecting%20undocumented%20children-Promising%20policies%20and%20practices%20from%20governments.pdf

- Education: in some EU MS legislation explicitly give undocumented children access to education.
- Healthcare: In many EU MS undocumented children have access to emergency care only. Nine MS grant the same level of services as national children
- Protection and justice: many incidents are not reported due to the risk of deportation.
- A clear separation between services and immigration enforcement is needed.
- Although the child detention must be used only as a last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time (according to the EU Return Directive), many MS detain unaccompanied children and children with families.

4.18. Global Detention Project¹⁶¹

Report: The Uncounted: Detention of Migrants and Asylum Seekers in Europe¹⁶², December 2015

This report is based on a two-year investigation in 33 countries across Europe and North America. It looks at information and statistics on immigration detention practices. Section *Data obtained on detention of Migrants and minors* - page 25 provides a table with numbers of detained migrants and child migrants per country, e.g. 402 migrant children detained in the Netherlands

4.19. Le défenseur des droits. Rapports thématiques. Exiles et droits fondamentaux: la situation sur le territoire de Calais, 06.10.2015. 163

4.20. Red Cross 164

Booklet: Perilous journeys – Vulnerabilities along migratory routes to the EU¹⁶⁵

This publication points out dangers and risks that migrants face on their way to the EU – trafficking, separation from their loved ones, detention. It also gives examples of the Red Cross activities in certain regions, e.g. anti-trafficking workshops for children (also in centres for migrants and asylum seekers) organised in Serbia or family tracing system.

5. PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

- 5.1. UK House of Lords on unaccompanied children in the EU
- Written and oral submissions¹⁶⁶

http://www.globaldetentionproject.org/

http://www.globaldetentionproject.org/publications/special-report/uncounted-detention-migrants-and-asylum-seekers-europe

¹⁶³http://www.defenseurdesdroits.fr/fr/publications/rapports/rapports-thematiques/exiles-et-droits-fondamentaux-la-situation-sur-le

http://www.redcross.eu

http://www.redcross.eu/en/upload/documents/pdf/2015/Migration/RCEU Booklet MigratoryTrail web.

The Commission submission¹⁶⁷

6. MEDIA REPORTS:

Date	Data/info	Link
26.04.2016	The UK government narrowly defeated an amendment to the immigration bill that would have seen the UK accept 3 000 child refugees.	The Guardian: http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/apr/25/to
	seen the off decept 5 000 china feragees.	ries-vote-against- accepting-3000-child- refugees
22.04.2016	EUROPOL says 10000 children missing are being exploited in sex industry.	DeMorgen: http://www.demorgen.be/ buitenland/migrantenkin deren-massaal-in- europese-seksindustrie- b69b6c9a/
21.04.2016	The government will resettle up to 3000 individuals from the Middle East and North Africa, including children.	https://www.gov.uk/gove rnment/news/new- scheme-launched-to- resettle-children-at-risk
21.01.2016	Fate of 10 000 missing children in migration debated in Civil Liberties committee.	http://www.europarl.euro pa.eu/news/en/news- room/20160419IPR2395 1/Fate-of-10000-missing- refugee-children- debated-in-Civil- Liberties-Committee
21.04.2016	41 migrants, including a three-year-old child were rescued on 16 April after drifting for days at sea.	EU Observer: https://euobserver.com/migration/133153
20.04.2016	Save the Children will receive €7m under the new Emergency Assistance Instrument to deliver child protection activities to vulnerable.	https://refugeereport.wordpress.com/2016/04/20/eu-provides-e83-million-to-greece-in-emergency-funding/
19.04.2016	Refugees babies detained on Greek island are not getting enough baby milk.	The Guardian: http://www.theguardian.c om/world/2016/apr/19/re fugee-babies-milk- supplies-greek-detention- centre- chios?CMP=share_btn_t w

 $^{^{166}} http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/eu-home-affairs-subcommittee/inquiries/parliament-2015/unaccompanied-minors-in-the-eu/unaccompanied-minors-in-the-eu-publications/$

http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/eu-home-affairs-subcommittee/unaccompanied-minors-in-the-eu/written/30315.html

19.04.2016	EU provides €83 million to improve conditions for refugees in Greece, including €7 million to Save the Children to deliver of child protection activities to vulnerable, at-risk children and their families stranded in mainland Greece.	http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-1447_en.htm
18.04.2016	Amnesty says that women and children are the majority of migrants trapped after former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia shut its border on 7.03.2016	EU Observer: https://euobserver.com/migration/133093
18.04.2016	Around 11 000 people, including many children staying in Idomeni in a very poor conditions,	AFP:https://correspondent.afp.com/losing-theirminds
17.04.2016	239 unaccompanied children in migration disappeared from UK care in 2015.	Independent: http://www.independent. co.uk/news/uk/home- news/unaccompanied- refugee-children- disappear-uk-care- a6988336.html
15.04.2016	400 migrants – including children – drowned in boat tragedy off Libya.	The Telegraph: http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/africandindianocean/libya/11537164/400-migrants-including-childrendrowned-in-boattragedy-off-Libya.html
14.04.2016	Past months 60 child brides entered Netherlands in refugee crisis	RTL nieuws: http://www.rtlnieuws.nl/ nieuws/binnenland/afgel open-maanden-60- kindbruiden-nederland- binnengekomen
13.04.2016	Children as young as six are arriving without their parents at British ports to claim asylum.	The guardian: http://www.theguardian.c om/uk- news/2016/apr/13/unacco mpanied-children-as- young-as-six-arriving-at- british- ports?CMP=twt_gu
12.04.2016	According to German Interior Ministry, almost 6000 refugee children were reported missing in 2015.	The Guardian: http://www.theguardian.c om/world/2016/apr/12/al most-6000-refugee-children-missing-last-year-germany?CMP=Share_AndroidApp_Tweet

11.04.2016	German Interior Ministry estimates that 8000 young refugees were gone missing in 2015.	Der Spiegel: http://www.spiegel.de/po litik/ausland/fluechtlinge -in-deutschland- tausende-minderjaehrige- fluechtlinge-vermisst-a- 1086473.html
10.04.2016	Three children under 10 with plastic bullet wounds to the head among those treated by MSF in Idomeni camp.	https://twitter.com/MSF_ Sea/status/719245303430 430721
10.04.2016	Babies among those affected by tear gas and rubber bullets in Idomeni camp.	The independent: http://www.independent. co.uk/news/world/europe/idomeni-macedonia-police-tear-gas-refugee-border-greece-a6977141.html
10.04.2016	Hundreds hurt, including children in police clashes at Greece-Macedonia border.	The Guardian: http://www.theguardian.c om/world/2016/apr/10/cl ashes-between-migrants-and-police-at-border-between-greece-and-macedonia
09.04.2016	Refugee Boat sinks off Samos island. Four women and one child dead.	http://greece.greekreporte r.com/2016/04/09/refuge e-boat-sinks-off-samos- island-5-dead/
1.4.2016	Amnesty International says that Turkey has illegally forced thousands of refugees to return to Syria, including unaccompanied children.	BBC: http://www.bbc.com/new s/world-europe- 35941947
31.03.2016	Sixteen migrants, including three children were killed by guards as they crossed into Turkey over the past four months.	The times: http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/turks-shoot-to-kill-as-refugees-cross-border-xtv0g83zz;
18.03.2016	Migrants in Idomeni camp handed over a fellow refuge to police after suspecting him of raping a seven-year-old girl.	Daily mail http://www.dailymail.co. uk/news/article-3497672/Justice-migrant-camp-Refugees-Greece-Macedonia-border-drag-push-man-accused-raping-seven-year-old-child-turn-authorities.html
16.03.16	More than 2,400 migrants have been rescued from boats in the Strait of Sicily in the last two days and	Swissinfo.ch: http://www.swissinfo.ch/

	emergency services recovered three corpses, according to Italian Coastguard.	eng/italy-rescues-2-400- boat-migrantsfinds-
09.03.16	The Bulgarian police are illegally placing unaccompanied children in detention centres by registering them together with adults who are not members of their families or authorised companions, Bulgarian ombudsman Maya Manolova warned on Tuesday. The Ombudsman's office has registered cases of refugee children who had even been "assigned" to adults of different nationalities, all for the authorities to avoid the legal ban on detaining unaccompanied children	http://www.balkaninsight. http://www.balkaninsight.com/en/article/bulgaria-evades-ban-on-detaining-child-refugees-03-08-2016#sthash.YVeiozqU.dpuf
01.03.2016	More than 300 migrant children have died attempting the Turkey-Greece sea crossing in the six months since September 2015.	Euronews: www.euronews.com/201 6/03/01/how-many- migrant-children-have- drowned-since-alan- kurdi-and-that-photo/
29.02.2016	A story of the Syrian refugee who became famous after being tripped by a Hungarian camerawoman – living and working in Spain as a football coach, still waiting for the reunification with his wife and other two children.	Aljazeera: http://www.aljazeera.co m/indepth/features/2016/ 02/lonely-refuge-spain- tripped-syrian-refugee- 160205104607602.html
24.02.2016	Situation of unaccompanied children in Greece.	IRIN: http://www.irinnews.org/feature/2016/02/24/slipping-through-cracks-broken-system
24.02.2016	326 unaccompanied children live in the camp – the youngest one is seven, one in four less than 15.	EU Observer: https://euobserver.com/mig ration/132424
23.02.2016	More than 300 unaccompanied children live in a Calais "jungle" – what will happen after the evacuation of the camp?	France TV Info: http://mobile.francetvinfo.fr /france/nord-pas-de- calais/migrants-a- calais/calais-la-defenseure- des-enfants-inquiete-pour- plus-de-300-mineurs- isoles-avant-le- demantelement-partiel-de- la- jungle 1327765.html#xtref =https://t.co/f8EGPoRxIR
19.02.2016	Joint UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM press release about children in migration: An average of two children have drowned every day since September as their families try to cross the eastern Mediterranean.	http://www.unhcr.org/56 c6e7676.html;

18.02.2016	Situation of unaccompanied children in Sweden	Afghanistan Analysts Network: https://www.afghanistan- analysts.org/an-afghan- exodus-2-unaccompanied- minors-in-sweden/
17.02.2016		
15.02.2016	Commissioner Jourová about the urgent need to protect and integrate unaccompanied migrant children arriving to Europe.	Euractiv: http://www.euractiv.com/se

20.01.2017	A 4 1 4 C 1 - 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 A C	A 1: a = a a u a i
30.01.2016	At least five children died in the Aegean Sea.	Aljazeera: http://www.aljazeera.com/n ews/2016/01/children- drown-refugee-boat-sinks- turkey- 160130090622640.html
30.01.2016	Europol estimates that at least 10,000 unaccompanied child refugees have disappeared after arriving in Europe	The Guardian: http://www.theguardian.co m/world/2016/jan/30/fears-for-missing-child-refugees
28.01.2016	Ten children drowned in the Mediterranean Sea between Turkey and Greece on 22.01.2016	CNN: http://edition.cnn.com/2016 /01/28/europe/migrants- fatally-drown- mediterranean/index.html
28.01.2016	UK announced to take in some unaccompanied Syrian refugee children	The Guardian: http://www.theguardian.co m/uk- news/2016/jan/27/syrian- refugee-children-to-be- made-welcome-in-uk
28.01.2016	18 children drowned in Aegean sea	Aljazeera: http://www.aljazeera.com/n ews/2016/01/16012808230 6824.html
27.01.2016	2 more children die en route to Europe	https://twitter.com/MSF_Se a/status/692335403819520 000
22.01.2016	At least 42 people, including 17 children, have drowned after two boats carrying refugees capsized in the Aegean Sea.	Aljazeera: http://www.aljazeera.com/n ews/2016/01/refugees- drown-boats-capsize-greek- islands- 160122100827699.html
22.01.2016	The journey to Europe is miserable for refugee women travelling alone or with children, as they lack security, basic hygiene and privacy	The Guardian: http://www.theguardian.co m/global- development/2016/jan/22/c haotic-lesbos-far-from-a- refuge-for-many-women- and-children
20.01.2016	British judges have ordered that three Syrian youths and an accompanying adult should immediately be brought to Britain to join their relatives and to escape the "living hell" of a Calais refugee camp.	The Guardian http://www.theguardian.co m/uk- news/2016/jan/20/four- syrian-refugees-must- brought-calais-camp- britain-judges-rule
20.01.2016	A 5-year-old child died on the way to Lesbos island.	Vigoalminuto.com http://www.vigoalminuto.c om/2016/01/20/mueren-de-frio-en-lesbos-una-mujer-de-35-anos-y-un-nino-de-5/">http://www.vigoalminuto.c om/2016/01/20/mueren-de-frio-en-lesbos-una-mujer-de-35-anos-y-un-nino-de-5/

20.01.2016	UN: Children on refugee route 'may freeze to	Irish Examiner:
	death'	http://www.irishexaminer.c
		om/world/un-children-on-
		refugee-route-may-freeze-
		to-death-377152.html
18.01.2016	Women and girl refugees face violence, assault,	Amnesty International:
10.01.2010	exploitation and sexual harassment at every stage of	https://www.amnesty.nl/nie
	their journey, including on European soil.	uwsportaal/pers/female-
		refugees-face-physical-
		assault-exploitation-and-
		sexual-harassment-their-jo
15.01.2016	Three children drowned in Aegean	MSF Sea
		https://twitter.com/MSF_Se
		<u>a/status/687924071259090</u>
		<u>944</u>
09.01.2016	Fate of unaccompanied children in Calais, fatal outcome	The Guardian
	for Dublin Regulation related case, risks and conditions	http://www.theguardian.co
	for children in Calais	<u>m/uk-</u>
		news/2016/jan/09/calais-
		jungle-child-refugees-uk-
		<u>asylum</u>
07.1.2016	26,000 unaccompanied children flock to Sweden over	Euroactiv:
	last 4 months	http://www.euractiv.com/se
		ctions/global-
		europe/26000-
		unaccompanied-children-
		flock-sweden-last-4-
0612016		months-320743
06.1.2016	Seven children drowned in the Aegean Sea	The Irish Times:
		http://www.irishtimes.co
		m/news/world/europe/mi
		grant-crisis-seven-young-
		among-34-dead-in-
		<u>turkey-1.2486122</u>
03.01.2016	Two-year-old boy drowned in the Aegean Sea – first	The Guardian:
	refugee casualty of 2016	http://www.theguardian.c
		om/world/2016/jan/03/to
		ddler-becomes-europes-
		first-refugee-casualty-of-
		2016
January 2016	51 Issue "Destination: Europe". Several articles about	Forced Migration Review:
_	the current situation, incl. Separated and unaccompanied	http://www.fmreview.org/e
	children in the EU on page 73	n/destination-europe.pdf
		previous issues:
		http://www.fmreview.org/is
		sues
23.12.2015	Seven children drown off a Aegean Sea island	Irish Times
		http://www.irishtimes.co
		m/news/world/europe/se
		ven-children-drown-
		after-small-plastic-boat-
		sinks-off-turkey-
		1.2475990
L	l .	

17.12.2015	Syrian girl died in Lesbos at a hospital from meningitis	Ekathimerini http://www.ekathimerini.co m/204438/article/ekathimer ini/news/syrian-child-dies- in-lesvos-hospital-from- meningitis
16.12.2015	6 more children drown in the Aegean Sea	Hurriyet http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/two-children-found-dead-off-turkeys-aegean-coast https://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/two-children-found-dead-off-turkeys-aegean-coast
16.12.2015	First 1,000 refugees have arrived to the UK	BBC http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-35111321
15.12.2015	At least 4 children dead after a boat sank in the Aegean Sea	Yeni Safak http://www.yenisafak.com/ en/world/refugee-boat- sinks-off-turkish-coast-4- children-dead-2361984
15.12.2015	Two dead children bodies washed up on the western coast of Turkey	TRT world http://www.trtworld.com/eu http://www.trtworld.com/eu http://www.trtworld.com/eu http://www.trtworld.com/eu rope/turkish-fishermen-find-two-dead-children-in-aegean-sea-13099
14.12.2015	Dead girl drown on a boat heading to Greek island of Lesbos	Hurriyet http://www.hurriyetdailyne ws.com/afghan-refugee- carries-drowned-daughter- in-turkeys- west.aspx?pageID=238&nI D=92502&NewsCatID=34 1
09.12.2015	Six children deaths in the Aegean Sea, including a baby. The day before, the body of a young girl was found in a beach nearby.	BBC http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35037851
03.12.2015	Unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) Thousands of UASC arriving to Greece.	Huffington Post http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/greece-refugee-children_565f10f9e4b072e 9d1c43545
09.12.2015	Belgium urged by Judge to give a shelter for a non-registered Afghan child that had the intention to request asylum. Although he had tried to ask for asylum, it was urged to come again on 17 December. In the meantime, he was supposed to be able to go to a temporary reception shelter (but was overcrowded, so he ended up on the street).	De Redactie http://deredactie.be/cm/vrtn ieuws/binnenland/2.40548? eid=1.2518635

01.12.2015	About a third of the refugees and migrants drowned in the Aegean Sea this year were children and the number of asylum-applicants children this year has doubled. Especially vulnerable Children are babies and small children, children with disabilities and special needs, separated children during the journey, stranded children (with exhausted resources), unaccompanied and separated children and trafficked children. Children are born along the migration routes.	UN Agency http://www.un.org/apps/ne ws/story.asp?NewsID=527 00#.VmShrLTLfIM
27.11.2015	Six more children drowned in the Aegean	Politics http://www.politics.co.uk/blogs/2015/11/27/comment-as-the-world-turns-away-refugees-are-still-drowning
14.11.2015	Two refugee children die in Greek islands in separate incidents	RTE http://www.rte.ie/news/201 5/1114/741916-refugees- migrants/
13.11.2015	Unicef: total number of children seeking asylum in the UE: 214.000 from January to September this year 24,000 unaccompanied children has applied for asylum in Sweden	UNICEF http://www.unicef.org/medi a/media 86208.html
12.11.2015	International Rescue Committee: 50 children a week arriving on Lesbos on their own without adult relatives	Rescue http://www.rescue.org/blog /refugee-crisis-fears- children-fleeing-europe- their-own
11.11.2015	A boat sank, killing 14 people including seven children	US news http://www.usnews.com/ne ws/world/articles/2015/11/1 1/7-children-among-14- dead-in-migrant-boat- sinking-off-turkey
09.11.2015	400,000 Syrian children are not in formal education in Turkey This figure represents 2/3 of refugee children arriving in Turkey. This is caused by financial difficulties, social integration, language barriers and lack of information	HRW https://www.hrw.org/news/ 2015/11/08/turkey-400000- syrian-children-not-school
06.11.2015	Young and fleeing, and then running into the wrong person" about children (particularly teenage girls) being sexually assaulted.	NRC.nl: http://www.nrc.nl/next/201 5/11/06/jong-alleen-op-de- vlucht-en-dan-de- verkeerde-teg-1554212
5.11.2015	Kos, 14 drown, including two children	Ansamed http://www.ansamed.info/a nsamed/en/news/nations/gr ecc-2015/11/05/migrants-greece-boat-sinks-in-kos-two-children-dead_4d788970-fcfa-475a-9785-73d956e2178d.html
4.11.2015	At least 190,000 children have sought asylum in Europe so far this year, or 700 a day, out of 760,000 people who have crossed the Mediterranean, according to the U.N.	Trust http://www.trust.org/item/2 0151104152233-j1ie9/

	Children's Fund (UNICEF). Children (mainly Syrians and Afghans fleeing war) accounted for one in three refugees registered in Gevgelija in former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in October, up from one in 10 who arrived via Greece in	(Eurostat data)
4.11.2015	June, UNICEF said, quoting government figures. 3 children drown off Lesbos	Ekathimerini
		http://www.ekathimerini.co m/203108/article/ekathimer ini/news/greek-coast-guard- says-5-die-in-boat-accident
4.11.2015	Over 6.5m Internally Displaced Persons in Syria	UNOCHA https://pbs.twimg.com/medi a/CS8ACs8XAAEswMjpg
4.11.2015	Harsh treatment of children in Calais, mistreatment and abuse, lack of involvement of child protection authorities	The Guardian http://www.theguardian.co m/world/2015/nov/04/refug ee-children-calais-homesick-french-police?CMP=share_btn_tw 2CMP=twt_gu?CMP=twt_gu
2.11.2015	Up to 700 children a day claiming asylum, 198.000 in 2015	Independent, via UNICEF (Eurostat figures) http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/refugee-crisis-700-children-a-day-now-claiming-asylum-on-european-soil-a6718661.html
2.11.2015	Winter is coming - humanitarian crisis, winter, poor material conditions and shelter - Risks for children especially UASC (trafficking, sexual violence)	Guardian http://www.theguardian.co m/world/2015/nov/02/winte r-is-coming-the-new-crisis- for-refugees-in-europe
2.11.2015	One more child washes up on Lesbos	Twitter https://twitter.com/ArisMes sinis/status/6611934411713 82272
1.11.2015	11 drown off Greece, including six children	AFP: https://twitter.com/AFP/stat us/660753128401346560 https://twitter.com/ArisMes sinis/status/6607889623620 07556
1.11.2015	Risks of trafficking and sexual violence for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC)	Guardian http://www.theguardian.co m/world/2015/nov/01/unac companied-young- refugees-europe-traffickers
31.10.2015	4 children drown off the coast of Lesbos	HRW https://www.hrw.org/news/ 2015/10/31/lesbos-tragedy- shape-europes-migrant- scandal
30.10.2015	More than 70 children have drowned en route to Greece	Interview Melissa Fleming

	since Aylan's death	IINILCD.
	since Aylan's death	UNHCR: http://www.thedailybeast.c om/articles/2015/10/30/70- babies-have-died-since- aylan.html?via=mobile&so urce=email Euronews http://www.euronews.com/ 2015/10/30/more-than-70- children-have-died-on- route-to-greece-since- aylan-kurdi- death/#.VjOaKZEVgnw.tw itter
30.10.2015	Detention of 16-year-old in Hungary	HRW http://www.hrw.org/news/2 015/10/30/dispatches-seeking-protection-behind-bars-hungary
30.10.2015	Silvio S. raped, then strangled <u>refugee</u> child Mohamed (4) because 'he whined'. Admits killing Elias (6).	Bild http://www.bild.de/regional /berlin/mord/aktuelle- entwicklungen-zu-den- morden-an-elias-und- mohamed- 43207450.bild.html
29.10. 2015	Lesbos: 15 people died (several children), 38 people missing in five incidents involving smuggler boats carrying hundreds of refugees and migrants At least 15 children (between 3 months and ten years) are suffering from serious hypothermia were admitted to island hospitals.	UNHCR Press Release, http://www.unhcr.org/5632 3c966.html
29.10.2015	Body of missing four-year-old refugee found in car boot in Germany	Independent http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/childs-body-found-in-car-four-weeks-after-refugee-boys-disappearance-from-registration-centre-in-a6713476.html
28.10.2015	Migrant children, arriving alone and frightened "Some of these boys have never held a colouring pen in their hand, but they've seen their own father beheaded," Many of Europe's new mystery children are boys ages 14 to 17, sent by families too poor to pay smugglers for more than a single journey. Some lost their parents to war or murder at home. Others, like Reza, were separated from them in the chaos along the way. A few had their own reasons to flee: escaping recruitment as child soldiers or suicide bombers. Also details sexual violence, particularly against girls (who are extremely vulnerable on their route, particularly when they are unaccompanied)	NYTimes http://www.nytimes.com/20 15/10/29/world/europe/in- waves-of-migrants- children-arrive-alone-and- settle-in-uneasily.html
26.10.2015	Europe refugee crisis hits sickening low with children forced to engage in 'survival sex' The office of the United Nations High Commission for	News http://www.news.com.au/lif estyle/real-life/europe-

	Refugees said it had received "credible testimonies" of sexual violence and abuse against women and children on the move in Europe. Among hundreds of thousands of refugees and migrants pouring into south eastern Europe, children were being forced into sex with people smugglers to pay their way onward, the agency reported. UNHCR cautioned that it doesn't have a full grasp of how widespread the problem is, but says women and children travelling alone who are short of cash and sleeping in places like parks and train stations are particularly vulnerable. Some authorities have increased the risk for children by placing them in detention along with adults while they wait for official processing of asylum applications. "From testimony and reports we have received there have been instances of children engaging in survival sex to pay smugglers to continue their journey, either because they have run out money, or because they have been robbed," UNHCR said in a statement.	refugee-crisis-hits- sickening-low-with- children-forced-to-engage- in-survival-sex/story- fnu2q5nu-1227583141890
26.10.2015	Life in Lesbos: "The Children's Feet Are Rotting - You Guys Have One Month and Then All These People Will Be Dead" "There are thousands of children here and their feet are literally rotting, they can't keep dry, they have high fevers and they're standing in the pouring rain for days on end. You have one month guys, and then all these people will be dead".	Huffingtonpost http://www.huffingtonpost. co.uk/lliana-bird/refugee- crisis- lesbos b 8388988.html
23.10.2015	Testimonies on sexual violence and abuse against refugee women and children, pointing out the special vulnerability of unaccompanied children (and adding that in some cases there are placed in detention)	UNHCR http://www.unhcr.org/562a 3bb16.html
23.10.2015	Poor reception conditions, lack of coordination, family separation, lack of EU response	HRW http://www.hrw.org/news/2 015/10/23/eu-human-toll-border-closures
22.10.2015	Attacks on refugee boats; including boats carrying children	HRW http://www.hrw.org/news/2 015/10/22/greece-attacks- boats-risk-migrant-lives
22.10.2015	Zeid urges Czech Republic to stop detention of migrants and refugees, particularly worrying: detention of children	OHCHR http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ NewsEvents/Pages/Display News.aspx?NewsID=16632 &LangID=E#sthash.kKEH u2WD.dpuf
21.10.2015	Sexual violence suffered by child and women refugees	Buzzfeed http://www.buzzfeed.com/jinamoore/women-refugees-fleeing-through-europe-are-told-rape-is-not-a#.pmP3qoZ23J
15.10.2015	Two Boats capsized in Greek: 39 people killed (including 15 children and 4 babies)	UNHCR http://www.unhcr.org/55f8 0a906.html

14.10.2017	CI 11 44 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	T 1 1 .
14.10.2015	Children as young as 11 are detained in appalling conditions in Kos	Independent http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/refugee-crisis-orphans-locked-up-in-medieval-prisons-alongside-adult-criminals-on-greek-island-of-a6694521.html
14.10.2015	Europe Refugee Crisis: 1,000 Children Reported Missing From Swedish Town (unaccompanied children)	Ibitimes http://www.ibtimes.com/eu http://www.ibtimes.com/eu rope-refugee-crisis-1000-children-reported-missing-swedish-town-2143290
13.10.2015	Child refugees subjected to genital examinations to prove their age	Independent http://www.independent.co. uk/news/world/europe/child -refugees-are-subjected-to- genital-examinations-to- prove-their-age-although- the-tests-may-not- a6692016.html
09.10.2015	The search for Europe's missing child refugees Missing children in refugee crisis: Their families are trying to find them via social media such as Facebook	BBC http://www.bbc.co.uk/news beat/article/34485916/the- search-for-europes- missing-child-refugees
28.09.2015	Photos on places where Syrian refugee children sleep	Telegrafi http://www.telegrafi.com/la jme/prekese-femijet- siriane-flene-ne-pyje-per-t- u-larguar-nga-lufta-foto-4- 27977.html
18.09.2015	Time running out for Europe to solve refugee crisis; children particularly vulnerable (UN)	http://www.un.org/apps/ne ws/story.asp?NewsID=519 11#.VjtF7EblypA
18.09.2015	UNICEF: Refugee and migrant children in Hungary "need to be treated with dignity"	http://www.unicef.org/media/media_85550.html
16.09.2015	At least 9 people (including 4 children) were separated from their families by Hungarian police	Amnesty International https://www.amnesty.org/e n/latest/news/2015/09/hung https://www.amnesty.org/e n/latest/news/2015/09/hung https://www.amnesty.org/e n/latest/news/2015/09/hung https://www.amnesty.org/e n/latest/news/2015/09/hung https://www.amnesty.org/e https://www.amnesty.org/e

	children