

ITALY

November 2017

Overview and developments

Key Figures¹

117,042

Sea Arrivals

15,540

UASC Sea Arrivals

124,871

Asylum applications

10,433

 Relocations⁵

Between 1 January and 30 November 2017, **117,042 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea**. This is a **32 per cent decrease** compared to the same period last year, when 173,008 persons reached Italian shores. In 2017 so far, the highest numbers of registered sea arrivals originate from Nigeria, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Bangladesh, Mali, Eritrea, Sudan, Tunisia, Senegal, and The Gambia. Men and women constitute 75 per cent and 11 per cent of persons disembarked, respectively, while **13 per cent are unaccompanied and separated children (UASC)**². Accompanied children account for 1 per cent of sea arrivals.

Consistently with decreasing numbers of monthly arrivals from mid-July 2017 onwards, fewer persons reached Italian shores in November 2017 (5,645), compared to November 2016 (13,581),

In the first eleven months of 2017, 91 per cent of sea arrivals departed from Libya. Departures from Tunisia account for 4 per cent of sea arrivals in the January-November 2017 period, followed by Turkey (3 per cent), and Algeria (1 per cent). While in the recent months the reduction of departures from Libya was mirrored by a proportional increase in departures from other countries, such increase was more modest in November, when 9 per cent of sea arrivals departed from Tunisia, 5 per cent from Turkey and 2 per cent from Algeria.

In November, at least nine incidents at sea were reported along the central Mediterranean route, resulting in over 70 deaths and over 130 persons going missing at sea. Alongside Italian and other European authorities, three NGOs (Proactiva Open Arms, Sea Watch, and SOS Méditerranée) continue to carry out SAR operation in the Central Mediterranean.

Between 1 January and 30 November 2017, **some 125,000 persons lodged an asylum claim in Italy**³. As of 30 November 2017, **186,884 adult asylum-seekers were accommodated in reception facilities**⁴.

Operational update - UNHCR Response⁶

416

Attendances at disembarkation (Access team)

Access to territory and procedures. UNHCR teams at disembarkation sites delivered information to new arrivals and worked to ensure access to asylum and other procedures, as well as prompt identification and referral of persons with specific needs. During visits to reception facilities and informal settlements in various Italian regions, including in land border areas in northern Italy, UNHCR teams gathered information on the registration of relocation candidates and provided information sessions.

1,766

Referrals of persons with specific needs (Access team)

Reception. In November, UNHCR Monitoring Associates carried out one visit to a detention facility and 27 joint monitoring visits to temporary reception facilities, together with Ministry of Interior representatives and external auditors. UNHCR provided continuous support in developing the monitoring methodology and shared with the authorities the findings of the recent monitoring visits. UNHCR staff in southern Italy (Access team) also regularly visited first-line facilities and hotspots.

Child protection. UNHCR Child Protection experts carried out regular visits to AMIF-funded UASC reception facilities in various Italian regions. On 7 November 2017, UNHCR met with representatives from UNICEF, NGOs and institutional stakeholders to discuss current challenges in the implementation of Law 47/2017, focusing on guardianship, age assessment, reception, and access to services⁷.

1,075

Visits to reception centres (Access team)

Capacity building. In November, UNHCR Child Protection experts contributed to 6 training events aimed at UASC reception centres staff and voluntary guardians. From 20 to 22 November 2017, UNHCR Refugee Status Determination (RSD) staff delivered training on international protection to over 50 judges of the recently established tribunal divisions focusing on asylum and immigration.

Community-based protection. From 8 to 9 November, UNHCR implementing partner D.i.Re., a nationwide network of some 80 anti-violence centres, held a workshop to discuss good practices in relation to the reception and protection of refugee women and girls, with a view to improving SGBV survivors' access to specialized services.

¹ Unless otherwise specified, key figures refer to the 1 January – 30 November 2017 period.

² For further details and statistics, please refer to UNHCR updates including Sea Arrivals Dashboards and UASC Dashboards, available on the UNHCR data portal at <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean/location/5205>

³ Ministry of Interior, *I numeri dell'asilo*, <http://www.libertaciviliimmigrazione.dlci.interno.gov.it/it/documentazione/statistica/i-numeri-dell'asilo> (last access 16/11/2017)

⁴ Ministry of Interior, *Cruscotto statistico giornaliero*, 30 November 2017, http://www.libertaciviliimmigrazione.dlci.interno.gov.it/sites/default/files/allegati/cruscotto_statistico_giornaliero_30-11-2017_0.pdf (last access 13/12/2017)

⁵ Relocations refer to the October 2015-17 November 2017 period. For more information, see Ministry of Interior, *ibid*.

⁶ For information on UNHCR activities in Italy, see UNHCR, *What we do in Italy*, available at <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/60825> (last access 20/11/2017)

⁷ UNHCR, *Minori stranieri non accompagnati: a 6 mesi dall'approvazione della nuova legge*, 7 November 2017, <https://www.unhcr.it/news/comunicati-stampa/minori-stranieri-non-accompagnati-6-mesi-dall'approvazione-della-nuova-legge-accoglienza-protezione-istituzioni-organizzazioni-tutela-discusso-gli-aspetti-cruciali-la.html> (last access 14/12/2017)

UNHCR teams in Italy: deployment by location

