



## Daily Report

**Arrivals and Departures:** There are currently around 30,000 refugees and migrants in Greece. Should the current weekly average rate of arrivals of refugees and migrants to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue, and should there be no new arrivals to Greece, a calculation only based on these two variables indicates that it would take 164 days for all refugees to leave Greece via the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

In an interview with German media, Croatian Prime Minister, Tihomir Oreskovic, underscored that due to coordination between Croatia and other countries on the Balkan route “less than 500” refugees arrived in Germany on a daily basis and not 3,000 as was the case before.

European Union officials requested Turkish authorities to reduce the number of refugees and migrants reaching the Greek islands to less than 1,000 a day. They confirmed that, in return, they stand ready to resettle refugees from Turkey.

**Condition of People:** 15 refugees of Syrian and Yemeni nationalities arrived to Romania from Greece, as part of the EU relocation scheme.

**Deaths at Sea:** None reported



## Situation at Border Crossings

269 people entered the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia from Greece. 13 people were returned to the Greek border crossing from Vinojug while 148 people of Iraqi and Syrian nationality were returned from the Serbian border. 117 people remain stranded at Vinojug centre since 26 February (8 days). According to Slovenian police, 19 people were returned to Croatia for possessing false documents.

According to media reports, Albanian authorities have deployed some 450 members of the special police forces at five border crossing points with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece.

### Critical Developments

UNHCR issued a set of recommendations oriented towards responding to the refugee situation in Europe, ahead of the European Council meeting with Turkey on 7 March in Brussels.

UNHCR emphasises equitable sharing of responsibility as key to bringing about a managed and orderly solution, the need to agree on a system of percentage allocation of asylum-seekers to each Member State.

During his visit to Greece, European Council President, Donald Tusk, called on ‘economic migrants’ to not to come to Europe. He also highlighted the EU’s support to Greece to help manage the current situation. On 4 March, Tusk will travel to Turkey to meet with Turkish Prime Minister, Ahmet Davutoglu, and Turkish President, Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

After a meeting with Donald Tusk, Greek Prime Minister, Alexis Tsipras, highlighted the need for the immediate implementation of the relocation scheme and of the return policy for those not found in need of international protection.

Communication between Greek Prime Minister, Alexis Tsipras and Turkish counterpart, Ahmet Davutoglu took place regarding managing the refugee and migrant flow.

### Weather Headlines

Remaining rather unsettled across the region through the next week with many places seeing rain at times. This rain may turn locally heavy at times and lead to the ground becoming saturated and muddy. Winds in the Aegean will ease on Saturday, but will strengthen at times from Sunday leading to some challenging sea conditions early next week.



## Average Daily Arrivals and Trends Greece

15-21 February  
**2,747**  
140% from previous week



29 February - 3 March  
**1,853**  
-27% from previous week



22-28 February  
**2,538**  
-8% from previous week



Monthly Average Daily Arrival  
March (as of 3 March)  
**1,780**  
-7% from previous month





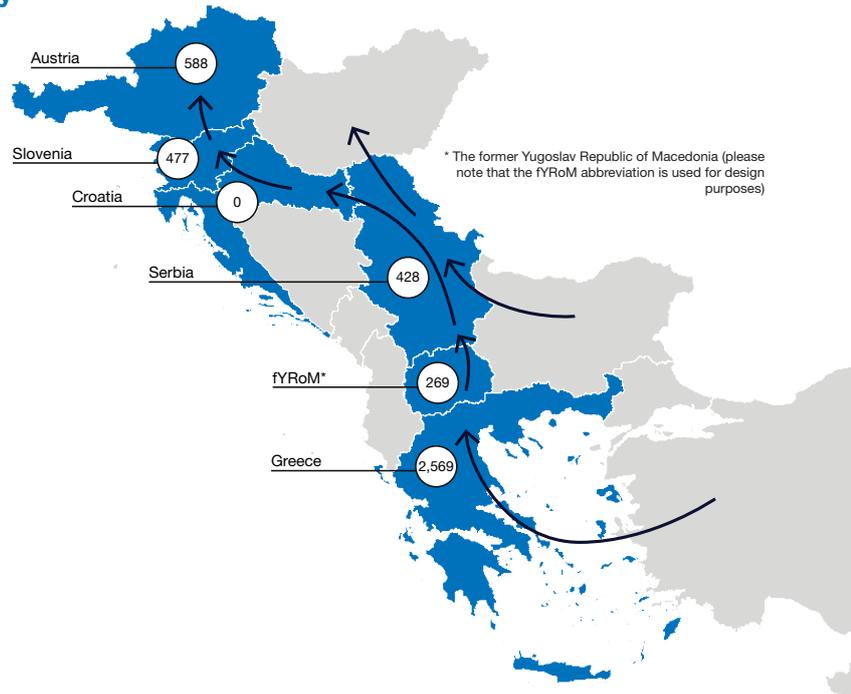
### Upcoming meetings/events

- European Council meeting with Turkey, Brussels, 7 March
- European Parliament Plenary session, Strasbourg, 8 March (attended by UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi).
- Justice and Home Affairs Council, Brussels, 10-11 March
- EU-Turkey Summit, Brussels, 17-18 March
- High-level meeting on global responsibility sharing through pathways for admission of Syrian refugees, Geneva, 30 March



### Estimated Arrivals per Country Yesterday

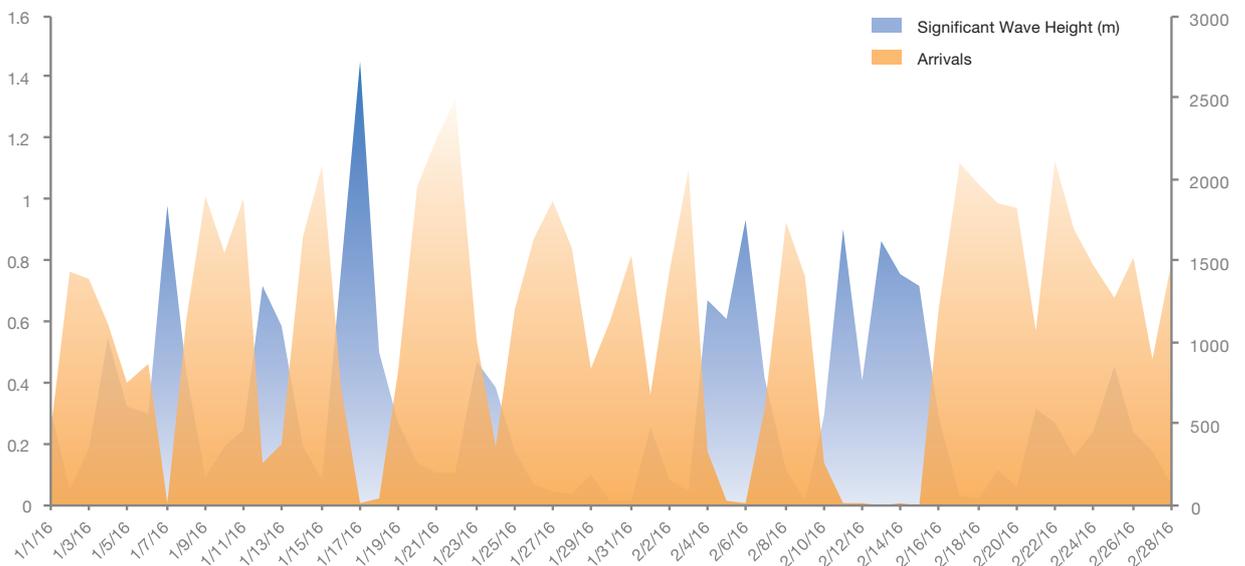
Greece	2,569
fYRoM*	269
Serbia	428
Croatia	0
Hungary	0
Slovenia	477
Austria	588



### Wave Height vs Arrivals to Lesbos

The graph highlights the historical correlation (from 1st January 2016 until present) between the average wave heights around Lesbos and number of registered arrivals to the island. The data shows a clear negative correlation: as the sea states become rougher, with increasing wave heights, the number of people travelling to Lesbos decreases. As sea states and wave heights reduce, the number of people travelling to Lesbos increases.

Applying this same negative correlation to forecast wave data allows us to make a forecast prediction on the number of people moving from Turkey to the Greek islands, giving a trend on whether these numbers will increase or decrease.





## Social Media

[Clowns Without Borders](#), initially a concept by a Spanish clown, now offers 'resilience through laughter' internationally for children in refugee camps. In January, the organisation released a video (via RT) entitled [No Laughing Matter](#) in which they documented their experience of meeting Syrian refugees in Lesbos, Greece.

**Facebook Activity:** On Facebook, [AJ+](#) posted a video which highlights the treatment of refugees and migrants at the 'Jungle' refugee camp in Calais. In the video, aside from the French government's decision to demolish and evacuate some parts of the camp, some Syrian men can be seen protesting by sewing their mouths shut. The men also held signs which read "Where is your democracy? Where is our freedom?" It is estimated that around 3,000 people are accommodated in the transition point for refugees who aim to reach the UK. You can watch the video [here](#).

**Periscope:** BBC Outside Source daily live news stream recapped the conditions at Idomeni, where many refugees were interviewed; some mentioned they were suffering from

cold-related illnesses due to the rainy weather and queues for food are still very long. On the other hand, some Syrian men remain determined to ascertain forms of normality by setting up barbering services.

### Current statistics for: #greece

- 179 tweets, 283 retweets per hour
- Over 1.5 million impressions per hour
- 41.59% of posts using #greece originated from Greece

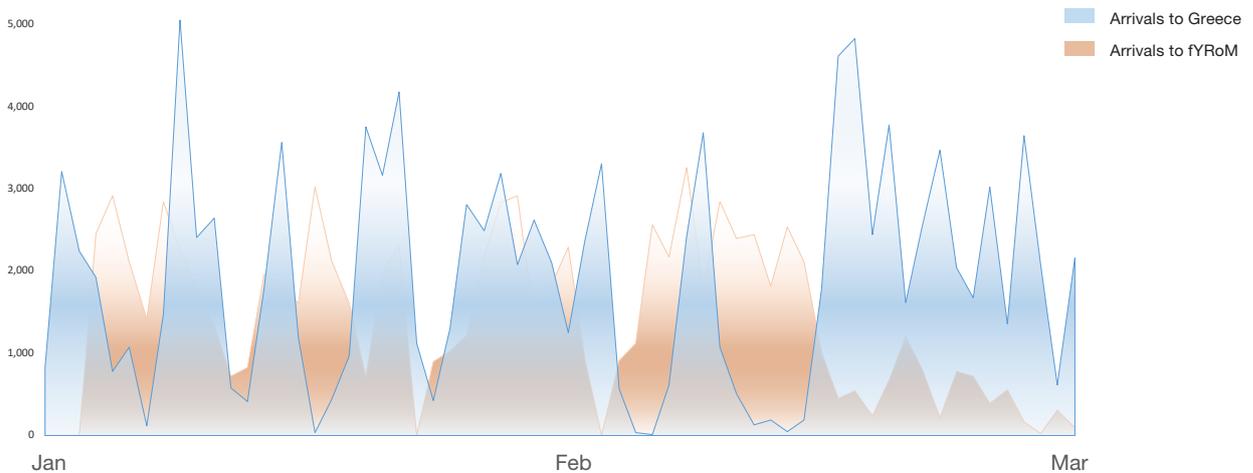
### Current statistics for: #idomeni

- 33 tweets, 267 retweets per hour
- Over 36,500 impressions per hour
- 60% of posts using #idomeni originated from Greece

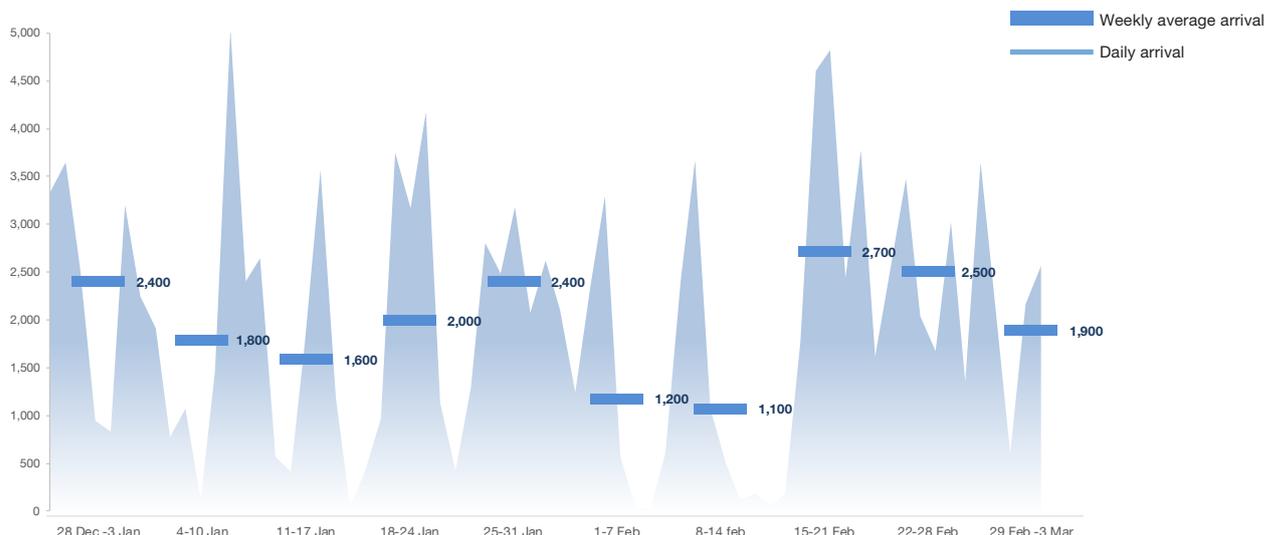
Although there has been a marked increase in conversation surrounding Idomeni, there was a noticeable peak of retweets on 29 February (11,500) in comparison to previous days and weeks activity using #refugeecrisis, reaching an average peak of 1,700 individual tweets, 5,300 retweets and 6,178 impressions



## Arrivals to Greece vs Arrivals to fYRoM\*



## Daily and Weekly Average Arrivals to Greece 28 December to 3 March





## Weather Forecast Greece - Slovenia

Key locations crossed by refugees



## Weather Assessment

- Across the Greek Islands, strong to gale force southwesterly winds and heavy showers will gradually ease on Saturday. Past event analysis would suggest a significant reduction in arrivals to the Greek Islands through the rest of Friday, with arrivals likely to increase on Saturday. From Sunday onwards, the wind is likely to temporarily strengthen, leading to some challenging sea conditions at times.
- Across mainland southeast Europe, it will be cooler overnight than of late on Friday night which may lead to an increase

of people with specific needs as a result of remaining outdoors or staying in non-winterized shelter. It will then turn increasingly unsettled during the weekend across Slovenia and Croatia with further rain. A band of rain is expected to then move southeast through early next week across Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and northern Greece. Increasingly muddy ground conditions are likely to develop where large numbers of people are present on unpaved surfaces.



**Situation Overview**

