



Daily Report

Planning and Preparedness: In Turkey, EU Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations [announced](#) the first projects under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey programme; pledging €55 million to address access to education needs of Syrian children, and €40 million in humanitarian aid through the World Food Programme (WFP).

Arrivals and Departures: European Council President and Turkish Prime Minister agreed that people who do not qualify for international protection in Greece will be returned to Turkey. It is expected that an agreement to this effect will be signed later today in Brussels.

Condition of People: At the border crossing between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, a new 'screening

procedure' was observed. People are now requested to state their town of origin; the border police then assess whether the town is war-torn which determines eligibility for access.

88,912 asylum applications were recorded in Austria in 2015. This is an increase of 212.5% compared to 2014 (with some 28,000 applications).

Deaths at Sea: According to [media](#), some 25 people died or went missing while some 15 people were rescued by the Turkish Coast Guard off the Turkish coast, in an attempt to reach the Greek Islands.



Critical Developments

A meeting is being held today in Brussels between the European Council and Turkey (main [points for discussion](#) include but are not limited to: deterring the flow of refugees and migrants traveling from Turkey to Greece and the Western Balkans, responding to humanitarian needs and the specifics of the agreement regarding people being returned from Greece to Turkey), below is a summary of the key [events](#) relating to the European emergency since Spring 2015:

15-19 April 2015

- some 400 and 800 people died or went missing while trying to reach Italy from Libya. The European Council agreed to triple the funding for search and rescue efforts in the Mediterranean Sea

25-26 June 2015, EU Summit

- the proposal for the establishment of hotspots and the relocation of 60,000 refugees across EU member states was presented

23 September 2015, EU Justice and Home Affairs Council

- the plan to relocate an additional 120,000 people within the EU was passed through a qualifying majority

15-16 October 2015, European Council

- the Joint EU-Turkey Action Plan was announced

25 October 2015, an EU Summit

- EU leaders discussed measures to alleviate the pressure on Western Balkan countries. It was agreed that all countries along the route would share information and would not allow refugees and migrants to continue their journey without being registered.

11-12 November 2015, Valletta Summit

- European and African leaders met to tackle the root causes of displacement. A € 1.8 billion European Trust Fund was created to stimulate growth in Africa and agreement was reached on enhancing the return of people not found to be in need of international protection. In addition, The European Commission announced € 3 billion in support of Syrian refugees in Turkey

17-18 December 2015, Justice and Home Affairs Council

- EU leaders agreed to expedite the creation of a European Border and Coast Guard

18-19 February 2016, Justice and Home Affairs Council

- Discussions focused on the implementation of the EU-Turkey Action Plan, humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees, including in the Western Balkans countries, the management of external borders as well as the implementation of the relocation scheme and returns.

[Politico](#) is predicting that the meeting today will result in an announcement regarding the Western Balkan route possibly being declared as closed.

Weather Headlines

A very unsettled spell of weather is expected to affect the region through the week with some locally significant rainfall likely. Strong winds will also affect the Greek Islands through Monday and much of Tuesday, with sea conditions remaining challenging at times throughout the rest of the week.



Average Daily Arrivals and Trends Greece

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



29 February - 6 March
1,551
-39% from previous week



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



Monthly Average Daily Arrival
March (as of 6 March)
1,464
-23% from previous month





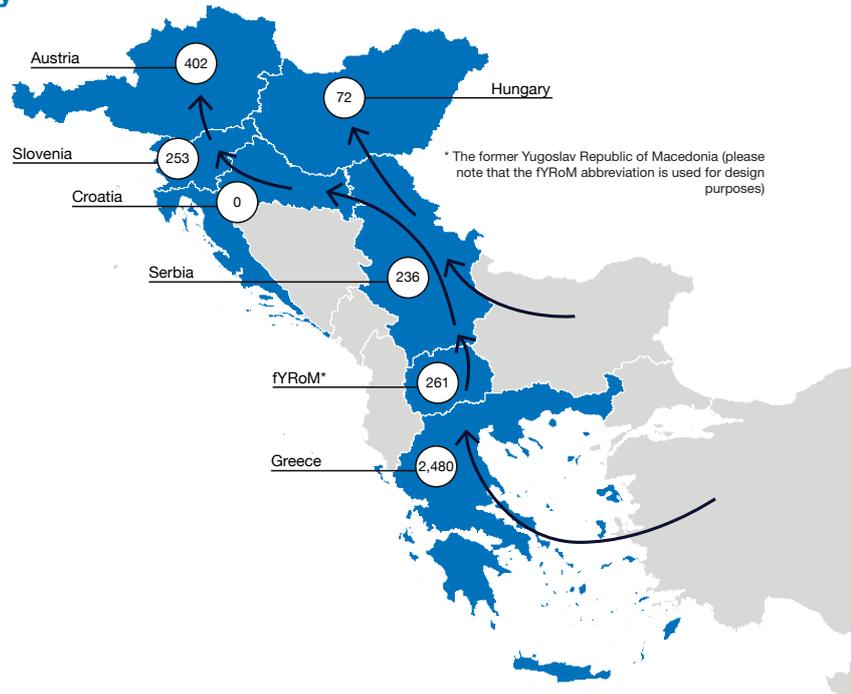
Upcoming meetings/events

- European Council meeting with Turkey, Brussels, 7 March
- European Parliament Plenary session, Strasbourg, 8 March (attended by UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi).
- Greece-Turkey High-level Cooperation Council, Izmir, 08 March
- 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

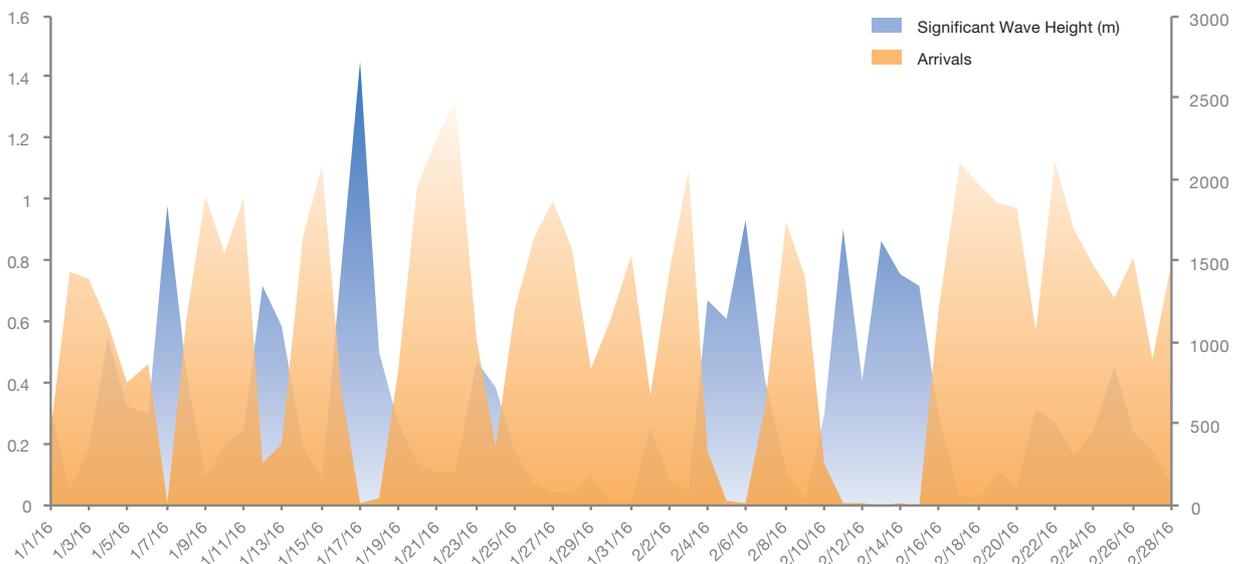
Greece	2,480
fYRoM*	261
Serbia	236
Croatia	0
Hungary	72
Slovenia	253
Austria	402



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

Professor Alexander Betts ([@alexander_betts](#) on Twitter), Director of the refugee Studies Centre, Oxford, hosted a talk at the Technology, Entertainment, Design (TED) conference. During the TED2016: Our refugee system is failing. Here's how we can fix it conference, Professor Betts highlighted that "refugees have the right to seek asylum but are being prevented to do so by immigration policies". Full coverage of the conference can be found [here](#).

Twitter Activity:

Former UNHCR Head of Policy Development and Evaluation Service, [Jeff Crisp](#), retweeted [Rianne Letschert](#): "Let's move [the] #EU Summit to Idomeni, where [government] leaders can face collective shame & listen to #refugees"

Current statistics for: #idomeni

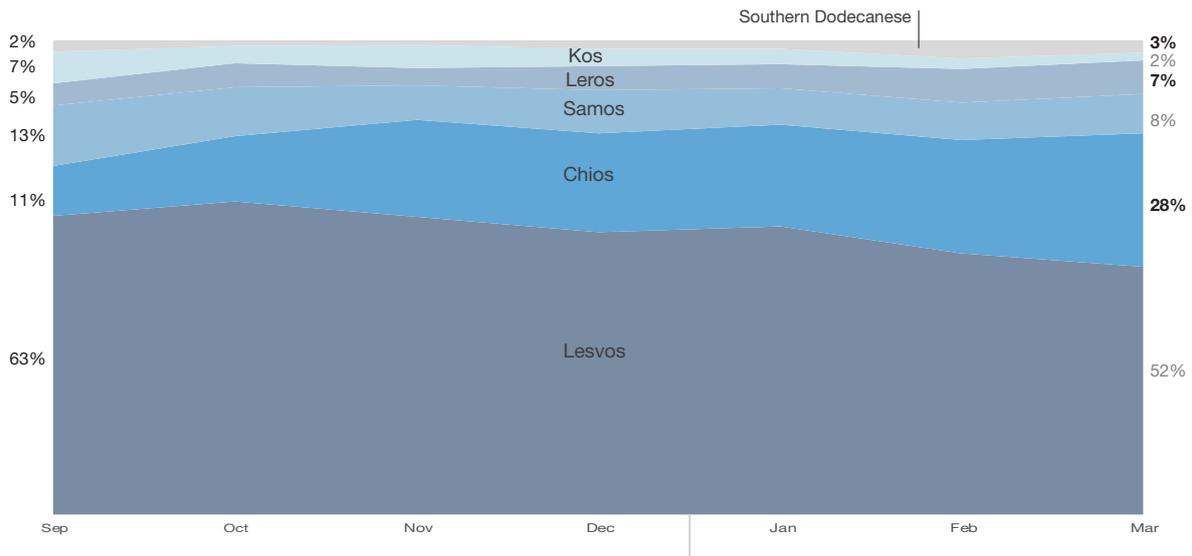
- 12 tweets, 213 retweets per hour
- Over 25,750 impressions per hour
- 71.43% of posts using #idomeni originated from Greece

Weekend statistics for #idomeni (4-6 March)

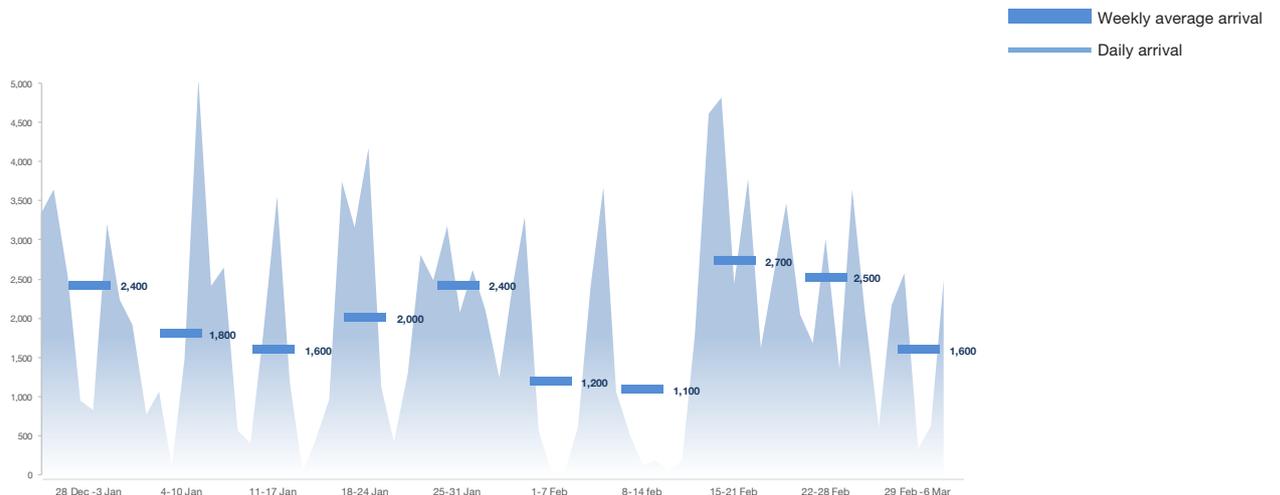
- Tweets: 800/500/900
- Retweets: 5,600/6,700/7,200
- Exposure/impressions: 202/91/150



Distribution of monthly arrivals to each Greek island September to 6 March



Daily and Weekly Average Arrivals to Greece 28 December to 6 March





Weather Forecast Greece - Slovenia

Key locations crossed by refugees

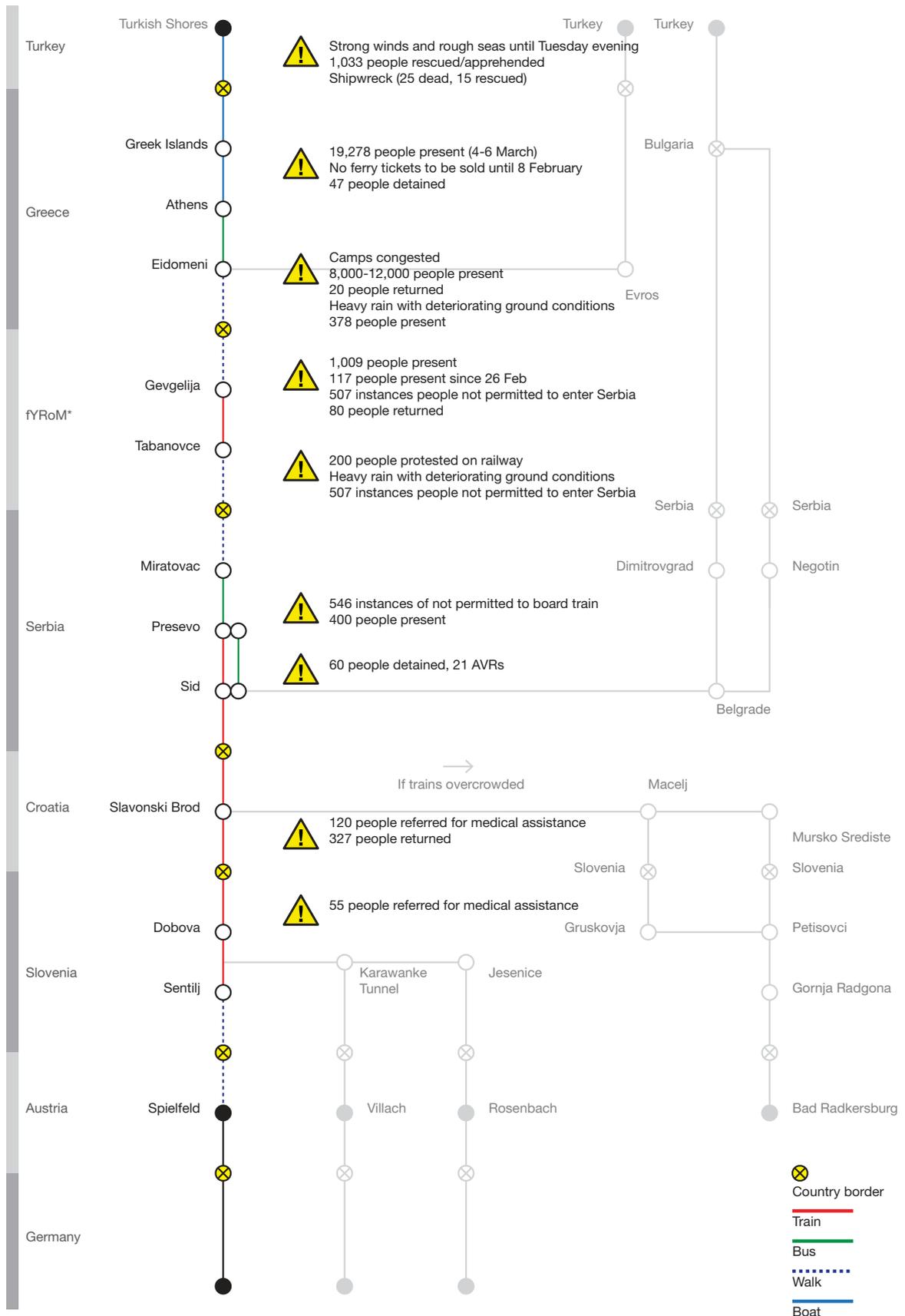


Weather Assessment

- A band of heavy rain and thunderstorms is expected to continue moving east across Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and northern Greece on Monday night. This rainfall follows a previous spell of heavy rain on Thursday night and is likely to lead to significant deterioration in ground conditions with unpaved surfaces becoming waterlogged and muddy. Although a drier day is expected on Tuesday, further heavy showers or longer spells of rain are likely to affect many parts through the rest of the week.
- Across the Aegean Islands, strong to gale force southerly winds are expected to ease on Tuesday evening. Past event analysis suggests that a reduction in arrivals to the Greek Islands is likely on Monday and Tuesday. Thereafter, stronger winds are likely to affect the Aegean at times through the remainder of the week, which is likely to moderate the number of arrivals to the Greek Islands.



Situation Overview



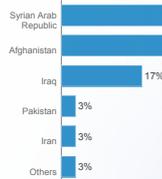


Annex 1 Key Figures from the Portal

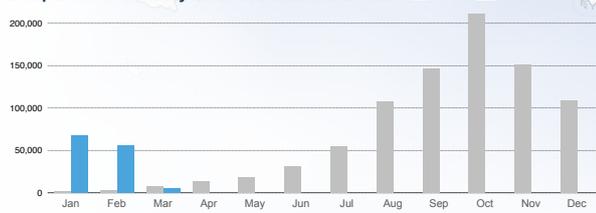
Increasing numbers of refugees and migrants take their chances aboard unseaworthy boats and dinghies in a desperate bid to reach Europe. The vast majority of those attempting this dangerous crossing are in need of international protection, fleeing war, violence and persecution in their country of origin. Every year these movements continue to exact a devastating toll on human life.

Top-10 nationalities of Mediterranean sea arrivals

Top-10 nationalities represent **100%** of the sea arrivals based on arrivals since 1 Jan 2016



Comparison of monthly Mediterranean sea arrivals



128,735 arrivals by sea in 2016

© Last updated 3 Mar 2016

856,723 arrivals by sea in 2015

91% of arrivals come from the world's top 10 refugee-producing countries

Sea arrivals in 2016
Main routes through the Mediterranean



Following the humanitarian crisis in Europe: Estimated daily arrivals

