



**Arrivals and Departures:** The UNHCR Winter Operations Cell has developed an analytical correlation model to statistically estimate the number of arrivals to Lesvos. While this remains in testing phase, it considers variables such as sea states and related weather conditions. Yesterday, the estimate projected was approximately 1,000 less than the actual number of arrivals. EU border agency, Frontex, reported that some 900 refugees and migrants were rescued near Lesvos between the port of Mytilene and the Turkish coast.

**Condition of People:** 103 people were voluntarily repatriated from Finland to Iraq, accompanied by dozens of Finnish police. Most had cancelled their asylum applications.

In Canakkale, Turkey, the media reported 186 refugees and migrants were arrested while attempting to travel to Greece. At least 91 were of Syrian nationality.

In Sid, Serbia, a group of refugees and migrants, who were returned from Slovenia or Croatia two days ago, protested for not being able to continue their journey towards the EU causing a halt in train transportation. As an alternative, refugees and migrants were transported from Serbia to Croatia by buses instead of by train.

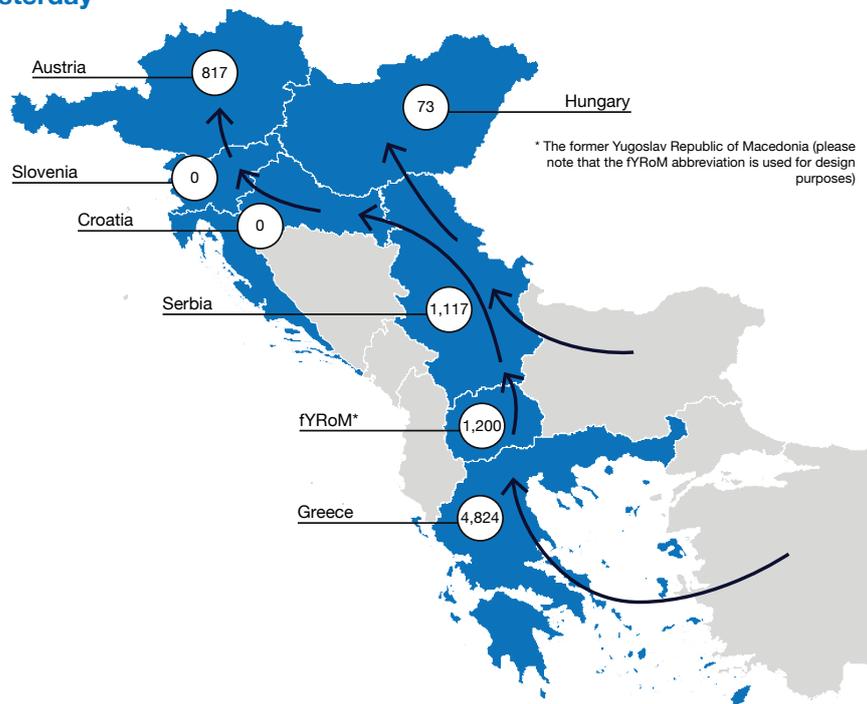
On the Greek Islands, as four hotspot facilities recently became functional, challenges in the registration process and allocation of roles were resulting in extending waiting periods. UNHCR and partners provided support to authorities in flow management, transportation, accommodation and additional equipment.

**Deaths at Sea:** None reported.



### Estimated Arrivals per Country Yesterday

Greece	4,824
fYRoM*	1,200
Serbia	1,117
Croatia	0
Hungary	73
Slovenia	0
Austria	817



### Critical Developments

During the summit held in Brussels, European leaders emphasised the importance of the implementation of the EU-Turkey Action Plan as a key component of responding to the refugee and migrant crisis. European Council President, Donald Tusk, set another summit to be held in early March with Turkey's participation. In addition, European leaders consider it necessary to now put in place the capacity for the EU to provide humanitarian assistance within the EU, in cooperation with organisations such as UNHCR, to support countries facing large numbers of refugees and migrants.

European Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship, Dimitris Avramopoulos, told the Austrian government that its decision to instate daily caps to arrivals is illegal and "plainly incompatible with Austria's obligations" under EU and international law. EU officials fear Austria's move could create a domino effect along the Western Balkan route. Full Council conclusions on Migration available [here](#).

Police chiefs from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia and Austria

agreed to introduce joint registration of refugees crossing from Greece into Macedonia. UNHCR considers that the Statement on border control measures issued in Zagreb on 18 February by the Heads of these Police Services not to be in line with previous positions and commitments taken by these countries and has formally requested an official response by the Government Authorities.

The first Steering Committee meeting of the Facility for Refugees in Turkey was held in Brussels, chaired by the European Commission. The first projects to provide humanitarian aid and support access to education of refugee children in Turkey will shortly

be presented for approval by the appropriate committees.

### Weather Headlines

- Very unsettled weather is expected around Greece, southern Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia this weekend with strong winds and heavy rain showers or thunderstorms.
- The strong winds will result in some moderate or large waves building in parts of the Aegean.



### Average Daily Arrivals and Trends Greece

1-7 February  
**1,161**  
-51% from previous week



15-18 February  
**2,850**  
149% from previous week



8-14 February  
**1,147**  
-1% from previous week



Monthly Average Daily Arrival  
February (as of 18 Feb)  
**1,531**  
-21% from previous month



### Social Media

The Twitter account for the European agency for the coordination of operations at the external borders of the EU, Frontex, posted a tweet announcing: "Bulgarian vessel deployed by [Frontex](#) in Greece rescues some 900 [refugees and] migrants on Thursday #Poseidon".

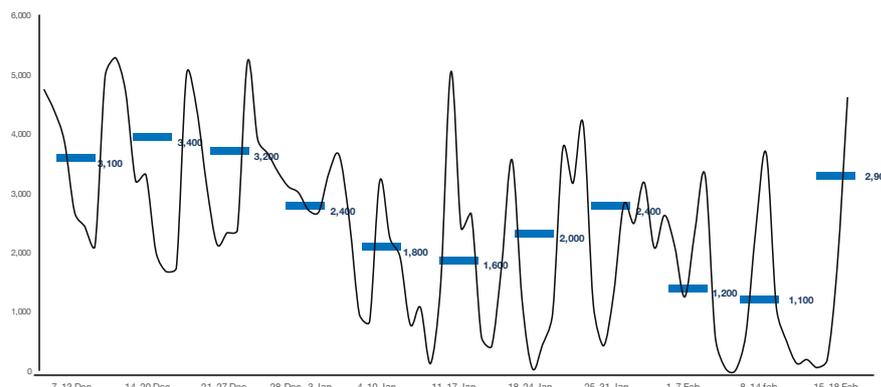
Regarding the EU Summit, German Chancellor, Angela Merkel stated on 17 February that talks with Turkey regarding the securing of borders and the return of refugees to Turkey was the most important element in the summit's strategy.

Frontex also posted a [video](#) on YouTube explaining the methods by which smugglers manage to attract and persuade refugees and migrants to depart from Turkey and travel to the Greek Islands from where they can then find routes to Western Europe. The video explains how the smugglers use social media as platforms to advertise 'travel packages' which can range from rubber dinghies to planes.

### Current statistics for: #EUSummit

- 58 tweets & 25 retweets per hour
- Over 592,000 impressions per hour
- 31.11% of tweets using #EUSummit were in Greek
- 50% of tweets using #EUSummit originated from Greece

### Daily and Weekly Average Arrivals to Greece 7 December to 18 February





## Weather Forecast Greece - Slovenia

Key locations crossed by refugees



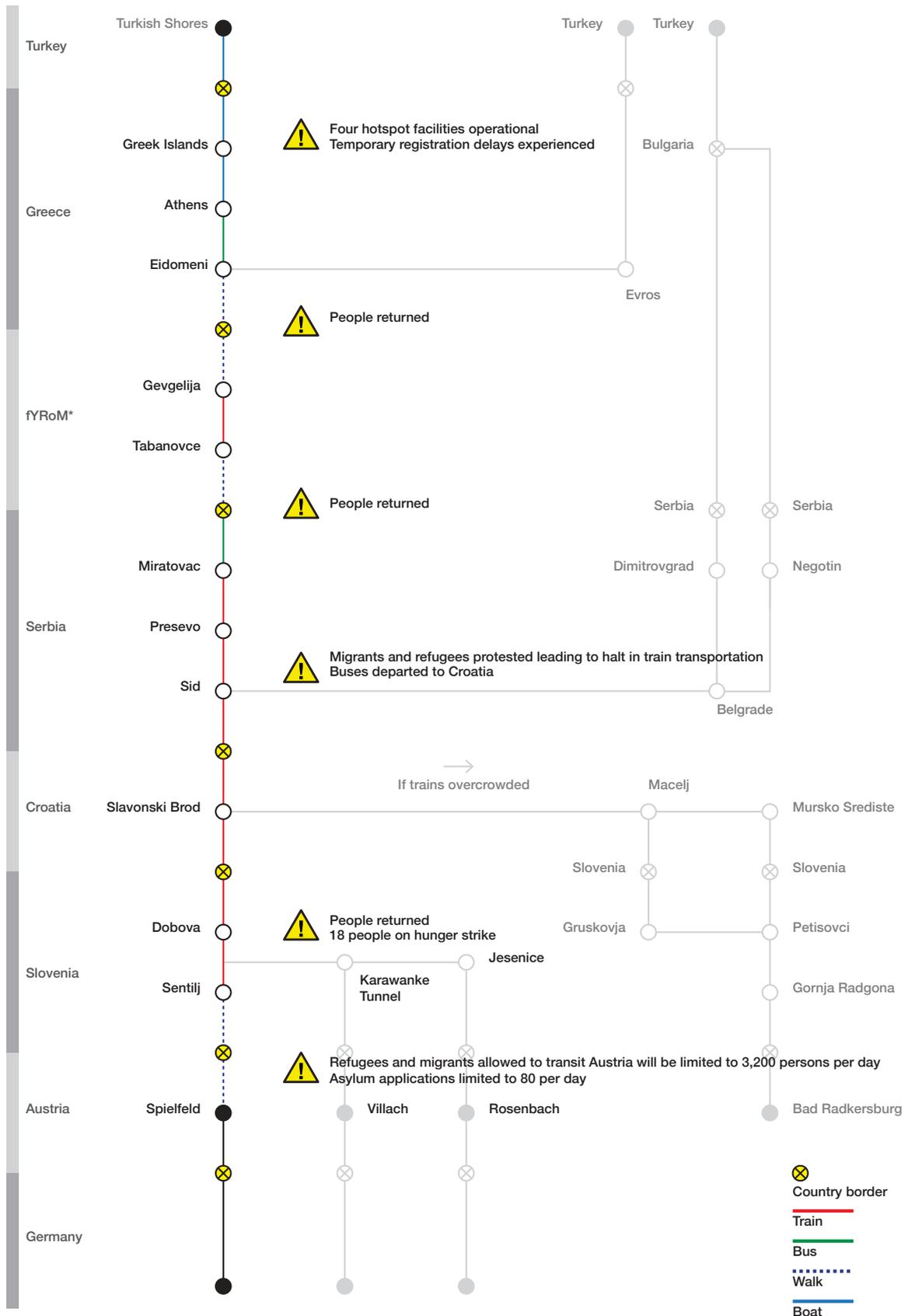
## Weather Assessment

- A weather system moves across the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and then across the Aegean on Saturday and Sunday bringing some heavy showers and thunderstorms to the area. Around this weather system there will be areas of strong winds on Saturday and Sunday. It will also feel very cold for those exposed to these conditions.
- Due to the strong winds, some moderate or large waves will form in the Aegean between the Greek Islands and Turkey on Saturday night and Sunday morning. The waves can make travel by small boats difficult. In the past, a reduction in numbers of arrivals to the islands was observed with the presence of rough seas.
- Temperatures will return close to average for the time of year so it will feel far colder than it was earlier this week.

Source: UK Met Office, WMO and Local National Met Services



### Situation Overview





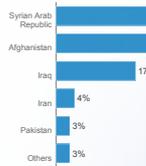
# Annex 1

## Key Figures from the Portal

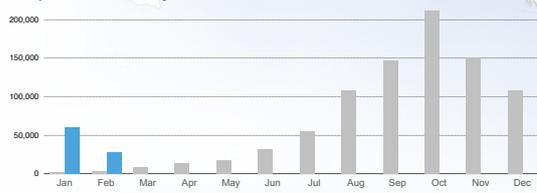
Increasing numbers of refugees and migrants take their chances aboard unseaworthy boats and dinghies in a desperate bid to reach Europe. The vast majority of those attempting this dangerous crossing are in need of international protection, fleeing war, violence and persecution in their country of origin. 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

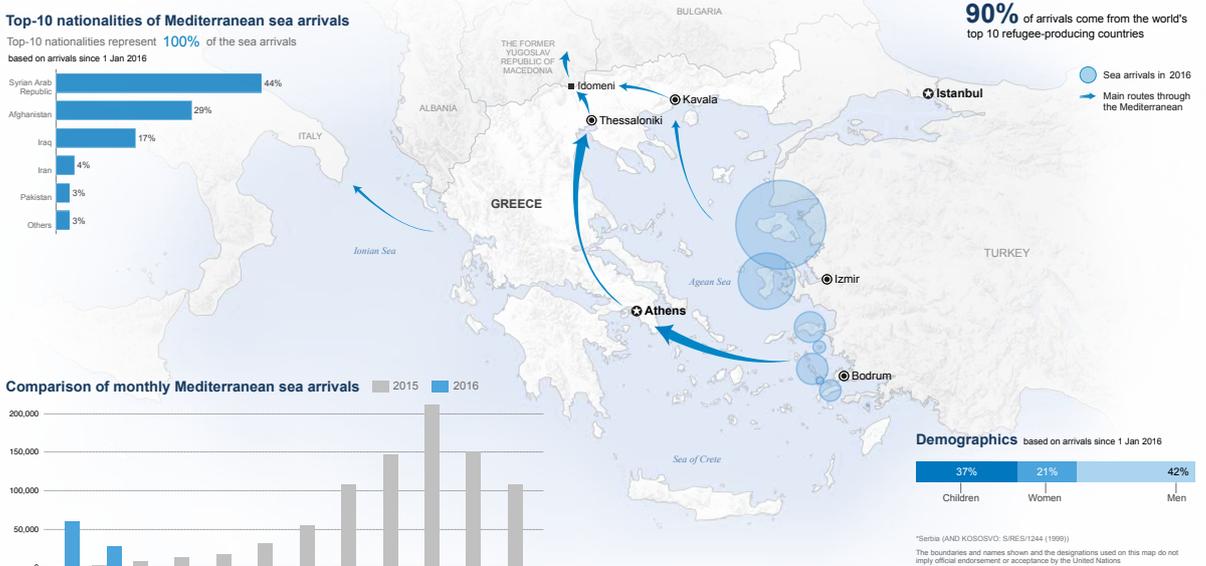


88,057 arrivals by sea in 2016

856,723 arrivals by sea in 2015

90% of arrivals come from the world's top 10 refugee-producing countries

© Last updated 18 Feb 2016



### Following the humanitarian crisis in Europe: Estimated daily arrivals



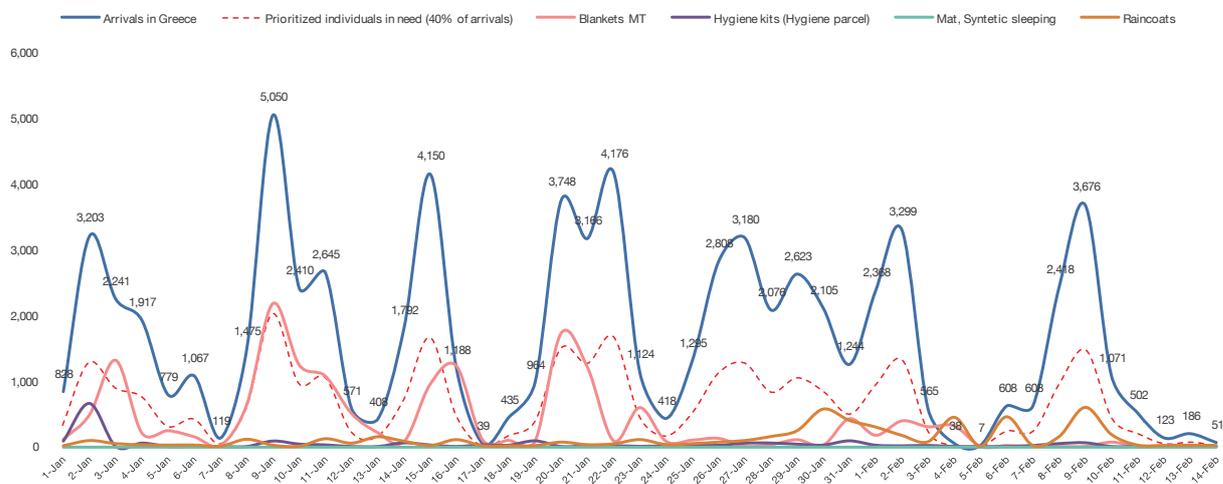


## Annex 2

### Annex 2: Distribution Table Data 2016

Category	Items	Total Distributed	Greece	Serbia	fYRoM*	Croatia	Slovenia
Individual	Blankets MT	26,395	16,574	0	0	9,001	820
Individual	Blankets HT	14,394	1,611	4,997	5,115	0	2,671
Individual	Bag	9,303	0	590	0	7,207	1,506
Individual	Hygiene kits (Hygiene parcel)	8,536	5,006	3,268	0	0	262
Individual	Mat, Syntetic sleeping	2,864	2,817	47	0	0	0
Individual	Rubber mats	300	0	0	300	0	0
Individual	Sleeping bags	11,628	11,307	244	64	0	13
Individual	Socks	21,545	0	7,366	4,417	3,212	6,550
Individual	Footwear	20,656	261	9,952	5,820	3,067	1,556
Individual	Raincoats	15,461	6,757	1,707	3,640	0	3,357
Individual	Winter jacket	22,308	3,041	8,527	8,352	2,388	0
Individual	Hats (scarf and others)	14,190	850	0	13,340	0	0
Individual	Thermal ear covers	839	0	0	0	839	0
Individual	Hand and body warmers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Individual	Gloves	28,119	14,617	0	11,900	1,602	0
Family	Solar lamp (Sunbell)	10	10	0	0	0	0
Family	Torches (Rechargeable)	200	0	0	200	0	0
Food and Water	Food items (KG)	3,694	0	3,589	105	0	0
Food and Water	High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) KG	25,904	19,418	5,326	1,160	0	0
Food and Water	Cans (number of)	25,078	0	25,078	0	0	0
Food and Water	Water (liters)	39,231	10,643	28,088	0	0	500

### Monitoring Distribution Ratio in Greece 1 January to 14 February



This graph indicates total daily arrivals on the Greek islands and the amount of humanitarian aid items distributed. The dotted red line indicates the estimated 40% most vulnerable persons, whom UNHCR is targeting for assistance.