



Daily Report

Arrivals and Departures

The arrival rate to the Greek islands in the first two days of the week (770) decreased by 50% compared to the previous week. The monthly arrivals average has decreased by 20% from the previous month. This may be attributable to the increased number of sea patrols and/or unsettled weather conditions. Nevertheless, the number of people arriving by sea to Greece on 9 March was notably high (3,340) due to favourable conditions, and indicative of people's determination. This adds to the 36,000 refugees and migrants present in Greece as estimated by the newly-established Greek Refugees Crisis Management Coordination body.

Condition of People

According to the Port Authority, around 3,070 refugees and migrants are currently temporarily hosted in the Piraeus port terminals, whilst many people have also set up tents outside the area due to a lack of space.

The Hellenic Coast Guard rescued some 110 people, including more than 40 children and newborn babies, off the island of Samothrace. Authorities confirmed there were no people missing.

As essential goods such as food purchased by refugees in Athens and Thessaloniki is being sold at exorbitant prices, the General Secretariat for Commerce and Consumer Protection implemented several controls. Officers took action on nine violations of relevant legislation. Meanwhile, on Lesbos, police observed and halted the selling of tickets from Piraeus port to Eidomeni, after dozens of refugees and migrants were sold invalid tickets. The service is provided free of charge by Greek authorities.

Weather Headlines

An unsettled spell of weather is expected to continue across much of the region through the next week. Waterlogged and muddy ground conditions in northern Greece are expected to persist or further deteriorate as more rain is forecast over the next few days. Spells of strong winds in the Aegean are likely to moderate the number of arrivals to Greek Islands, particularly early next week.



Situation at border crossings

In Greece, people are growing increasingly desperate as the border crossing with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia remains closed for the past three days. Between 10,000-14,000 (of which 40% are children) people are present at the border crossing, while the temporary shelter capacity (2,400) remains highly insufficient and needs remain dire. UNHCR and humanitarian partners provide basic assistance such as food, blankets, jackets and medical assistance. Yesterday, the desperate state of people was compounded by heavy rain with a month's worth of rain falling in less than a day. Many already suffer from respiratory problems, according to the President of the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control & Prevention, Thanasis Giannopoulos, who visited the site.

Refugees and migrants organized protests in several locations, including Eidomeni, Cherso, Nea Kavala, Diavata and Elliniko against not being permitted to cross the border.

Critical Developments

As irregular transit through the Western Balkans is no longer permitted, Albania is holding negotiations with neighbouring countries and the European Union in order to establish a possible diversion of the flow of refugees and migrants across its borders. Albania has reinforced its controls along the southern border and is in negotiations in particular with Italy to strengthen its capacity to patrol both its land and sea borders. As of today, the situation along the Albanian-Greek border remained calm, with no noticeable build-up on either side. Meanwhile, according to media, Italian [authorities](#) are concerned that refugees and migrants who might enter Albania will then travel by sea to Italy. Given previous years of collaboration between Italian and Albanian police forces, such events may be limited in nature.



Average Daily Arrivals and Trends Greece

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



7-9 March
1,626
5% from previous week



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



Monthly Average Daily Arrival
March (as of 9 March)
1,518
-20% from previous month





Upcoming Meetings/Events

10-11 March
[Justice and Home Affairs Council](#), Brussels

17-18 March
EU-Turkey Summit, Brussels

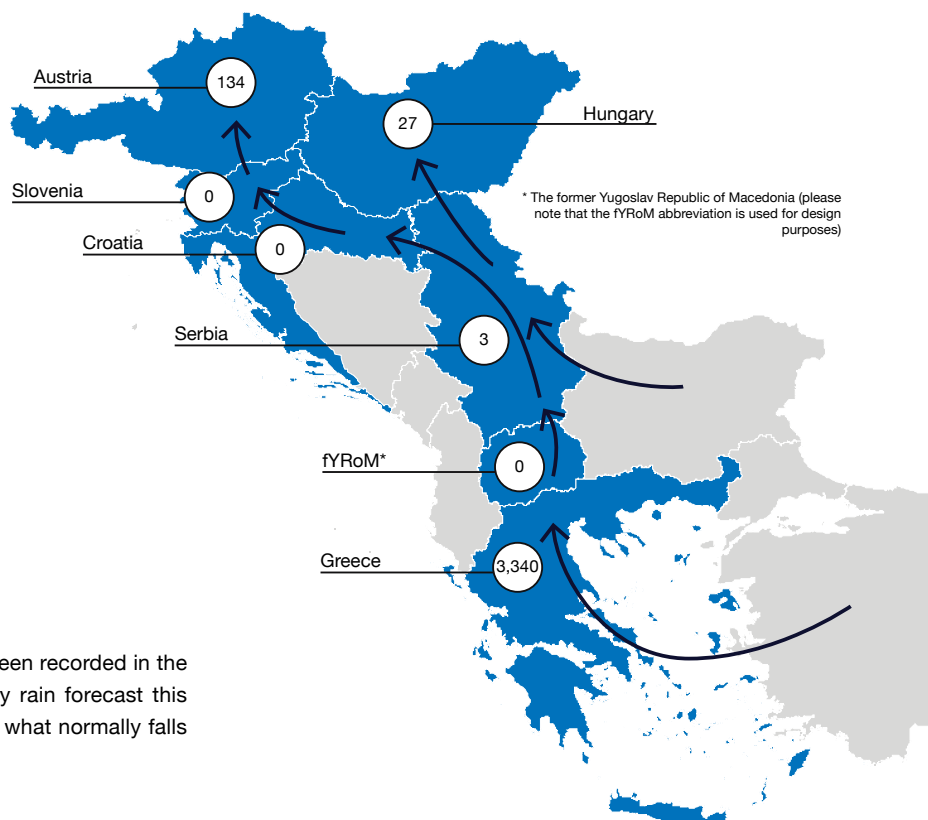
16 March
Slovenian Speaker of the National Assembly, Milan Brglez, to meet with Croatian Former Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Željko Reiner, to discuss cooperation and topical international issues, Croatia

30 March
[High-level meeting on global responsibility sharing](#) through pathways for admission of Syrian refugees, Geneva



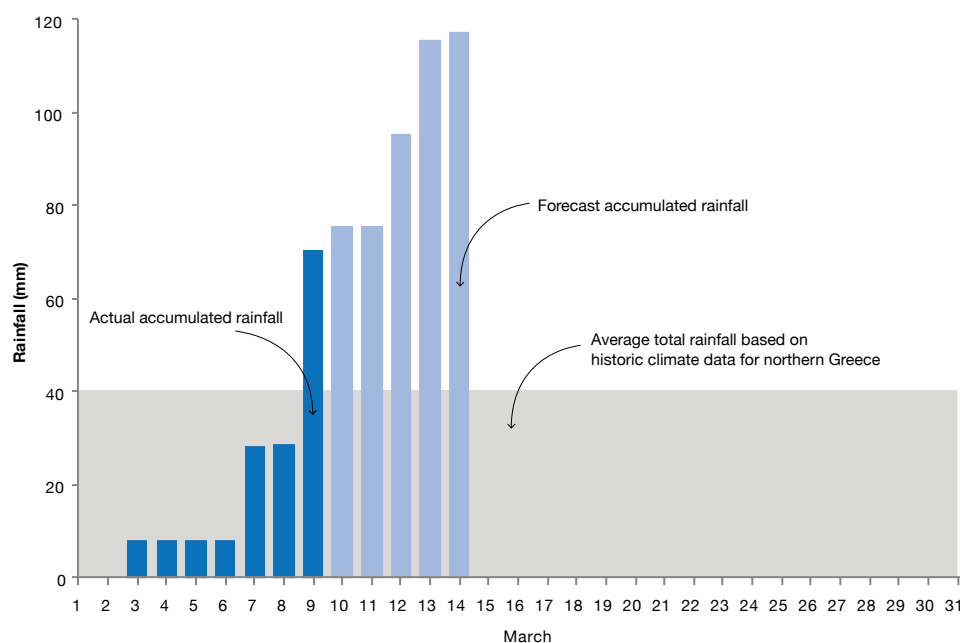
Estimated Arrivals per Country Yesterday

Greece	3,340
fYRoM*	0
Serbia	3
Croatia	0
Hungary	27
Slovenia	0
Austria	134



Accumulated Rainfall in Eidomeni

The average rainfall for March has already been recorded in the first 9 days of the month with further heavy rain forecast this weekend. By mid-month, more than double what normally falls in March is likely.





Social Media

Facebook Activity:

Facebook group [Are You Syrious?](#) are organising to stage a peaceful demonstration on 11 March at 18:00h in St Mark's Square, Zagreb, Croatia. The group calls on people to show solidarity for refugees and spread the message that 'Croatia is a country of open doors'.

Periscope:

BBC Outside Source news presenter Nuala McGovern livestreamed from Piraeus, Greece, accompanied by a 19-year-old Afghan refugee called Hamayoon. During the scope, Hamayoon acted as a tour guide as the pair interacted with families in the camps; it was evident the rain had taken its toll on tents sheltering the families, as well as their belongings.

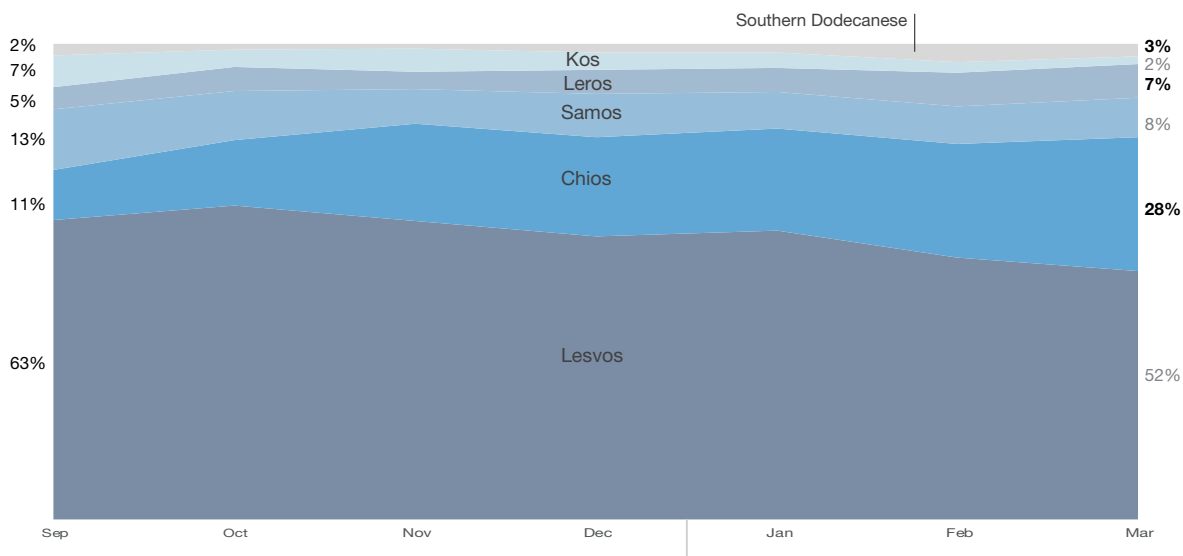
Current statistics for: #idomeni

- 67 tweets, 508 retweets per hour
- Over 130,000 impressions per hour

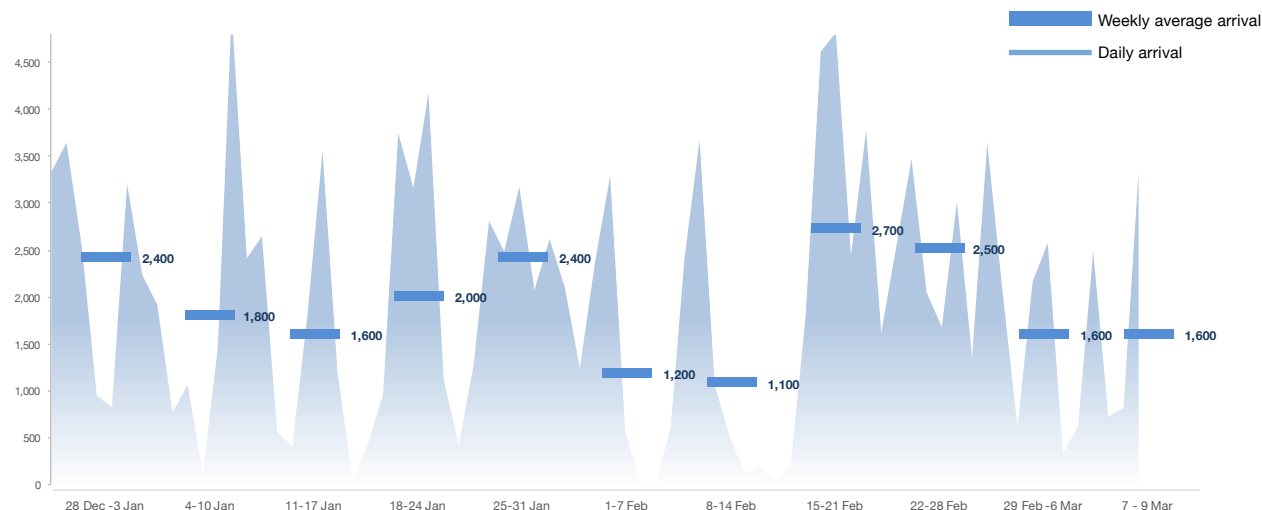
On 09 March the number of retweets of #idomeni peaked for the second time in the last month; with a total of 10,800 retweets, yesterday's statistics were marginally lower than that of 29 February (11,500 retweets). Following on from this, it is interesting to note that the language spread of activity using #idomeni, although largely English (43.24%), includes Spanish (16.76%), German (14.59%), Modern Greek (9.73%), and others which could not be determined (15.68%).



Distribution of monthly arrivals to each Greek island September to 9 March



Daily and Weekly Average Arrivals to Greece 28 December to 9 March





Weather Forecast Greece - Slovenia

Key locations crossed by refugees



Weather Assessment

- Heavy rain that affected Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and southern Serbia will continue to move northwest on Thursday. Friday is expected to be drier across Greece whilst some showers are likely further north. However, further heavy rain is likely across Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia this weekend. With already near-saturated soil, this additional rainfall will maintain poor ground conditions with a risk of localised flooding. Across the Aegean Sea, spells of stronger winds are expected and, based on past event analysis, is likely to moderate the number of arrivals to the Greek Islands at times.
- Next week, unsettled conditions are expected to persist, maintaining the threat of rain for many parts. This will be accompanied by a gradual fall in temperature with overnight temperatures falling close to freezing in places inland. Across the Aegean Sea, strong to gale force northerly winds are likely to develop, leading to poor sea conditions during early next week.



Situation Overview



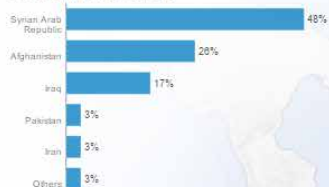


Annex 1 Key Figures from the Portal

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



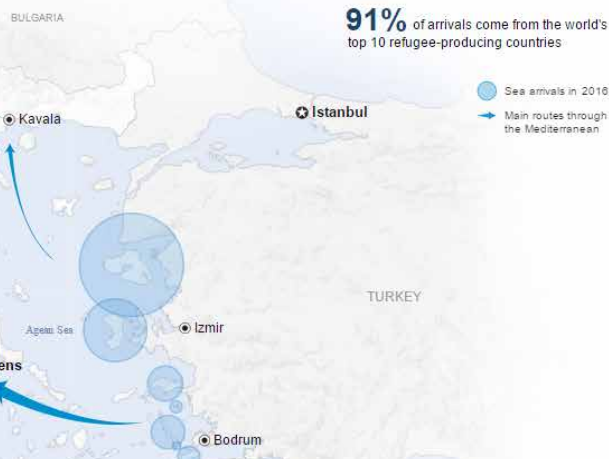
Comparison of monthly Mediterranean sea arrivals



132,177 arrivals by sea in 2016

856,723 arrivals by sea in 2015

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



Demographics based on arrivals since 1 Jan 2016



*Serbia (AND KOSOVO: S/RES/1244 (1999))

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

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Following the humanitarian crisis in Europe: Estimated daily arrivals

