

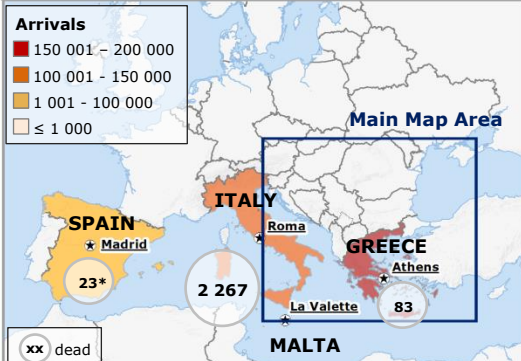


SITUATION

- On 23 August, authorities in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia opened its southern border with Greece allowing the crossing of 5 000 refugees and migrants. Long queues formed as local authorities processed their papers to legalise their transit north and transport was organized to take them to the border with Serbia. In Presevo, on the Serbian side, the Ministry of the Interior registered 2 000 persons at the reception centre during the weekend.
- Currently the backlog of refugees waiting at the Greek and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia border has reduced considerably. However, the flow is expected to continue as Greek authorities transfer a large number of refugees from the islands to the mainland.
- Greece has received 182 535 maritime arrivals between January and mid-August 2015 (UNHCR, 21 August).
- European Commission's Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) is closely monitoring the evolving situation and has been in contact with national civil protection authorities in the respective countries.

Sources: ECHO, UNHCR, IOM

MIGRANT MARITIME ARRIVALS AND FATALITIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



(*) includes deaths en route to Canary islands
 Sources: Arrivals in Greece: UNHCR; all the other data: IOM

(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.