Q3 2020



QUARTERLY REGIONAL REPORT

DTM Europe

Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) July – September 2020



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Cover Photo: IOM staff providing individual protective devices to migrants in a transit reception center in Lipa, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Ervin Čaušević/ IOM October 2020.

OVERVIEW

MIXED MIGRATION FLOWS TO EUROPE

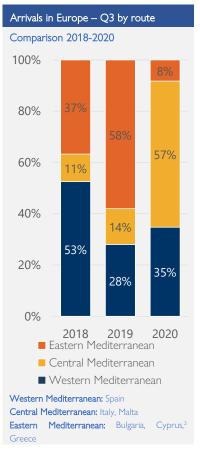
In the third quarter of 2020, a total of 30,232 migrants and refugees were registered arriving to Europe through the three Mediterranean routes, which is 33 per cent less than the 45,308 arrivals registered in the same period in 2019 and 35 per cent less than the 46,382 registered in 2018.

Arrivals in the third quarter of 2020 increased by more than 3 times compared to the previous reporting period (8,822 in Q2 2020). This significant increase registered in arrivals coincides with the easeof travel and mobility restrictions previously imposed by authorities to curb the spread of the virus since late February-beginning of March 2020, and by the improvement of weather conditions associated with the summer months.

Over half (57%) of all registered individuals arrived in Europe through the Central Mediterranean route by reaching Italy (16,776) and Malta (463). Another 35 per cent were registered in Spain (10,499) and the remaining 8 per cent crossed the Eastern Mediterranean and disembarked in Greece (1,119¹) and Bulgaria (1,375).²

The Central Mediterranean route via Italy and Malta became the main route of arrivals to Europe since the second quarter of 2020. A total of 17,239 arrivals were registered in Q3 of 2020, which is almost 3 times more than the arrival registered in the same period of 2019 (6,331). In the third quarter of 2020, the Central Mediterranean is the most frequently

used route in terms of arrivals to Europe, representing 57 per cent of all the registered arrivals to the region. Arrivals to **Italy** so far this year (23,726) are 3 times higher than between January September last year (7,633), while arrivals in Malta in the first three quarters of 2020 (2,162) have decreased by 22 per cent in comparison with the same period last year (2,753). Italy also represents the leading country with the highest number of newly registered migrants and refugees since the beginning of 2020 in Europe with 23,726 or 41 per cent of all arrivals. In addition, arrivals to Italy in 2020 have so far already surpassed the total arrivals registered to Italy in 2019 and 2018 (11,471 and 23,370 respectively).



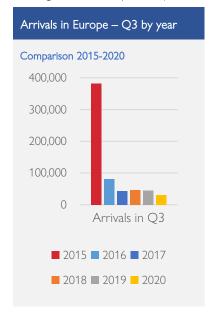
¹ Data on land arrivals to Greece are not yet available for August and September 2020.

² Data on arrivals to Cyprus are not available for 2020

According to the available data from national authorities, Tunisia is the most reported country of origin (8,481 or 51%) of migrants arriving to Italy during Q3, followed by Bangladesh (1,938 or 12%) and Pakistan (904 or 5%). Half (50%) of all arrivals registered in Italy during the third quarter of 2020 was reported to have departed from Tunisia. Departures from Libya also have continued and represent one third of all arrivals in Italy (33%). During the third quarter of 2020, 3,972 migrants disembarked back to Libya, and at least 215 perished while crossing the Central Mediterranean.3

Between July and September 2020 10,499 arrivals were registered on the **Western Mediterranean route**, ⁴ which is 9 per cent more than the arrivals registered on this route in Q3 of 2019 (9,629), and 57 per cent less than the arrivals registered in Q3 of 2018 (24,361). Arrivals registered in Q3 of 2020 in Spain are more than 3 times more than the arrivals registered in Q2 2020 (3,073).

During Q3, 217 migrants perished at sea while on their way to Spain (of which 170 in the Atlantic Ocean, heading to the Canary Islands).



Arrivals through the **Eastern**Mediterranean route were the highest among the three Mediterranean migration routes in all quarters of 2019 and the first quarter of 2020. However, a significant decrease in the number of arrivals through the Eastern Mediterranean

route was observed from April 2020 and onwards, making the Eastern Mediterranean route registering 12 times less arrivals in Q3 2020 (2,494) than those registered in the third quarter of 2019 (29,348).

On the same route, the Turkish Coast guard (TCG) reported to have apprehended 4,704 persons in the third quarter of the year, while trying to cross the sea between Turkey and Greece irregularly. Interceptions by the TCG were 76 per cent higher than those in Q2 2020.

According to available data from national authorities, Tunisia is the most commonly reported country of origin among all registered arrivals to Europe (34%) in the third quarter of 2020, mainly through the Central Mediterranean route, followed by Algeria (16%), mainly through the Western and the Central Mediterranean route. Other main countries of origin are Morocco (8%, via Italy and Spain), Bangladesh (8%, via Italy and Malta), Pakistan (4%, via Italy).

³ Source: IOM's Missing Migrant Project, missingmigrants.iom.int

⁴ Data on arrivals though the Western Mediterranean route to Spain include arrivals to the Canary Islands.

Intensified movements the Western **Balkans** observed throughout 2019 continued also in 2020. After the slowdown during the second quarter of 2020, registrations of migrants intercepted by national authorities Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia have started to increase again recording 22,238 during Q3 of 2020. This is more than 4 times more than in Q2 of 2020 when 5,303 interceptions were registered.5

Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Syrian Arab Republic were the most frequently reported countries of origin of migrants transiting through the Western Balkans between July and September 2020.

MIGRANT FLOWS AND MONITORING IN TURKEY

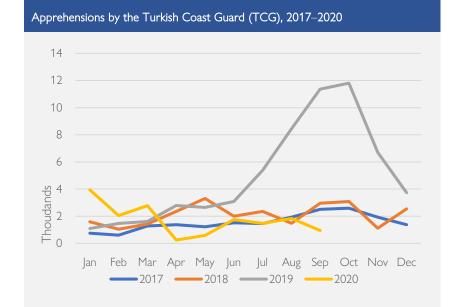
According to the latest available data from the Turkish Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) there are currently over 4.6 million foreign nationals present in Turkish territory seeking international protection. Most of them (3,624,941 or 79%) are Syrian nationals, followed by nationals of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq. According to the data from Turkish Armed Forces (TAF), a total of 6,595 irregular migrants were apprehended on entry by land to Turkey in the third quarter of 2020, mainly from the Syrian Arab Republic (99%), Greece (36 individuals), the Islamic Republic of Iran (23 individuals), Iraq (20 individuals). This is almost 3 times the number of apprehensions registered in Q2 of 2020 (2,306), but more than 10 times less of the 67,535 reported in Q3 2019.

Additionally, the Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) apprehended 4,256 irregular migrants on the Aegean Sea in Q3 2020, around 65 per cent more than the 2,581 reported in the previous quarter, and 83 per cent less than the 25,201 apprehensions in the same quarter last year (Q3 2019). The total of 15,601 irregular migrants was rescued by the TCG on the

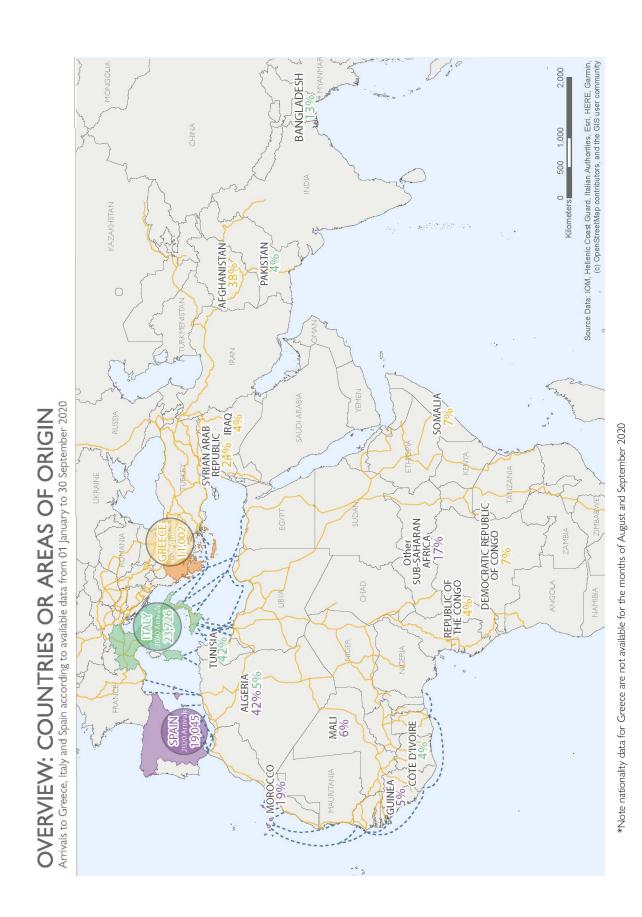
Aegean Sea in 2020 so far, which is about one quarter of the 60,146 rescued in the whole of 2019 and 38 per cent less than those rescued in 2018 (25,234). The top ten countries of origin of apprehended/rescued persons are Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Syrian Arab Republic, Somalia, Central African Republic, Pakistan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Palestinian Territories, South Africa, and Iraq.

INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT IN UKRAINE

According to the information from the Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP) of Ukraine, in July 2020 (last available data) there were 1,448,615 internally displaced persons (IDPs), that is individuals who have left their homes and moved to a different area and/or region of Ukraine. The total at the end of this reporting period shows a slight increase compared to the 1,446,881 reported in the previous reporting period, at the end of April 2020. Data from the authorities includes returnees and commuters, as the entitlement to a pension for those residing in the Non-Government Controlled Areas (NGCA) is linked to the IDP status. Areas with the highest shares of IDPs located further away from the mentioned oblasts included the city of Kyiv (160,036) and Kyiv Oblast (63,267), Kharkiv Oblast (134,335), Dnipropetrovsk Oblast (71,277) and Zaporizhia Oblast (56,107).



 $^{^{\}rm 5}$ Apprehensions in the Western Balkans are not included in arrivals in Europe to avoid



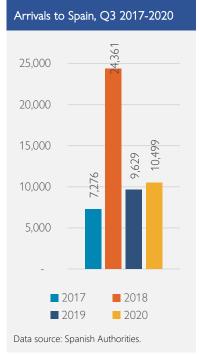
MIGRATION

FIRST ARRIVAL COUNTRIES

Arrivals in Europe, July-September 2020			
	Sea	Land	
Greece*	862	257	
Bulgaria		1,375	
Cyprus*			
Italy*	16,776		
Malta	463		
Spain	10,362	137	

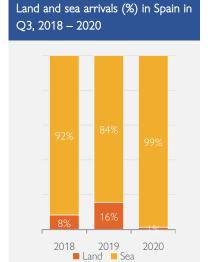
^{*} Data on land arrivals to Greece is not available for August and September. Data for Cyprus in 2020 are not available. Data on land arrivals to Italy is not available

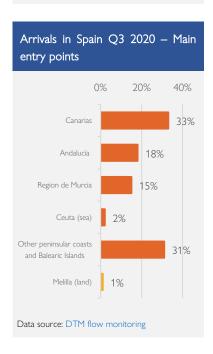
SPAIN



In Q3 of 2020, authorities in Spain registered a total of 10,499 sea and land arrivals, which is 3 times more than the 3,073 registered in the previous quarter (April–June 2020). At the same time, arrivals in the third quarter of 2020 are 9 per cent more than the 9,629 arrivals reported in the same period last year, and 57 per cent less than the 24,361 registered in Q3 of 2018.

Almost all (99%) arrivals registered during the reporting period arrived by sea, while the remaining 1 per cent of arrivals was registered to have arrived by land in the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla (137 individuals in total). Among sea arrivals, most (65%) were registered in Andalusia (18%), the Region of Murcia (15%) and other non-identified peninsular coasts and the Balearic Islands (31%), followed by arrivals to the Canary Islands (33%) on the Western African route and arrivals to Ceuta by sea (2%).





Land arrivals during this reporting period (137) have decreased when compared to the Q2 (192) and, even more significantly, compared to the Q1 when 1,140 migrants and refugees arrived by land to Spain. Between July and September 2020, Algeria is the first reported country of origin of migrants that arrived in Spain (33%), followed by nonspecified sub-Saharan countries (at least 18%), Morocco (17%), and others. This is different from arrivals during the same period of 2019, when the top three nationalities were Morocco (32%), followed non-

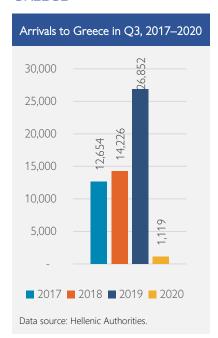
sub-Saharan

(23%) and Algeria (20%).

countries

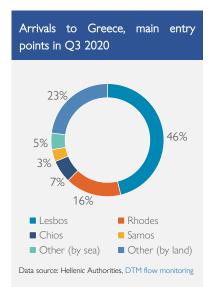
GREECE

specified



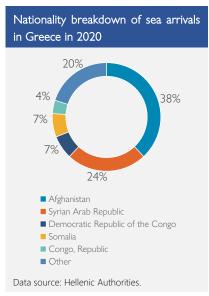
Between July and September 2020, Hellenic Authorities registered a total of 1,119 migrants and refugees arriving to the country,⁶ which is 35 per cent more than the 827 arrivals registered in Q2 but 88 per cent less than the 9,056 registered in Q1 of 2020. Also, arrivals in Q3 2020 are

24 times less than the 26,852 reported in the same period last year.

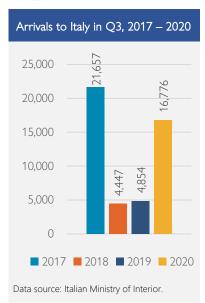


According to the Hellenic Coast Guard and Police, in Q3 of 2020 23 per cent of migrants and refugees crossed the land border between Turkey and Greece, and the remaining 77 per cent crossed the Aegean Sea between the two countries. North Aegean islands, and specifically Lesbos received most of sea arrivals in Q3, with only 16 per cent of all arrivals registered in the South Aegean Sea (Rhodes).

Thirty-eight per cent of migrants and refugees who arrived in Greece by sea⁷ between January and September 2020 were from Afghanistan, followed by those from Syrian Arab Republic (24%), Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia (7% respectively), and others. The main nationalities registered at arrivals during the same period of 2019 were Afghanistan (43%), the Syrian Arab Republic (28%) and Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, and Somalia (4%), respectively.



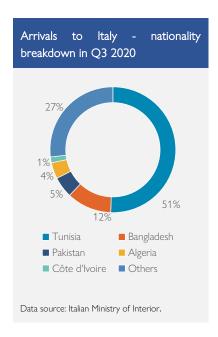
ITALY

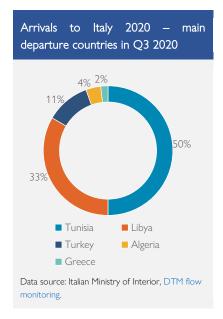


Italian authorities registered a total of 16,776 migrants and refugees arriving by sea in the country during the third quarter of the year. This is 4 times higher than the 4,156 registered in Q2 2020, and almost 3 times more than the 4,854 registered in Q3 2019, and 4 times more than the 4,447 registered in the third quarter of 2018.

⁶ Data on land arrivals to Greece in August and September are not available.

 $^{^{7}}$ Data on nationalities are not available for arrivals by land.

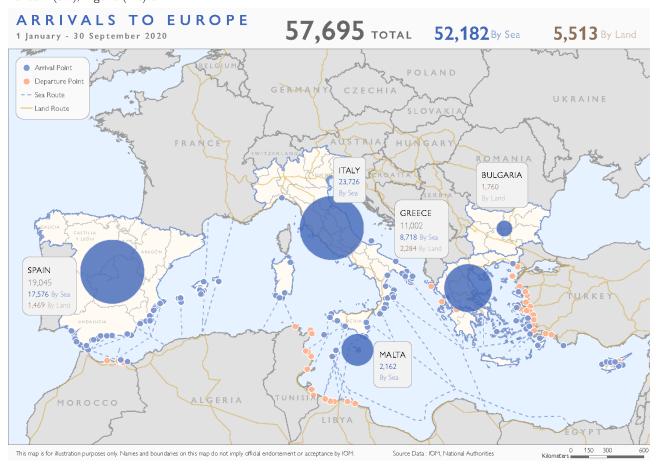




According to available data from the Italian Ministry of Interior, Tunisia is the most commonly reported country of origin this quarter, declared by 51 per cent of the registered migrants and refugees, followed by Bangladesh (12%), Pakistan (5%), Algeria (4%) and

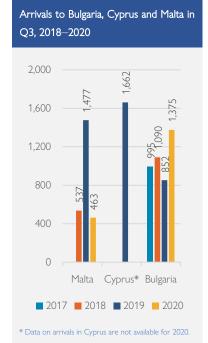
Côte d'Ivoire (1%). The relative increase in arrivals of migrants and refugees from North Africa and especially from Tunisia is linked to the trends in the main departure points during this quarter compared to previous periods.

In the third quarter of 2020, 50 per cent of all migrants reported to have departed from Tunisia, followed by 33 per cent who departed from Libya, 11 per cent who departed from Turkey, 4 per cent from Algeria and 2 per cent from Greece. This shows a decrease in the relative importance of Libya as a departure country in comparison with the previous quarter (43% of all arrivals in Q2 2020) and also compared to the previous year in total when 36 per cent of registered migrants and refugees reported to have departed from Libya. On the contrary, departures from Tunisia increased in the third quarter of 2020 compared to the previous quarter (46%) and compared to the relative share of total arrivals last year (32%).



OTHER COUNTRIES OF FIRST ARRIVAL

Malta and Bulgaria



A total of 1,838 migrants and refugees have been registered in other countries of first arrival in the Mediterranean region during the third quarter of 2020. Seventy-five per cent of these arrivals were recorded in Bulgaria and the remaining 25 per cent in Malta.

According to the data from **Bulgarian** Ministry of Interior, 1,375 new migrants were apprehended on entry, inside and on exit from the country in the third quarter of 2020,8 which is almost 7 times more than then 202 reported in the previous quarter (Q2 2020) and 61 per cent more than the 852 apprehended in Q3 2019.

In the third quarter of the year, 463 migrants and refugees were rescued in the Central Mediterranean Sea and brought to **Malta**. This is 18 per cent less than the 564 arrivals registered in

the second quarter of 2020, and 3 times less than the 1,477 registered in the third quarter of 2019. According to available data on nationalities, Eritrea⁹ is the most frequently reported nationality on arrival in this quarter, declared by 32 per cent of migrants and refugees, followed by Nigeria (19%), and Sudan (13%).

WESTERN BALKANS

In Serbia, 15,165 new migrants and refugees have been registered in the reception centres across country¹⁰ during the third quarter of 2020. This is more than 5 times higher than the 2,766 registered in Q2 2020, and around 3 times the 4,889 in Q3 2019. So far in 2020, 23,210 migrants and refugees have been registered by the authorities in total, which is more than the double of the 10,453 reported in the first three guarters of 2019, and 3 times more than the 5,593 reported in 2018.

Syrian Arab Republic is the most frequently recorded country of nationality in the third quarter of 2020 (18%), followed by the Afghanistan (9%), Bangladesh (3%), while the nationality is unknown for 57 per cent of all arrivals in the quarter.

Reported arrivals in **Croatia** in the third quarter of 2020 were 12,187, which is more than twice the 5,194 in Q2 2020, and 74 per cent more than the reported 7,018 in Q3 2019. So far in 2020, 20,577 migrants and refugees have been apprehended, which is 45 per cent more than the 14,171 reported in the first three quarters of 2019, and more than 3

times the 4,493 reported in the first three quarters of 2018.

Available information on the areas of apprehensions in 2020 so far indicate that migrants are detected most frequently in Primorsko-Goranska county on the way to the Slovenian border, followed by the country of the capital Zagreb, the Karlovačka county bordering Bosnia and Herzegovina and Slovenia, and the Sisacko-Moslavacka county bordering Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The most frequently reported countries of nationalities in Croatia in Q3 2020 were Afghanistan (28%), Pakistan (22%), Bangladesh (14%) and others. In Q2 2020, Afghanistan was still the most frequently reported country of nationality (28%), followed by Pakistan (23%) and Morocco (12%).

Between July and September 2020, authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina registered a total of 6,213 irregular migrants, which is almost 3 times the 2,346 reported in the previous quarter (Q2 2020) but almost half of the 11,935 recorded in the third quarter of 2019.

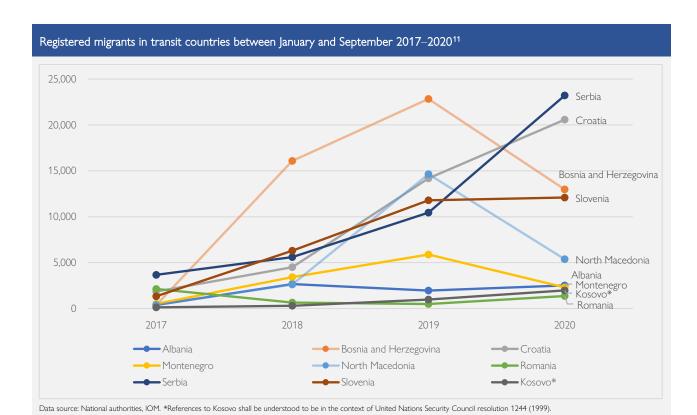
So far in 2020, a total of 12,982 irregular arrivals were registered, 43 per cent less than the 22,835 registered in the same period of 2019, and 19 per cent less than the 16,077 recorded in the first nine months of 2018.

In Q3 2020, Bangladesh was the most frequently reported nationality at arrival (32%), followed by Afghanistan (29%), Pakistan (20%), Islamic Republic of Iran (4%), and others.

⁸ Excluding arrivals on the border with Greece to avoid double counting arrivals to Europe.

⁹ Data on nationalities are as self-reported by migrants and refugees to national authorities.

¹⁰ This used as a proxy indicator for the overall number of new arrivals in the country.



nationalities of those apprehended in Cording to national authorities, Q2 2020, although with a decrease in the proportion of migrants from the prehended in Slovenia during the Morocco who were the first

reported nationality of origin in the second quarter of 2020.

According to national authorities, 6,621 migrants and refugees were apprehended in Slovenia during the third quarter of 2020, which is the double of the reported apprehensions in Q2 2020 (3,148), and 3 per cent more than in Q3 2019 (6,441). So far in 2020, 12,093 apprehensions have been reported in Slovenia, which is 3 per cent more than the 11,786 reported in the first three quarters of 2019, and almost the double of the 6,288 reported in the same period of 2018. This confirms an upward trend of apprehensions across these years. In Q3 2020, Pakistan was the most frequently reported country of nationality (28%)of those apprehended, followed by Afghanistan (21%), Morocco and Bangladesh (15%, respectively), and others. This is similar to the main

Authorities in **Albania** ¹² registered a total of 333 migrants and refugees on entry to the country in the Gjirokastra region in the third quarter of 2020, 21 per cent more than the 276 registered in Q2 2020, and 26 per cent less than the 450 registered in the third quarter of the previous year (July – September 2019). There were 775 migrants and refugees registered on entry to Albania in the Gjirokastra region in total so far in 2020.

Authorities also registered a total of 944 migrants and refugees on exit from Albania in the Shkodra region in

the third quarter of 2020, more than 3 times the 263 registered in Q2 2020, and 3 times the 291 registered in the same reporting period in 2019 (July - September 2019). There were a total of 1,743 registered migrants and refugees on exit from Albania in Shkodra so far in 2020. The most frequently reported countries of origin in Albania in Q3 2020 were Afghanistan (18%), Morocco (16%), Algeria (14%), Bangladesh (13%), and others. This is a shift when compared to the same period last year, when the main countries of origin were Iraq and Syrian Arab Republic (22%, respectively), followed by Pakistan (17%), Morocco (11%) and others.

In the first nine months of 2020, 5,375 migrants and refugees have been officially registered in total in **North Macedonia**. Afghanistan and Pakistan were the two most

region. Information on other entry points is not available.

¹¹ Registered migrants in the transit countries in 2020 refers only to migrants registered in January – June 2020

¹² IOM collects data from two major Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) in Albania, one in the Gjirokastra region and one in the Shkodra

frequently reported nationalities registered for migrants and refugees in North Macedonia in 2020 (42% and 25% respectively), followed by India (9%), the Syrian Arab Republic (6%), Bangladesh (5%), Morocco (4%), and others.

This is a similar trend compared to 2019. Moreover, in the third quarter of 2020, IOM field have observed about 10,692 migrants transiting through the transit camps in Vinojug and Tabanovce, and about 422 of them spent in those camps at least 24 hours. Also, based on the available data from the Red Cross mobile teams operating in the areas close to the borders with Serbia and Greece, during Q3 of 2020 an estimated 17,648 migrants and refugees were detected in the area and provided with assistance.

In Q3 2020, 860 irregular migrants were registered in Montenegro, which marks a big increase from the 191 migrants registered in the previous quarter (Q2 2020), but are almost 3 times less compared to the 2,414 migrants registered in Q3 of 2019. So far in 2020, a total of 2,305 arrivals have been recorded by Montenegrin authorities which is 61 per cent less than the 5,883 reported at the end of Q3 in 2019, and 32 per cent less than those registered in the first three quarters of 2018 (3,412). In Q3 2020, reported nationalities of arrivals in Montenegro were most frequently from Afghanistan (68%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (17%) and Morocco (5%).

This represents a different trend compared to the country of origin registered in the previous quarter (Q2 2020), where the main countries of origin of irregular migrants registered were Afghanistan (46%), Iraq (12%) and Islamic Republic of Iran (10%). The number of migrants from Morocco and Algeria in particular, was higher at the beginning of the year than in the third quarter of 2020, while the number migrants from Afghanistan is constantly increasing over the months.

According to data provided by authorities in **Romania**, 711 migrants and refugees were apprehended on entry to, and exit from, the country during the third quarter of 2020. Arrivals in Q3 2020 are 4 times more compared the previous quarter (174 in Q2 2020), and higher than the 184 reported in Q3 2019.

According to the available data for Q3 2020, the Syrian Arab Republic is the most frequently reported nationality (53%), followed by Turkey (20%) and Afghanistan (5%). This is a bit different from the previous quarter (Q2 2020), when Syrians represented 35 per cent of arrivals, followed by those from Egypt (14%) and Afghanistan (7%).

Authorities in Kosovo³ registered a total of 554 migrants in the third quarter of 2020, 69 per cent more than the reported arrivals in Q2 2020 (328) and about 14 per cent more than reported arrivals in Q3 2019 (488). In 2020, a total of 2,138 and refugees migrants were registered entering the country, whereas 984 were registered in the first nine months of 2019 and 302 registered in the same period of 2018.

The Syrian Arab Republic is the most reported nationality of arrivals in the third quarter of 2020 (49%), followed by Iraq (9%), Morocco (8%), Libya (6%) and others. In the previous quarter (Q2 2020), the share of Syrians was higher (65%), while migrants from Iraq where only 4 per cent of the total. Also, looking at the same reporting period last year (Q3 2019), migrants from Iraq represented 55 per cent of all those registered, followed by those from Syrian Arab Republic (24%) and Algeria (4%).

MIGRANTS PRESENCE IN EUROPE

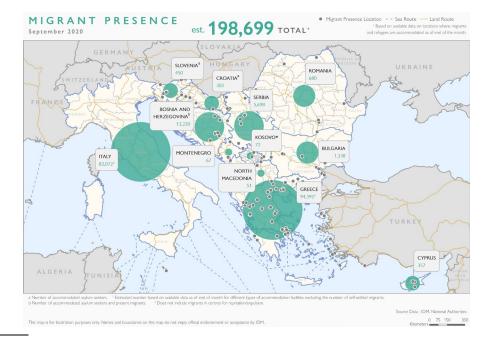
At the end of Q3 2020 an estimated 198,699 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers were residing in different reception facilities in Italy, Greece, North Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Romania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, 13 and Cyprus. No data is available on migrants' reception in Spain. The total estimated number at the end of Q3 is 1 per cent less than the 201,693 reported at the end of Q2 2020, and 2 per cent less than the 203,753 recorded at the end of Q3 2019. Greece and Italy report the largest shares of accommodated migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers (49% and 44% of the total, respectively). Since November 2019, Greece has the highest occupancy in Europe. The number of accommodated migrants and refugees has decreased from an estimated 98,778 in Q2 to an estimated 94,392 in Q3 of 2020 (a 4% decrease). Some 31 per cent were accommodated on the islands,

while the rest on the mainland.

This is in slight contrast with the trend of increase observed each month since December 2018 and up to February 2020. At the same time, in **Italy** the number of accommodated migrants and refugees has decreased by 28 per cent between Q2 and Q3 of 2020 (from 84,445 to 82,072).

Another estimated 13,220 migrants were reported to be accommodated in Bosnia and Herzegovina, while 5,698 were staying in reception centres and unofficial sites in Serbia (in border areas with Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina). remaining migrant presence is scattered among many other locations of arrival and transit, ranging from the 1,338 in Bulgaria to 51 in the Republic of North Macedonia.

In many transit countries figures on occupancy fluctuate on a daily basis as most of the reported migrants and refugees see these countries as transit stops on their way to Western Europe and therefore leave the reception facilities after few days of stay and rest to try to continue their journey.



¹³ References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

MIGRANTS PRESENCE IN TURKEY

According to the latest available data from the Turkish Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) there are currently over 4,6 million foreign nationals present in Turkish territory, 3,6 million of whom are seeking international protection.

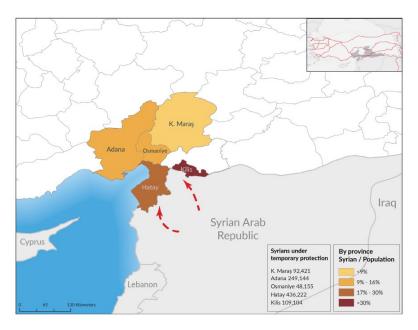
Of these, 3,624,941 are Syrian nationals with granted temporary protection status, with another significant group of foreign nationals being asylum seekers from Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq. The number of Syrians residing in camps has decreased by 3,110 since the end of the previous quarter (June 2020).

There are seven Temporary Accommodation Centres for persons under temporary protection (Syrian nationals mainly) located in five cities in Turkey – Kilis, Kahramanmaraş Hatay, Osmaniye, and Adana.

According to DGMM statistics, run by Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) a total population of **59,543** are currently residing in the Temporary Accommodation Centers.

The Temporary Accommodation Centers registered a slight decrease of 5 per cent in occupancy at the end of September 2020 when compared with the 62,653 registered at the end of the previous quarter (June 2020), and similarly, 5 per cent less than the 62,653 reported at the end of Q3 2019.

According to the data from the Turkish Armed Forces (TAF), a total of 6,595 persons were apprehended on entry to Turkey in the third quarter of 2020. Also, 439 apprehensions were registered on exit from Turkey, mostly in Edirne province on the border with Greece. During the reporting period, there is an increase of 4,247 apprehensions of persons coming mainly from the Syrian Arab Republic in comparison to the previous reporting period (Q2) of 2020.



Data source: MPM Turkey Quarterly Report July, August, September 2020.

NEEDS MONITORING IN UKRAINE

According to the official data by the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine (MoSP) there were 1,448,615 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Government Controlled Areas (GCA) in July 2020, a slight increase from the 1,446,881 reported in April 2020. The most IDPs are in the city of Kyiv (160,036) and Kyiv Oblast (63,267), Kharkiv Oblast (134,335), Dnipropetrovsk Oblast (71,277) and Zaporizhia Oblast (56,107).

The data collection process within the IOM's National Monitoring System (NMS) Round 17 was carried out in April-June 2020 amid the COVID-19 outbreak. Due to the COVID-19 protective measures in Ukraine, it was not possible to carry out face-to-face interviews. Within this Round, 2,401 IDPs were surveyed via telephone in 300 randomly selected territorial units across the country and additional 3,708 including non-governmental controlled area (NGCA) returnees, who were surveyed with the IOM telephone-based tool. Five Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were held with the key informants (Kls), IDPs and NGCA returnees (last available report).

Employment of IDPs after the displacement, by geographic zones, % of IDPs 20-64 years old



According to the collected data, the employment rate of IDPs did not change compared to the previous round. As of April-June 2020, the share of employed IDPs was 46 per cent. Twenty-four per cent of the respondents reported being placed on unpaid or partially paid leave during the COVID-19 quarantine. The average monthly income per one IDP house-hold member was UAH 3,350. However, it was still lower compared to September 2019.

The data shows a generic economic insecurity of IDP households, as the average monthly income per one IDP household is considerably lower compared to the actual subsistence level calculated by the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, which is set at UAH 3,974.

Twenty-seven per cent of the respondents living in rented housing confirmed facing the risk of being evicted due to the inability to pay the rent. IDPs continue to rely on government support, which is the second most frequently mentioned source of their income. Thirty-five per cent of IDPs receiving social payments reported facing payment access problems during quarantine. The most common problem was the fear to leave home because of the risk of getting infected (28%).

Eighty-two per cent of the interviewed IDPs reported that they had been staying in their current settlement for over three years. Only 19 per cent reported the intention to return after the end of the conflict. At the same time, 39 per cent of the respondents expressed their intention not to return, even after the end of the conflict.





International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The UN Migration Agency