



MMC Middle East  
QUARTER 4 2019



Quarterly Mixed  
Migration Update:  
Middle East

This Quarterly Mixed Migration Update (QMMU) covers the Middle East region (ME). The core countries of focus for this region are Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Israel and Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT), the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, and Turkey. Depending on the quarterly trends and migration-related updates, more attention may be given to some countries over the rest.

The QMMUs offer a quarterly update on new trends and dynamics related to mixed migration and relevant policy developments in the region. These updates are based on compilation of a wide range of secondary (data) sources, brought together within a regional framework and applying a mixed migration analytical lens. Similar QMMUs are available for all MMC regions.

The Mixed Migration Centre is a global network consisting of seven regional hubs and a central unit in Geneva engaged in data collection, research, analysis and policy development on mixed migration.

For more information on the MMC, the QMMUs from other regions and contact details of regional MMC teams, visit [mixedmigration.org](https://mixedmigration.org) and follow us at [@Mixed\\_Migration](https://twitter.com/Mixed_Migration)

### **MMC's understanding of mixed migration**

"Mixed migration" refers to cross-border movements of people, including refugees fleeing persecution and conflict, victims of trafficking, and people seeking better lives and opportunities. Motivated to move by a multiplicity of factors, people in mixed flows have a range of legal statuses as well as a variety of vulnerabilities. Although entitled to protection under international human rights law, they are exposed to multiple rights violations along their journey. Those in mixed migration flows travel along similar routes, using similar means of travel - often travelling irregularly, and wholly, or partially, assisted by migrant smugglers.

#### **Front cover photo credit:**

Dara Al-Masri / DRC (2017)

A girl walks in an Informal Settlement in Zahle, Lebanon. January 2017.

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# Quarterly Mixed Migration Update: Middle East

## Quarter 4 - 2019

### Key Updates

- **New refugee arrivals in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq:** Since the Turkish offensive in northeast Syria began on 9 October 2019, 19,700 Syrian refugees have arrived in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq; 350 left the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.
- **Kafala reforms:** Qatar [announced](#) reforms to the kafala (sponsorship) system, which would allow workers to change jobs more freely and abolish exit permits for nearly all migrant workers except for [members of the armed forces and for a limited number of workers in key company posts.](#)
- **Minor increase in arrivals in Greece:** Compared to the previous quarter, there has been a minor increase of new arrivals to Greece via sea (from [23,271](#) to [23,450](#); +179 or 1% increase) and via land (from [4,435](#) to [4,922](#); +487 or 18% increase). Syrians (27.8%), Iraqis (6.3%) and Palestinians (5.5%) are among the most common nationalities among sea arrivals in Greece in 2019 (until 30 November 2019). People from Iran are also reported (1.7% of arrival) and Kuwait (0.2%). Afghans are the most frequently reported (38.6%)
- **Arrivals in Turkey:** A total of [141,725](#) arrivals in Turkey were recorded during this quarter, which is a decrease from the [172,518](#) recorded in the previous quarter (-30,793 or -18%). The majority of arrivals in Q4 2019 are [from](#) Afghanistan (45%), Pakistan (16%) and Syria (13%). As per 31 December 2019, this brings the total for 2019 to [316,824](#). This is more (+48,821 or 18%) than the total arrivals in Turkey for 2018, when 268,003 arrivals were recorded.
- **Triple the number of people apprehended/rescued in seas around Turkey compared to Q4 2018:** [22,077](#) people were [apprehended/rescued](#) in all seas surrounding Turkey. Despite the stark difference (+15,083 or 216%) with 2018, it is less than the previous quarter (-3,645 or -14%) when [25,722](#) were recorded.
- **Missing refugees and migrants:** During this quarter, [225](#) people were recorded as missing or dead while crossing the Mediterranean Sea, which brings the total to 1,267 in 2019. This quarter, [4](#) people were recorded missing or dead in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Figure 1. Overview of arrivals in Europe and Turkey this quarter (Oct – Dec 2019)\*



\*Arrows on the map only relate to key updates and do not represent mixed migration flows within and out of the region.

# Mixed Migration Regional Updates

## Middle East

### Turkey still planning on returning up to two million refugees to Syria, while conflict intensifies in northwest Syria

Erdogan has [repeated](#) his plan to return up to [two million Syrian refugees](#) to a so-called 'safe zone' in the north of Syria. Meanwhile, the conflict and violence in northwest Syria has intensified as Syrian government forces have started an offensive in Idlib. [UNOCHA](#) has estimated that almost 350,000 people fled north from northwest Syria between 1 December and 14 January 2020. Erdogan has [warned](#) Europe that Turkey will not be able to handle a new wave of refugees and that Turkey will not carry that "[burden on its own](#)". Meanwhile, [Human Rights Watch \(HRW\)](#) reports that dozens of Syrians have been "arbitrarily detained and deported" to Syria between January and September 2019. Amnesty International has made similar [reports](#), but argues that it is likely that [hundreds of Syrians](#) have been forcibly returned to Syria. [Turkey](#) denies the reports.

### Boat capsized in a lake in eastern Turkey, 7 migrants die

An estimated 100 people from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh [attempted to cross Lake Van in Eastern Turkey](#), but their boat capsized in the night from 25 to 26 December. Officials estimate that at least 7 people died. This is reportedly [the first time](#) a boat carrying migrants sank in the lake. It is believed that the route was taken to avoid security checkpoints on the roads.

### Reports of 60,000 illegal deportations from Greece to Turkey between 2017 and 2018

According to a [report](#) in the German Magazine [Spiegel](#) in November, Greece [illegally deported](#) around 60,000 refugees and migrants to Turkey between 2017 and 2018. Turkey accused Greece of '[pushing](#)' people 'back' to Turkey instead of processing their asylum claims. Greece has [denied](#) the accusations.

### More refugee arrivals in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI)

Since the Turkish offensive in the North-East of Syria began on 9 October 2019, there have been a total of [19,700](#) new arrivals of Syrian refugees in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq; [350](#) who left the KRI voluntarily. The recent arrivals are brought to the Bardarash, Gawilan and Domiz camps in the Duhok province. According to [IOM data](#), 98% of the arrivals have relatives in the KRI, 20% of individuals under the age of 18 are unaccompanied and 50% of individuals 18 and over are travelling with three or more children.

### 'Kurdish Regional Government restricts movements of 12,000 Turkish Kurds in refugee camp'

According to [HRW](#), the security forces for the Kurdish Regional Government in Iraq have restricted the movements of at least 12,000 ethnic [Kurdish Turkish nationals](#). The restrictions have been into effect since a Turkish diplomat was killed in the city of Erbil on 17 July 2019, allegedly by assailants linked to the [Kurdistan Workers' Party](#) (PKK).

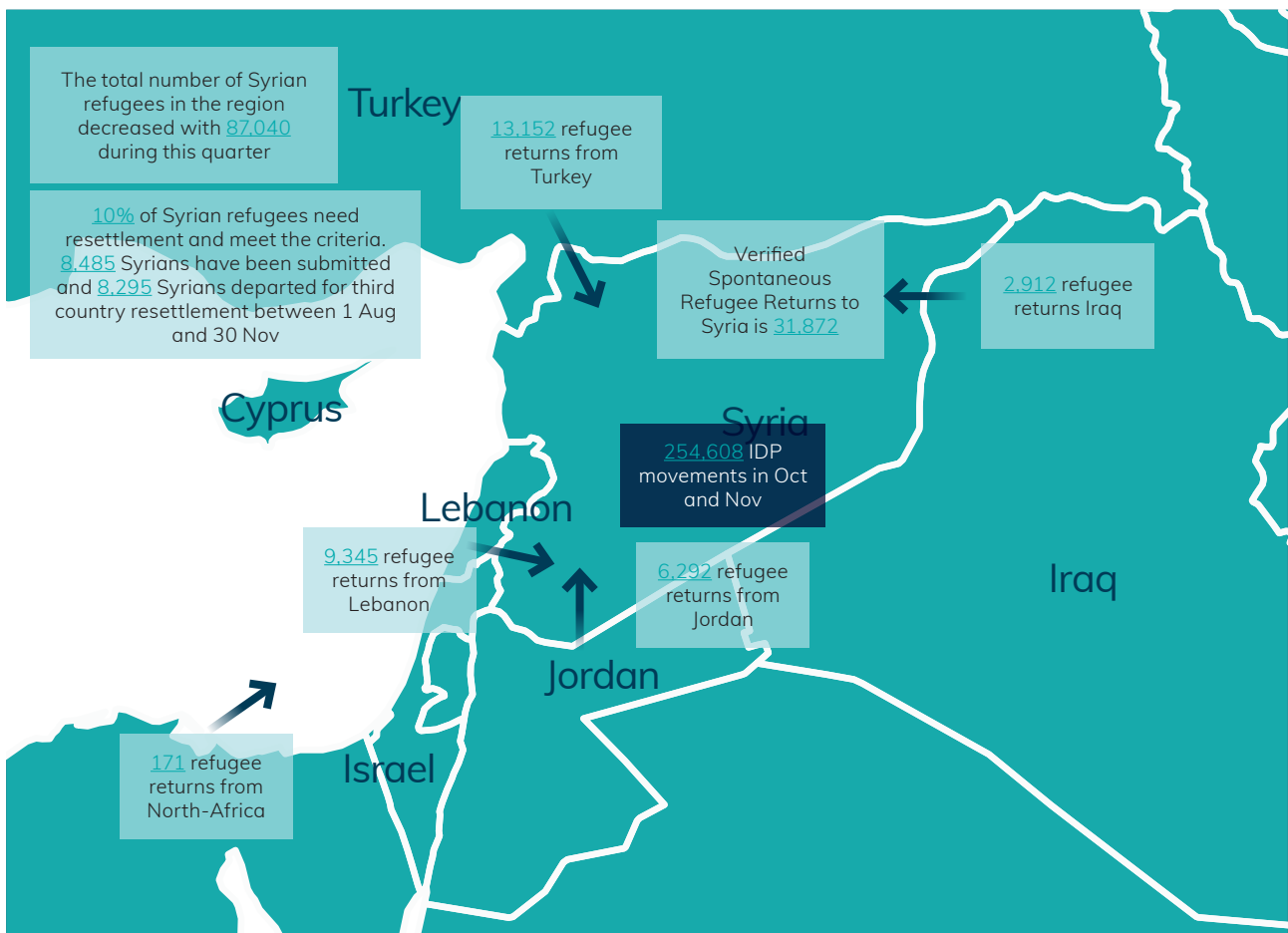
## Pakistani migrants in Jordan die after a fire in their shelter

Thirteen Pakistani nationals, including eight children and four women, [died in an accidental fire at a farm](#) where they worked in the Jordan Valley. Three other people were injured. Two Pakistani families were living in makeshift corrugated iron sheds on the farm. [Thousands of migrant](#) workers are employed on farms in the Jordan Valley.

## Palestinian women workers strike in Israel

On 3 December, 15 of the 20 employees of a factory in an Israeli settlement in the West Bank went on [a two-day strike asking for fair wages and social benefits](#) as per Israeli law.<sup>1</sup> The employees had joined the Workers Advice Center union in September. This was reportedly the first time a group of Palestinian women workers had joined a union. Since September, [other Palestinians](#) have followed their example.

**Figure 2. Syrian displacement, resettlement and spontaneous return in this quarter<sup>2</sup>**

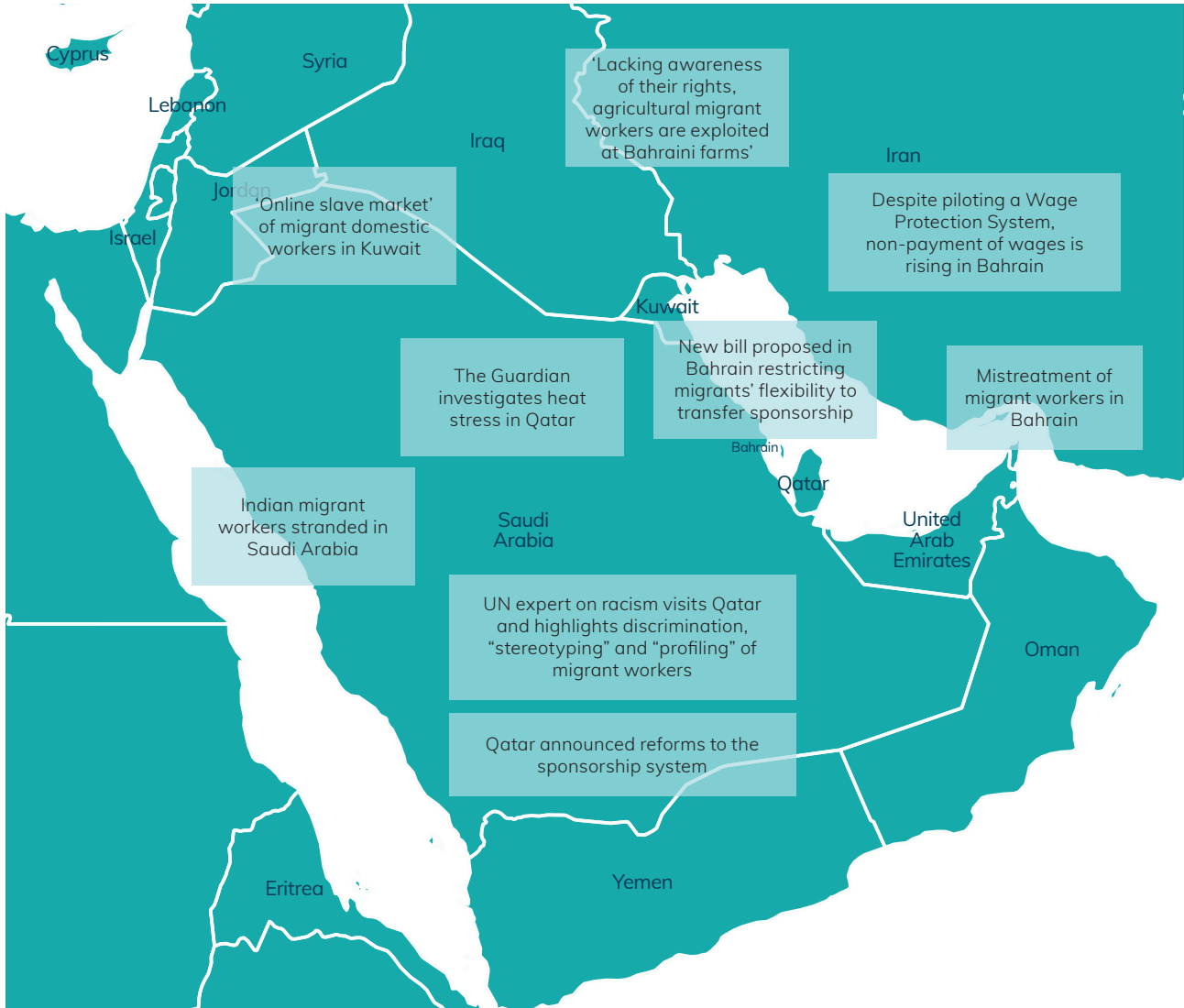


1 "Following a 14-year struggle by Kav LaOved, in 2007 the Israeli Supreme Court ruled that Palestinians, including those working in West Bank settlements, are entitled to the same employment terms and rights that Israeli labour laws guarantee to Israeli workers." Source: +972mag

2 The numbers on returns are only those monitored/verified by UNHCR and do not reflect the entire returns. The figure on the return numbers from Jordan are tentative as the UNHCR identifies returns based on departure lists regularly obtained from the Government. The return numbers from Lebanon includes only those verified by UNHCR.

## Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Countries

Figure 3. Updates on Foreign Nationals in the GCC countries



### Qatar announces reforms to the sponsorship system

On 16 October 2019, Qatar [announced](#) reforms to the kafala (sponsorship) system. It will allow workers to change jobs more freely and abolish exit permits for domestic workers, who were excluded in [previous reforms](#). The Council of Ministers also approved a new non-discriminatory minimum wage law. The text of the laws are not yet public but these should come into effect in [January 2020](#). On 16 January 2020, Qatar announced that it removed exit restrictions for nearly all migrant workers except for [members of the armed forces and for a limited number of workers in key company posts](#).

## The Guardian investigates heat stress in Qatar

Qatar has a work ban that prohibits manual labour in unshaded outdoor areas between [11.30 and 3pm from mid-June to August](#). However, this quarter, the [Guardian](#) reports that anyone working outdoors is still exposed to potentially fatal levels of heat stress in the summer months, and dangerous levels of heat exposure in cooler months. Migrants workers report suffering from “skin allergies, headaches, altered vision, light-headedness and difficulty breathing.” At the same time, proper strategies to mitigate heat stress is not always ensured and as a result, there continue to be reports of workers [dying](#). In response to the news coverage by the Guardian, FIFA came with a [statement](#) committing to respecting the rights and health of workers involved in FIFA World Cup-related activities. The Guardian has also [reported](#) on heat stress among migrant construction workers in Dubai, the UAE.

## UN expert on racism visits Qatar and highlights discrimination, “stereotyping” and “profiling” of migrant workers

From 21 November to 1 December 2019, the UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance [visited Qatar](#). In her [preliminary statement](#), she commended Qatar for its progress in efforts to end discrimination based on race and country of origin, but also spoke to the imbalance between employers and migrant worker, the kafala (sponsorship) system, and conditions of residence for low-income workers in Qatar. She also observed that many low-income workers, and especially women, are “too afraid to seek justice for labour violations” because of the risk of further “abuse and exploitation”.

## ‘Online slave market’ of migrant domestic workers in Kuwait

[BBC News Arabic](#) reported that migrant domestic workers in Kuwait are being bought and sold online. ‘Buyers’ can “scroll through thousands of their pictures, categorised by race, and available to buy for a few thousand dollars”. Some of the trading is done on Instagram or (other) mobile phone apps. The undercover team found that the sellers “advocated confiscating the women’s passports, confining them to the house, denying them any time off and giving them little or no access to a phone”.

## New bill proposed in Bahrain restricting migrants’ flexibility to transfer sponsorship

Five Bahraini members of parliament have drafted a new [legislative bill](#) that requires migrants to work for three years with their original sponsor before they can transfer to another sponsor. Currently, migrants in Bahrain can move from one sponsor to another without the consent of their employer after completing a year of employment (an exception is made for domestic workers). According to [Migrant-Rights](#), the new law would allow employers to more easily exploit migrant workers, and weaken migrant workers’ bargaining position.

## Despite piloting a Wage Protection System, non-payment of wages is rising in Bahrain

Bahrain is the last GCC country to adopt a Wage Protection System (WPS), but it has started to pilot the system for large companies during this quarter. The WPS would make it mandatory for employers to pay wages through bank transfer. The authorities would be alerted if the company fails to pay wages on time. However, as reported by Migrant-Rights, [non-payment of wages is on the rise in Bahrain](#), especially due to the economic downturn in the construction sector. With the rise in non-payment of wages comes the rise in protests and strikes, although only [a few receive media attention](#). Non-payment of salaries subjects migrant workers to immense stress. According to media reports, [37 migrant workers](#) committed [suicide](#) in Bahrain in 2018. This is not an official figure.



## Mistreatment of migrant workers in Bahrain

Almost 80 employees working at supermarket in Bahrain claim they [have not been paid for nine months](#). An additional 60 reported not being paid for two to three months. The business group that owns the supermarkets reported not being able to pay because it lacks the money. The Bangladesh Embassy indicated that at least 150 Bangladeshis have left the country without getting their salaries. In another situation, the Bahraini Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) [intervened](#) on behalf of 45 Indian and Pakistani workers who were forced to sleep outside because their company did not pay the electricity bill. The company had also taken the passports of the workers and failed to pay salaries. The LMRA helped the workers to get their passports back, and the Indian Embassy [has also been providing support](#).

## Lacking awareness of their rights, agricultural migrant workers are exploited at Bahraini farms

Of the 9,120 workers employed in the agricultural sector in Bahrain, 80% are migrants. The majority arrives [irregularly through a network of \(fraudulent\) intermediaries](#). They often end up working in [poor living and working conditions at farms](#). Employers and middlemen are in a powerful position and reportedly exploit the vulnerability of the migrants. If migrants protest, they can withhold salaries and leave days and increase pressure to work more and harder. With their documentation being confiscated, protesting could lead to deportation. As reported by Migrant-Rights, agricultural migrant workers “seem either unaware that their rights are being violated or feel it’s the norm”.

## Indian migrant workers stranded in Saudi Arabia

This quarter, there have been various reports on Indian workers who have been stranded in Saudi Arabia. In Jeddah, a group of 21 Indian goldsmiths [indicated](#) that they have been stranded for two years. Their visas expired and they are without passports. Reportedly, their employer has not released the exit visa because it has a tax dispute with the government.

In Damman, a group of 600 workers is [stranded](#) in dire conditions in labour camps after their employer’s company was closed because it failed to comply with Saudi Arabia’s [Nitaqqat](#), which makes it mandatory for companies in the private sector to reserve at least 10% of jobs for Saudi nationals. Reportedly, the migrant workers have been denied compensation, food and medicine. Also, most face a travel ban because their visa and permits expired. With the support of the Indian Embassy, the group complained at the Saudi Labour Court, which ruled in their favour. However, the company has not followed up on the court’s decision.

In Riyadh, another 61 Indian workers [report](#) to have not been paid for months. They are without work permits and currently stranded in the compound of a private company. If the workers leave the building, they risk arrest because they have no work permits. The court had ordered the company to provide the group with food, water and basic amenities. However, they report not having received any support.

According to [data](#) from the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, on average, 21 Indians working in Saudi Arabia file work complaints at Indian embassies every day. Most [complaints](#) relate to not receiving salaries, holidays, renewal of permits and compensation for overtime.

# Mixed Migration to Turkey and Europe

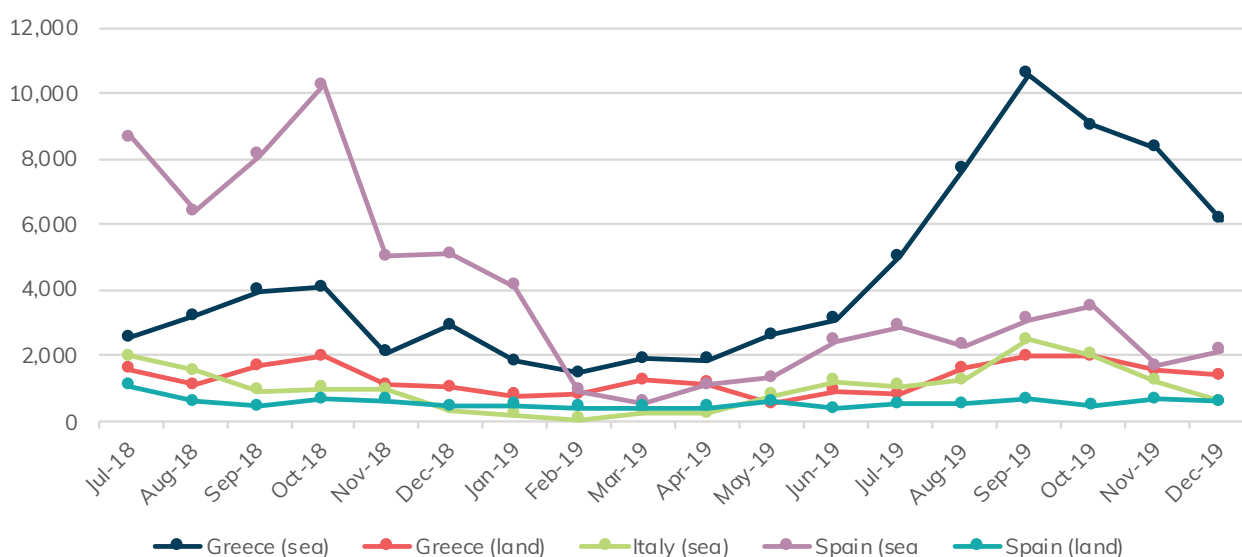
## Refugees and migrants continue to cross the Mediterranean Sea to reach Europe, but the trend is downward

In the fourth quarter of 2019, there have been [41,378](#) new irregular arrivals to Italy, Spain and Greece via land and the three Mediterranean Sea routes compared to [42,642](#) in the previous quarter.

Looking at quarterly figures, the number of arrivals in Greece via sea (+179 or 1% increase) and via land (+487 or 18% increase) is higher than in the previous quarter. However, the monthly figures show that while Q3 saw a steep increase in arrivals, the trend during Q4 is now downwards (see Figure 4). This pattern is reflected in land arrivals to Greece but is much less steep.

With access to data for the full year, we can see a big jump in arrivals in Greece between Q2 and Q3 2019 (see Figure 4 and Table 1), especially in comparison with Spain and Italy.

**Figure 4. Number of arrivals by country**



**Table 1. Mediterranean route arrivals**

	2018 Q3	2018 Q4	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4
<a href="#">Greece (sea)</a>	8,181	9,075	5,241	7,629	23,271	23,450
<a href="#">Greece (land)</a>	3,948	4,146	2,886	2,648	4,435	4,922
<a href="#">Italy (sea)</a>	6,647	2,346	524	2,255	4,854	3,838
<a href="#">Spain (sea)</a>	21,954	20,351	5,609	4,866	8,328	7,365
<a href="#">Spain (land)</a>	2,098	1,785	1,364	1,424	1,754	1,803
<b>Total</b>	<b>42,828</b>	<b>37,703</b>	<b>15,624</b>	<b>18,822</b>	<b>42,642</b>	<b>41,378</b>

In 2019, with [data](#) up to 30 November 2019, the most common nationalities among sea arrivals in Greece are Afghans (38.6%), Syrians (27.8%), Congolese (6.9%), Iraqis (6.3%) and Palestinians (5.5%). There are also reports of people from Iran (1.7%) and Kuwait (0.2%) among the sea arrivals in Greece.

## Arrivals of people from the Middle East on the Central and Western Mediterranean routes

From [January to 31 December 2019](#), 1,031 (+451 since 1 August) Syrians and 380 (+72 since 1 August) Palestinians also arrived in Spain via land (Ceuta and Melilla) and sea. No other nationals from Middle Eastern countries were recorded on this route.

From [January to 31 December 2019](#), Italy received 972 people from Iraq (+390 since 1 October) and 45 (+27 since 1 October) from Syria via the Central Mediterranean route. No other nationals from the Middle Eastern countries have been recorded along this route.

## Apprehensions/rescue operations in the Eastern Mediterranean Seas

Information on the fate of those who went missing, died or were apprehended/survived crossing the Eastern Mediterranean mainly comes from the [Turkish Authorities](#). [22,077](#) people were [apprehended/rescued](#) in all seas surrounding Turkey, whereas the total of the previous quarter was [25,722](#). The [22,077](#) people were recorded during a total of [648](#) operations, compared to [733](#) in the previous quarter. [23](#) 'organisers' were apprehended at sea, compared to [33](#) in the previous quarter. This slight decrease in is likely due to Q4 being the beginning of the winter period.

The stark increase in arrivals in Greece by sea between Q2 and Q3 of 2019, which persists in Q4 2019 is reflected in the number of people apprehended/rescued (see Table 2 below). More on this increase can be read [here](#).

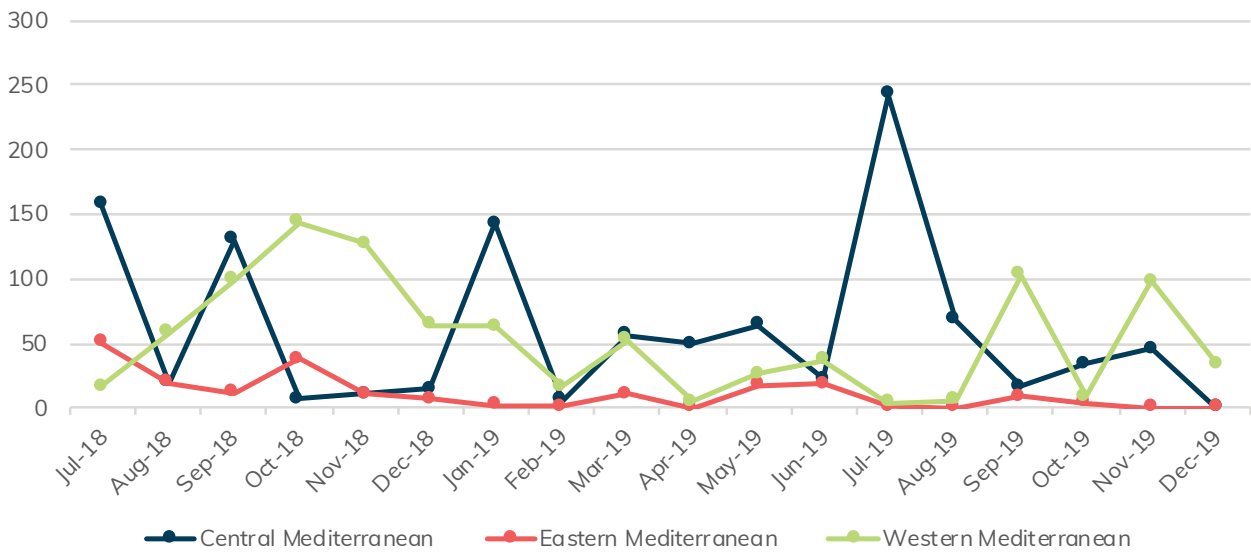
**Table 2. Apprehensions at sea and arrivals in Greece**

	2018 Q3	2018 Q4	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4
<a href="#">Migrants apprehended in all seas surrounding Turkey</a>	6,975	6,994	4,364	8,639	25,722	22,077
<a href="#">Irregular migration incidents/operations in all seas surrounding Turkey</a>	204	190	119	261	733	648
<a href="#">'Organisers' apprehended in all seas surrounding Turkey</a>	27	26	9	15	33	23
<a href="#">Arrivals in Greece by sea</a>	8,181	9,075	5,241	7,629	23,271	23,450

## Fewer deaths recorded in the Eastern Mediterranean

During the fourth quarter of 2019, [225](#) people went missing or died while crossing the Mediterranean Sea, which brings the total to 1,267 in 2019. This quarter, [4](#) people were recorded missing or dead in the Eastern Mediterranean, continuing a downward trend since Q2. Numbers remain much lower than in other parts of the Mediterranean (see Figure 5 and Table 3), but in all cases the true number of fatalities is likely much higher. Information on the fate of those who went missing, died or were apprehended/survived crossing the Eastern Mediterranean mainly comes from the [Turkish Authorities](#).

**Figure 5. Number of dead and missing at sea**



**Table 3: Dead and missing at sea**

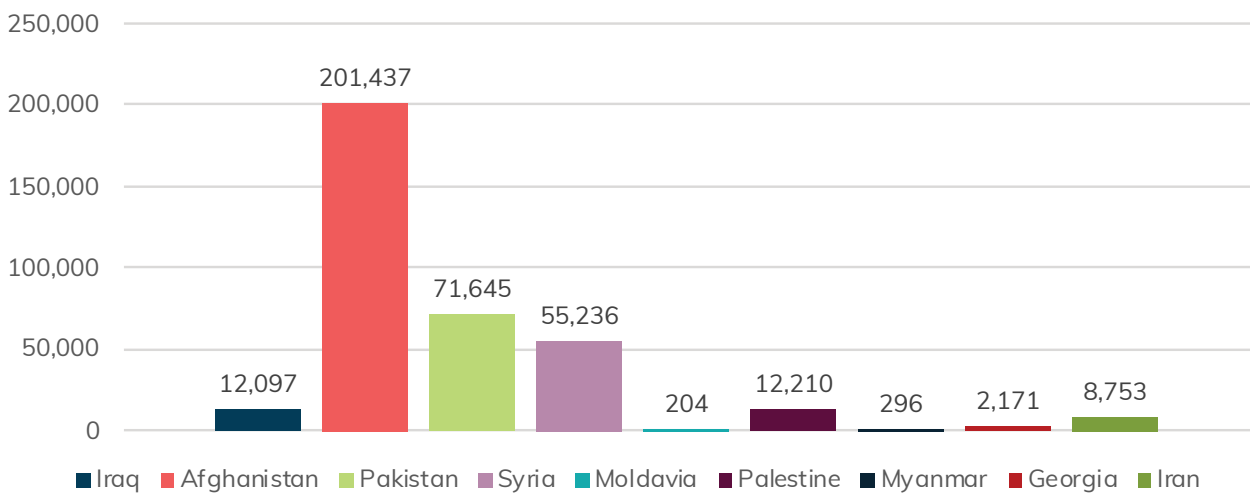
	2018 Q3	2018 Q4	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4
<a href="#">Central Mediterranean</a>	307	33	205	136	327	80
<a href="#">Eastern Mediterranean</a>	83	56	14	37	10	4
<a href="#">Western Mediterranean</a>	174	335	132	68	113	141
<b>Total:</b>	564	424	351	241	450	225
<b>CUMULATIVE TOTAL Per Year</b>	1,853	2,277	351	592	1,042	1,267

## Arrivals in Turkey

A total of [141,725](#) arrivals in Turkey were recorded during this quarter, which is a decrease from the previous quarter when [172,518](#) arrivals were recorded. This brings the total for 2019 to [316,824](#). In 2018, 268,003 arrivals in Turkey were recorded. There were 175,752 arrivals in 2017, and 146,485 in 2016.

The majority of arrivals in Q4 2019 are [from](#) Afghanistan (45%), Pakistan (16%) and Syria (13%). When comparing the data from Q3 and Q4, the country with highest increase in absolute numbers is Afghanistan (+61,971 or 44%), but the country with the highest relative increase is Myanmar (+133 or 82%) (See Figure 6).

**Figure 6. Nationalities of Irregular arrivals Turkey in 2019 (per 31 Dec 2019)**



## Victims of human trafficking in Turkey

[79](#) victims of human trafficking have been identified in Q4. This brings the total to [215](#) in 2019. The total number of identified victims of human trafficking was 134 in 2018, 303 in 2017 and 181 in 2016.

## Nationals from Afghanistan and Syria lodged the most applications for international protection in the EU+ in October 2019

In October 2019, as reported by the European Asylum Support Office (EASO), [EU+ countries recorded](#) around [70,370](#) applications for international protection. This is a 17% increase from September and the highest monthly total since the end of 2016. About 587,000 applications were lodged so far in 2019, which is 11% more than in the same period of 2018.

Afghans and Syrians lodged the [highest number of applications](#) of all countries of origin. Afghan nationals lodged 7,170 asylum applications in October 2019 which represents an increase of 27% compared to September and signalling a further increase compared to the summer, which was deemed to be high already. The 7,170 was also the highest monthly total recorded during the last three years. Up until October 2019, the total of applications of Afghan nationals is 46,339 in 2019. As reported by EASO, the Afghans also continue to represent the highest number (23%) of applications from unaccompanied minors.

7,160 applications were lodged by Syrian nationals, which represents an increase of 15% compared to September, and is just 10 applications fewer than those made by Afghans. Up until October 2019, the total of applications of Syrian nationals is 58,400 in 2019. More analysis on these statistics can be found in Eurostat's [Asylum quarterly report](#).

## Thematic Focus: Violations of rights faced by Bangladeshi migrant domestic workers in the Gulf

Bangladeshi migrant women reportedly face violence and abuse from their employers in the Gulf. [In November](#) a Bangladeshi housemaid in Saudi Arabia released a [video](#) begging for help because of her abusive employer.

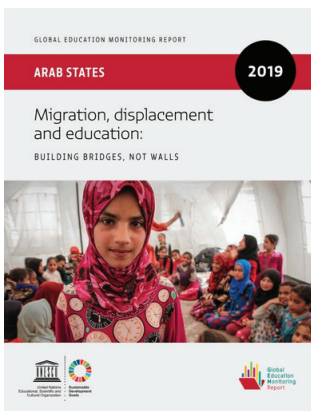
After a seven-year ban, Bangladesh began sending women workers to Saudi Arabia in 2015. According to UN data, there are around [124,746](#) female migrant workers from Bangladesh in Saudi Arabia. The majority of Bangladeshi migrant workers, who are often poor and from rural areas, are recruited by intermediaries in Bangladesh called “Dalals”. These recruitment agencies often charge [excessive fees](#), putting workers already into debt before migration. The agencies frequently fail to meet their commitments to the workers both before and upon their arrival in the Gulf. There are reports of migrant workers without documentation, job contracts, passports, or salaries. HRW has interviewed [hundreds of migrant domestic](#) workers in the Gulf, and nearly all reported that employers confiscated their passports, phones and restricted their communication.

In October 2019, [Ovibashi Karmi Unnayan Program \(OKUP\)](#), a migrant rights group in Bangladesh, [released the results](#) of a [study](#) among 110 returnees from Saudi Arabia. 86 percent reported that their employers had not paid their salaries, 61 percent said they had physically abused, and 14 percent indicated that employers sexually abused them. Some also reported that they were [beaten](#) by their “Dalal” upon return.

The NGO Building Resources Across Communities (BRAC) reports that around [13,000](#) Bangladeshi women have returned from Saudi Arabia since 2015. According to the Ministry of Expatriates’ Welfare and Overseas Employment [35%](#) of the returnees had left because of sexual and physical abuses. Among those are women who [were seriously mentally ill and those who had become pregnant](#). In 2019, 900 returned between January and [October](#) 2019. Additionally, there have been 53 female workers who died and whose bodies were repatriated. Among the dead are those who committed [suicide](#).

The government of Bangladesh responded that it has set up [safe houses](#) for victims in Saudi Arabia and coordinates with the Saudi government to provide support, but it [ruled out](#) banning Bangladesh migrant from working in the Gulf.

## Highlighted New Research and Reports



### [Global education monitoring report, 2019: Arab States: Migration, displacement and education: building bridges, not walls](#)

#### UNESCO | November 2019

UNESCO published the first regional edition of the Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report and presented it at the [World Innovation Summit for Education \(WISE\)](#) that took place in Qatar from 19-21 November. The [report](#) analyses the impact of population movements in the Arab States on education systems in the region and it provides recommendations to protect education rights of people on the move. Presented case studies include internal migration in Egypt; double shift schools in Lebanon; curricula for Palestine refugees; international schools in the Gulf; and internal displacement in Iraq, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. The report has been published in [English](#) and in [Arabic](#).



### [Freedoms on the Move: The Civic Space of Migrant Workers and Refugees](#)

#### CIVICUS (Global Civil Society Alliance & Solidarity Center) | October 2019

The [research](#) included fieldwork in five countries, including Jordan, and aims to understand the challenges faced by migrant workers and refugees in exercising their rights to freedoms of association, assembly and expression. The [interactive report](#) looks both at the factors that make it more likely for refugees and migrants to exercise their rights and factors that makes them vulnerable to violations, abuses and denial of rights. The executive summary has been published in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#).



#### Assessment of occupational heat strain and mitigation strategies in Qatar

Summary of Key Findings from a report prepared by the FAME Laboratory for the International Labour Organization, the Qatar Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs, and the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy.

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Report Number:

FL201915

Photos & Media © FAME Laboratory

### [Assessment of occupational heat strain and mitigation strategies in Qatar](#)

#### ILO | October 2019

The International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Qatari Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs, in collaboration with the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy (SC), conducted a [study](#) to mitigate heat stress. The study was conducted during the summer 2019 and examined incidences of occupational heat stress experienced by manual labour workers in Qatar. Only a summary was published with some key findings and [recommendations](#) on adjusting the working hours during summer, establishing mandatory heat stress mitigation plans for all companies across Qatar, conducting annual health check-ups for workers, and improving worker empowerment.

ENGINEERS  
AGAINST  
POVERTY

**Protecting the Wages of Migrant Construction Workers**

Part Three: What can be learned from systems of wage protection in China, EU, US and Latin America



## [Protecting migrant construction workers: What can we learn from China, EU, US and Latin America?](#)

### **Engineers Against Poverty (EAP) | October 2019**

EAP published the third paper in its series [on protecting the wages of migrant construction workers in countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council \(GCC\)](#) and focuses on the Wage Protection System (WPS). The is used in all the GCC countries as an electronic salary transfer system that is designed to pay wages directly into the bank accounts of workers. This makes it easier to record when wages have (or have not) been paid. However, according to the EAP paper, it has failed to reduce the incidence of wage disputes or has not deterred employers to not pay wages. Hence, the paper aims to learn from the WPS applied in countries beyond the GCC.

## [Improving Single Male Laborers' Health in Qatar](#)

### **Centre for International and Regional Studies (CIRS), Georgetown University Qatar & World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH) | December 2019**

The policy brief provides [a review of](#) the research on healthcare for single male migrant workers, an analysis of their obstacles to access healthcare, an overview of current government policies, and suggests actions to strengthen and improve healthcare for this group of migrant workers in Qatar.



## ['Just getting by' - Ex-Gazans in Jerash and other refugee camps in Jordan](#)

### **FAFO | November 2019**

Taking as its starting point the evidence that non-citizen Palestinian refugees originating from Gaza - known as 'ex-Gazans' - are poorer than other Palestinian refugees in Jordan, this report examines the drivers of their living conditions. It finds that, overall, ex-Gazans in Jerash suffer significantly worse conditions than other camp residents, ex-Gazans and non-ex-Gazans alike. A summary can be found [here](#).



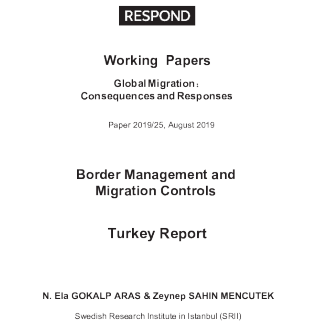




## Refugees in the IT Sector: Young Syrians' Economic Subjectivities and Familial Lives in Jordan

**Elisa Pascucci | October 2019**

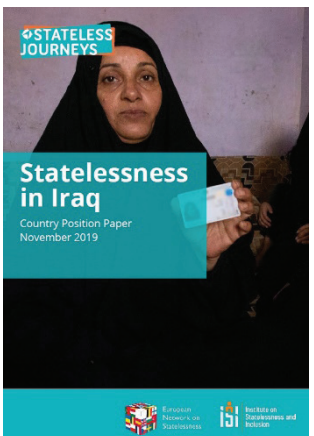
This article explores refugee economic subjectivity by looking at Syrian refugees pursuing IT training in Jordan. It discusses how Syrian youths approach humanitarian policies in which, in the absence of full social and economic rights for refugees, the question of livelihoods is addressed through the paradigms of self-reliance, creativity, and innovation.



## Border Management and Migration Controls in Turkey

**Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul (SRII) | September 2019**

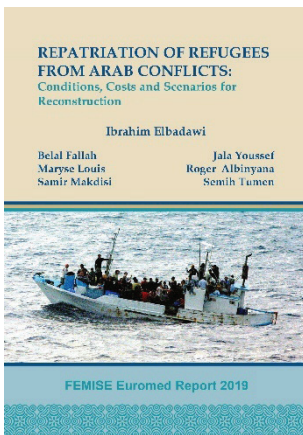
This report examines the border management and migration control regime in Turkey, analysing its main legal and policy framework as well as the organisations and actors involved in policy implementation. It also looks at how changes from 2011-2017 have influenced policy implementations and what the main gaps are between the legal frameworks and actual practices. The report also looks at how various actors interact in implementing measures and aims to understand the patterns of cooperation and tensions.



## Statelessness in Iraq: Country Position Paper

**European Network on Statelessness (ENS) and Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion (ISI) | November 2019**

Iraq has a population of 40.4 million people and historically been home to [47,515 stateless people](#), in particular, Faili Kurds stripped of their nationality in 1980, Palestinian Refugees from Iraq, and Bidoon from Kuwait. The report provides information on the profiles of stateless individuals and persons who may be at risk of statelessness due to nationality or civil documentation problems in Iraq.



## Repatriation of Refugees from Arab Conflicts: Conditions, Costs and Scenarios for Reconstruction

### **FEMISE Euromed | 30 September 2019**

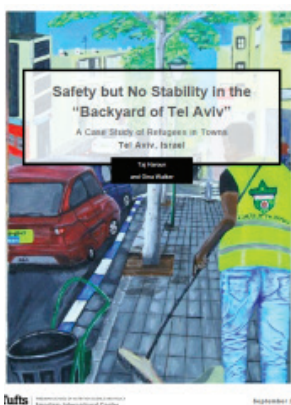
The report discusses the repatriation of refugees in impacted countries of the Southern Mediterranean region. It looks at the characteristics of refugee populations and the conditions affecting their decisions to return. Particular attention is given to refugees from Iraq and Syria.



## Integration through Exploitation: Syrians in Turkey

### **Gaye Yılmaz, İsmail Karatepe and Tolga DoğaTören | November 2019**

The edited volume explores how Syrian workers are integrated into the lower ends of the value chain in several sectors in Turkey. The book seeks answers of what has been largely overlooked in the literature on the question of how labor processes have been shaped in various labor-intensive sectors by class and identity.



## Safety but No Stability in the “Backyard of Tel Aviv” - A Case Report of Refugees in Towns

### **Taj Haroun and Gina Walker, Tufts University | August 2019**

Fleeing persecution, discrimination, and lack of economic opportunities, thousands of Eritrean, Sudanese, and other sub-Saharan African asylum seekers arrived in Israel’s cities after making a dangerous crossing through Egypt’s Sinai desert. Tel Aviv is also home to just under 20,000 asylum seekers from Eritrea and Sudan, about half of Israel’s refugee population. The case study presents perspectives from a male Sudanese asylum seeker, and a female Jewish immigrant to Israel who grew up in the UK.

## MMC publications



### [Outspoken but Unheard: How diasporas in Europe shape migration along the Central Mediterranean Sea route](#)

#### **REACH and Mixed Migration Centre | October 2019**

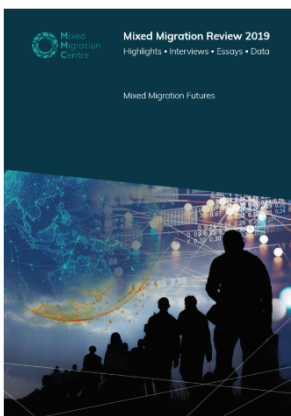
There is limited understanding on the relationship between diaspora in Europe and refugees and migrants in mixed migration flows along the Central Mediterranean Sea route. Hence, this new research [report](#) aims to explore the relationship by looking at the way diaspora in Europe shape the decision making of refugees and migrants from Mali, Eritrea and Bangladesh. The research was conducted by REACH in collaboration with the Mixed Migration Centre – Middle East.



### [Wheels in Motion: Who's done what since the Global Compact for Migration was adopted \(and what should happen next\)](#)

#### **Mixed Migration Centre | October 2019**

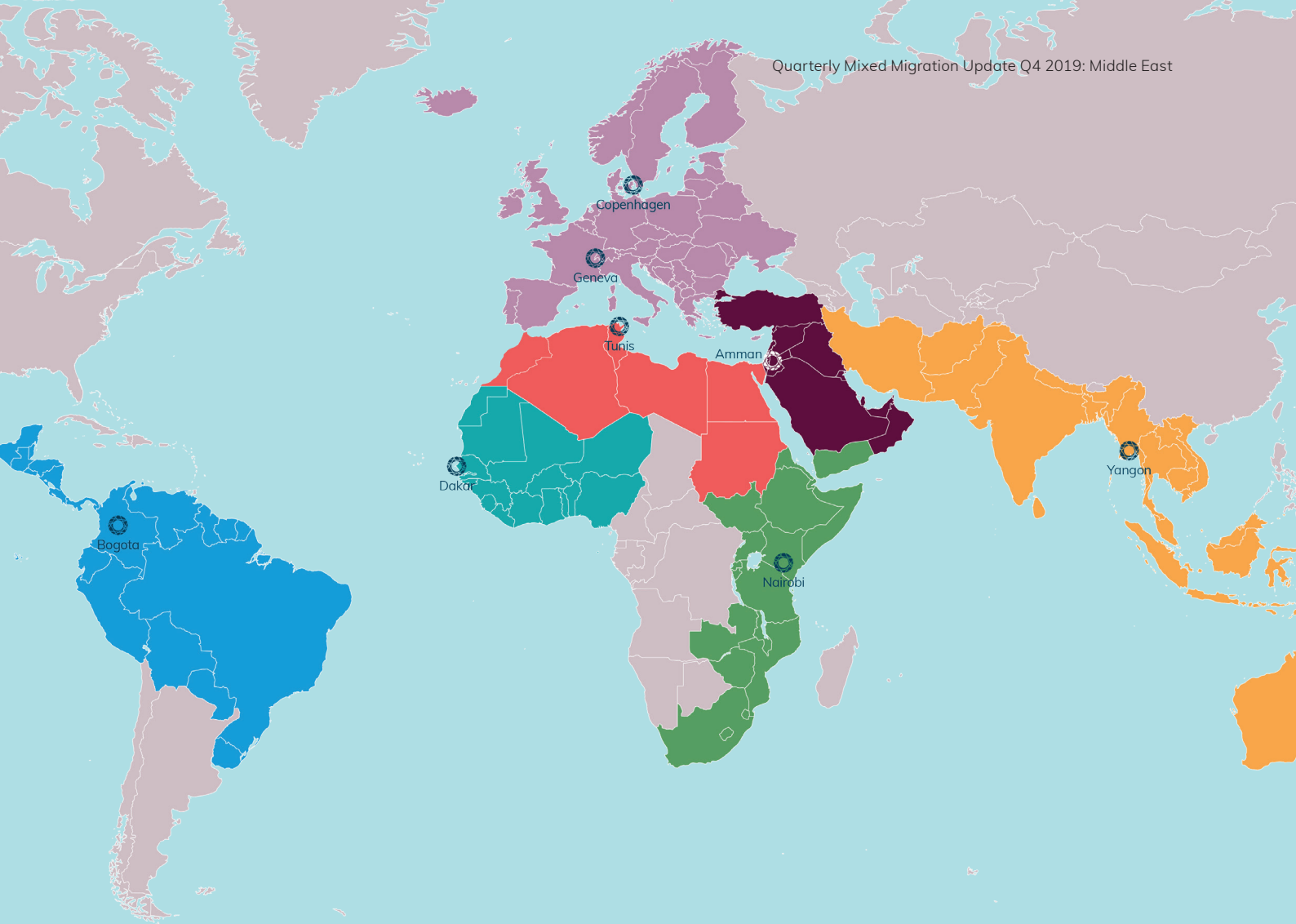
The [report](#) discusses the implementation and follow-up on specific commitments and objectives of the GCM since its adoption. The report takes stock of implementation, and particularly looks at the issue of mixed migration. It provides an overview of major processes initiated at the global level, as well as concrete steps taken towards implementation at regional level and in selected countries. It also provides practical and feasible recommendations for engagement and monitoring of implementation going forward.



### [Mixed Migration Review 2019 - Highlights. Essays. Interviews. Data.](#)

#### **Mixed Migration Centre | November 2019**

The second publication of the annual Mixed Migration Review by the Mixed Migration Centre offers updates on global mixed migration trends and policy events while examining future trends and expectations in a wide range of sectors and their impact on mixed migration.



The MMC is a global network consisting of six regional hubs and a central unit in Geneva engaged in data collection, research, analysis and policy development on mixed migration. The MMC is a leading source for independent and high-quality data, research, analysis and expertise on mixed migration. The MMC aims to increase understanding of mixed migration, to positively impact global and regional migration policies, to inform evidence-based protection responses for people on the move and to stimulate forward thinking in public and policy debates on mixed migration. The MMC's overarching focus is on human rights and protection for all people on the move.

The MMC is part of and governed by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and global and regional MMC teams are hosted by the DRC offices in Amman, Copenhagen, Dakar, Geneva, Nairobi, Tunis, Bogota and Yangon.

**For more information visit:**

[mixedmigration.org](https://mixedmigration.org) and follow us at [@Mixed\\_Migration](https://twitter.com/Mixed_Migration)



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