



MMC North Africa

QUARTER 2 2022

A photograph of two men on a boat. The man in the foreground is wearing a white t-shirt and has his hand covering his face, appearing distressed. The man in the background is also wearing a white t-shirt and is looking out at the sea with his hands clasped near his face. The background shows a vast blue sea under a clear sky.

Quarterly Mixed Migration Update: North Africa

This Quarterly Mixed Migration Update (QMMU) covers the North Africa (NA) region. The core countries of focus for this region are Algeria, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia. Depending on the quarterly trends and migration-related updates, more attention may be given to some of the 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 a 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.

MMC is a global network engaged in data collection, research, analysis, and policy and programmatic development on mixed migration, with regional hubs hosted in DRC regional offices in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America, and a small global team in Geneva. For more information on MMC, the QMMUs from other regions and contact details of regional MMC teams, visit 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:

Taha Jawashi (2017)

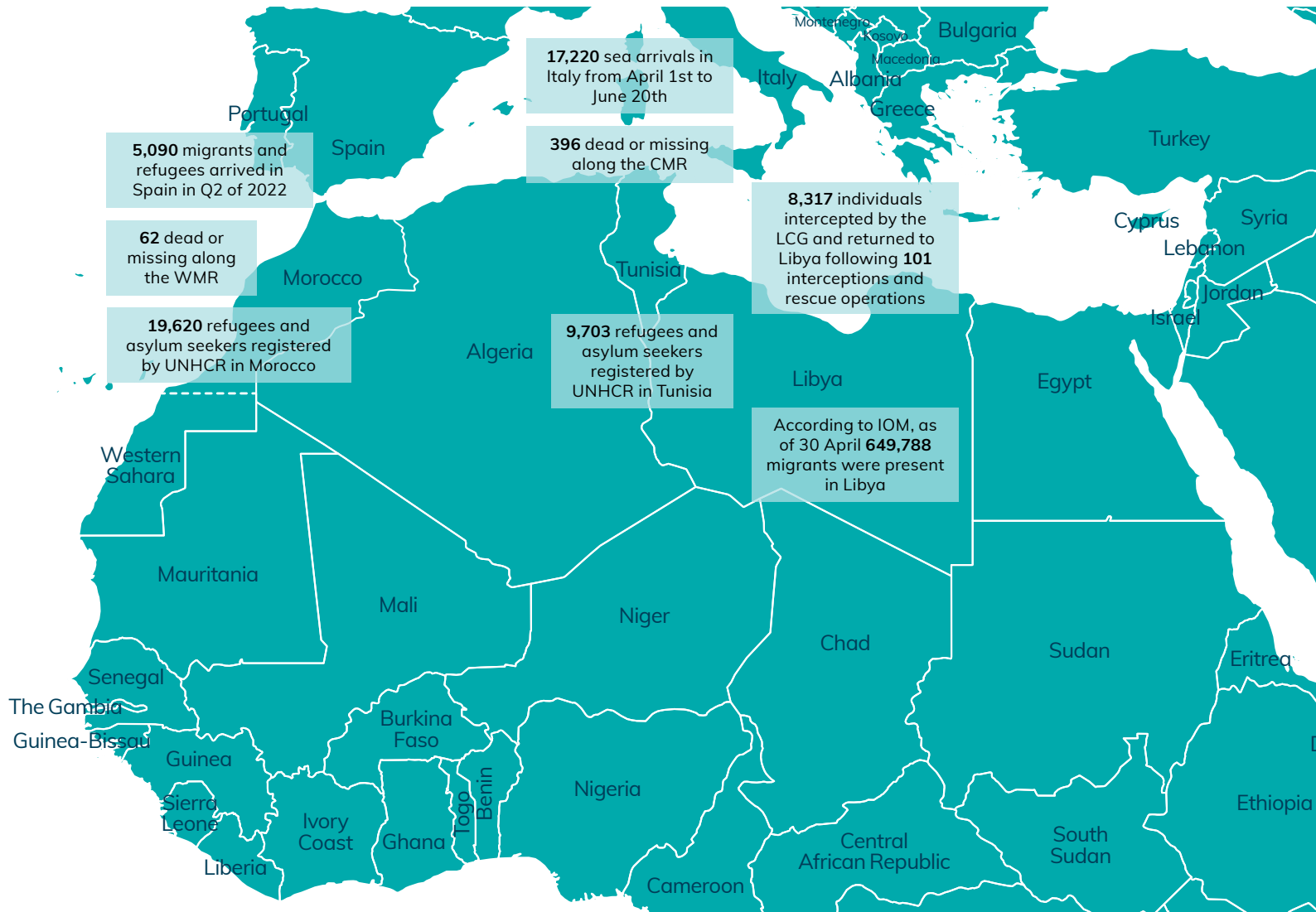
Quarterly Mixed Migration Update: North Africa

Quarter 2 - 2022

Key Updates

- **As of 20 June, land and sea arrivals to Italy and Spain from North Africa** through the Central (CMR) and Western Mediterranean Routes (WMR) [increased by 84%](#) compared to the same period in 2021.
- According to [UNHCR](#), so far in 2022, **8,317 asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants were disembarked in Libya** following 101 interception and rescue operations during attempted Mediterranean crossings.
- In the second quarter of 2022, [458 refugees and migrants](#) were reported dead or missing in the **Mediterranean**, of which 396 along the CMR and 62 along the WMR. This marks a slight decrease compared to the same period in 2021.
- The [protest movement of asylum seekers in front of the UNHCR office in Tunis](#) ended on 18 June after the longstanding demonstrators were relocated by the UN agency.
- An estimated **37 people died as a result of a 24 June attempt to enter the Spanish enclave of Melilla**, according to the Spanish [Commission for Refugee Aid](#).

Regional Overview*



*Information on the map relates to selected updates and does not represent all mixed migration patterns within and out of North Africa.

Mixed Migration Regional Updates

Mixed migration from North Africa to Europe¹

North African arrivals in Europe

From 1 April – 20 June 2022, [IOM](#) reports that 22,623 refugees and migrants entered Spain (by sea or land) and Italy (by sea) through the Western (WMR) and Central Mediterranean Routes (CMR) respectively, an increase in arrivals of 84% compared to the [same period](#) of 2021.

Central Mediterranean Route

Arrivals

Arrivals in Italy through the CMR increased in the second quarter of 2022 compared to the [same period](#) last year. [UNHCR](#) reported 17,220 arrivals from April 1st – 20 June 2022, compared to [13,114](#) arrivals in April – June 2021.

Arrivals in Italy almost doubled from March to April. For the months of April and May, North Africa remained a top region of origin of people [arriving by sea in Italy](#), with Egyptians (the second most common nationality after Bangladeshis) representing 18.2% of arrivals, followed by Tunisians (11.7%). Moreover, according to the [Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights \(FTDES\)](#), some 947 Tunisians, including 354 minors, arrived in Italy in May, an increase of 57% compared to 601 in the same month last year. FTDES said the total number of Tunisians who arrived in Italy between January and May was 2,206.

Departures

[UNHCR](#) reported that in the first five months of the year, the largest share of refugees and migrants arriving in Italy had departed from Libya (56%, down from 66% during the same period of 2021), followed in the region by Tunisia (19%, down from 22%) and Algeria (2%, up from 1%). Departures also occurred from Turkey (22%, up from 8% in the same period of 2021) and Lebanon (2%, up from 0). Most people [departing from Libya](#) in the first five months of 2022 were from Bangladesh, Egypt, and Syria, while people arriving in Italy from Tunisia originated mainly from Tunisia, Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea.

Western Mediterranean Route and Atlantic Route (arrivals to Spain)

Overall, **arrivals to Spain** in the first two quarters of the year showed an 5% increase over 2021. On the **WMR** to Spain, [UNHCR](#) data through the second quarter of 2022 show a decrease in arrivals of 19% compared to the same period in 2021. This is counter-balanced by a 29% increase in arrivals to the Canary Islands along the **Atlantic Route** during this period.

¹ Note that information on interceptions and rescue operations as well as shipwrecks and other situations of distress at sea are not intended to provide a comprehensive overview of these phenomena.

Interceptions and rescue operations in the Mediterranean

According to [UNHCR](#), as of 21 June 2022, 8,317 asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants were disembarked on Libyan soil following 101 interception and rescue operations. [IOM](#) finds that in the second quarter (up to June 18th, 2022) at least 8,860 migrants were intercepted and returned to Libya.

Multiple rescue and interception operations were carried out by the Tunisian Coast Guard at sea and along the Tunisian coast over the course of the second quarter. Notably, on 22 June, the Tunisian authorities announced that they had rescued [144 people](#) off the southeast coast of the country. Among those rescued, "there are 109 people of different African nationalities," said the spokesman of the General Directorate of the National Guard.

In Morocco, [national media](#) continued to report over the course of the second quarter on maritime patrolling carried out by the Moroccan authorities. Between 17-20 June, the Royal Moroccan Navy operating in the Mediterranean Sea [announced](#) that it had rescued 105 people in three days, mainly from sub-Saharan Africa, including 20 women and 11 children.

Dead or missing refugees and migrants

From April to June 2022, [458 refugees and migrants](#) were reported dead or missing in the Mediterranean, 396 along the CMR and 62 along the WMR. This marks a slight decrease compared to the same period in 2021 (464).

Multiple shipwrecks continued to be reported around the region. On 4 April, [Médecins Sans Frontières \(MSF\)](#) stated that over 90 people had drowned after they had departed from Libya on an overcrowded boat several days previously. According to [MSF](#) four passengers from the same boat were rescued by an oil tanker and returned to Libya where "they risk being detained, abused and mistreated" as "Libya is not a safe place" for migrants and refugees.

In Tunisia, [IOM](#) announced that at least 76 people were missing after a boat sank off the coast of Sfax on 22-23 May. It appears that the [boat](#) had left Zouara in Libya during the night carrying about 100 people from Africa and Asia. Twenty-four people were rescued by the Tunisian Coast Guard. A day later, another shipwreck was reported by the Spanish NGO [Open Arms](#), with more than [100 people adrift overnight](#) in the open sea off the Libyan coast after their boat capsized. According to Open Arms, authorities in Malta, Tunisia and Italy failed to respond to distress calls.

In Algeria, the Spanish NGO [International Centre for the Identification of Missing Migrants \(CIPIMD\)](#) reported on 15 May that 11 people drowned after embarking from Fouka towards the Balearic Islands. Five other people - including two children - were rescued.

On 8 May the migrant aid agency [Caminando Fronteras](#) (Walking Borders) said that at least 44 migrants and refugees drowned when their boat capsized off the coast of Morocco's disputed region of Western Sahara.²

2 Western Sahara has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1963.

According to Helena Maleno, the founder of the agency, the shipwreck took place off Cap Boujdour. "Seven bodies were retrieved from the sea and brought to shore and the rest of the victims were swallowed by the sea," she stated on [Twitter](#), adding that 12 survivors had been detained under Moroccan immigration law.

Mixed migration in Libya

Latest figures on refugees and migrants in Libya

As of 30 April, [IOM](#) estimated that there are at least 649,788 migrants in Libya, with 57% located in the west of the country, 30% in the east, and 13% in the south. This number represents a slight increase when compared to the [last quarter](#) (635,051). IOM identifies the main migrant nationalities to be Nigerien (25%), Egyptian (19%), Sudanese (18%), Chadian (13%), and Nigerian (5%).

UNHCR reported that as of 21 June, some [45,521](#) refugees and asylum seekers were registered in Libya. Compared to reporting in the first quarter of 2022 (42,528), this represents an increase.

19-year-old Sudanese man dies in Ain Zaraprison

Early in June, a 19-year-old asylum seeker was allegedly found hanged in Ain Zara prison in Tripoli. He was identified as Mohamed Abdulaziz, a 19-year-old from Sudan. According to [Al Jazeera](#), he is believed to have committed suicide, and an [investigation](#) into his death has been launched. Mohamed was one of the hundreds of refugees and migrants who formed a "[protest camp](#)" in front of the UNHCR offices in Tripoli during the last three months of 2021, demanding their evacuation from the country and resettlement in a third state. This protest was forcibly ended by Libyan authorities in January, at which point the protestors were sent to [Ain Zara](#) prison, a detention center whose living conditions had been described as 'inhuman' in reporting from [Al Jazeera](#).

MSF calls for evacuation of most vulnerable migrants from Libya

In a press release on 20 June, [Médecins Sans Frontières](#) (MSF) called "for countries in the EU and North America to offer protection to migrants currently trapped in Libya." It urged the evacuation of the most vulnerable to be urgently accelerated, both through enhancing existing mechanisms and opening alternative pathways out of the country. "We believe that safe countries, especially in the EU – which has been funding the Libyan coastguard for years and encouraging the forced return of migrants to Libya – have a duty to facilitate the evacuation of these victims of violence and to protect them on their own soil," says Claudia Lodesani, MSF operations manager for Libya.

In an interview with [InfoMigrants](#), the UNHCR Deputy Head of Mission in Libya shed light on some of the challenges that characterize operations in Libya, stating that "Tripoli is not a signatory to the Geneva Convention and considers refugees on its soil as illegal migrants. This is why they do not allow us to include in our programs more than the nine nationalities they consider 'vulnerable!'" He also underscored that third countries of asylum grant limited resettlement places, and that the situation has become even more challenging considering the influx of displaced Ukrainians.

International condemnations of the fate of detainees in Libya

Calling for “[more condemnation](#)” on the part of European states, the Chief of Mission for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Libya stated that Europe has failed to act on the plight of thousands of migrants in Libya who are held in "deplorable conditions." A recent IOM report found that in 2021 an estimated [32,425 people](#) trying to cross to Europe were turned back to Libya; such interventions on the part of the [Libyan coast guard](#) benefit from EU funding. Those returned to Libya are routinely transferred to [detention centers](#) whose conditions are consistently condemned by international observers. The torture, violence and forced labor to which people are subjected in these centers are considered by the [UN Human Rights Council](#) to constitute a possible crime against humanity, as detailed in a recent [report](#).

In spite of these critiques, in remarks to European lawmakers, a [senior Commission official](#) is reported as saying that the Commission's efforts in Libya are humanitarian in scope, and that “we strongly believe that increasing the effectiveness of the Libyan search and rescue operations can only help to reduce the number of lives lost at sea.” He also announced additional forthcoming support for the Libyan coast guard.

Deaths in the desert

In late June the bodies of twenty people believed to be migrants traveling from Chad into Libya were found in the [Libyan desert](#) about 200 miles southwest of Kufra. Libyan rescues services stated that they died of thirst after their driver got lost and their vehicle broke down.

Mixed Migration in Tunisia

Latest figures on refugees in Tunisia

As of 31 May, [UNHCR](#) reported that there were 9,703 registered refugees and asylum seekers in Tunisia, of which the top nationalities are Ivoirian (37%), Syrian (27%), Other (11%), Sudanese (5%), Cameroonian (5%), and Guinean (5%). Greater Tunis³ (4,531), Sfax (2,194), and Médenine (1,193) continue to [host](#) the largest refugee and asylum seeker populations.

End of asylum seekers' sit-in in front of UNHCR in Tunis

The [protest](#) of asylum seekers in front of the UNHCR office in Tunis ended on 18 June after their relocation by the UN agency. Beginning in the southern Tunisian city of Zarzis in February, the protests moved to Tunis in April to seek better visibility. Following budget cuts which meant UNHCR could no longer support them with housing, some [213 asylum seekers](#) had camped out in front of the UNHCR offices since mid-April, demanding greater support and resettlement. These protestors were taken to shelter and received assistance following negotiations between them and UNHCR, according to the agency's spokesperson.

3 Greater Tunis includes the four governorates Tunis, Ariana, Ben Arous and Manouba.

On 18 June, following the relocation of the more longstanding demonstrators, a violent incident was reported between some protestors and authorities. This operation was described by the Forum Tunisien pour les droits économiques et sociaux as a '[forced evacuation](#).'

Mixed Migration in Egypt

Egypt's coastguard is set to receive €80 million from the EU to combat irregular migration

Local sources in [Egypt](#) reported that according to an internal document, the EU is set to provide the Egyptian coast guard with €80 million in funding to combat irregular migration in the Mediterranean. The first tranche of €23 million will be given to Egyptian border forces for "maritime border surveillance equipment," followed by a further €57 million as needed. This news follows [reports](#) in October last year about the development of a cooperation agreement between Egypt and Italy under which Cairo would accept the return of its citizens from Italy in exchange for military and security incentives.

This agreement was reported shortly after a coalition of [human rights NGOs](#) published a letter urging the Commission and EU member states to use the EU-Egypt Association Council meeting on 19 June as an opportunity to raise concerns over a variety of human rights violations on the part of Egyptian authorities. The letter, addressed to the High Representative for Foreign Affairs/Vice President of the European Commission and Foreign Ministers of EU Member States stated:

"Regrettably, Egypt's abysmal human rights record has been met by weak, occasional statements of concern from the EU and its member states, which have also refrained from taking concrete measures to address it and have instead continued to provide full political, financial and military support to the Egyptian government."

Regarding the rights of refugees and migrants specifically, the Egyptian authorities have been [accused](#) of arbitrary detention for indefinite periods in cases of irregular border crossings, as well as forcible expulsion without due process or legal safeguards.

Mixed Migration in Morocco

Latest figures on refugees in Morocco

As of the end of April, [UNHCR](#) reported that there were 9,522 refugees and 10,098 asylum seekers present in Morocco from more than 48 countries of origin. Most registered refugees and asylum seekers in Morocco remain Syrian nationals (5,150), followed by Guineans (2,958), Ivoirians (1,470), Cameroonians (1,293), and Yemenis (1,173).

Morocco: dozens die in attempt to enter Melilla

At least 23 people died on Friday 24 June trying to enter the Spanish enclave of Melilla, according to a [report](#) published on 25 June by local Moroccan authorities. However, the [Moroccan Association for Human Rights](#) said the death toll was 29, citing unnamed local medical officials, and more recent reports from the Spanish [Commission for Refugee Aid](#) put the number at 37. This is the [highest death toll](#) ever seen in such a crossing attempt.

A [spokesperson](#) for the Spanish government's office in Melilla said about 2,000 African migrants attempted to enter Melilla on the morning of 24 June and during clashes with border guards lasting several hours, about 130 successfully breached the border between Morocco and the Spanish enclave. The [Spanish Prime Minister](#), Pedro Sánchez, described the tragedy as a "violent and organized assault by mafias involved in human trafficking on a town that is Spanish territory."

This tragedy occurred following several days of escalating tensions in the area around Melilla where many homeless migrants are camping out. The head of the [AMDH](#) confirmed that "clashes" had taken place between migrants and Moroccan agents on the evening of 23 June in the context of an "[intense crackdown](#)" on migrants seen since Spain and Morocco resumed cooperation on migration enforcement (see below for more details).

According to a [source](#) in the Spanish police, the migrants who attempted to enter Melilla the next morning had used sticks, knives and acid against security forces, some of whom sustained injuries. The police responded with riot gear and tear gas, and [footage](#) filmed in the aftermath shows dozens of people who appear lifeless or injured lying on the ground as security forces circulate among them. While a Moroccan official stated that [undue force](#) had not been used, the Melilla regional president said he believed that the Moroccan security personnel had shown a disproportionate response.

The events provoked [indignation](#) from associations in Morocco and Spain and international organizations. For their part, IOM and the UNHCR [recalled](#) "the need in all circumstances to prioritize the safety of migrants and refugees, to avoid excessive use of force, and to respect their fundamental rights." In the same context, the head of the African Union (AU) Commission Moussa Faki Mahamat [denounced](#) the "violent and degrading treatment of African migrants" and called for an investigation into the tragedy.

The president of [Amnesty International](#) France criticized the European Union's policy "which leads to these dramas," according to his statement. He also countered the Spanish Prime Minister's assertion that "human trafficking mafias" were responsible for the incident, saying "Each time human traffickers and smugglers are pointed at, but the European Union also has a great responsibility in these dramas by closing its borders."

After the tragedy, [several demonstrations](#) took place in various Spanish cities to denounce these abuses. [In Rabat](#), around fifty Africans demonstrated in front of the UNHCR office, protesting the "inhumane" treatment of Moroccan law enforcement in Melilla, as well as seeking to claim refugee status.

Moroccan authorities step up arrests of migrants and refugees

In early April, Spain and Morocco officially agreed to a [diplomatic rapprochement](#) following a year of tense relations brought on by disputes related to Western Sahara. Coming out of these discussions between the Prime Minister of Spain and the King of Morocco, a [joint statement](#) was released which underscored that “cooperation in the area of migration will be relaunched and strengthened.”

According to the [Moroccan Association for Human Rights \(AMDH\)](#):

“Since the resumption of relations between Morocco and Spain, the repressive measures against sub-Saharan migrants have been generalised in different cities, with massive arrests and transfers to different regions.”

AMDH characterized these as “forced displacements” of migrants to “keep them away from the borders close to Spain” and to “make their lives difficult.” Such arrests have occurred throughout the country, including in Tangier and Nador, not far from the Spanish enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla, as well as in Rabat. AMDH reported that already as of early April nearly [800](#) migrants, regardless of gender or legal status, had been detained and deported since the beginning of the year.

Personal testimonies from refugees and migrants underscore how arrests in Laayoune – a city located in Morocco’s disputed region of Western Sahara which is a common departure point for the Canary Islands – have escalated in May and June. An Ivorian living in Laayoune explained that [arrests](#) have increased and are targeting sub-Saharan migrants on a daily basis, forcing people into hiding to avoid the authorities.

Arrested migrants and refugees have reported being detained initially in unhygienic conditions in a [detention center](#) close to Laayoune, and then transported to and abandoned in remote desert locations, particularly to Zagora, near the Algerian border, or to Beni-Mellal.

Mixed Migration in Algeria

MSF denounces "inhumane treatment" of people expelled from Algeria

In a 1 June statement, [Médecins Sans Frontières \(MSF\)](#) denounced “the inhumane treatment of migrants turned back from Algeria and Libya and calls for respect for human dignity in border control.” MSF underscored the abuses that often characterize these expulsions, stating that almost 70% of those they treated had experienced violence or degrading treatment at the hands of Algerian or Libyan guards.

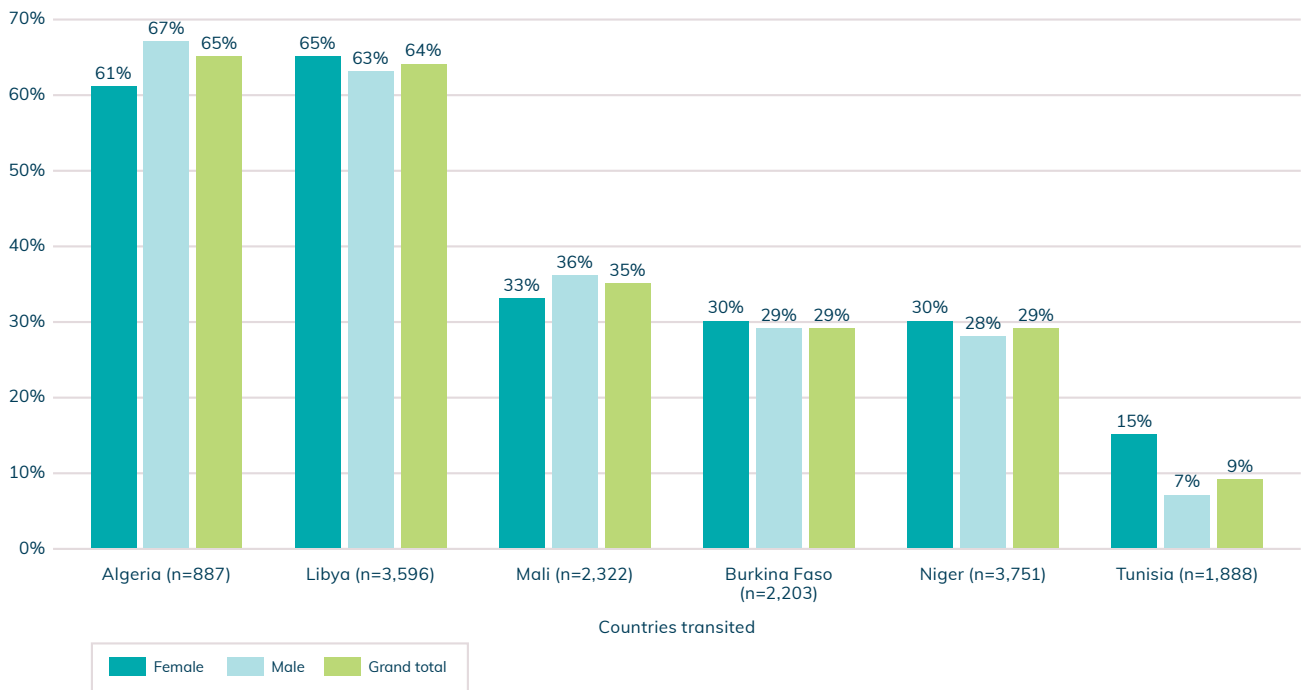
MSF reported that the Algerian authorities expelled a total of 14,196 migrants from January to May 2022. [NGOs](#) have documented the challenging circumstances of these expulsions – particularly for non-Nigeriens, who are left in the desert at "Point Zero," 15 km from the nearest town of Assamaka. The number of people deported from Algeria has risen in recent years according to [MSF](#), increasing from 23,171 in 2020 to 27,208 in 2021.

Thematic Focus: Dangerous locations and risks in North Africa

Between February 2021 and March 2022, MMC conducted 10,177 surveys with refugees and migrants in North and West Africa, 65% of whom were men and 35% of whom were women. **Overall, 62% of respondents (n=6,273) cited at least one dangerous location along their journey.**

Contrasting regions – perception of dangerous locations

Figure 1. Perception of dangerous location(s) within countries transited⁴



As Figure 1 shows, a higher proportion of respondents perceived risks in North African countries than in West African countries. Just under half (48%) of respondents transiting a North African country cited at least one dangerous location there, while around one third of respondents who passed through the three West African countries indicated that they considered at least one location within that country as dangerous.

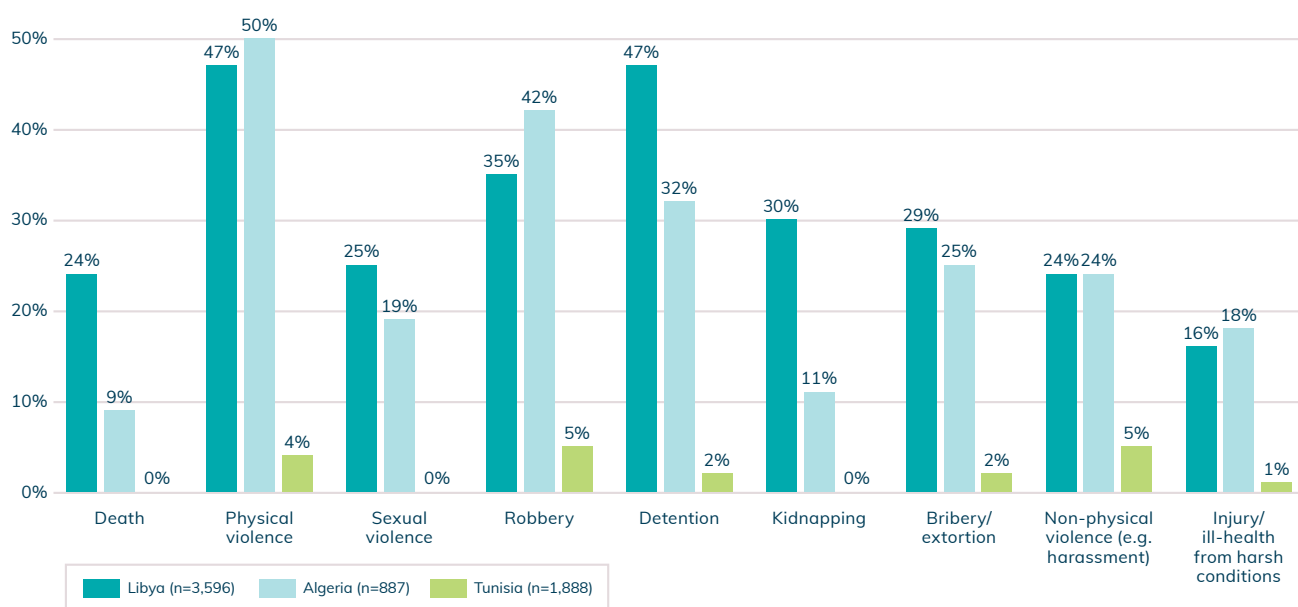
⁴ The above table shows proportions of people who transited a particular country who perceived at least one dangerous location in that country. It does not give extra weight to respondents who cite multiple dangerous locations within a country.

Whereas in West Africa, the three countries were overall comparable, in North Africa a clear contrast appears between countries. Around two thirds of respondents who passed through Algeria (65%) and Libya (64%) perceived at least one location within those countries as dangerous, but only 9% of respondents who passed through Tunisia indicated that they perceived any locations within the country to be dangerous.

It is also notable that differences between genders tend to be minimal across all countries. The largest contrast between men's and women's perception of risk was seen in Tunisia, where 15% of women respondents who passed through the country perceived at least one dangerous location compared to 7% of men respondents.

Top risks cited by country

Figure 2: Main risks perceived by respondents transiting Algeria, Libya and Tunisia⁵



We can draw some conclusions and see some notable variations between the two countries that were considered much more dangerous, Libya and Algeria (see Figure 2). Overall, physical violence, robbery and detention were risks perceived by a third to one half of respondents passing through these countries. Additionally, around a quarter of respondents who passed through Algeria or Libya perceived that bribery/extortion and non-physical violence were occurring.

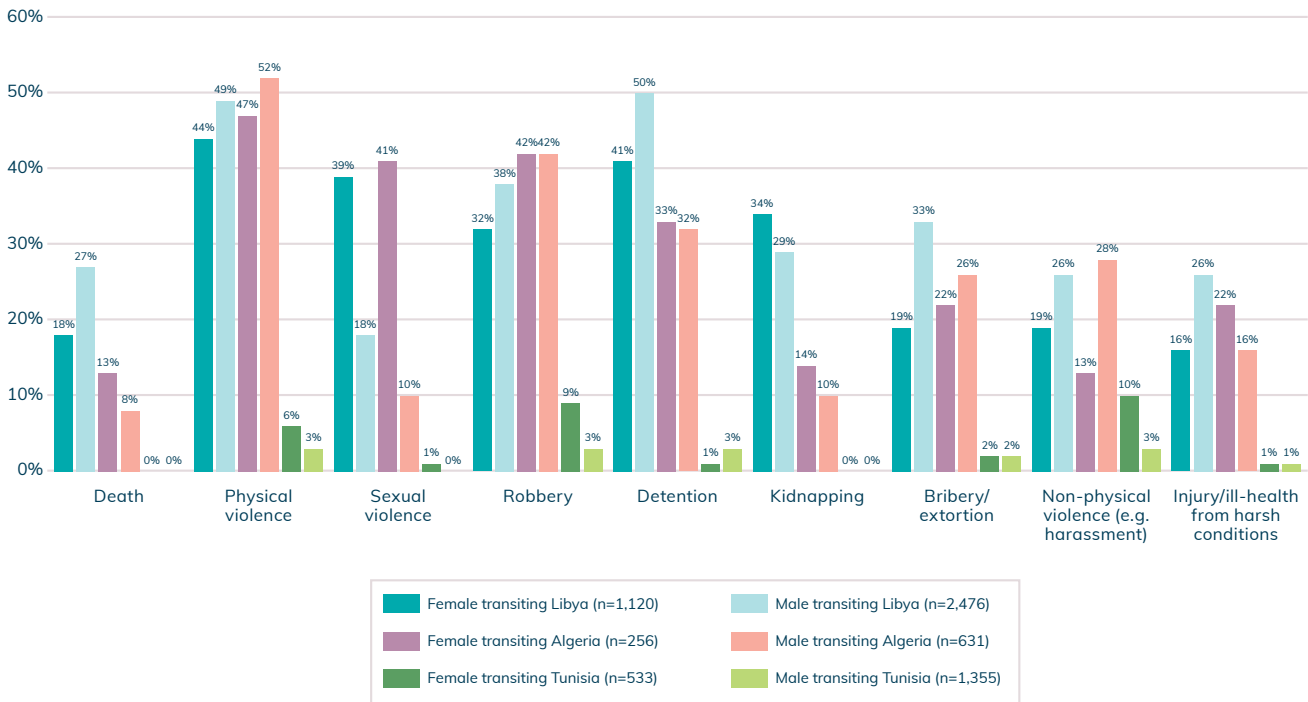
Despite comparable proportions of respondents considering Algeria (65%) and Libya (64%) as having at least one dangerous location, Libya appears to pose more risks, likely because respondents who passed through Libya more often reported multiple dangerous locations and/or multiple kinds of risk in those locations. Particularly important differences can be seen in terms of witnessing death and experiencing

⁵ While a respondent can for example cite 'physical violence' in multiple locations in one country, this analysis aggregates such mentions; thus it shows the proportion of respondents who perceive a particular type of risk in relation to a given country but does not capture whether that person perceives the risk in multiple locations within a given country.

detention and kidnapping. This likely reflects the prominence in Libya of the practice of seizing migrants and holding them for ransom. It is also fairly common for refugees and migrants to be detained there in the context of forced labor.

Top risks cited by gender

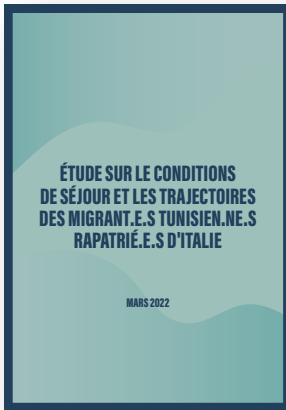
Figure 3: Main risks perceived by respondents transiting Algeria, Libya and Tunisia, by gender



Perceptions between men and women varied according to the type of risk. Across the board, women respondents more frequently perceived a risk of sexual violence than did men respondents. As for Tunisia, overall, it appeared that women were more likely to perceive specific violations than men, which corresponds with the fact that 15% of women respondents who passed through Tunisia cited dangerous locations there in comparison to 7% of men.

In the cases of both Algeria and Libya, there was more variation to be seen, with bribery/extortion and non-physical violence mentioned more often by men, and kidnapping more often cited by women. Detention in Libya was more often cited by men, but detention in Algeria was cited by almost exactly a third of both men and women.

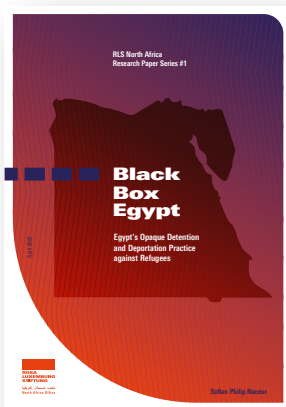
Highlighted New Research and Reports



[Survey on the residence conditions and trajectories of Tunisian migrants repatriated from Italy](#)

FTDS-ASF-ASGI | March/April 2022

This report, jointly produced by Avocats sans Frontières (ASF), the Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights (FTDES) and the Association for Legal Studies on Immigration (ASGI), highlights the conditions of residence and the trajectories of irregular Tunisian migrants in Italy. Based on a quantitative survey of a group of Tunisians who crossed the sea to Italy, the study aims to understand the control mechanisms leading to their repatriation from Italy.



[Black Box Egypt: Egypt's Opaque Detention and Deportation Practice against Refugees](#)

Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, North Africa Office | April 2022

This report seeks to shed light on Egypt's migration and border control policy. The report notes that refugees, asylum seekers and migrants from African countries based in Egypt are particularly exposed to arbitrary treatment by the authorities and in daily life. According to the report, they have no regular access to public education and health services, are mostly barred from registering a residency, are excluded from formal employment (given current labour and residency legislation), and are thus systematically pushed into informality.



[Out of Libya: Opening safe pathways for migrants stuck in Libya](#)

Médecins Sans Frontières | June 2022

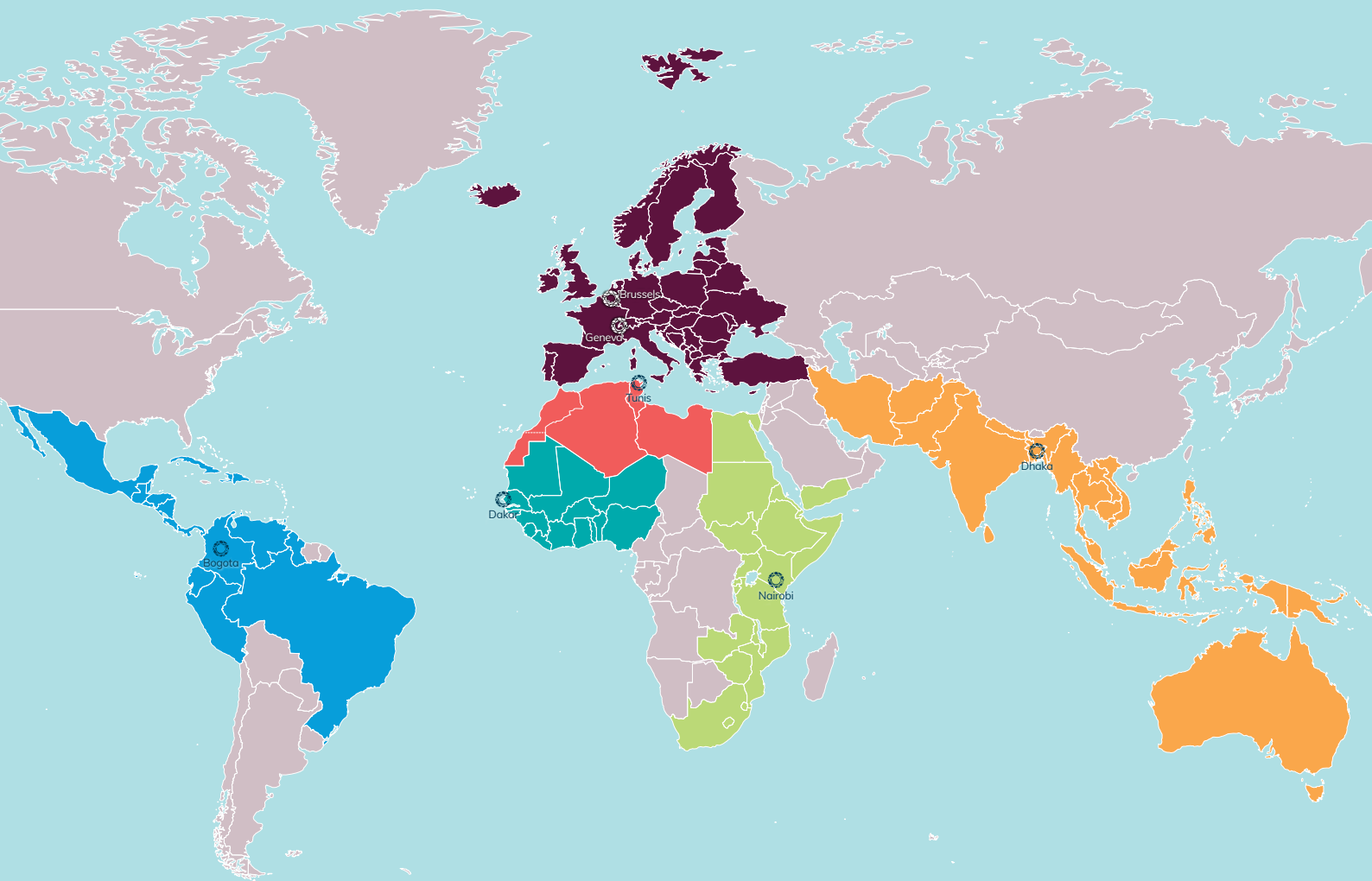
This report aims to provide an overview of existing legal pathways out of Libya and MSF's experience at referring cases via those mechanisms. It finds that in a context in which refugees and migrants face significant abuse and rights violations, particularly in detention, safe and legal options to leave Libya remain extremely scarce. In shedding light on this reality, the report points to operational limitations on the part of UN agencies, unwillingness on the part of third countries to accept resettlement, and a Libyan environment with no security and legal safeguards for refugees and migrants. MSF proposes the development and expansion of complementary pathways for particularly vulnerable migrants and is calling on European and North American states, among others, to offer protection to migrants currently trapped in Libya.



[Interactive: The European approach to stopping Libya migration](#)

The New Humanitarian | June 2022

This special report explores the "abusive and deadly" effects of EU and Libyan policies in the central Mediterranean. As of 2021, an average of four people died each day attempting the crossing, and tens of thousands of others were intercepted and returned to Libyan detention centers where abuse is rampant. Through an interactive storyline, the article lays out the manner in which search and rescue at sea are supposed to work, and contrasts this with the prevailing reality in the central Mediterranean. It then traces specific policies and activities on the part of Libyan authorities and EU states and institutions that led to the current situation.



MMC is a global network engaged in data collection, research, analysis, and policy and programmatic development on mixed migration, with regional hubs hosted in DRC regional offices in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America, and a small global team in Geneva.

MMC is a leading source for independent and high-quality data, research, analysis and expertise. 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. MMC's overarching focus is on human rights and protection for all people on the move.

MMC is part of and governed by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC). Global and regional MMC teams are based in Brussels, Geneva, Dakar, Nairobi, Tunis, Bogota and Dhaka.

For more information visit:
mixedmigration.org and follow us at [@Mixed_Migration](https://twitter.com/Mixed_Migration)

