



Blurring the line between external and internal security: The case of EU's maritime operation Sophia

Crisis Management Operations

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Operation EUNAVFOR MED Sophia



launched on June 22, 2015 as part of an EU comprehensive approach to manage illegal migration disrupt the networks of traffickers and smugglers.

EU's comprehensive response includes root causes:

- military conflict
- poverty
- harassment.

The mission's core mandate:



- systematically identification, capture and disposal of smuggler's ships
- disrupt the southern smuggling and trafficking business model
- prevent further death in the sea



Background



Crisis in the Mediterranean Sea:

- 3,500 people died in 2014
- 3,700 people died in 2015
 - more than 1,200 in couple months
- 22,000 in total since 2000s

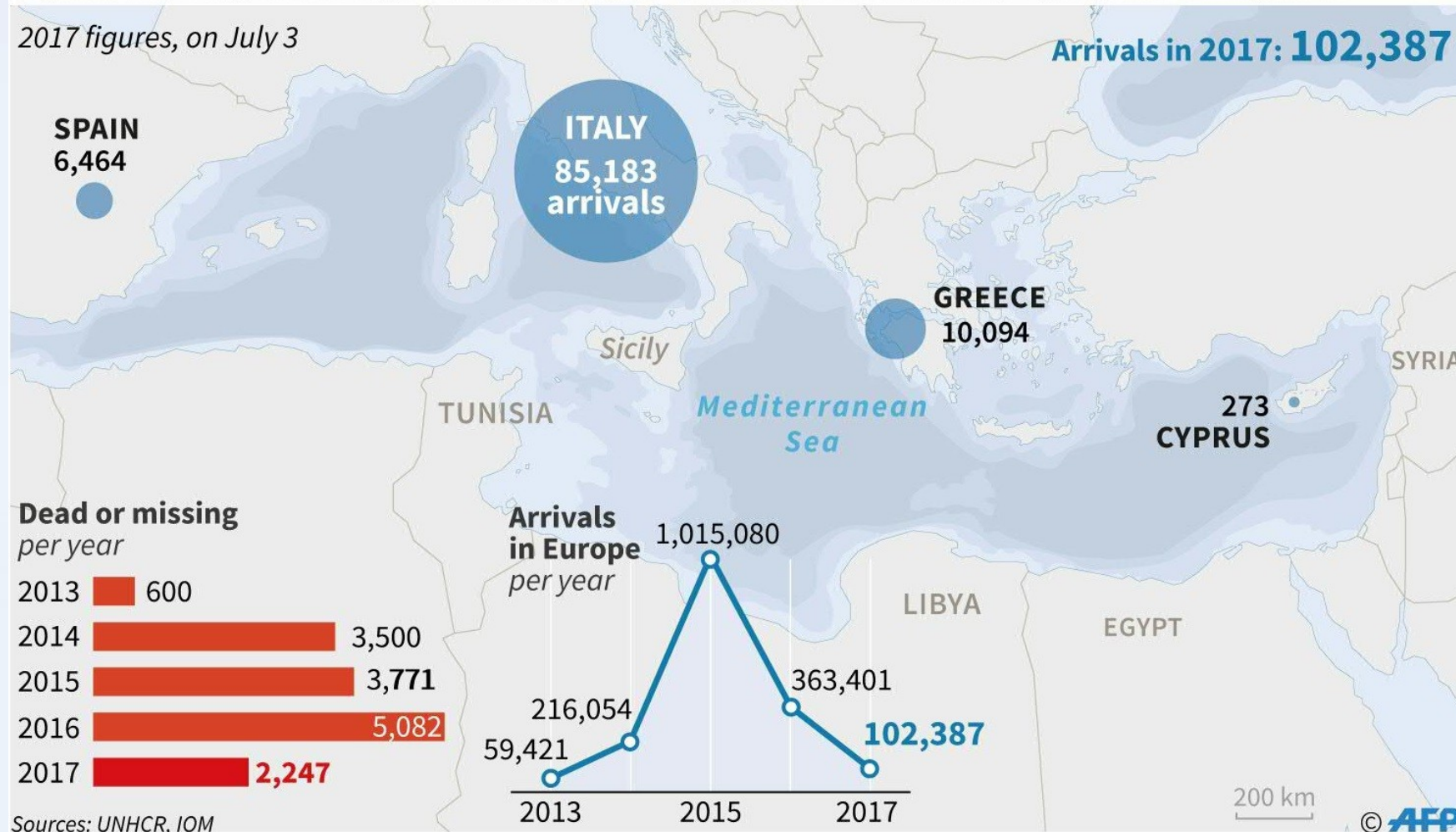
Location of the operation Sophia



Migration across the Mediterranean to Europe

Migrants and refugees arriving in Europe by sea, according to the International Organisation for Migration

2017 figures, on July 3



Problem-solving programs



- improve border management
- voluntary return to origin countries
- ensure adequate reception conditions for migrants in Libya



Expansion of the mandate



- create a monitoring mechanism to ensure the long-term effectiveness of training for the Libyan coast guard;
- conduct new observations and collect information on illicit trafficking in oil exports from Libya;
- expand the exchange of information on trafficking in persons with the law enforcement agencies of the Member States, **FRONTEX** and **EUROPOL**

FRONTEX - European Border and Coast Guard Agency

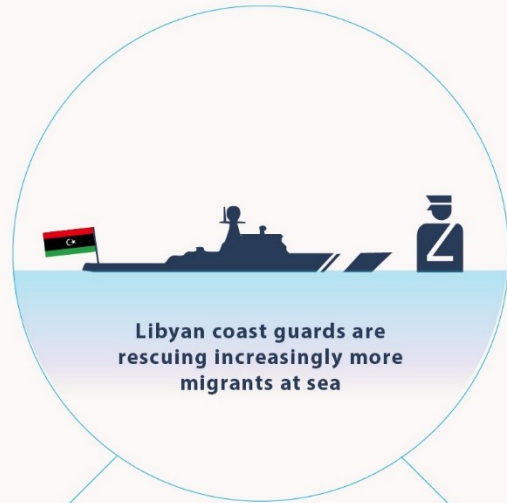
EUROPOL - The European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation

Palpable outcomes



Migration flows: EU action in Libya

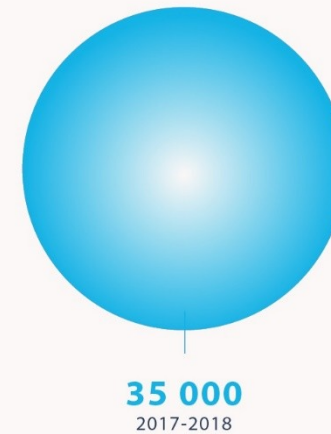
EU SUPPORT FOR LIBYAN COASTGUARDS IS PAYING OFF



15 235
rescued by the Libyan coast guard in 2018

400
Libyan coastguards trained by EU members states since 2016

VOLUNTARY HUMANITARIAN RETURNS OF MIGRANTS IN LIBYA:



A growing number of migrants are safely returning home thanks to EU-funded voluntary returns carried by the International Organization for Migration.

61 300
received direct assistance (non-food items and hygiene kits)

89 700
received medical assistance

16
social infrastructures rehabilitated or equipped: health care centres, clinics, schools and electrical substations



Thanks for your attention