



International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The UN Migration Agency

DTM

**FLOW MONITORING SURVEYS:
THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND OTHER EXPLOITATIVE
PRACTICES INDICATION SURVEY**
MIGRANTS INTERVIEWED ALONG
THE CENTRAL AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTES COMPARED
OCTOBER 2017

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PHOTO: ITALIAN COAST GUARD RESCUES MIGRANTS IN THE CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN SEA
F. MALAVOLTA IOM 2014



9,483 surveys conducted in Italy, Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Kosovo, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia from February to September 2017

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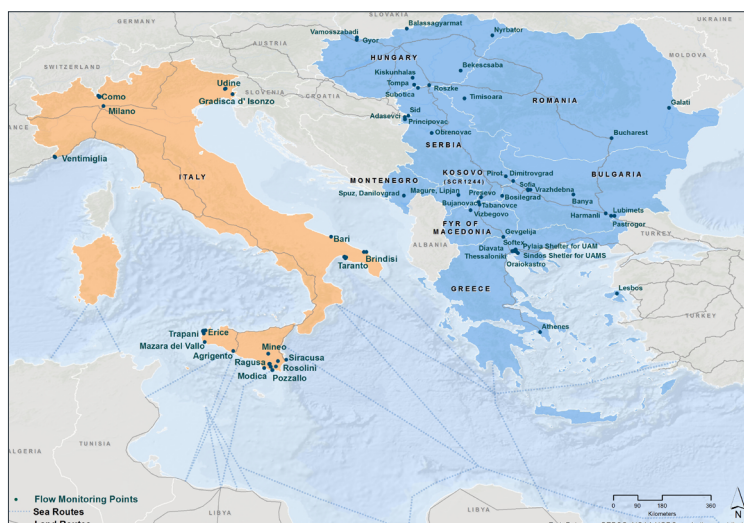
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About DTM's Flow Monitoring Surveys

These surveys started in October 2015 and are being conducted within the framework of IOM's research on populations on the move through the Mediterranean and Western Balkan Routes to Europe. This report presents the results of a round carried out by IOM field staff in Italy (Central Mediterranean route) and Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (Eastern Mediterranean route) from February to September 2017.

This round of surveys is part of the IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) flow monitoring activities in the Mediterranean, using a structured questionnaire which has been piloted in 2015-2016 and later revised following the feedback received from field missions, different IOM departments and relevant partners. The revised questionnaire includes more indicators on the protection aspect, especially in relation to children on the move and human trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators. In addition, two questions containing indicators of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) were included as a pilot on the Central Mediterranean route only.

Focus of the report

This report contains an analysis of the responses provided by migrants and refugees travelling along the Central and the Eastern Mediterranean Route and interviewed under IOM's displacement tracking matrix activities between February and September 2017. The total sample is composed of 9,483 interviews collected in Italy (Central Mediterranean route) and Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (Eastern Mediterranean route).

The report analyses comparatively the profile and responses of migrants and refugees interviewed on both routes. **Section 1** provides an overview of the content of the survey, with a focus on the set of questions on individual and witnessed experiences of human trafficking and other exploitative practices. **Section 2** presents the analysis on interviewees' responses to the human trafficking and other exploitative practices' indicators on the two routes. **Section 3** presents some baseline information on the two sub-samples to contextualize the reported experiences of human trafficking and other exploitative practices. The last section (**Section 4**) contains more detailed information on the applied methodology and the data collection process.

1. The Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS) module on human trafficking and other exploitative practices

The FMS gathers information on migrants' profiles, including age, sex, areas of origin, levels of education and employment status before migration, key transit points on their route, cost of the journey, reasons for leaving the place of residence and intended destination(s).

The survey also includes a module aiming at measuring prevalence of human trafficking and other exploitative practices that the respondents or other migrants travelling with them might have experienced on the route. More specifically, in the considered periods of DTM data collection in the Mediterranean, six questions were included to capture information about whether or not the respondent has, during their journey:

1. Worked or performed activities without getting the expected payment (direct experience);
2. Been forced to perform work or activities against their will (direct experience);
3. Been approached by someone with offers of an arranged marriage (for the respondent or anyone in his or her family) (direct experience);
4. Been kept at a certain location against their will (direct experience);
5. Been aware of instances where migrants en route had been approached by people offering cash in exchange for blood, organs, or other body parts (observed);
6. Been aware of instances where migrants en route had been forced to give blood, organs, or other body parts (observed).

Two additional questions on physical and sexual violence have been piloted only in Italy, to capture whether a migrant has, during the journey:

7. Experienced physical violence of any sort (direct experience);
8. Been aware of instances where migrants travelling with him/her have been threatened with sexual violence (observed).

The following section focuses on the first four questions, which are related to individual experiences, personally lived by the respondent. In the context of this analysis, the positive response to at least one of these four questions is presented as a cumulative positive indicator of an individual experience of human trafficking and other exploitative practices. Question 7 also refers to an individual experience, but was not included in the cumulative indicator of human trafficking and other exploitative practices as it was piloted in Italy only. Questions 5, 6 and 8 refer to observed experiences, and the results are presented separately.

The experiences described in these questions do not aim to identify cases of human trafficking as defined by international legal instruments. If, while conducting the survey, interviewers come across people with potential protection needs they are referred to the relevant protection actor with the migrant's consent.

2. Indicators of human trafficking and exploitation of migrants en route: Central and Eastern Mediterranean route compared

2.1. Central Mediterranean route results

This section presents results of the DTM Flow Monitoring Survey conducted between mid-February and mid-August 2017 in Sicily and Apulia in the South, and Lombardy, Liguria and Friuli Venezia Giulia, in the North of Italy. The Central Mediterranean sample has 4,712 valid interviews¹ with migrants coming from 47 different countries of origin.

Main findings

- 77% of all migrants answered “yes” to at least one of the four human trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators based on their own direct experience;
- The share of migrants who reported at least one of the four exploitative practices included in the survey is 75% among adult males, 67% among adult females and 88% among children²;

¹ DTM data collectors approached a total of 5,695 migrants, of which 983 (17%) did not want to participate to the survey or had already participated before.

² Out of the 725 children in the Central Mediterranean sample, only 28 are females. Hence, statistics are not calculated distinguishing between male from female children.

- An additional **1%** of respondents reported that a family member travelling with him/her experienced a situation described by one of the exploitative practices indicators (0.8% among males, 5.6% among females);
- **47%** of all migrants responded positively to at least 2 out of 4 indicators of human trafficking and other exploitative practices (47% among adult males, 31% among adult females and 57% among children);
- **79%** of all respondents in 2017 reported of having experienced physical violence of any sort during their journey;
- Migrants coming from Eastern, Western and Central-Southern Africa report the highest shares of positive responses, around 10 percentage points more than the average on this route (90%, 87% and 87% respectively). Migrants from Western Asia are those with the lowest share of positive responses (30%);
- Events captured by the four indicators of individual experiences included in the survey are reported to take place mostly in Libya (92% of all cases), with a small number of events reported to have taken place also in Algeria (2.8%), Sudan (1.3%), Turkey (0.8%) and other West and Northern African countries.

Direct experiences

• Being held against one's will

63% of all respondents reported having been held in a location against their will during the journey, by armed individuals or groups other than any relevant governmental authorities. Children and adult male migrants reported to have experienced this more often than adult women (77%, 61% and 55% respectively). Most reported events fall into the category of kidnapping for the purpose of requesting a ransom or were related to detention by armed individuals and physical restrictions of movement to a closed space, such as a garage or a connection house. Libya is the country reported in most of the cases (91%) and locations most frequently mentioned are Tripoli, Sabratah, Bani Walid, Sabha and Zawiya. Many respondents reported to have been blocked by non-state actors while in transit from one city to the other (from Sabah or Gatrún to Tripoli, from Tripoli to Sabratah or Zawiya etc.). Other reported countries were Sudan (3%), Turkey (1%), Iran (1%) and Algeria (0.8%).

• Having worked without getting the expected payment

48% of all respondents reported having worked or provided services for someone during their journey without receiving the expected payment. Adult males and children reported to have experienced unpaid labour almost twice more frequently than adult women (49% both versus 26% among adult women).

Migrants referred to payments indefinitely delayed by the employer or broker, to threats by an armed individual at the workplace, or to have worked without remuneration as a way of being freed from a condition of arbitrary detention. Construction, agricultural and farm work, cleaning and car washing, gardening and housekeeping are the activities most frequently mentioned. Most reported situations of unpaid work happened in Libya (89%), with also some instances reported in Algeria (6%), Niger (1%) and Turkey (1%).

• Being forced to work

31% of all respondents stated they had been forced to work or perform activities against their will. Children and adult males reported to have been forced to work more often than adult females (38%, 30% and 27% respectively). Nearly all of these events were reported to have taken place in Libya (97%) – mainly in Tripoli, Sabratah, Sabha, Bani Walid, Zawiya and Brak – with others also in Algeria (Tamanrasset, Oran) and Niger (Agadez). Working in the construction sector, farm work, cleaning and housekeeping are the most frequently mentioned sectors in which instances of being forced to work occurred. Out of the hundred migrant women who reported being forced to work, ten said to have been forced into sexual work and prostitution, and other three to have been forced to dance and perform entertainment activities in bars.

• Being approached by someone with offers of an arranged marriage

0.3% of all respondents reported having been approached with offers of an arranged marriage (personally or for a close family member). Women reported this instance more often than men (2.9% of female respondents versus 0.1% of males). No child reported this type of experience.

• Having experienced physical violence

79% of all migrants interviewed reported to have suffered from a kind of physical violence during the journey; the rest of those who answered this question did not experience it (20%) or declined to respond (1%). Physical violence was reported by 78% of adult males, 66% of adult women and 88% of children between 14 and 17 years of age. Migrants said to have experienced a severe physical mistreatment and that they have been suffered from hunger and thirst. In some cases, migrants showed to data collectors scars and visible signs of this violence on their bodies.

Around 82% of all events have been reported to have happened in Libya, followed by Algeria (3%), Iran (3%), Bulgaria (2%) and Niger (2%). Most frequently mentioned locations were Tripoli, Sabratah, Sabha, Bani Walid, the Debdeb and Teneré deserts areas (borders between Algeria and Libya and between Niger and Libya) Sofia and the forest areas at the borders between Bulgaria and Serbia, Agadez, Tamanrasset, Teheran and Khartoum.

Other observed experiences by migrants along the route

● Offers of cash in exchange for blood, organs or body parts

0.6% of all respondents reported to know of instances where people on the journey have been approached by someone offering cash in exchange for giving blood, organs or body parts. Only one female migrant reported this observation, out of a total of thirty migrants.

● Forced to give blood, organs or body parts

2.1% of all respondents reported to know of instances during the journey where people have been forced to give either blood, organs or body parts against their will. Less than one per cent (0.6%) of female respondents and 2.6% of male respondents reported this instance.

Of the 127 respondents who reported knowing of one of these two instances that may amount to organ trafficking, 97 were adults and 29 were children. These were reported to have taken place in Libya in 78% of the cases (mainly in Bani Walid, Tripoli and Sabha), followed by Egypt (7%, Cairo and Alexandria), Turkey (4%, Istanbul), and other countries.

● Threatened with sexual violence

30% of all respondents reported to have observed someone travelling with them having been threatened with sexual violence during the journey. The rest of the respondents did not experience it (58%), didn't know (10%) or declined to respond (2%). Adult women reported to have witnessed these kinds of threats more often than adult men and children in the sample (47%, 29% and 27% respectively). Approximately 7% migrants of the total sample were not asked this question due to the sensitive nature of the topic¹.

These experiences have been reported in Libya in 93% of the cases, followed by Niger (2%), Algeria (2%) and Sudan (1%). Tripoli, Sabratah, Sabha, Bani Walid and desert areas of southern Libya at the border with Algeria, Niger and Sudan are the most frequently reported locations. Migrants described the events they saw as involving both men and women; in some cases, migrants voluntarily told data collectors that they personally experienced sexual violence or abuse. Some acknowledged to have escaped from a potential rape in the streets. Others reported of rapes of both men and women while been kept in closed places, by either the groups managing non-official detention centres or by external men allowed to enter.

Profile of migrants who answered "yes" to at least one of the four trafficking and other exploitative practices questions of the survey, based on their direct experience

Nationality

Among national groups with more than 50 respondents, Bangladeshis, Somalis and Senegalese were those with the highest share of positive responses (96%, 95% and 92%) while the lowest share of positive respondents was among Tunisians (6%), Iraqis and Libyans (10% both) and Syrians (16%).

Age

The average age of migrants responding positively to at least one out of four indicators was 21 years, with median age 23. Male migrants who responded positively were 1 year younger than female migrants on average. Among those who did not respond positively to these questions, the average age was 24 and the median 25.

Sex

Male migrants responded positively to at least one out of the four indicators of exploitation more often than women, with a difference of 11 percentage points (78% versus 67%). Children responded positively in 88% of the cases, more often than both adult males (75%) and adult females (67%).

Travelling mode

Migrants who travelled alone or with a group of non-family members responded more positively than migrants travelling with a group of family (78% versus 67%). Among adults only, migrants traveling alone responded positively in 75% of the cases, while those travelling in a group of non-family members responded positively in 76% of the cases. Migrants travelling with family responded positively in 66% of the cases. Among children only, 89% of those travelling alone responded positively, followed by 85% of those traveling with a group of non-family people and by 71% of those travelling with family members.

Out of the total sample, 85% of adult men, 84% of children and 57% of adult women reported to have travelled alone. Adult women more than adult men or children reported to have travelled with family members (33% versus 5% for both men and children).

¹ IOM data collectors conducted the surveys with particular attention to the sensitive nature of the questions asked, and did not asked certain questions if they were likely to harm the migrants interviewed.

Length of the journey

Longer periods spent in transit from one country to the next are associated with a higher share of positive responses to at least one of the trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators. Highest rates of positive responses are registered among migrants spending in transit between 6 months and one year (89%), and more than one year (87%). Also, migrants who did not mention a transit country, because they departed after having spent more than 1 year in Libya (secondary migration, see below), have comparable high rates of positive responses (81%). The lowest share of positive responses is registered among migrants who travelled for less than one month (36%).

Among those who responded positively to at least one of the indicators of exploitation, adult males reported to have spent in transit 197 days on average (median value 182 days), adult females spent in transit 154 days on average (media value 128 days) and children recorded 202 days in transit on average (median value 188 days). Migrants who did not report any personal experience of exploitation recorded to have spent in transit on average 97 days (adult males), 105 (adult females) and 165 days (children).

Secondary migration movements

Secondary migration – having spent one year or more in a country different from that of origin before moving again towards Europe – is associated with higher shares of positive responses to the exploitative indicators in comparison with migrants who moved from origin without settling or stopping for more than one year in a third country (80% versus 74%). The difference between migrants departing from origin and those departing from a third country is of 5 percentage points among males (80% versus 75%) and of 9% percentage points for females (73% versus 64%). Migrants who engaged in secondary migration departed from Libya in 69% of the cases, followed by Algeria (6%), Sudan (2%), Turkey (2%) and many other countries.

2.2. Eastern Mediterranean route's results

This section presents results of the 4,771 valid interviews¹ conducted between mid-February and the end of August 2017 in Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The survey has been conducted with respondents of 66 nationalities.

Main findings

- **10%** of individuals answered “yes” to at least one of the four human trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators based on their own direct experience; adult females responded positively more often than adult males and children (15%, 9% and 9% respectively);
- An additional **0.5%** of respondents reported that a family member travelling with him/her experienced a situation described by one of the trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators;
- **6%** of individuals responded positively to at least 2 out of 4 indicators of human trafficking and other exploitative practices (5% among adult males, 12% among adult females and 1% among children);
- Migrants coming from Central-Southern, Western and Eastern Africa report the highest shares of positive respondents, far higher than the average (66%, 61% and 52% respectively). Migrants from Western Asia are those with the lowest share of positive responses (3%);
- Incidents related to the four indicators of individual experiences included in the survey are reported to take place mostly in Turkey (78% of all cases), followed by Greece (14%), Bulgaria (4%), Iran (1%) and other countries.

Direct experiences

• Being held against one's will

1.2% of all respondents reported having been held in a location against their will during the journey, by armed individuals or groups other than the relevant governmental authorities. Children and adult females reported this instance more often than adult males (3.7%, 1.4% and 0.9% respectively). Bulgaria is the reported country where most incidents of being held against one's will occurred, followed by Turkey and Greece. The majority of all reported incidents happened to migrant men. Increasing controls at the border between Iran and Turkey and between Turkey and Bulgaria seem to force more migrants to spend some time in locations under the control of smugglers, until the price and journey arrangements are setup. Some migrants reported of having been kidnapped by smugglers in Turkey and Bulgaria in order to extort more money before arranging the onward journey.

¹ DTM data collectors approached a total of 5,131 migrants, of which 360 (7%) did not want to participate to the survey or had already participated before.

- **Having worked without being paid**

8% of all interviewees reported having worked or provided services for someone during their journey without receiving the expected remuneration in return. Adult women reported instances of unpaid labour more frequently than adult men and children (12%, 8% and 6% respectively). Three quarters of all incidents happened in Turkey (76%), followed by Greece (20%), Iran (1%) and other countries. Male respondents most frequently referred to have been worked without payment in the agricultural sector, in construction and in the manufacturing industry (especially textile). Female respondents reported to have experienced unpaid labour when they worked in bar and restaurants or as housekeeper/servant in private households.

- **Being forced to work**

5% of respondents stated they had been forced to work or perform activities against their will. Nearly all of these events were reported to have taken place in Turkey (95%) and especially in Izmir, Ayvalik and Istanbul, followed by few others in Greece. A higher percentage of adult women (12%) than adult men (4%) reported that they were forced to work; one child reported this instance. Construction and agricultural work are the most frequently mentioned occupations named by men, while women reported to have been forced to serve as housekeepers in private households or to work as waitresses in bars and restaurants, in some cases accompanying clients in dancing and drinking.

- **Individuals approached by someone with offers of an arranged marriage**

0.7% of all respondents reported having been approached with offers of an arranged marriage (for the respondent or for a close family member). Women were much more likely than men to respond positively (3.5% versus 0.2%). No child reported this experience.

Other observed experiences by migrants along the route

- **Offer of cash in exchange for blood, organs or body parts or being forced to give blood, organs or body parts**

Only one interviewed migrant reported to know of instances where people on the journey have been approached by someone offering cash in exchange for giving blood, organs or body parts. Similarly, none of the respondents reported being forced to give blood, organs or body parts while in transit. Additionally, 3 men and 1 child reported to have been aware of instances during the journey where people have been forced to give either blood, organs or body parts against their will (0.1% of the sample).

Profile of migrants who answered “yes” to at least one of the trafficking and other exploitative practices questions, based on their direct individual experience

Nationality

Among the national groups with more than 50 observations, migrants from Nigeria, Cameroon and Somalia reported the highest share of positive responses (89%, 80% and 66% respectively). The lowest shares of positive respondents are found among Pakistanis (10%), Iraqis (6%), Afghans (5%), Iranians, Iraqis and Syrians (4%, 3% and 2% respectively).

Age

The mean age of migrants who responded positively to at least one out of four indicators was 26 years, with median age 24. Migrants with no positive responses to exploitative practices had a higher average age, of 28. Women who responded positively had 24 years on average, while men who responded positively were 26.5 years old.

Sex

On average, the share of positive responses to at least one indicator of the trafficking and other exploitative practices was higher for women (15%) than for men (9%). Women have a higher percentage of positive responses for all indicators, with the exception of those circumstances in which migrants were held against will, when the percentage of positive responses was similar for both men and women (1.1% and 1.4%).

Travelling mode

The highest percentage of positive responses is found among migrants who travelled alone. Migrants who travelled alone responded positively in 18% of the cases, while migrants travelling in a group of non-family members responded positively in 8% of the cases and migrants travelling with at least one family member responded positively in 4% of the cases.

On this migration route, 55% of children, 40% of adult men and 16% of adult women travelled alone. Most adult women reported to have travelled with at least one family member (77%).

Length of the journey

Migrants who spent in transit between 3 and 6 months had the highest percentage of positive responses (35%) followed by migrants travelling more than 6 months (8%). Migrants who spent in transit less than one month in total had the lowest share of positive responses in the sample (5%).

Secondary migration movements

Individuals whose travel to Europe was a secondary migration movement had a slightly higher rate of positive responses to trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators than the rest of the sample (11%) than migrants who took a direct journey from their country of origin to Europe (10%).

3. Contexts of the Central and the Eastern Mediterranean routes

Different characteristics of the journey to Europe and of migrants' profile interviewed on the Eastern Mediterranean and the Central Mediterranean routes can explain the observed difference in the rates of positive answers to the trafficking and other exploitation indicators.

The main national groups interviewed along the Central Mediterranean route and the Eastern Mediterranean route are different. In Italy, the first five groups of migrants interviewed are from Nigeria (14%), Guinea (8%), Pakistan (8%), the Gambia (8%), Bangladesh (8%). The same nationalities represent around 43% of all migrants arrived in Italy in the first eight months of 2017. Pakistanis are over-represented in the sample compared to total arrivals in Italy, due to a 2-month purposive data collection run in Friuli Venezia Giulia (border with Slovenia), but overall the sample compares well with the official statistics on arrivals by sea¹.

The main national groups surveyed on Eastern Mediterranean route are Afghanistan (25%), Syria (20%), Pakistan (20%), Iraq (11%) and Iran (5%). According to the official statistics¹, migrants from Syria (40%), Iraq (19%), Afghanistan (10%) and Pakistan (5%) comprise 74% of the overall sea arrivals to Greece since the beginning of 2017¹. Although the majority of interviews conducted on the Eastern Mediterranean route are concentrated around few national groups, the range of nationalities is wider for the Eastern Mediterranean sample than for the Central Mediterranean sample (66 versus 47 nationalities).

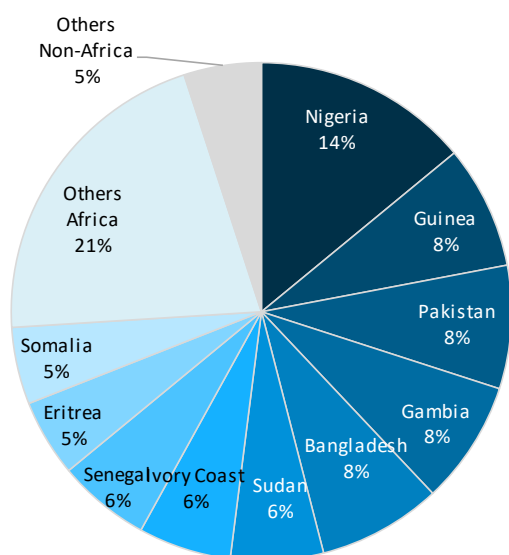


Fig. 1: Share of respondents by nationality - Central Mediterranean route.

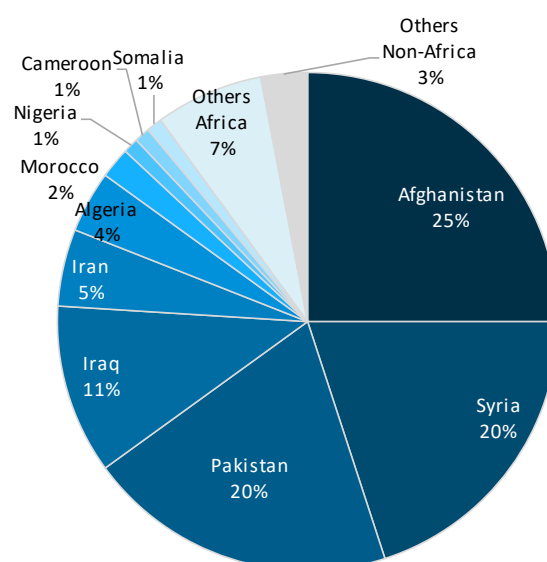


Fig. 2: Share of respondents by nationality - Eastern Mediterranean route.

Age and sex

Respondents travelling along the Central Mediterranean route are usually younger than those who travel along the Eastern Mediterranean route. The average age of respondents in Italy is 23, while the average age of migrants on Eastern Mediterranean route is 28.

¹ Please check the "Q3 2017 - Summary of Arrivals to Europe" report available at <http://migration.iom.int/europe/> for updated IOM compilation of data on arrivals by official sources.

Male respondents comprise majority of migrants surveyed on both routes, but the share of adult women is higher on the Eastern Mediterranean route than in the Central Mediterranean one. Children between 14 and 17 years old represent 15% of all respondents in Italy and 6% of respondents on Eastern Mediterranean route. On the Central Mediterranean route, 55% of respondents has between 18 and 25 years, while on Eastern Mediterranean route 54% of the respondents has more than 25 years.

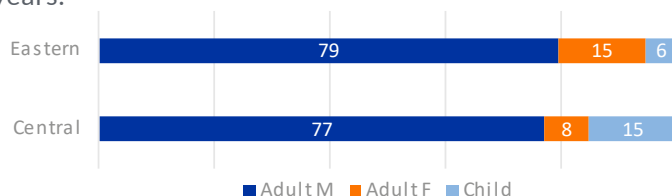


Fig. 3: Share of respondents by sex, age and route.

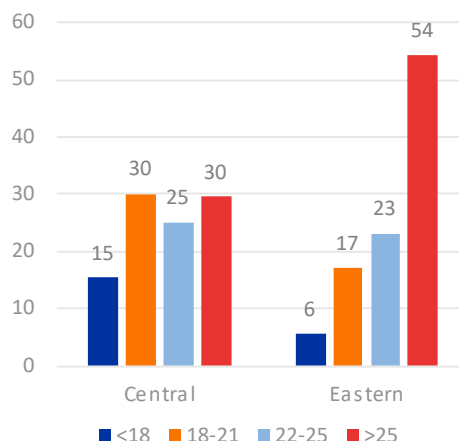


Fig. 4: Share of respondents by age groups and route.

Level of education

The largest share of migrants on both routes reported to have achieved a lower-secondary education level. However, 26% of the Central Mediterranean sample reported of having no formal education, compared to 16% of the Eastern Mediterranean sample. Also, migrants interviewed along the Eastern Mediterranean route reported to have a tertiary education degree in 6% of the cases compared to 3% on the Central Mediterranean route. Among children, 20% never went to school (22% on the Central, 16% on the Eastern Med route) while 22% left school less than one year prior to the interview, 25% between one and two years before being interviewed, 31% more than two years prior to the interview. Additionally, 2% did not know when it was the last time in which attended school.

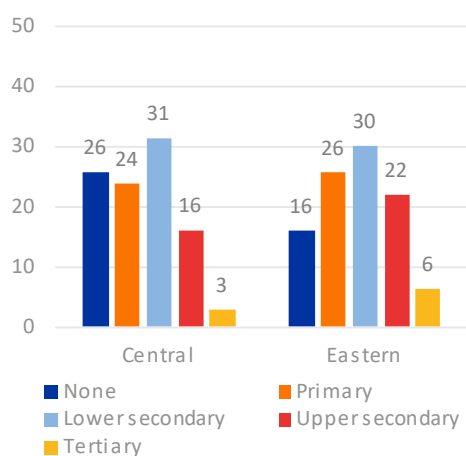


Fig. 5: Share of respondents by education level and route.

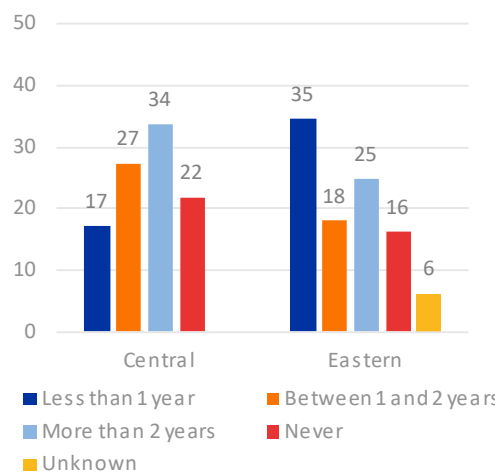


Fig. 6: Share of child respondents by last time they went to school and route.

Civil status

On the Central Mediterranean route, 79% of the respondents reported to be single, 19% to be married and 2% of being widowed or divorced. On the Eastern Mediterranean route, 59% of all respondents were single, 39% were married and 2% were widowed or divorced. On both routes, women who report being married are approximately twice as many as men (33% versus 18% among those interviewed in Italy; 67% versus 34% among those on the Eastern Mediterranean route). Nineteen per cent of respondents in Italy have at least one child, compared to 37% of migrants on the Eastern Mediterranean route.

Employment status before departure

The majority of respondents (56%) on both routes report to either being employed or self-employed at the time of departure from the country of origin or habitual residence. More migrants along the Central Mediterranean route than along the Eastern Mediterranean one report being a student before leaving (13% versus 7%). Migrants who say they had been unemployed before departure are more frequent among the Eastern than the Central Mediterranean sample (37% versus 31%). Overall, adult women reported being unemployed prior to departure more often than adult men and children (49% versus 32% and 38% respectively).

Among respondents in Italy who had an occupation at the time of departure, 29% had an elementary occupation, 25% did skilled manual work, 22% worked as retailers and sales people, 8% had a professional or technical occupation, 7% were craft workers, 4% were machine operators and 4% were in the army. On the Eastern Mediterranean route instead, 41% were retailers or worked in the service sector, 20% were skilled manual workers, 13% had a professional, managerial or technical occupation, 11% had elementary occupations, 4% were machine operators, 3% were craft workers, 3% were clerks and 4% were in the army. The graphs show the sectors of activities mentioned by respondents by route.

Most of the women who spoke about their past occupation reported to have worked in the domestic sector (42%), or in other care and personal services (21%). Men more often reported to have worked in the retail and trade sector (17%), in agriculture (16%), manufacturing (13%) and construction (13%).

The breakdown of responses by sex/age and by route is presented in the graphs below.

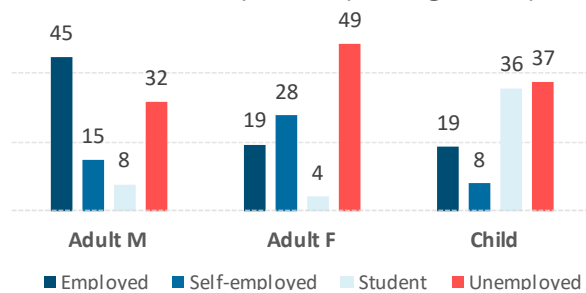


Fig. 7: Share of respondents by employment status before departure and by age/sex.

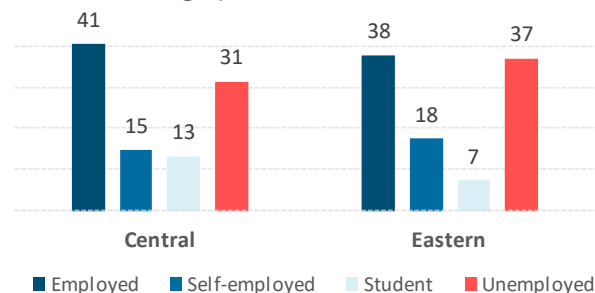


Fig. 8: Share of respondents by employment status before departure and by route.

Travel

The 83% of migrants on the Central Mediterranean route reports to have been travelling alone and 11% to have travelled with a group of non-family members, with only a remaining 6% travelling with at least one family member. On the Eastern Mediterranean route, alongside a majority of migrants travelling alone (37%) a similar number of migrants travelled with family (35%) or with a group of non-family members (28%).

Secondary migration

Most of respondents on the Central Mediterranean route (45%) engaged in secondary migration, starting the journey towards Europe after having spent 1 year or more in a country different from that of origin. Only 10% of respondents surveyed on the Eastern Mediterranean route engaged in secondary migration. Libya (57%), Turkey (7%), Greece (5%), Algeria (5%) and Iran (4%) are the most frequently mentioned countries of departure among migrants who stopped for more than one year in a country different from the country of origin. Germany also was mentioned by 6% of all respondents, as the country of residence for more than one year before being obliged to go back to either Italy or countries in the Western Balkans according to the Dublin system. Eight per cent of respondents on the Central Mediterranean route and 27% of respondents on the Eastern Mediterranean route report of having been returned at least once to the country where the interview was conducted from countries like The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Switzerland, Hungary, Germany, France and Austria.

Time spent in transit

Migrants interviewed in Italy reported longer periods spent in transit on average than migrants interviewed on the Eastern Mediterranean route. In Italy, respondents have spent in transit 172 days (152 days as median), while on the Central Mediterranean route the average number of days spent in transit was 115 (42 days as median).

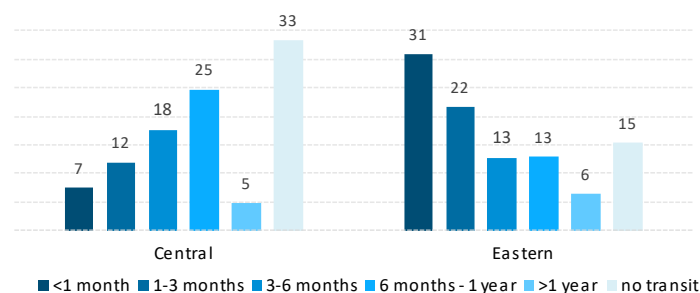


Fig. 9: Share of respondents by time spent in transit and route.

Longer journeys and higher number of transited countries involve different means of transportation and more stops due to high range of circumstances, which increases their vulnerability to abuses and exploitation. Indeed, respondents in Italy have reported to have had longer stops at various legs of the journey (more than 5 days) as they were waiting for transportation or other travel arrangements (37%), they were working (21%), detained or kidnapped (21%) or trying to collect money to continue to travel (11%). On the Eastern Mediterranean route, migrants reported to have had long stops because they were waiting for transportation means or other travel arrangements in 61% of the cases, followed by those who found the route closed (18%) and those who were working in transit countries (10%).

No transit is reported by all migrants who have moved directly from the departure country to the country where the interview was recorded. On the Central Mediterranean route, 34% of all respondents reported to have left without intermediate transit countries from Libya to Italy, after more than one year spent there. Moreover, of the migrants engaging in secondary migration movements, 68% stayed in Libya between 1 and 2 years, 20% spent there between 2 and 3 years and 13% stayed there more than 3 years. On the Eastern Mediterranean route migrants who settled for more than one year in a country different from origin departed mainly from Turkey (33%), Greece (25%) and Iran (21%) and reported to have spent there between 1 and 2 years in more than half of the cases (56%).

Out of those travelling with a group of family or non-family persons, 5% of them reported to have been separated from them during the journey (16% on the Central Mediterranean route, 3% on the Eastern Mediterranean one). In particular, 41% of the total reported to have been separated from their travel companions in Libya, 12 in Greece, 9% in Turkey and 6% in Bulgaria.

Reasons for leaving the origin country

On the Central Mediterranean route, 52% of migrants reported to have left the country of origin because of violence or persecution, 35% reported economic reasons and 21% reported war or conflict as reason for leaving. On the Eastern Mediterranean route, 58% of the respondents reported to have left because of war or conflict in the countries of origin, 48% reported having left their countries of origin due to economic reasons, while 18% reported limited basic services as the reason for leaving. The survey allowed for choosing more than one option as reason for moving, which means that sum of shares for each reason is higher than 100%. The graph in Fig. 10 shows the distribution of all responses by route.

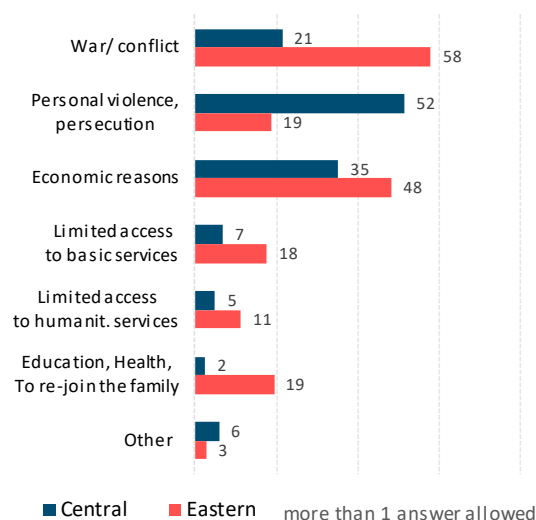


Fig. 10: Share of respondents by reasons for leaving and route.

Reasons for leaving when country of departure is different from that of origin

When migrants left from a departure country different from the one of origin (secondary migration), the survey asked which were the reasons to move again towards Europe, in order to understand to what extent reasons for migration change in time and in different contexts of departure.

Violence and persecution is mentioned by 70% of migrants who engaged in secondary migration within the Central Mediterranean sample, followed by conflict and war (29%), economic reasons (13%) and other reasons (24%, it includes problems with documents and enforcement of the Dublin regulation). On the Eastern Mediterranean route, migrants who engaged in secondary migration report access to basic services (46%) and to humanitarian services (46%), together with economic reasons (42%) and education, health and family reasons (52%) as most frequent reasons for moving.

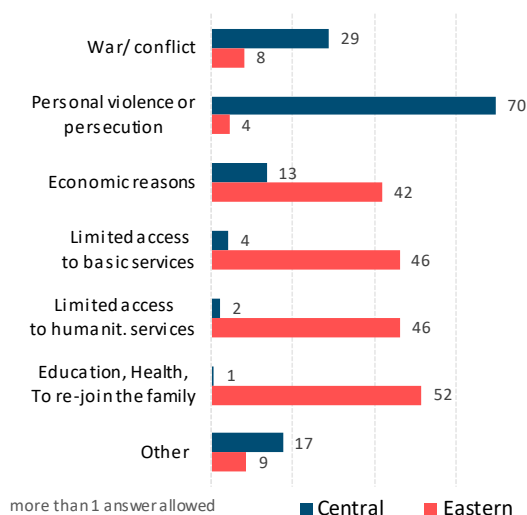


Fig. 11: Share of respondents by reasons for leaving from departure when is different from origin and route.

Cost of journey

The survey asks an estimation of the overall amount paid since the beginning of the journey. On the Central Mediterranean route, respondents reported to have paid between 1,000 and 2,500 USD in 24% of the cases, less than 1,000 USD in 19% of the cases and more than 5,000 USD in 15% of the cases. A share as high as 25% could not provide any estimate of the total amount paid, including the money paid for bribes, ransoms and multiple smuggling services, and 7% declares of not having paid at all (possibly incurring in a debt to be repaid upon arrival).

Journeys on the Eastern Mediterranean route costed between 2,500 and 5,000 USD in 45% of the cases, while 35% paid more than 5,000 USD and 13% paid between 1,000 and 2,500 USD. The complete breakdown of estimated costs by route is presented on the graph below.

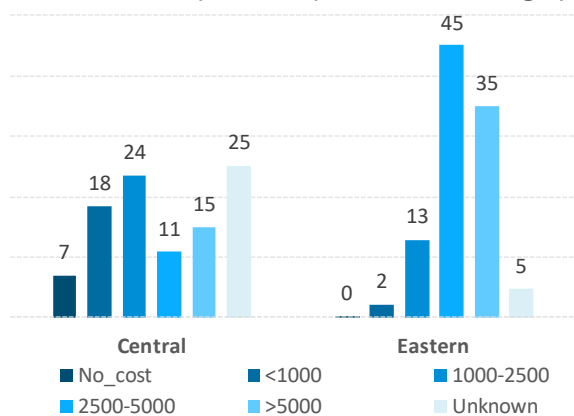


Fig. 12: Share of respondents by total estimated cost of the journey in USD and route.

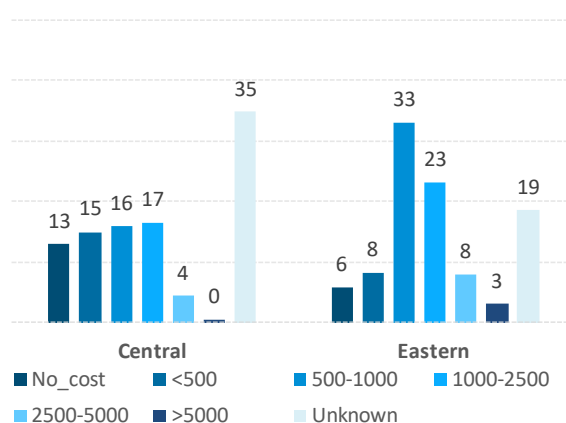


Fig. 13: Share of respondents by cost of the last leg of the journey in USD and route.

Cost of last leg of the journey before the country of interview

The survey also asked about the cost of the last leg of journey, between the last transit country and the country of interview. On the Central Mediterranean route, similar shares of migrants reported to have paid less than 500 USD, between 500 and 1,000 USD or between 1,000 and 2,500 USD (15-17% each), while 35% could not tell any price (because they paid only once for the whole journey) and 13% did not pay at all. Most respondents on the Eastern Mediterranean route (33%) reported to have paid between 500 and 1,000 per person, while 23% reported an estimated cost between 1,000 and 2,500 USD and 19% was not able to estimate the price of the last part of the journey.

Cost of last leg of the journey before the country of interview

Migrants' intentions in terms of final destinations change during the journey, adjusting to the experiences en route and to the conditions and possibilities in the countries where the survey was carried out. Moreover, intended destinations mentioned change between migrants interviewed along the Central and the Eastern Mediterranean route.

On the Central Mediterranean route, respondents reported Italy as the country they had in mind at the time of departure in 35% of the cases, followed by Europe in general (19%) and Libya (13%). Germany, France, United Kingdom and other European countries were also mentioned, while 8% of all respondents did not have a specific destination in mind at the beginning of the journey.

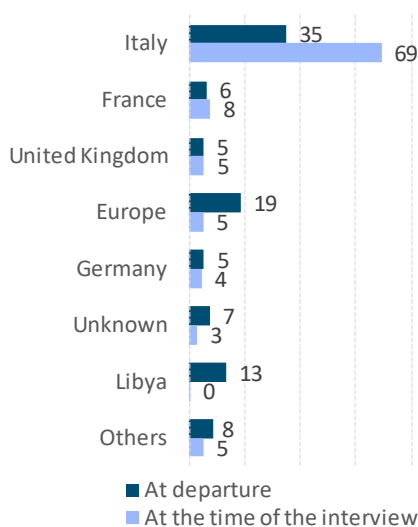


Fig. 14: Share of respondents by intended destination - Central Mediterranean route.

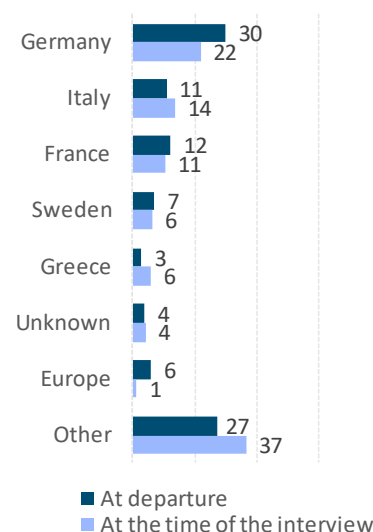


Fig. 15: Share of respondents by intended destination - Eastern Mediterranean route.

On the Eastern Mediterranean route, Germany was reported as first intended destination by 30% of respondents, followed by France (12%), Italy (11%) and Sweden (7%). Other Northern and Central European countries were also mentioned by many.

Migrants were also asked about their intentions at the time of the interview: having arrived in Europe and given their current situation in either Italy, Greece or other Western Balkan countries, where they intend to go or stay. Among migrants interviewed in Italy, 69% reported to be willing to stay in Italy while 8% mentioned France, 5% United Kingdom and 5% Germany. The increase in migrants reporting Italy might be due to the fact that reaching other countries in Europe is more than difficult than what they thought at the beginning of the journey. On the Eastern Mediterranean route, the share of respondents who reports Germany decreases from 30% to 22%, with more respondents reporting Italy (14% versus 11%) and Greece (6% versus 3%) than before.

In Italy, most respondents said that the preference for the intended destination was due to the appealing socio-economic conditions of the country (36%) or to the perceived safety guaranteed there (24%), while others pointed to the fact that it was the only available choice (16%), that the access to the asylum system was perceived accessible (9%), that there were some relatives (9%) or a network of co-nationals (5%) already there.

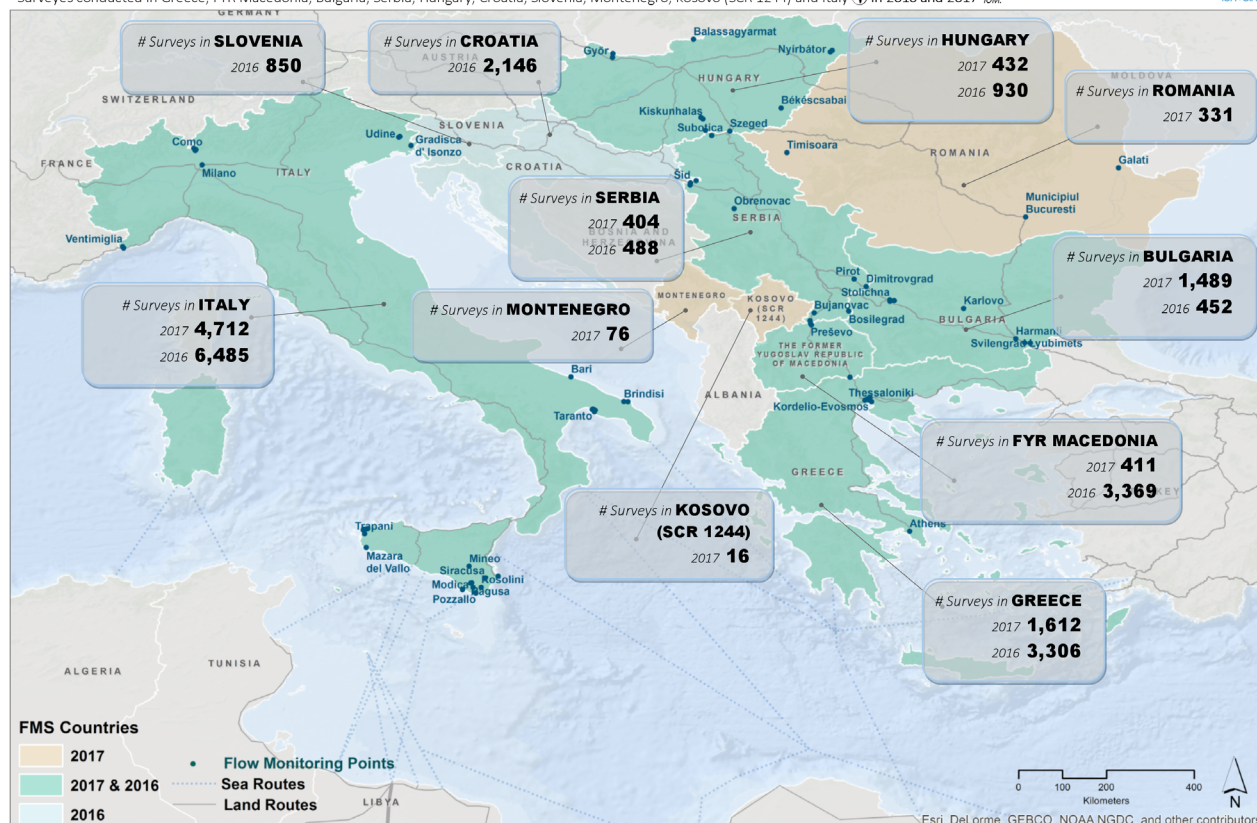
On the Eastern Mediterranean route, most migrants reported to have relatives already in the intended destination (32%) or mentioned the appealing socio-economic conditions of the country (31%), while others spoke about the accessibility of the asylum system (12%), about the fact that it was their only available option (9%), that it was perceived a safe country (7%), that a network of co-nationals was present (5%).

Consistently, 91% of the respondents on the Central Mediterranean route reported to have no family member already living in the intended destination, while only 2% had a first-line relative and the remaining 7% a non-first line relative already there. On the Eastern Mediterranean route, 56% of the respondents on the Eastern Mediterranean route reported to have no relatives at destination while the rest reported to have first-line family members (16%) or non-first line family members (28%) in the intended destination.

CENTRAL AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTES

Surveys conducted in Greece, FYR Macedonia, Bulgaria, Serbia, Hungary, Croatia, Slovenia, Montenegro, Kosovo (SCR 1244) and Italy in 2016 and 2017

Disclaimer: Base Map Source: ESRI. This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.



4. Methodology

4.1. The DTM's Flow Monitoring Surveys

The DTM's baseline FMS module captures data on the demographic profile of the respondents, the circumstances of their migration journey and migration push factors, their place of origin or their last country of habitual residence, and the existing pull factors in their intended country of destination. In 2017, the survey was run with an upgraded version of the questionnaire compared to that implemented in 2016, following the feedback received from different IOM missions, departments and relevant partners, with an emphasis on enhancing the protection aspect, especially in relation to children on the move and human trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators.

The new questionnaire allows for greater insight into migrants' decision making process in the country of origin and of departure/residence; has more detailed questions on family and employment status before departure; includes additional child focused questions (e.g. education levels, the last time a child had access to education). The module dedicated to questions on experiences that could indicate specific human trafficking and exploitation practices, prepared by IOM's Assistance to Vulnerable Migrants (AVM) Unit includes now reference to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and it allows to capture the locations where circumstances occurred in greater detail. The survey structure has the advantage of facilitating the collection of data that relates to the direct experiences of the primary respondent. The respondent is also asked follow-up questions about whether a reported experience applies to any of his or her family members travelling with him or her on the journey, in order to capture the experiences of other migrants and refugees on the route. In all cases and for all questions, the survey collects migrants' subjective responses on their personal condition, motivations and intentions.

Through the use of standardized measures, comparisons across countries, time and different populations, the survey allows to give a good understanding of the overall profile of migrants in transit towards Europe and of their vulnerability to abuse, human trafficking and exploitation while en route.

4.2 Sampling and data collection

The survey is designed for profiling third-country nationals (non-European) who are migrating towards Europe through the so-called Central and the Eastern Mediterranean routes. Only migrants age 14 and above are approached. Only migrants arrived in the country of the interview at maximum one year prior the interview were considered. The survey was translated into Arabic, Dari, English, French, Farsi, Italian, Pashtu and Urdu.

The surveys are fully anonymous and voluntary. Respondents are approached in an ad hoc manner by IOM field staff and are informed of the purposes of the research and of the fact that participation does not influence their legal status in the country of the interview. The remainder of the questions is posed only to those migrants who give their consent to proceed. The sample is therefore not random and, as with all surveys of this kind, this can lead to selection bias. Those more willing to respond to this survey are often young adult males, which are therefore slightly overrepresented in comparison to women.

The sample structure intends to represent the nationalities, sex and age structures of migrants arriving in Europe through the Central and Eastern Mediterranean route, and therefore it aims to be representative. Nevertheless, the fieldwork conditions have changed throughout the survey period, to account for changes in incoming flows to each country covered by DTM operations and to give a good representation of both arrival and transit points in the country.

In 2017, data collection activities in Italy were conducted in 5 regions, with a total of 54 flow monitoring points covered, including hotspots (Pozzallo, Trapani and Taranto), other governmental reception centres for asylum seekers, transiting centres and unofficial gathering points. In the South of the country (Sicily and Apulia) migrants were interviewed at entry and transit points soon upon arrival in ports where disembarkation from Search and Rescue operations take place (Pozzallo, Catania, Trapani, Taranto, Brindisi); in Lombardy migrants were interviewed mainly in transit centres close to the Italy/ Switzerland border (Como) and in Milan, which is a major hub for asylum seekers and migrants to be hosted or distributed in the region; in Liguria, migrants have been interviewed in transiting centres in Ventimiglia (close to the border with France); in Friuli Venezia Giulia migrants have been interviewed in reception centres which mainly host migrants entered by land from Slovenia or Austria. Hence, the overall sample from the survey conducted in Italy also includes a small share of migrants arrived in Italy by land, travelling along the Eastern Mediterranean route, as well as a share of migrants who arrived by sea departing from Turkey or Greece.

The survey for the Eastern Mediterranean route is conducted in locations of entry, transit, and exit same as in specialized accommodation and reception centres in Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The data collection activities are adjusted following the different developments on the ground. A network of data collectors covered more than 20 among official reception centres, transit/exit/entry points and accessible unofficial sites with reported presence of stranded migrants: Athens, Oreokastro, Thessaloniki and Schisto in Greece, Gevgelija in the southern part the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the reception centres of Nyrbrator, Vamosszabadi, Gyor in Hungary, the transit zones near the border with Serbia (Röszke and Tompa), the reception centres of Harmanli and Pastrogor in Bulgaria and the transit sites in Subotica and Sid in Serbia, the reception and transit centers in Timisoara, in the bordering area between Romania, Hungary and Serbia.

DTM Mediterranean

Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS) is one of the components implemented under DTM portfolio in Europe. Aside from the primary data collection through direct interviews, it includes also collation of statistical information products, based on secondary data revision. Compilation of available data and information is released on monthly, quarterly and yearly basis, together with a comprehensive datasets. More frequent updates and maps with information on arrivals to Europe and migrants' presence in the Western Balkans are available on the [Flows to Europe Geoportal](#). The same platform contains all publications released as part of the DTM Mediterranean activities and can be directly accessed [here](#). Some of the latest products can be seen below.



Flow Monitoring Survey - Analysis of the Sample
October 2017
[Download here](#)



Compilation of Available Data and Information - Statistical Report
September 2017
[Download here](#)

Head Migration Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond
COMPILED OF AVAILABLE DATA AND INFORMATION
SEPTEMBER 2017

Arrivals to Europe (From 01 Jan 2017 to 30 Sep 2017)

Country	By Sea	By Land	Total
EU	101,412	—	101,412
Greece	18,871	1,409	20,280
Spain	15,869	1,110	16,979
Bulgaria	541	541	1,082
Others	630	—	630
TOTAL	132,721	3,060	135,781

Latest stranded migrants Report available:

Country	Date	Total
Greece	30 Sep 17	12,200
Bulgaria	26 Sep 17	1,882
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	27 Sep 17	72
Serbia	27 Sep 17	1,890
Croatia	26 Sep 17	304
Ukraine	26 Sep 17	278

Arrivals to Europe - Q3 Dataset
October 2017
[Download here](#)



Interagency Factsheet on Refugee and Migrant Children in Europe
Q2 2017 Overview
[Download here](#)

Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Mediterranean

Migration Flows - Europe

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Data collection activities supported by:



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