

# X U Z

THE HOUSING CRISIS IN THE NETHERLANDS

It's all migrants' fault, according to the far right

106 LET'S TAKE STOCK

Monthly report on migrations

REPORT BORDERLINE EUROPE

News from the central Mediterranean



On September 20, violent "antiimmigrant" demonstrations organized by far-right parties erupted in The Hague, Netherlands. This is a country where immigration policies create major divisions.

Migrants who pay too much for substandard housing are blamed for the housing crisis in the Netherlands.

Hundreds of people took to the streets on September 20 in The Hague, Netherlands, to join an "anti-immigrant" demonstration organized by far-right parties. The protesters, many of them dressed in black and waving Dutch or far-right-group flags, vandalized the office of the center-left political party D66, breaking several windows, and set fire to a police car, throwing bottles and stones at officers. Dutch interim Prime Minister Dick Schoof called the protesters' violence against both the police and the D66 offices "totally unacceptable."

The protesters had gathered following a call on social media by a woman known as "Els Rechts" to protest immigration and demand stricter asylum laws.

The citizens of the Netherlands will be called to vote on October 29: elections were called quickly as the previous government collapsed after Geert Wilders, leader of the far-right Party for Freedom, withdrew his ministries after disagreements over immigration policy.

General elections are due in two weeks and the housing crisis is a major issue, with the far-right Freedom Party blaming migrants. But they are actually often victims of high rents, overcrowding, landlord exploitation, and unfair evictions. An awareness campaign organized by the Municipality of Rotterdam has seen volunteers knock on hundreds of doors to inform residents about the regulations protecting them from illegal temporary contracts, rental exploitation, and living conditions that fall short of acceptable and established standards. Landlords often set very high prices, sometimes reaching double the legal rent in the country, in poorly maintained and overcrowded homes.

Research by Statistics Netherlands shows that the Dutch population has grown, primarily through net migration, by around one million people over the past decade. Asylum seekers accounted for only 12% of immigrants last year; the majority of immigrants were coming for work, particularly in sectors such as agriculture, meat processing, manufacturing, and distribution. Once again, immigrants are used as a convenient scapegoat for a much deeper crisis, linked, among other things, to the housing shortage, the decline in construction, and the increase in singleperson households, resulting in a shortage of approximately 400,000 homes nationwide. And actually, according to experts, immigrants should be recognized as the main victims of this housing crisis, rather than accused of having worsened it. The housing crisis is not a migration crisis, but rather the result of a series of poor political decisions.

A national commission declared last year that the Netherlands must increase its population to 19 or 20 million, up from the current 18 million, by 2050 to cope with an aging population and maintain the same standard of living. Centrist and left-wing parties, such as GreenLeft-Labour and D66, believe that controlling labour immigration, including a reduction in the number of businesses that rely heavily on it, such as distribution centers and slaughterhouses, could help alleviate the housing crisis. The issue is complex and must take many variables into account, but propaganda targeting immigrants continues, as does their exploitation and the forcing of them to accept appalling living conditions just to live in the country.

The housing crisis is not the only issue immigrants face in the Netherlands: the case of family reunification is a prime example. According to the Dutch Immigration and Naturalization Service (IND), applicants for family reunification have to wait a long time for a decision on their case. For example, families wishing to reunite their biological sons and daughters under the age of 18 who submitted an application in August 2023 will be forced to wait more than two years, until September 2025, before the IND will process their application. The waiting time has shortened for applications submitted in 2024, but it is even longer for the reunification of adult sons and daughters, reaching as much as two and a half years for those who submitted an application in 2024. For those who submitted an application in August of this year, they will have to wait until June 2028 before they can begin the process.

The same applies to average waiting times for asylum. An asylum seeker could have to wait up to 11 weeks for the first interview and as many as 79 for the second. For example, Syrian asylum seekers have to wait at least until January 2026, as the political situation in the country may be clearer by then—and a decision on their applications for international protection could be made. In 2024, 3.3% of all EU asylum applications were processed by the Netherlands, making it the 14th country. These numbers are entirely manageable for a wealthy country that should be capable of accepting and processing applications without forcing people to wait years.

## LET'S TAKE STOCK

### MONTHLY REPORT ON MIGRATIONS

What happened on the migratory routes of Europe, of the Mediterranean, of the world?

What measures have governments taken?

Who provided assistance?

Who, instead, sanctioned, detained or rejected?

Let's take stock.



#### **NORWAY, September 12**

The Norwegian Foreign Ministry accuses the so-called Libyan coast guard of firing at the civilian rescue ship Ocean Viking.

#### **ITALY-TURKEY, September 12**

Italy and Turkey have signed a cooperation agreement to strengthen the collaboration between their respective coast guards in order to reduce migration flows, especially from Libya.

#### **GERMANY, September 17**

According to a ruling by the Cologne Administrative Court, people arriving in Germany from Syria will not automatically be eligible for asylum and may even have their applications rejected. In this ruling, the court argued that the situation in Syria has changed significantly since the fall of the Assad regime last December.

#### **ITALY, September 17**

Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi met with Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resources Development, Chaudhry Salik Hussain, in Rome, to discuss agreements that guarantee additional entry quotas to countries committed to combating irregular immigration.

#### **UNITED KINGDOM, September 1**

British Secretary of State, Yvette Cooper, is suspending family reunification applications for refugees until new, more restrictive rules come into force next year.

#### **GREECE, September 1**

The mass trial of asylum seekers accused of "trafficking" in Greece has been postponed until November and December. Until then, the accused remain in detention.

#### ITALY, FRANCE and GERMANY, September 2

Italy, France, and Germany are working on a common policy to strengthen measures against irregular immigration and make repatriation procedures more effective at a legal level.

#### **GREECE**, September 2

The Greek parliament has passed a new law introducing harsher penalties for rejected asylum seekers, making the country's approach among the strictest in Europe. The law provides for prison sentences, fines, electronic bracelets, and longer detention periods for people without regular status.

#### **CANARY ISLANDS, September 3**

Spanish police have arrested 16 survivors of a rescued watercraft south of the Canary Islands who are suspected of violent acts and possible responsibility for dozens of deaths during the crossing.

#### FRANCE, September 3

In Marseille, authorities cleared a camp housing around 40 unaccompanied minors awaiting recognition of their status.

#### **GERMANY, September 4**

Germany has approved two bills to align its asylum legislation with major EU reforms.

#### FRANCE, September 5

The Council of Europe has warned against the outsourcing of asylum procedures, repatriations, and border control to third countries, calling on governments to ensure legal protections and guarantees for human rights.

#### **CIVIL FLEET, September 10**

After two weeks, the Court of Agrigento has ordered the lifting of the administrative seizure of the Compass Collective rescue vessel Trotamar III.

#### **CRETE, September 9**

In Crete, a Sudanese man accused of being a smuggler was acquitted.

#### **VENTIMIGLIA, September 10**

A migrant camp on the banks of the Roya river in Ventimiglia was dismantled on the mayor's orders following a shooting on September 7, in which two people were injured.

#### STRASBOURG, September 12

In her annual State of the Union address to the European Parliament, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen called for faster and more effective returns of people whose asylum applications are rejected.

#### **GREECE, September 16**

In Crete, four Sudanese people, accused of being smugglers, were acquitted by the Court of Heraklion.

#### **UNITED KINGDOM, September 18**

Britain has repatriated its first migrant to France under its new "one in, one out" agreement. Both governments confirmed the deportation of an Indian citizen aboard a commercial flight.

#### SPAIN, September 18

Spanish police arrested 19 people accused of murder and torture aboard a boat that left Senegal and was headed for the Canary Islands. At least 50 people remain missing, several of whom were reportedly thrown overboard.

#### **EUROPE, September 19**

The Council of Europe has issued a stark warning, stating that increasing attempts by several European countries to expel asylum seekers to third countries outside the European Union could put them at risk. It especially highlighted the amendments to the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum, currently under discussion in the European Council.

#### **MANICA, September 22**

According to data from the British Government, more than 1100 people crossed the English Channel to the UK between September 19 and September 21.

#### **CANARY ISLANDS, September 23**

Between September 21 and 22, 248 people were rescued off the coast of the Canary Islands and 15 people were rescued off the island of Mallorca.



#### **GREECE, September 1**

39 people were rescued off the Greek island of Gavdos and 51 people were rescued off the coast of Crete.

#### **GREECE, September 1**

37 people were rescued by the merchant watercraft Anatolia, in the south of Crete.

#### **CIVIL FLEET, September 2**

The rescue ship Aurora (Sea Watch) rescued and brought 41 people to Lampedusa, after evacuating them from the merchant watercraft Maridive 208, where they had been stranded for six days. Authorities had refused to provide immediate assistance. Seven people are missing.

#### ITALY, September 3

The Italian Coast Guard rescued 50 people in the central Mediterranean.

#### **SPAIN, September 6**

3 people were rescued and taken to Alicante by Salvamento Maritimo, a Spanish Search And Rescue agency. 5 people died and two others were hospitalized.

#### MANICA, September 10

3 people have died and at least 3 more are missing while attempting to cross the English Channel from northern France.

#### **TURKEY, September 8**

A vessel collided with a Turkish Coast Guard watercraft in northwest Turkey, leaving five people dead, one missing, and one seriously injured.

#### LAMPEDUSA, September 8

The Guardia di Finanza (Italian Finance Police) has found two bodies aboard a boat off the coast of Lampedusa. 44 people were rescued.

#### **ALGERIA, September 9**

A watercraft with 13 people aboard capsized off the Algerian coast. One person survived and was taken to Boumerdes, Algeria, while 12 others remain missing.

#### **ITALY, September 8-9**

More than 1.500 people arrived in Italy between September 8 and 9, filling the Lampedusa hotspot.

#### MALTA, September 10

The AFM (Armed Forces of Malta) rescued 35 people from a watercraft approximately 69 nautical miles east of Malta.

#### **CIVIL FLEET, September 10**

The Solidaire NGO rescued 262 people off the coast of Africa, including approximately 40 unaccompanied minors and two pregnant women.

#### **GREECE, September 14**

Between 45 and 50 people arrived on the island of Megisti, Greece. Some of which are dehydrated and unable to walk.

#### **BULGARIA-TURCHIA**, September 13

7 people, including 4 minors, were beaten and pushed back to Turkey by Bulgarian authorities.

#### LIBYA, September 11

A boat with 35 people on board was pushed back to Libya by the so-called Libyan coast guard.

#### **CIVIL FLEET, September 16**

Following a shipwreck off the coast of Lampedusa, one person is missing, one person is dead, and 50 more were rescued by the watercraft Dakini. The Seabird crew provided air support.

#### LIBYA, September 14

According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), at least 50 people have died after a watercraft carrying 75 Sudanese migrant people caught fire off the coast of Libya.

#### LIBYA, September 13

A tragic accident occurred off the coast of Tobruk, in which a boat carrying 74 people, mostly Sudanese refugees, capsized. Only 13 people survived, and dozens remain missing.

#### **CIVIL FLEET, September 16**

A watercraft carrying 200 people departed Gambia on the evening of September 6. All aboard were rescued by the NGO Salvamento Maritimo Humanitario and returned to the Canary Islands.

#### **CIVIL FLEET, September 18**

The rescue ship Trotamar (Compass Collective) rescued 37 people and then brought them to safety in Lampedusa.

#### **CIVIL FLEET, September 18**

37 people were rescued by the Italian Coast Guard off the coast of Lampedusa. The sailing vessel Imara provided support prior to the rescue operation.

#### LIBYA, September 16

The so-called Libyan coast guard intercepted and deported 49 people, who were in distress off the Libyan coast at the time of their capture, to Libya.

#### **ALGERIA, September 16**

A watercraft carrying 26 people, including 1 woman and 3 children, departing from Bourmerdes, Algeria, was intercepted by Algerian police.

#### LIBYA, September 26

Five bodies were found about 550 kilometers south of Tobruk, in Libya.

#### **GREECE, September 23**

The Greek Coast Guard confirmed it rescued 145 people in 24 hours off the southern island of Gavdos, near Crete.

#### **CIVIL FLEET, September 26**

SOS Humanity rescued 29 people, including 14 unaccompanied minor, During the rescue, the crew witnessed the presence of the so-called Libyan coast guard with many people on board. Shortly thereafter, they received a call from another watercraft, also intercepted by the so-called Libyan coast guard.

#### LIBYA, September 23

Libya's Department for Combating Illegal Immigration (DCIM) announced the repatriation of 207 undocumented Eritrean citizens. A week earlier, it repatriated 176 Bangladeshi citizens detained in Libya.

#### **CIVIL FLEET, September 26**

The so-called Libyan coast fired on the rescue watercraft Sea-Watch 5. The attack occurred immediately after the crew had rescued 66 people. This is the second time in a dew weeks that a watercraft from the Civil Fleet has been subjected to armed attack. Following the attack, the Sea-Watch crew carried out another rescue, bringing the total number of people on board to 124.



#### **ROME, September 9**

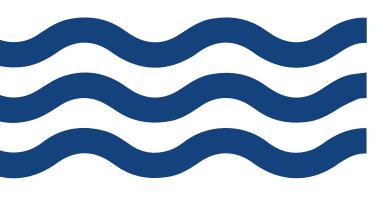
The Italian Court of Cassation ruled that asylum seekers must be immediately released if their detention has not been validated. The decision contradicts the provisions of a March 28 decree that reinforced a government plan to use Italian facilities in Albania for asylum seekers.

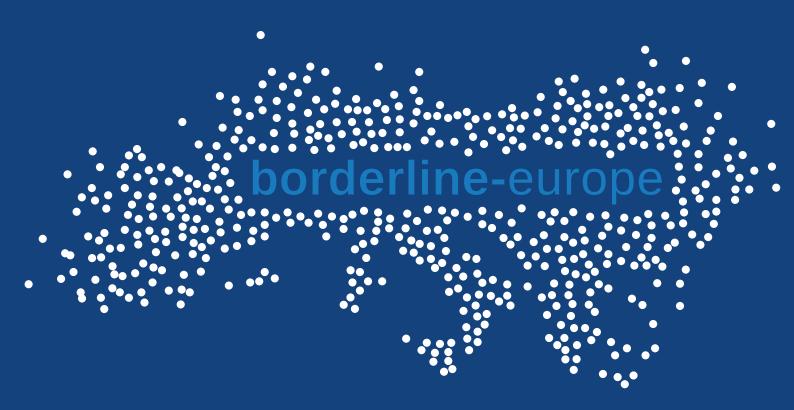
#### **SICILY, September 9**

The German rescue ship Aurora, operated by the NGO Sea Watch,was blocked by Italian authorities in the port of Pozzallo after rescuing 75 people.

#### **ROME, September 18**

41 refugees arrived in Rome thanks to a humanitarian corridor and will be accompanied in their integration process by workers from the Caritas organization.





# REPORT BORDERLINE EUROPE

NEWS FROM THE CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN

#### **Arrivals**

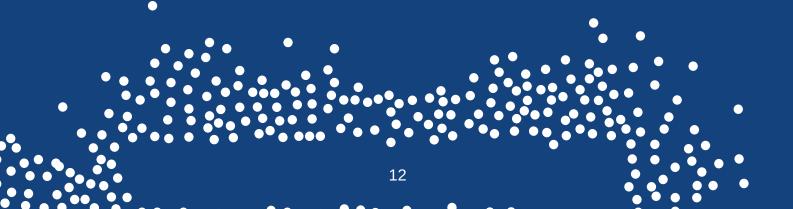
According to data collected by borderlineeurope, in September 2025, 7,361 people arrived in Italy by sea. Of these, 6,000 (81.5%) disembarked in Sicily, especially in Lampedusa.

This month we counted two arrivals with a total of 180 people along the Ionian route; in both cases (125 and 55 people) the boats departed from Turkey and arrived in Roccella Ionica. Overall, borderline-europe can demonstrate that 3,930 (53.4%) of the arrivals departed from Libya. Compared to the previous month, the number of boats departing from Libya that actually reached Italy decreased significantly. While in August approximately 60% of arrivals came from Libya, in September the percentage dropped to around 53%. This decline is likely closely correlated with the high number of interceptions in the Central Mediterranean. The percentage of departures from Tunisia this month is 206 (2.8%), a sharp decline compared to the previous month. In approximately 42% of cases we were unable to verify the place of departure. According to data collected by borderline-europe, in September 294 people reached the coasts of Tuscany. 265 of them had departed from Libya and were rescued by the NGO Solidaire with the vessel of the same name and brought to Livorno. According to the Sea-Watch crew, in recent months they have once again encountered an increasing number of pregnant women, newborns, and children in danger at sea during their operations. Borderline-europe will continue to monitor this trend and will be able to provide more detailed information about it in the next edition of the CMI.

#### **Pushbacks**

This month we recorded 4,992 pushbacks in the Central Mediterranean, during which boats carrying refugees were pushed back toward the North African coasts. September's number is therefore significantly higher than August's (1,993 interceptions) and also above the monthly average. September therefore represents the highest peak of 2025. According to IOM Libya, since the beginning of 2025, 20,017 people have been intercepted at sea and returned to Libya, almost as many as in all of 2024 (21,762) and significantly more than in 2023 (17,190). According to data collected by borderline-europe, in September 4,937 people were returned to Libya and 55 to Tunisia. However, we would like to emphasize that any statistical recording of pushbacks, returns, and deaths can only be a rough estimate, to be treated with caution. The actual number could be much higher. Our data corresponds approximately to that of IOM Libya, which from September 1-31 counted 4,279 pushbacks to Libya.

Particularly alarming were several cases of deadly and violent pushbacks that occurred in September: on September 30, off the Libyan coast, the Libyan Coast Guard carried out a deadly pushback operation, during which a boat carrying approximately 30 people capsized after a chase. At least one person drowned, three survivors were initially picked up by a merchant vessel, which then handed them over to the Libyan Coast Guard. This case, documented by Sea-Watch, highlights the deadly consequences of European border externalization and cooperation with Libyan actors.



Just a few days earlier, on September 28, Alarm Phone had reported another tragic case: 55 people had departed from Sfax (Tunisia) and were intercepted by the Tunisian Coast Guard, which deliberately capsized the boat. While one or two people remained at sea, the others were returned to Sfax. Subsequently, one of the survivors managed to contact his family from Al-Assah prison in Libya: after the pushback, the entire group had been sold to Libyan militias, who are now blackmailing family members for money.

#### **Dead and missing**

In September 2025, borderline-europe documented the death of at least 153 people and the disappearance of 113, last seen while crossing the Central Mediterranean. Compared to August, when 37 deaths and 139 missing persons were recorded, September saw a significant increase in the number of victims, while the number of missing persons decreased slightly.

On September 13, off the Libyan coast near Tobruk, a boat sank carrying 74 people, mostly refugees from Sudan. According to UNHCR Libya, only 13 people survived, while 61 drowned or are missing. Just one day later, on September 14, 2025, another deadly tragedy occurred off the Libyan coast: at least 50 people from Sudan lost their lives when, shortly after departing from Tobruk (eastern Libya), a fire broke out on a rubber dinghy carrying approximately 75 people headed to Greece. The fate of another passenger remains unknown. On September 16, UNHCR Libya reported that eleven people from Sudan drowned in another maritime incident in the Mediterranean.

The same day Sea-Watch reported a tragic incident that occurred approximately 83 kilometers from Lampedusa, in which a boat was at risk of sinking. According to further reports in the media, a 20-year-old woman lost her life and another is missing. Just two days later, on September 18, another tragedy occurred off the Tunisian coast: a boat headed

to Italy capsized near Sfax. According to initial reports, 39 people lost their lives, including several refugees from Cameroon.

These consecutive serious events demonstrate the deadly consequences of European border closure and externalization policies. People fleeing war, persecution, and poverty continue to die at Europe's borders, often under the eyes of state actors who do not fulfill their duty of rescue at sea and who, through their political decisions, have transformed the Mediterranean into a mass grave.

#### **Routes to Europe**

## Updates on the Italian Government's Involvement in Human Rights Crimes in Libya

Since 2017, a "Memorandum of Understanding" (MoU) has existed between the Italian government and the Libyan government in Tripoli. Based on this agreement, Italy, with the support of the EU and Frontex, finances, trains, and equips Libyan armed forces that systematically imprison, torture, enslave, and kill migrants. The "Stop the Memorandum Italy-Libya" campaign launched by "Refugees in Libya" aims to prevent the renewal of the MoU. Together with "Refugees in Libya" we demand that Europe and Italy cease supporting Libyan militias and that justice be done and compensation be granted to survivors of abuses!

Violence against migrants continues. In early September, 14 people who fled from western Libya to Lampedusa reported being targeted by gunfire approximately half an hour after their departure from a Libyan boat. Simultaneously, migrants detained in the notorious Mitiga camp began a hunger strike to protest the terrible detention conditions. In the detention camp controlled by the Rada militia, imprisoned migrants are forced to enlist in the militia in exchange for their freedom.

The Rada militia is under the command of the (alleged) war criminal Osama Almasri Njeem, who in January of this year managed to leave Italy despite an arrest warrant issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC). He is held responsible for illegal detentions in inhumane conditions, torture, sexual violence, and murder. For this reason, the Tribunal of Ministers - an Italian court that can hold government members criminally accountable for their actions - requested the indictment of Justice Minister Carlo Nordio, Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi, and Cabinet Minister Alfredo Mantovano for abuse of office, aiding and abetting, and embezzlement. In the relevant parliamentary committee, PD deputy Gianassi accused the Italian government of knowingly allowing Almasri's repatriation to Libya. The government feared that the Rada militia, with which it maintained close ties, might abandon "immigration control" as a retaliatory measure. On September 30, the committee voted against a criminal trial. On October 9, 2025, the Italian Chamber of Deputies decided by a large majority to maintain parliamentary immunity for ministers Nordio, Piantedosi, and Mantovano, thus preventing the initiation of criminal proceedings against them.

### **Abandoned Multiple Times in the Desert – Chain Expulsions from Tunisia**

Due to the migration agreement reached between Tunis and Brussels in 2023, sub-Saharan migrants living in Tunisia live in a state of constant fear. With the 164.5 million euros that the EU has made available to Tunisian security forces, in April of this year 20,000 people were expelled from their makeshift camps in the Sfax region, where they were waiting for an opportunity to cross the Mediterranean. At the end of September, Tunisian authorities destroyed for the fifth time the hospitals built and self-managed by refugees.

Every day in Tunisia, people fleeing wars, ethnic-religious conflicts, and extreme poverty in sub-Saharan countries are arrested: many of them are deported to desert areas near the Libyan and Algerian borders and left there without any protection.

Among them is Omar, 33, from Gambia: twice already the Tunisian authorities have arrested him and abandoned him in the Algerian desert. Abdallah, who fled Sudan, was also expelled on May 2, 2024, along with 500 other people to the desert near the Algerian border. That night, without warning, police cleared the camp in front of the UNHCR and IOM building in Tunis, where he was staying with an official asylum seeker card. While walking back to Tunis with 70 other people, the authorities arrested him again and deported him to an area near the Tunisia-Algeria border. This time Abdallah went to Algeria, where he was arrested, imprisoned. and finally expelled again: this time to the Niger desert. Irpi-Media, together with activists and researchers, reconstructed in an investigation what Abdallah experienced. For migrants, often Sudanese like Abdallah, Niger, has become the end point, from which they can neither continue nor go back.

The number of people expelled from neighboring countries to Niger has been increasing since 2023. According to reliable NGO estimates, while in 2024 Tunisia expelled 9,000 people to Algeria, Algeria expelled over 31,100 people to Niger. The countries of the Maghreb Alliance (Tunisia, Algeria, and Libya), founded in 2024, are increasingly resorting to chain expulsions to push migrants toward the state that precedes theirs along the escape routes. This concept, originally European, is now also observable among African states themselves as a result of EU border externalization.

While on one hand these chain returns contribute to limiting arrivals on European coasts, on the other they also reflect changes in regional power relations.

#### Civil resistance

After the detention of the reconnaissance aircraft Seabird 1 in August, on September 5 the reconnaissance aircraft Colibri 2 was detained by Italian authorities for 20 days under the so-called Flussi decree and the French NGO that operates it (Pilotes Volontaires) was fined an exorbitant 100,000 euros. After its already unjustified seizure in July, Sea-Watch's Aurora was seized again on September 9. On September 6, the crew had rescued 75 people from an unseaworthy boat in international waters. Initially the vessel was assigned the distant port of Reggio Calabria, but since the tank capacity was insufficient, the maritime rescue coordination center in Rome changed the destination port to Pozzallo. There, on September 7, the survivors were able to disembark safely, while the Aurora was surprisingly blocked in the port. The stated reason was the unfounded claim that the vessel could have reached Reggio Calabria and that the change of destination port was unjustified. The case once again demonstrates that the Italian government relies on bureaucratic sabotage instead of protecting human lives.

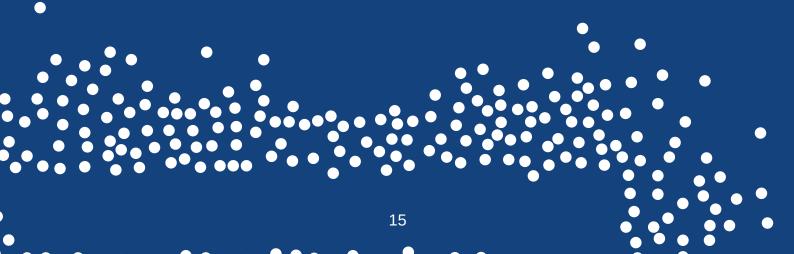
Violence against civilian rescue at sea is taking on shocking proportions: just one month after the attack on Ocean Viking by Libyan militias, on September 25 Sea-Watch 5 was fired upon by Libyan militias shortly after rescuing 66 people in danger at sea. In this case too, the shots were fired from a former Italian Guardia di Finanza vessel, donated to Libya in 2018 as part of the Italy-Libya Memorandum of Understanding.

Despite massive repression by Italian authorities, civilian rescue at sea remains steadfast:

After the attack on Ocean Viking, SOS MEDITERRANEE made clear: "Bullets will never stop solidarity." It published new evidence of the attack and initiated a series of legal actions to bring both the perpetrators (Libyan militias) and their supporters (the Italian government) to justice.

The NGO SOS Humanity recently announced that from 2026 it intends to operate in the Mediterranean with a second vessel. The sailing ship Humanity 2 will serve as both a rescue and observation vessel, filling the current rescue gap off the Tunisian coast and documenting human rights violations by the Tunisian Coast Guard.

Mediterranea Saving Humans has presented detailed evidence of acts of violence committed by Libya at sea and Italy's direct complicity in such acts to both the Trapani prosecutor's office and the International Criminal Court. Separately, on October 8, 2025, the Trapani court's ruling was made public. This is a success for Mediterranea Saving Humans, as it revoked the seizure of its rescue vessel and calls the Piantedosi decree into question.



Thanks to a fundraiser, the NGO CompassCollective was able to hire lawyers and appeal against the seizure of its sailing boat Trotamar III. On September 10, the Agrigento court revoked the seizure with immediate effect and suspended the monetary sanction of 7,500 euros.

In mid-September, f.lotta organized a symbolic occupation of the Central Mediterranean near Lampedusa, protesting for the right to freedom of movement and against the normalization of the violent European border regime. As a decentralized and grassroots-organized action, f.lotta opposes the growing repression against refugees and rescue at sea: participating boats carried out various political campaigns and were accompanied by actions on land in Germany, France, and Italy.

Subsequently, two f.lotta boats joined the Global Sumud Flotilla, a humanitarian mission covered by international law, with more than 40 ships and over 400 activists from more than 44 countries, which sought to break the Israeli blockade of Gaza. Several civil sea rescue NGOs also supported the action: the NGO Emergency's Life Support vessel supported the mission with medical assistance, food supplies, transfers, and technical assistance. A former luventa crew member, now Sea-Watch mission chief, was one of the activists aboard the flotilla. Sea-Watch's Sea-Bird 1 monitoring aircraft showed its solidarity from above.

The civil resistance actions of September demonstrate how important and powerful the union of actors and the connection between different realities and local struggles are.



