**What do the numbers tell us**

In October, the number of people who found themselves forced to flee, to cross the Mediterranean and who managed to arrive in Italy amounted to 7,108. Since the beginning of this year, the number of people arriving in Italy has been 53,399. Over a thousand people were rescued thanks to the rescue of civilian ships. In addition, over 1,800 people managed to reach the island of Lampedusa independently. Illegal push-backs by the so-called Libyan Coast Guard also continued this month: over 1,700 people intercepted and rejected in Libya.

Furthermore, this month, Agrigento’s Public Prosecutor requests the competent Judge of Preliminary Investigation drop all charges and completely acquit the Commander of the humanitarian ship, Mare Jonio, and Mediterranea Saving Humans’ Head of Mission for the rescue carried out on May 29, 2019. Once again, the dismissal is requested for the absurd accusation of aiding and abetting illegal immigration. But there is more: for the Prosecutor of Agrigento, the so-called Libyan Coast Guard, financed by the Italian government, cannot help anyone, because in reality they capture and deport.

These data are based on information provided by the Ministry of the Interior’s Department of Civil Liberties and Immigration. These data refer to landing events recorded by 8:00 a.m. on October 31, 2021.
«Rescue cannot be criminalized, it is an obligation»
Agrigento’s Public Prosecutor requests the competent Judge of Preliminary Investigation drop all charges and completely acquit the Commander of the humanitarian ship, Mare Jonio, and Mediterranea Saving Humans’ Head of Mission for the rescue carried out on May 29, 2019. It is therefore probable that there will be the dismissal of the charges for the captain Massimiliano Napolitano and the coordinator and shipowner Beppe Caccia, who had been under investigation for two and a half years for crimes such as “aggravated aiding and abetting of illegal immigration” and two violations of the Navigation Code. There is more: the so-called Libyan Coast Guard cannot help anyone, because in reality they capture and deport. And the shameful attempts to block civilian rescue vessels under administrative pretexts are swept away, on the basis of rules that “do not exist in Italian law”. These are points of extraordinary importance that confirm the full legitimacy of the work of the organizations and ships of the civil fleet engaged in the central Mediterranean.

«Let’s help refugees in Libya, I hear their cries»
Pope Francis at the end of his Angelus denounced the inhuman conditions thousands of refugees and asylum seekers are experiencing in Libya. He also appealed to the global community to find common solutions to ensure the rescue of people in the sea and guarantee regular paths for immigration and easier access to asylum seeking procedures. Pope Francis also asked to stop the pushing back of migrants towards non-safe countries. His words came a few hours after the sightings, which took place the same morning, of two boats adrift in the central Mediterranean. All fleeing Libya: it is precisely the situation in the North African country that arouses so much concern, due to the presence there of “real concentration camps” in which refugees who are brought back from the sea are locked up.
In two different operations the so-called Libyan Coast Guard intercepts 103 people while trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea and fleeing from Libya. During the operations, two bodies were discovered: one of a woman, and the second one of a child. All of them were brought to the detention centers located in Zawiya city.

The Libyan Red Crescent found a body offshore from Sorman, a city on the Mediterranean coast of Libya, in Tripolitania region. It was a woman's body and the causes of her drowning are unknown.

Doctors without Borders resume their healthcare activities in the detention centers of Al-Mabani, Abu Salim and Shara Zawiya, based in Tripoli. Their activities were interrupted in June because of repeated and unacceptable episodes of violence against migrants and refugees and, also, because of the risks for the medical staff. The resumption occurred after several talks between Doctors without borders and the Libyan Directorate for Combatting Illegal Migration (DCIM), which provided assurances about the respect of essential conditions that are necessary to safely carry out activities and in line with the medical ethics and the humanitarian principles. Doctors without borders stated that they favourably received the new assurances by the Libyan authorities. But, at the same time, they continue to ask for the end of the arbitrary and undefined detention system in Libya through the release of the migrants from the detention centers, and the assurance that these people receive proper protection and assistance services.

Alarm Phone urges a call for help for 70 people on board a boat in distress in the Central Mediterranean. The sighting was reported by the aircraft Seabird. None of the information landed in Lampedusa thanks to the boat Asso29.

For more than 4 days now a boat carrying 70 people has been reported as missing. The vessel shipped out from the Libyan city of Homs and, right after, started sending calls for help to Alarm Phone. The contacts were interrupted as the boat reached the maltese Sar zone, 11 miles far from the Italian waters. There's no follow-up about their rescue or landing. How can these kinds of episodes be possible? Is this yet another pushing back?

The Libyan United Nations High Commissioner for the Refugees office informs that during the day, 89 people, among which 8 women and 3 children, have been brought to Tripoli on board a boat. During the intervention, two lifeless bodies were pulled out. More than 40 people are confirmed as missing. Within the same hours, the so-called Libyan coast guard detects 43 people, of which 6 women and 2 minors. To all of them it was forbidden to endeavour to cross the Mediterranean and get away from the Libyan terror. The Libyan troopers brought all these people to the detention centers located in Tripoli.
Alarm Phone issued a call for help for 49 people in danger within the Maltese Sarone. These people escaping from Libya were all in danger on board a fragile overcrowded boat. 16 hours after the first alarm, still no intervention was carried out. Shortly after any contact was lost. It is to be hoped that the people had a chance to be saved.

A remarkable interception by the patrol boat Zawiya belonging to the so-called Libyan coast guard: 405 people on board a big wooden vessel. Also 7 women and 3 children were on board. All of them were brought to the detention centers located in Zawiya. During the same day the patrol boat Sabratha intercepted and interrupted 56 people trying to cross the Mediterranean sea, including 2 women and 3 children. All of them have been brought to the detention centers of Tripoli.

31 people, among them 12 minors under the age of 12, are in distress near the Bouri oil field, 75 nautical miles north of Libya. Later, the so-called Libyan Coast Guard reached them. Yet another refoulement takes place.

The Libyan Red Crescent recovers 2 lifeless bodies off the coastal town of Sorman. A few kilometers away, the same organization recovers more lifeless bodies: 17 corpses. Causes that led to their deaths by drowning are ignored.

A dinghy with approximately 6 people on board is sighted in Malta's search and rescue area by the aircraft, Seabird. As the weather continues to worsen, the risk of sinking increases. The Italian Coast Guard rescued the survivors but did not intervene until the next day.
The monitoring ship, Nadir, returns to the central Mediterranean to resume its search activities. In the evening, after just a few hours, the crew sights a heavily overcrowded wooden boat carrying approximately 39 people which is unable to maneuver in Malta’s SAR zone. An unconscious woman and a child are immediately evacuated to the Nadir for first aid and emergency care. Malta’s MRCC refused to provide assistance despite repeated requests. Thanks to their steadfast dedication, Nadir’s crew succeeded in getting all the survivors on board. Authorities did not let the crew know that they could safely land on the island of Lampedusa until the next day.

The parliament of Belarus passes legislation suspending its readmission agreement with the EU which obliged it to take back migrants that crossed its territory into EU member states. This measure comes as a response to EU sanctions against Belarus following the controversial reelection of President Aljaksandr Lukashenko. In recent months, Belarus has facilitated the illegal entry of migrants from Africa and the Middle East from its territory into neighboring countries, especially Poland and Lithuania.

The number of migrants and refugees present in Tripoli’s detention centers seems to have at least tripled in the last few days due to the increase in mass arrests that began at the beginning of the month. Médecins Sans Frontières has expressed concern that “migrants may have been locked up in unsanitary and severely overcrowded cells with little clean water, food, or access to toilets.”

A report by Lighthouse Reports reveals how many European authorities, such as Greece, Croatia, Poland and Spain, have perpetrated violence against migrants and asylum seekers to then forcibly expel them from the border to non-European countries. The report is further proof that violence against asylum seekers and illegal pushbacks are common practice along the European Union’s border areas whose funding of border police and operations renders it complicit in these violations.

Libya’s so-called Coast Guard’s patrol boat, Zawiya, intercepts 30 people attempting to cross the Mediterranean. Among them are 4 women and 10 children. They are all taken to prisons in Zawiya.
At the conclusion of its one-year independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya, the UN Human Rights Council publishes a report establishing that the Libyan state and all parties involved in the conflict since 2016 have committed war crimes against the civilian population. The document emphasized that migrants and asylum seekers are especially exposed to terrible abuses such as torture, rape, slavery, forced recruitment of minors and human trafficking.

Approximately 800 people camp outside the UNHCR headquarters in Tripoli requesting aid and protection. They are migrants who left their homes and all their belongings in order to escape the recent police checks as part of a government operation “against criminals” and they have not received food in days.

202 migrants are rescued off of the coast of Calabria by the Italian Coast Guard. After months in the shipyard, Open Arms sets sail again for its 86th mission in the Mediterranean. The ship, Resq People, announces that it also is ready to sail again a month later.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) reports that 6 migrants from sub-Saharan Africa were killed by Libyan guards in Tripoli’s Al-Mabani detention center.

The Interior Ministers of 12 member states (Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Slovakia) ask the European Commission to finance the construction of border walls to block the entry of migrants arriving from Belarus. While ministers claim this is an urgent action necessary to protect the EU’s interests, the European Commission has insisted that Greece, as well as Croatia, investigate allegations of violent pushbacks along the border.

Poland’s Constitutional Tribunal rules that certain EU treaties are “incompatible” with the Polish Constitution, thus threatening— and, in fact undermining—the primacy of EU law over the national law of member states.
During the night the boat ResQ People rescued 59 people. Among the people on board 17 were children and 6 women.

During the same day the Sea-Watch 3 ship for humanitarian aid left the Burriana harbour to resume the rescue operations in the Mediterranean sea.

Alarm Phone sends out a request for emergency assistance for approximately 105 people in distress aboard a flimsy boat off Zuara. There are also pregnant women and approximately 10 children on board. It takes the so-called Libyan Coast Guard 7 hours to announce they started a search and rescue operation. However, the situation has become extremely critical: the boat has capsized. There are 15 victims. Moreover, this is also yet another confirmation of the objective of the so-called Libyan Coast Guard: dissuade people from reaching Europe without giving any relevance to the fact that people are drowning or being pushed back.

Sabratha, the Libyan so-called Coast Guard's patrol boat, intercepts 94 people who departed the Libyan coast in the attempt to reach Europe on a wooden boat. There are also 13 women and 10 children on board. 15 lifeless bodies are recovered during the operation. The Libyan military hands the people they intercepted over to the prisons in Tripoli. On the same day, off the Libyan city of Homs, the patrol boat, Ubari, carrying Libyan military, intercepted 83 people, among them 18 women and 3 children. They, too, are taken to the prisons in Tripoli.
Over 70 people in trouble on board a vessel within the Maltese search and rescue zone. A pregnant woman gave birth at sea during the crossing. Nobody took charge of the rescue request, nor state actors nor cargo ships. Only several hours later, militaries belonging to the so-called Libyan coast guard carried out the umpteenth pushing back. What will the fate of these people be?

A Tunisian fisherman, on board a small fishing boat, rescues 23 people in danger on a fragile half-sunken boat. 2 people had drowned shortly before the rescue. Once landed in Zarzis all of them received assistance from the Tunisian Red Crescent Movement.

The so-called Libyan Coast Guard’s patrol boat, Sabrath, intercepts 6 people, among them 1 woman and 7 children, who were attempting to escape the horror of the Libyan territory. They are all brought to Tripoli’s prisons. In the same period of time, the Libyan patrol boat, PB P-301, carries out another interception operation: 16 people, among them 19 women and 3 children. They are also brought to Tripoli’s detention centers.

Contemporaneously, 97 people are in danger on board a boat in distress off the city of Sfax on the Tunisian coast. There is no confirmation of what became of them.
A spokesman for the European Union confirms the delivery of three new P-150-class patrol boats to the so-called Libyan Coast Guard. The purpose, if it can actually be called that, is to reinforce its search, rescue, and maritime surveillance capacities.

For the first time, the commander of an Italian merchant ship is found guilty by a court for illegal pushbacks in coordination with the so-called Libyan Coast Guard. The Court of Naples sentences the captain of the ship, Asso28, to a one-year prison sentence for handing over 101 migrants, including several minors and pregnant women, to the military in Tripoli after having rescued them at sea.

Italian authorities allow the humanitarian ship, Resq People, to safely dock at the Port of Pozzallo in order to allow the 58 survivors previously rescued to disembark.
The humanitarian ship, Sea-Watch 3, rescues a boat in distress off the Libyan coast: 66 people are brought on board for emergency medical assistance. There are many children and people who have difficulty walking among them. A few hours later, Seabird spots a dinghy in distress. The 54 people on board are evacuated safely thanks to Sea-Watch 3’s arrival.

There is yet another shipwreck off the Tunisian coast between seaside towns of Mahdia and Monastir. The boat carried 31 people of whom only 7 were rescued. 2 lifeless bodies were recovered. 22 people are missing.

In separate operations, the so-called Libyan Coast Guard intercepts over 100 people who attempted to escape Libyan territory by boat. They are all taken to detention centers in the city of Zawiya. Seabird documents these illegal pushbacks.

Following the previous day’s 2 rescue missions, Sea-Watch 3’s crew rescues 3 boats in distress and brings aboard 202 people. That night, the monitoring ship, Nadir, identifies 2 boats in distress in the central Mediterranean. There are 34 people on board including many children and a pregnant woman. Despite challenging meteorological conditions, the crew successfully transfers all survivors on board. It takes 24 hours for the Port of Lampedusa to be assigned as a port of safety for disembarkment.
Approximately 75 people are in danger off the coastal city of Gasr Garabulli, Libya in the region of Tripolitania. They are on a dinghy. After several hours, all contact with the people is lost. The so-called Libyan Coast Guard reports that it did not find the dinghy in distress. It takes several days for the Libyan military to report they intercepted the dinghy including 15 women and 5 children.

On the same day, the Libyan military aboard the patrol boat, Al Sadada, intercepts 70 people, including women and children. They are taken to the prisons in Tripoli.

Geo Barents, the humanitarian ship carrying MSF’s crew, returns to the search and rescue area of the central Mediterranean in order to begin a new mission to rescue human lives.

The Italian Coast Guard allows 3 women with severe fuel burns to be evacuated. The women were onboard the ship, Sea-Watch 3, after having been rescued by the crew.

The Ubari, Libya’s so-called Coast Guard’s patrol boat, intercepts 73 people aboard a fragile wooden boat of the city of Homs. Everyone is brought to the prisons located in the city of Tripoli.

Agrigento’s Public Prosecutor requests the competent Judge of Preliminary Investigation drop all charges and completely acquit the Commander of the humanitarian ship, Mare Jonio, and Mediterranea Saving Humans’ Head of Mission for the rescue carried out on May 29, 2019. On that date, the Mare Jonio, engaged in an observation and monitoring mission in the central Mediterranean, identified an overcrowded, small, inflatable boat with a broken engine that was taking on water in the international waters of Libya’s SAR zone about 35 miles north of Zara. There were 30 people on board, including 2 pregnant women, a 2 year old girl little Alima- and several unaccompanied minors. Once the survivors were on board, he refused contact with Libyan authorities and docked the next morning in the safe port of Lampedusa.
The Italian Coast Guard allows a woman in an advanced stage of pregnancy and her younger sister to be evacuated just hours after the first evacuation. The following night, another pregnant woman is evacuated in a third intervention.

Agrigento's Judge of Preliminary Investigation, Micaela Raimondo, dismisses the case from ex-Interior Minister Salvini's "closed ports" period in 2019 involving Sea-Watch 3, one of the two ships carrying the German NGO's name. The request to drop charges against Arturo Centore, the ship's commander at the time, was made by Agrigento's own public prosecutor. According to the Judge of Preliminary Investigation, Commander Centore committed no crime in rescuing a group of 47 migrants in international waters off the Libyan coast. On the contrary, "he had the obligation to provide assistance and rescue the people on board the boat and to provide the transportation necessary to reach a port of safety for disembarkation according to national and international legislation and regulatory provisions."

The EHiblu 3 Freedom Commission is created. Maltese authorities are asked to immediately close the case against three teenagers accused of multiple crimes, including acts of terrorism and the hijacking of a ship. The three had arrived in Malta aboard the merchant ship EHiblu 1 along with 108 others. To date, Malta has denied them a fair trial and violated their fundamental human rights.
After many days of waiting, authorities assign Pozzallo as a port of safety to the 406 survivors aboard the humanitarian ship, Sea-Watch 3.

In the afternoon, MSF’s crew on board Geo Barents rescue 36 people aboard a fragile wooden boat in international waters. 25 men and 11 women, including 15 children under the age of 15 come aboard.

After departing the Libyan coast, a boat carrying 155 people arrives in the port of Leuca. It had been spotted by the Finance Police’s naval unit approximately 11 miles off the coast. At the same time, a Finance Police patrol boat rescues a vessel carrying 73 people, including 10 women, one of whom pregnant, 5 accompanied and 4 unaccompanied minors). These survivors are brought to safety on the island of Lampedusa.

During the day, 73 people landed on Lampedusa (including 10 women, one of whom pregnant, 5 accompanied and 4 unaccompanied minors) rescued by a patrol boat of the Guardia di Finanza.

Alarm Phone launches the alarm for the need to rescue 52 people who left Zara. These the Libyan military has operated yet another push back.

On the same day, the so-called Libyan Coast Guard reports that, during the day, the Zawiya patrol boat intercepts 140 people, including 8 women and 5 children. All were taken to the detention center located in the city of Zawiya.
At dawn on this day the Msf crew (Doctors without borders) on board the boat Geo Barents performed a third relevant rescue: 95 people on board a boat in distress for several hours have been saved. The authorities in charge did not take any action yet, though informed about their condition.

The patrol boat Sabratha belonging to the so-called Libyan coast guard intercepted 69 people on board a boat in the north of Zara. The intercepted people have been brought to the detention centre in Tripoli. During those same hours the patrol boat PB-300 operated a way bigger pushing back: 119 people intercepted, among which 20 women and 7 children.

The Open Arms trial involving Matteo Salvini has been postponed until next 17th December, he was accused of abduction and negligence of duty. The decision was taken by Roberto Murgia, the President of the second criminal Chamber of the General Court of Palermo.

cited by the parties, among whom the minister Luciana Lamorgese, the former Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte and the former ministers Luigi Di Maio, Danilo Toninelli and Elisabetta Trenta.
Pope Francis at the end of his Angelus denounced the inhuman conditions thousands of refugees and asylum seekers are experiencing in Libya. He also appeals to the global community to find common solutions to ensure the rescue of people in the sea and guarantee regular paths for immigration and easier access to asylum-seeking procedures. Pope Francis also asked to stop the pushing back of migrants towards non-safe countries.
After several days of sailing, the Msf crew on board the Geo Barents, together with 367 survivors, among which 172 children, are allowed by the responsible authorities to safely land at the port of Palermo.