



Refugees Digest 4 **April 2016**

Refugees, Migrants and Displaced Persons

In this Digest, we continue to look at recent articles pertaining to various categories of displaced persons. It also noted that IOM has reported that for the first three months of 2016 an estimated 170,000 people have under treacherous conditions tried to reach the shores of Greece and Italy. Recently unconfirmed reports claimed that as many as 500 people died when a boat carrying migrants bound for Europe capsized off the coast of Libya. This has resulted in the UN renewing its call for regular ways to be found for the entry of refugees to Europe. Pope Francis and Patriarch Bartholomew's visit to the island of Lesbos has focussed attention on the tragic situation in the Mediterranean. The church leaders called for 'inclusive policies' with regard to refugees and migrants. They called for a broad international consensus to defend the rule of law and fundamental rights, the protection of minorities and to develop safe resettlement procedures and to eliminate unsafe routes.'

There are also two interesting articles on the migration phenomenon in the south-south areas and amongst poorer countries which should be noted as the north-south migration is the one which often gets the most attention. There is also reference to some of the issues which should be considered by countries faced with accommodating displaced persons.

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