Migration
Some observations about contemporary trends

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1 billion people on the move. More than at any other time in recorded history.

- 250 million international migrants
- 760 million internal migrants
- 1 billion short term movements (in 2015)
GLOBAL MIGRATION TRENDS

- Women account for 48% of the global migrant stock.
- Most international migrants are of working age -- 74% of the global migrant stock.

Migrants in the North are on average older than migrants in the South (42 years as median age in the North, 33 in the South).
This movement constitutes the largest movement of displaced people through European borders since World War Two.

Numbers for 2016 are as of 20 April.
Mediterranean Update
Migration Flows Europe: Arrivals and Fatalities

180,245 arrivals by sea in 2016
1,232 dead/missing
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1,011,712 arrivals in 2015

Sea arrivals data to 20/4/16
Data for Spain to 31/3/16

Arrivals 24,927
Arrivals 154,227
Arrivals 1,063

Deaths 5
Deaths 376
Deaths 851
Deaths 28
WHO ARE THESE MIGRANTS?

• The movements include men, women, boys and girls; young and old; singles and whole families.

• Many among those on the move have specific needs that place them at heightened risk.

• These include unaccompanied or separated children (UASC), single women, pregnant or lactating women, the elderly, people with disabilities, as well as the sick and injured.
WHERE ARE THEY MOVING FROM?

In 2015, the majority of the people leaving by boat from Turkey are coming from war-torn countries. By mid-December 2015:

• 57 percent of those who arrived in Greece were from Syria,
• 24 per cent from Afghanistan,
• 9 per cent from Iraq and
• 10 per cent from other countries.
Why is the issue so politically charged?

- Sheer numbers
- Suddenness of the arrivals
- Lack of preparedness
- Change in locus of policy authority
- The smuggling industry
- Impact of technology
- Development of maritime routes
  - Sink and seek help strategy
- Resettlement bases are loaded
- The recession lingers on
Migrant Routes: Mediterranean 2016

International Organization for Migration (IOM) - Preparedness and Response Division (PRD) and Media and Communications Division (MCD)

Names and boundaries indicated on map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM. © IOM 2016
Missing Migrants Project
Global overview 1,489 migrant deaths in 2016

Deaths
5,411 fatalities in 2015
Missing Migrants Project Missing Migrants iom.int #MissingMigrants
Tracking deaths along migratory routes worldwide

Data as of 19/4/16 published 20/4/16
KEY POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

• We believe that these movements are manageable for Europe; solidarity and coherency.

• Close coordination and cooperation amongst the governments and all concerned actors in countries of origin, transit and destination is imperative.

• Disjointed piecemeal approaches do not work.

• A “crisis-mode response” is not proving to be effective and is not sustainable in the long term.

• There is a need to improve legal channels of migration.
KEY POLICY CONSIDERATIONS CONTINUED

• A security-oriented approach does not lead to a decrease in the number of arrivals but to a fragmentation and re-routing of the flows (e.g. so called Nordic Route). Increased border controls alone will fall short of stopping irregular migration.

• Nuanced differentiations should be made concerning mixed migration flows.

• IOM opposes the restriction of movements based on nationality along the Western Balkan route (only Syrians, Iraqis and Afghanis are allowed to cross).

• We must replace the current toxic discourse with an evidence-based discourse on migration.
OPERATIONAL RESPONSE

To address complex migration flows in the Mediterranean, IOM proposes a four-pronged Plan spanning countries of origin, transit and destination, which includes interventions to:

I. Protect migrants’ rights
II. Address drivers of irregular and forced migration
III. Promote safe, orderly, and dignified human mobility
IV. Strengthen partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

- **19 November 2015:** restrictions per nationality -- only people from Syria, Iraq allowed to cross international borders along the Western Balkans corridor.
- **18 Feb 2016:** Austria’s unilateral decision to impose a yearly and daily cap on the number of refugees the country will accept and signature of a memorandum between the chiefs of police of Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, and FYROM. In accordance with it, as of 19 Feb Afghans are not any allowed anymore to cross the borders. As a result, thousands of Afghan migrants remained stranded in Greece.
- **March 2016:** FYROM is imposing further restrictions being imposed on migrants trying to cross the Greek border (e.g. people from cities such as Aleppo can enter, but those from the Syrian capital of Damascus or the Iraqi capital of Baghdad are being stopped).
- **7 March 2016:** EU-Turkey migration Summit.
- **4 April 2016:** First migrants returned to Turkey under the EU deal.