

20-12-2019

No. 2613

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"150,000 Palestinian Refugees Fled War-Torn Syria, Says AGPS on Int'l Migrants Day"

- Palestinian Boy Wins Silver Medal at Damascus Short Story Competition
- Greece to Push Back 10,000 Migrants to Turkey
- Detergents Distributed in Refugee Camps North of Syria



Latest Developments

AGPS documentation team found out that over 150,000 Palestinian refugees have fled the Syrian territories, where 650,000 Palestinians used to take shelter prior to the outburst of the deadly warfare.

Over 60% of Palestinians from Syria have undergone displacement for at least once all the way through the eight-year conflict.



According to AGPS data, nearly 100,000 PRS reached Europe until the end of 2018. Some 28,000 PRS have, meanwhile, sought refuge in Lebanon, 17,000 in Jordan, 6,000 in Egypt, 8,000 in Turkey, and 4,000 in Greece. Another 1,000 refugees returned to the Israeli-blockaded Gaza Strip.

53 PRS also drowned at sea onboard Europe-bound migrant boats.

In another development, 13-year-old Palestinian boy Majd AlDeen Kamal Eid, raised in AlSabina refugee camp, won the second prize of the so-called "My Story" competition for the best realistic short story held as part of a Damascus festival.

Majd received the silver prize at the four-month competition for the 10-16 age category.



Meanwhile, Greece announced its intent to push back some 10,000 migrants to Turkey, amid heavy criticism leveled by human rights NGOs at the southeastern European country over mistreatment of new comers.

Greece is predicting up to 100,000 asylum-seekers to arrive on its islands from Turkey in 2020, placing a further strain on its already bursting migrant camps.

In order to ease the crisis, Manos Logothetis, government commissioner for migration Logothesis, announced that the Greek government wants to deport 10,000 asylum-seekers to Turkey, but to do so the country will need 270 asylum case reviewers.



"The crisis is happening now, and it is serious," Logothetis told the German Funk media group on Wednesday.

In the past six months, 45,000 refugees arrived in Greece, leading the government commissioner to say the situation was "clearly more critical" for Greece than the 2015 migrant crisis, at the high point of people fleeing the deadly warfare in Syria.



Currently, there are more than 41,000 people waiting at the infamous camps on the islands such as Moria on Lesbos or Vathy on Samos, according to the Greek government — this is the highest number since the EU-Turkey refugee pact came into force in 2016.

During 2015, migrants passed through Greece on their way to other EU countries, but now they are largely held at the island reception centers that are increasingly beyond capacity. In April 2019, there were still 14,000 migrants living on the island and humanitarian agencies report the situation is drastic.

In addition, the Greek government plans to build new arrival centers on each of the five islands where most migrants arrive after crossing the Aegean Sea from Turkey. The decision to deport migrants comes after Greece elected the New Democracy party — it adopted a more hardline approach to migrant arrivals, focusing on deportation and faster decisions over asylum applications.

Despite the growing crisis, Germany sent fewer officials during 2019 to help the Greek authorities on the islands, according to the Funkmedia group, using information provided by EU Asylum office Easo.

In 2019 Germany sent a total of 80 asylum experts from BAMF, the German office for migration and asylum, compared with 124 in 2018 and 130 in 2017.

In the meantime, the IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation distributed on Wednesday children detergents to a number of displaced families in Deir Ballout and AlMuhammadiya refugee camps, in Efrin, north of Syria.



Hundreds of Palestinian and Syrian families who have been forcibly deported to northern Syria have been grappling with an abject humanitarian situation as most of them have been taking cover in underequipped tents that risk to fall into pieces in winter season.

