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# MONTHLY NEWS

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## Qatar charities and UN sign deals worth \$8.5m for Syria

Qatar charities, including those targeted by Saudi Arabia and its allies in the Gulf dispute, have signed \$8.5m worth of agreements with various UN agencies to finance aid workers on the ground in Syria.

WFP, UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR and Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) will be the main beneficiaries of the funds, according to the deals signed on Saturday in Qatar's capital Doha.

Al Jazeera, Qatar charities and UN sign deals worth \$8.5m for Syria, 8 July 2017, available from <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/07/qatar-charities-sign-deals-worth-85m-syria-170708153415632.html>

## Humanitarian situation dire in 'liberated' Mosul

Aid agencies have voiced concern over the dire humanitarian situation in Mosul, as Iraq's Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi congratulated his troops for driving ISIL out of most of the city. As the operation nears its end, the intense fighting in the Old City neighbourhood near the Tigris River has taken a heavy toll on the thousands of civilians still trapped in the area.

Al Jazeera, Humanitarian situation dire in 'liberated' Mosul, 10 July 2017, available from <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/07/humanitarian-situation-dire-liberated-mosul-170710070230074.html>

## Rising violence forces 40,000 more to flee CAR's east

A fresh wave of violence has forced 40,000 more people to flee from their homes in the Central African Republic (CAR), bringing the number of refugees in the country's east to 100,000, an NGO says.

The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) reported on Monday that ongoing fighting in the CAR has also left more than 100 people dead since April.

Al Jazeera, Rising violence forces 40,000 more to flee CAR's east, 11 July 2017, available from <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/07/rising-violence-forces-40000-flee-car-east-170710175551526.html>

## EU limits sales of inflatable boats to Libya

The European Union has imposed limits on the export of inflatable boats to Libya in a bid to make it harder for smugglers to send refugees and migrants to Europe.

The decision on Monday by the foreign ministers of the 28 EU states is the latest step to stem the flow of people from Libya to Italy, now the main escape route to the bloc.

Al Jazeera, EU limits sales of inflatable boats to Libya, 17 July 2017, available from <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/07/eu-limits-sales-inflatable-boats-libya-170717190239391.html>

## What's the EU's vision to address the refugee crisis?

EU foreign ministers are seeking a joint global strategy on refugees and migration as thousands continue to make the perilous journey across the Mediterranean Sea.

The ministers met in Brussels on Monday looking to build on existing cooperation with each other and the United Nations.

Al Jazeera, What's the EU's vision to address the refugee crisis?, 18 July 2017, available from <http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/insidestory/2017/07/eu-vision-address-refugee-crisis-170718190820158.html>

## IDP camps in Nigeria 'hit by suicide bombers'

At least eight people have been killed after female suicide bombers attacked two camps hosting internally displaced people (IDP) in Maiduguri, northeastern Nigeria, a civilian self-defence group said.

It was the first major attack on a displaced persons camp in the city which is the birthplace of Boko Haram.

Al Jazeera, IDP camps in Nigeria 'hit by suicide bombers', 24 July 2017, available from <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/07/idp-camps-nigeria-hit-suicide-bombers-170724090127650.html>

## Police set checkpoints at France-Italy border as refugees arrive

Record number of refugee arrivals in southern Europe is putting pressure on the border between France and Italy. French police have set up roadblocks and checkpoints.

Al Jazeera, Police set checkpoints at France-Italy border as refugees arrive, 30 July 2017, available from <http://www.aljazeera.com/video/news/2017/07/police-set-checkpoints-france-italy-border-refugees-arrive-170729121908166.html>

## The cost of human trafficking

The crime of human trafficking is linked to conflicts and wars. According to United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the ongoing refugee crisis and migrant smuggling have caused an increase in human trafficking across the world. Current estimates put the annual illegal profit from the trade at \$150bn a year, only behind drug trafficking (\$300bn) and the counterfeit trade (\$250bn).

Al Jazeera, The cost of human trafficking, 30 July 2017, available from <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/interactive/2017/07/human-trafficking-170730102508536.html>

## More aid to Greece to help cope with migrants

More than 200 million euros has been given to Greece to help it cope with the influx of tens of thousands of migrants and refugees.

The EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides, said the payment means that more than 400 million euros has now been allocated to Greece.

Euronews, More aid to Greece to help cope with migrants, 27 July 2017, available from <http://www.euronews.com/2017/07/27/more-eu-aid-to-greece-to-help-cope-with-migrants>

## Italy takes in 4.400 migrants in one day

More than 1,400 migrants disembarked in Italy on Friday, the first of more than 4,400 who are expected to come ashore during the day after being picked up by rescue boats this week in the southern Mediterranean.

Euronews, Italy takes in 4.400 migrants in one day, 14 July 2017, available from <http://www.euronews.com/2017/07/14/italy-takes-in-4400-migrants-in-one-day>