

SOS MEDITERRANEE

#TogetherForRescue



SOS MEDITERRANEAN IS A EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION DEDICATED TO MARITIME RESCUES. WE HAVE SAVED 40,183 PEOPLE BETWEEN FEBRUARY 2016 AND APRIL 2024 IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS OFF THE COAST OF LIBYA.

The organization was founded in response to the escalating humanitarian crisis of shipwrecks in the Mediterranean.

**Our vision is of a world
where every
person in distress at sea
is rescued and
treated with dignity.**



THE SITUATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN:

The Mediterranean Sea is one of the world's deadliest migration routes. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), 29,442 lives have been lost between 2014 and 2024 due to harsh conditions and dangerous crossings, but it is probable that many more deaths remain undocumented.

Chaos, violence, and human trafficking in Libya compell thousands of people to attempt crossing the Mediterranean on overcrowded boats that are unsuitable for navigation in high seas. SOS Mediterranean conducts search and rescue operations to help lower the death toll from these dangerous crossings.

THE CHALLENGES:

> Mortality is increasing in the Central Mediterranean

> The Libyan coast guards, funded by the EU, continue to dangerously threaten and intercept boats in distress and forcibly return people to "Libyan hell", where their rights are violated

> Hostile attitudes in Tunisia towards those with Subsahran origin is provoking an increase in departures and fatal shipwrecks

> The Italian "Piantadosi decree" criminalizes SAR ships and hinders humanitarian efforts in the Mediterranean through administrative and judicial harrassment.

**Our work is based in
international maritime law:**

*Any ship may circulate freely in
international waters.*

*All captains MUST render
assistance to ANY person in
distress at sea, and must
deliver unconditional rescue,
regardless of the status of the
shipwrecked person.*

*All persons in distress must be
delivered to a place of safety.
Libya and Tunisia are NOT a
place of safety according to
international maritime law.*

*Coastal states must coordinate
search and rescue activities
and designate a place of safety.*

*Safety of Life at Sea Convention, 1974
Search and Rescue Convention, 1979
United Nations Convention on the Law
of the Sea, 1982*

WHY WE NEED YOUR HELP:

THE COST OF SEA RESCUE OPERATIONS HAS BEEN RISING SHARPLY IN RECENT YEARS.

***A DAY AT SEA:
24,000 EUROS***

WE MUST PUT AN END TO THE VICIOUS CIRCLE OF EUROPEAN FUNDING TOWARDS LIBYAN COAST GUARDS.

WE MUST START RECOGNIZING THE HIGH SEAS AS A HUMANITARIAN SPACE SO WE MAY GUARANTEE ACCESS TO SAFETY TO ALL PEOPLE IN DISTRESS.

SCAN TO DONATE

