





15/08: 55 travellers reportedly pushed back to Turkey by Greek coastguard

In Distress Push-Back

VERIFIED

16.08.2020 / 19:13 / Aegean Sea

Watch The Med Alarm Phone Investigations – 15th August 2020

Case name: 2020_08_15-AEG699

Situation: A boat carrying 55 travellers was reportedly pushed back into Turkish waters by the Greek coastguard. The travelers were then picked up by the Turkish coastguard.

Status of WTM Investigation: Concluded

Place of Incident: Aegean Sea

Summary of the Case: In the morning of Saturday the 15th of August, the Alarm Phone was alerted to a boat in distress carrying 55 travellers, including 10 children. We were alerted by a relative of one of the travellers who reported that the boat had been pushed back into Turkish waters by the Greek coastguard. We were also informed that water was entering the boat and that the motor was not working. After unsuccessfully trying to reach the travellers, at 10:15h CEST our shift team alerted the Turkish coastguard. The officer that answered the phone told us that they were already aware about the case and were planning to send boats to patrol the area. At 11:05h we finally managed to reach the travellers, however connection was bad and we were unable to get an updated GPS position. At 11:12h we were informed by the relative that first contacted us that the travellers had been picked up by the Turkish coastguard.

We are still investigating the detailed developments and will include potential updates into this report.

Related Reports

17:07 May 15, 2018 / Aegean Sea Kms

[14/05: 40 travellers returned to Turkey and imprisoned](#)

20:52 Oct 14, 2017 / Aegean Sea Kms

[13/10: 30 travellers rescued to Lesbos](#)

12:01 Mar 08, 2016 / Lesbos, Aegean Sea Kms

[07/03: 3 boats in distress near Lesbos](#)

16:44 May 04, 2019 / Aegean Sea Kms

[03/5: 1 boat with 31 travelers \(10 women and 6 children\) rescued to Lesbos. 1 group stranded on Samos.](#)

15:34 Apr 10, 2018 / Aegean Sea Kms

[09/04: Boat carrying 54 people, returned to Turkey](#)

