

A hand is shown from the bottom, holding a glowing digital globe. The globe is composed of a network of blue lines and nodes, representing a global network or data flow. The background is a dark blue gradient with a subtle grid pattern.

# **MEDIA** **MONITORING**

**ISSUE 7 | October 2024**

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# SUBJECTS OF THE MOMENT

according to media, think-tanks, international organizations, and other actors interested in international development and migration

## I. INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### I.1. Economy and Society

#### **Romania risks losing €1.1 billion from the PNRR. Why is the European Commission concerned**

The European Commission will suspend €1.1 billion from Romania's PNRR due to the failure to meet six milestones, including lowering the microenterprise tax threshold and improving the management of state-owned companies. Minister Adrian Căciu stated that the funds will not be lost entirely, but there will be delays, and the money allocated for the Cluj metro will be reallocated to other projects. The Romanian government will negotiate a six-month period to implement the required reforms and recover part of the suspended funds.

News, HotNews, 10.10.2024, <https://t.ly/TXWUK>

### I.2. Health

#### **The "Longevity Map in Romania" conference addressed the future of public health in Romania**

The "Longevity Map in Romania" conference, held on October 9, 2024, addressed the issue of population aging and the need for effective public policies to support longevity and quality of life. The "Longevity Map in Romania" project maps areas with the longest-living citizens and analyzes genetic and behavioral factors contributing to this phenomenon. The conference emphasized the importance of health education and tackling inequalities in access to medical and educational services, with a focus on prevention starting from childhood.

News, Jurnalul.ro, 09.10.2024, <https://shorturl.at/NGIdw>

### **I.3. Education**

#### **The labor market needs a workforce trained in the dual education system.**

In the 2021–2022 school year, the majority of high school students who dropped out came from the technological track, while the fewest were from the theoretical and vocational tracks. The GO–AHEAD Association promotes quality education and supports young people who wish to attend a technological school, having implemented over 583,000 hours of education and training nationwide. The association's president, Alexandra Bălșeanu, discussed the public perception of the Romanian dual education system and the measures needed to guide more children toward technical professions.

News, Radio România Cultural, 02.10.2024, <https://urlis.net/h6pn6ibf>

#### **Romania takes its first steps towards modernizing schools through the PNRR**

Some students started the school year in classrooms equipped with modern furniture and digital equipment, improvements made through the PNRR program, which supports education in Romania after the Covid pandemic. By 2026, Romania will invest 3.5 billion euros in education, and so far, over 6,100 projects have been implemented for modernizing schools and reducing school dropout rates. The changes have had a positive impact on students, who feel more motivated to learn and understand the concepts taught in class better.

News, Europa Liberă România, 06.10.2024, <https://urlis.net/5ka7i87s>

### **I.4. Gender Equality**

#### **Roxana Mînzatu on gender quotas in politics: "They are necessary / It's impossible to believe that all competencies are concentrated in men."**

Roxana Mînzatu, the Romanian–designated European Commissioner, emphasized the need for gender quotas in politics, arguing that they should be accompanied by criteria of competence. She highlighted that women have historically had limited access to decision–making positions and that society evaluates the performance of men and women in public roles differently. Mînzatu has been appointed as the Executive Vice President of the European Commission, where she will oversee the portfolio titled "People. Skills. Training," in a cabinet predominantly filled by women, although gender equality in the distribution of portfolios has not yet been achieved.

News, HotNews, 21.09.2024, <https://urlis.net/w27pukub>



## **Luminița Odobescu highlights gender parity in Romanian diplomacy at the Women Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Toronto.**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Luminița Odobescu, presented Romania's experience in promoting equal opportunities and combating discrimination at the "Women Foreign Ministers' Meeting" in Toronto. She emphasized Romania's commitment to ensuring gender parity in diplomacy and highlighted measures taken to eliminate violence and stereotypes. Additionally, Odobescu discussed the need to combat disinformation targeting women in leadership positions and held meetings with Canadian officials and representatives of the Romanian community in Toronto.

News, Caleaeuropeană.ro, 21.09.2024, <https://urlis.net/y657v5ew>

## **I.5. The Labor Market**

### **Eurostat: 1 in 5 Romanians suffer from severe material deprivation**

In 2023, Romania recorded the highest rate of severe material and social deprivation in the European Union, with 19.8% of the population affected, followed by Bulgaria and Greece. Approximately 20% of Romanians cannot afford unexpected expenses, a daily meal with meat, or to pay their debts, and the southeastern regions of the country are the most affected. Women are more vulnerable than men to these deprivations, although Romania saw a slight improvement compared to 2022, with a 4.5 percentage point decrease.

News, Digi24, 17.09.2024, <https://urlis.net/xst2got6>

### **Huge demand in Romania for remote jobs, while employers want to bring their employees back to the office**

Employers are trying to bring their employees back to the office, even though the demand for remote work is increasing, and the number of remote job offers has halved in the last two years. Students prefer working from home for flexibility and time-saving, but experts warn that full remote work can affect organizational culture. Starting in 2025, when Generation Z enters the job market in large numbers, the changes brought about by this adaptation will become clearer.

News, Digi24, 07.10.2024, [https://t.ly/\\_uDlc](https://t.ly/_uDlc)



## **Romania, among the EU states with a low percentage of housing difficulties among those at risk of poverty**

Last year, approximately 4.9% of individuals aged 16 or older in the EU reported experiencing housing difficulties, with a higher percentage among those at risk of poverty or social exclusion (8.5%). Countries with the highest housing difficulties for vulnerable individuals were Denmark, Finland, and France, while Poland, Italy, Hungary, and Romania had the lowest percentages. The most affected age groups were those between 16–29 and 30–54 years old, while individuals over 65 reported the fewest difficulties.

News, Agerpres, 11.10.2024, <https://urlis.net/p38j4yji>

## **Labor Market Overview. Romania has over 5.6 million employees, with one-third working in industry and construction.**

In 2023, the average net salary in Romania increased by 16%, reaching 4,412 lei, but there are significant differences between men and women, with women earning an average of 8.2% less. The highest salaries were recorded in Bucharest, Cluj, and Timiș, while in 37 counties, the average salaries were below the national average. Additionally, the number of employees rose to 5.68 million, with one-third working in industry and construction, and the majority in the tertiary sector.

News, Ziare.com, 25.10.2024, <https://nimble.li/omzlv8o9>

## **1.6. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure**

### **The government launches the National Plan for the Great Industry, which aims to relaunch the industry**

The Prime Minister Marcel Ciolacu announced the National Plan for the Great Industry, an economic package of 2 billion euros aimed at reindustrializing the economy, which includes support for strategic investments and large companies. Additionally, the government will provide financial incentives to students who achieve a score of 10 on the National Assessment and the Baccalaureate, and has secured a loan of 600 million euros from the EBRD for investments in renewable energy and transport.

News, Europa Liberă România, 18.09.2024, <https://tinyurl.com/y6hhh9c7>

## **A new connection with the Republic of Moldova: The contract for the construction of the new bridge over the Prut River in Ungheni has been signed**

Romania will build a new bridge over the Prut River to connect the road infrastructure with the Republic of Moldova, with the contract for its execution signed on Friday. The bridge, which will be approximately 261.20 meters long and feature two lanes in each direction, will be constructed by the company NESS PROIECT EUROPE SRL, with a budget of 151.68 million lei and a completion timeframe of 24 months. Additionally, the bridge will connect to the 'Unirii' A8 Highway in Romania and the National Road R1 Chişinău – Ungheni in the Republic of Moldova.

News, HotNews, 27.09.2024, <https://tinyurl.com/yats43ep>

## **Romania Is Europe's Nation of Farmers, But Its Crops Are Dying**

Extreme weather conditions in Romania are severely impacting agriculture, risking food supplies for the European Union. Prolonged droughts have led to critical water shortages and significant crop losses, particularly affecting wheat and corn production. This crisis is exacerbated by global climate change, which poses a threat not only to Romania's farming but also to broader food security within the EU.

News, Bloomberg, 02.10.2024, <https://tinyurl.com/58a68pvz>

## **The Crisis in Romania's Factories: The Economic Trap from Which the Industry Has Failed to Escape in 2024**

The Romanian industry is facing a recession in the first three quarters of the year, with a PMI index of 47.3 in September indicating contraction. Issues are worsened by the stagnation of the German economy, which impacts orders and jobs in Romania, where voluntary employee departures are becoming more frequent. Despite having low labor costs, decreased external demand and production withdrawals are putting pressure on the economy, with the growth forecast revised down to 2.8% for this year.

News, Ziare.com, 04.10.2024, <https://tinyurl.com/5566rn29>

## **I.7. Clean water and access to food**

### **Craiova Provides Spring Water Directly to Taps, a Unique Model Expanded to Dolj and Gorj Counties**

On World Water Quality Monitoring Day, Craiova announced the completion of an ambitious project that now delivers spring water directly to residents' taps. This example of best practices will be expanded to Dolj and Gorj counties, where local authorities have completed most of the work needed to connect to the water system. With a €445 million investment, this intelligent masterplan, unique in Europe, ensures potable water and sewage systems for dozens of localities in Dolj and Gorj. The project, coordinated by Cristian Erbașu, involved complex expropriations and innovative technical solutions. Thousands of residents will benefit from high-quality water, with the expansions set to be inaugurated next year.

News, Antena 3, 18.09.2024, <https://tinyurl.com/mrxbczs7>

### **Global Food Security Worsens, Romania's Rural Areas at Risk**

The Global Food Security Index shows a significant decline from 2019 to 2022, highlighting growing inequality in access to food, worsened by conflicts, climate shocks, and economic disparities. Finland, Ireland, and Norway ranked highest, while Yemen, Haiti, and Syria scored lowest. Romania performs relatively well, but rural areas like Moldova, Oltenia, and the Danube Delta face serious challenges due to poverty, isolation, and poor infrastructure, impacting food availability and accessibility.

News, KeysFin, 23.09.2024, <http://surl.li/ixcbwa>

### **Environmental Impact of the Danube Delta: War, Naval Traffic, and Solutions for Romania and Ukraine**

The Danube Delta, shared by Romania and Ukraine, faces significant environmental challenges due to the increased naval traffic caused by the war in Ukraine. Ships, rerouted to avoid blocked routes, now frequently use the Sulina Channel, threatening the delicate ecosystem with erosion, water pollution, and disturbances to wildlife. Efforts to counter these issues include implementing stricter regulations on naval traffic and prioritizing ecological protection. Joint Romanian-Ukrainian initiatives are essential to reduce the impact, restoring the Delta's natural balance and ensuring long-term conservation.

News, Sectorul 9, 07.10.2024, <https://tinyurl.com/mrxbczs7>

## **I.8. International Cooperation**

### **Energy Transition: Romania Builds a New Nuclear Facility in Partnership with the USA**

The U.S. Export-Import Bank (EXIM) has approved a \$99 million loan for RoPower Nuclear to develop a small modular reactor (SMR) in Doicești, Romania. The project, which uses NuScale Power technology, will help Romania reduce carbon emissions and transition from coal to nuclear energy. This initiative positions Romania as a regional leader in energy innovation, supported by a strong partnership with the U.S. and other international institutions.

News, stiripesurse.ro, 01.10.2024, <https://shorturl.at/lwZA4>

### **Over 60 Organizations Sign Manifesto for the Protection of Romania's Cultural Heritage**

More than 60 non-governmental and professional organizations, as well as individual experts, have signed the "Manifesto for the Protection of Romania's Cultural Heritage," calling for urgent reforms to improve legal frameworks and promote the preservation of cultural heritage. The manifesto outlines five key measures, including adopting European quality standards, assessing environmental and cultural impact for demolitions, and implementing pilot projects for sustainable urban development and heritage conservation. The initiative, the first of its kind in Romania, was launched during a roundtable on October 5, ahead of the European Cultural Heritage Summit in Bucharest, organized by Europa Nostra.

News, Rfi, 08.10.2024, <https://shorturl.at/WjHae>

### **Poland, Romania, and Slovakia Launch Multinational Program to Support Refugee Integration**

Municipalities from Poland, Romania, and Slovakia gathered in Lubin, Poland, on October 8, 2024, to launch a two-year multinational program aimed at supporting the integration of children and families from refugee and migrant communities. Funded by the European Union through the Technical Support Instrument (TSI), the program will enhance access to quality, inclusive services. UNICEF will assist cities including Białystok, Lublin, Bucharest, Timișoara, Bratislava, and Nitra in implementing the program, which will include data collection mechanisms and long-term integration strategies.

News, UNICEF, 08.10.2024, <https://tinyurl.com/59wpwx7m>

## **Romania Secures €467 Million Funding Line from BIRD for Natural Disaster and Climate Change Response**

Romania will have access to approximately €467 million in funding from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) to address emergencies caused by natural disasters and climate change, such as the floods in September 2024. This funding is part of a loan agreement approved by the Romanian Government, allowing the funds to be used even for past emergencies like the recent floods in Galați and Vaslui counties.

News, Agerpres, 09.10.2024, <https://shorturl.at/it86p>

## **I.9. Romania in International Organizations**

### **21% of EU citizens are at risk of poverty or social exclusion**

During the "European Week of Regions and Cities," Vasco Alves Cordeiro, President of the European Committee of the Regions, emphasized the need to strengthen the EU's cohesion policy and fight poverty and social exclusion. He noted that, in 2023, 21% of EU citizens were at risk of poverty or social exclusion, with Romania leading this statistic. Alves Cordeiro also warned about the risks of centralizing this policy at the national level in the EU's 2028–2034 budget. The cohesion policy has been crucial for regional and social progress in Europe over the decades.

News, Newsweek, 09.10.2024: <https://tinyurl.com/yszxdk5>

## **II.MIGRATION**

### **II.1. Romanian Emigrants**

#### **Increase in Returns to Romania in 2022: A New Trend?**

Eurostat data shows that in 2022, for the first time in recent years, the number of Romanians returning to the country (190,000) exceeded those emigrating (175,000). While it is unclear if this marks a new trend, factors like the pandemic and nearing retirement may explain the rise in returns. However, many of these returnees later re-migrate due to dissatisfaction with living conditions in Romania.

News, Contributors.ro, 19.09.2024, <https://tinyurl.com/34cvrf59>

## **The trend of Romanian repatriation becomes increasingly visible, according to 2022 data**

For the first time in 2022, the number of Romanians returning home exceeded the number of those emigrating, with approximately 15,000 more repatriates. Spain, the UK, and Italy have seen significant decreases in their Romanian communities, while the number of Romanians continues to grow in countries like Austria, Switzerland, and Denmark. Romanians now emigrate for a wider range of reasons, not just economic ones. While repatriation is on the rise, many Romanians are only temporarily testing life in Romania, re-migrating afterward. Experts highlight that effective workforce integration depends on local economic conditions and the quality of services offered in the country.

News, Adevărul.ro, 01.10.2024, <https://tinyurl.com/28c7j4bv>

## **Northeast Romania severely impacted by economic migration: over 130,000 children left without parental support**

A report by Save the Children reveals that over 130,000 children in the North-East Region are left without parental care due to economic migration. The counties of Suceava, Vaslui, Iași, and Neamț have seen significant demographic losses, with populations equivalent to small towns emigrating. The study highlights that one in seven children with migrant parents does not attend school regularly, and the emotional and behavioral risks for these children are twice as high compared to others. Save the Children provides psychological and educational support through regional centers and initiatives to reconnect children with parents working abroad.

News, Ziarul de Roman, 15.10.2024, <https://tinyurl.com/5eausacf>

## **II.2. Immigrants in Romania**

### **INSCOP Survey: Immigrants Are Seen as an Economic Opportunity by Most Romanians**

According to a survey by INSCOP Research, 68.1% of Romanians believe that immigrants coming to Romania for work represent an opportunity, as they take up jobs that are not filled by locals, thus contributing to the economy. Additionally, 67.4% of respondents support financial incentives for Romanians living abroad to return home. The survey was conducted between September 11-16, 2024, with a sample of 1,102 individuals.

News, ProTV, 18.09.2024, <https://shorturl.at/4GQiv>

## **FDSC Study: Labor Migration in Romania – Challenges, Opportunities, and the Need for Reforms**

The Civil Society Development Foundation launched the "Bridging Communities" study, exploring labor migration in Romania. The event highlighted challenges and opportunities in integrating migrant workers, including language barriers, employer abuses, and the need for legislative reforms. Notable speakers included Ramona Chiriac (Head of the European Commission Representation in Romania) and Ionuț Cîrdei (General Inspectorate for Immigration). The study emphasizes the urgent need for public policies to support both migrants and local communities.

News, Stiri.ONG, 26.09.2024, <https://tinyurl.com/yue3jsss>

## **12 Migrants, Including Syrians and an Afghan, Detained for Illegal Border Crossing in Teleorman**

On September 17, 2024, border police from Teleorman and Giurgiu detained 12 migrants who had crossed the Danube River in two motorboats and were later picked up by a van driven by a Romanian citizen. The group, consisting of 11 Syrian nationals and one Afghan national, was apprehended, and the driver is being investigated for human trafficking. On September 19, 2024, the migrants were handed over to Bulgarian authorities under the Romania-Bulgaria readmission agreement.

News, ProTv, 23.09.2024, <https://shorturl.at/urTy7>

## **Non-EU Workers Business: DNA Investigates Corruption at Immigration, Profitable Networks, and Migration to Western Europe**

Since 2020, recruiting non-EU workers has become a highly profitable business in Romania, with an annual contingent of 100,000 foreign workers approved for 2024. However, many of these workers use Romania as a transit country to reach Western Europe. The DNA and DIICOT are investigating a corruption network within Immigration, where police officers take bribes to fast-track the necessary documents for foreign workers. Recently, several police officers and labor recruiters were caught in flagrante in Ialomița and Caraș-Severin counties. Investigations are ongoing.

News, 08.10.2024, Jurnal.ro, <https://shorturl.at/wuGdW>



## **UNHCR Requests Romania to Temporarily Host Migrants from the Chagos Islands**

The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) has confirmed plans to temporarily transfer 36 migrants from Diego Garcia Island, part of the Chagos Archipelago, to Romania. The migrants, mostly ethnic Tamils, sought asylum in this British-administered territory. Romanian authorities are expected to receive an official request to host these migrants at the Emergency Transit Centre in Timișoara, under a 2008 agreement. The transfer is temporary, with plans for eventual relocation to another country or voluntary repatriation.

News, 10.10.2024, Gândul, <https://shorturl.at/B7JKI>

## **Romania Attracts More Foreign Workers to Address Workforce Shortages**

Romania has become an increasingly attractive destination for workers from less developed countries, particularly from Asia, who come to work in fields such as hospitality, construction, agriculture, retail, and food delivery. With declining birth rates and a reduced interest in work among locals, Romania is adopting Western strategies and relying on imported labor. However, in the competition for cheap and hardworking labor, Romania faces regional rivals as well as Israel and Middle Eastern countries, which offer higher wages or faster employment processes.

News, 13.10.2024, Ziarul Financiar, <https://tinyurl.com/yue3jsss>

## **II.3. Refugees in Romania**

### **The Number of Ukrainian Refugees Who Entered Romania Since the War Started Exceeds 10 Million**

Over 10 million Ukrainian citizens have entered Romania since the war with Russia began on February 24, 2022, according to data from the Border Police. As of Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 10,044,713 refugees have been registered. The Romanian government offers financial aid of 600 lei for food and 750 lei for accommodation for four months, with additional support continuing only for refugees who are employed in Romania and have children enrolled in Romanian schools.

News, 17.09.2024, Libertatea, <https://tinyurl.com/4758bhe9>

### **Refugee Children from Gaza Are Receiving Treatment in Romanian Hospitals**

Eight refugee children from the Gaza Strip are receiving medical care in Romanian hospitals, according to the Ministry of Health. Hospitals like Marie Curie and Grigore Alexandrescu are involved, with two children already discharged. At Fundeni Institute, one child and their sister are receiving hematology treatment.

News, 01.10.2024, Mediafax: <https://tinyurl.com/ab4brtta>

### **II.3. International**

#### **Austria has been given the portfolio for migration and internal affairs in the new European Commission**

Austria has received the portfolio for Migration and Internal Affairs in the new European Commission, led by President Ursula von der Leyen. The responsibility for this portfolio has been entrusted to Finance Minister Magnus Brunner, and his tasks will include implementing the asylum and migration pact, strengthening external borders, and developing internal security structures.

News, 17.19.2024, Mediafax: <https://tinyurl.com/ypj6tfs5>

#### **The Netherlands calls for an exemption from EU asylum rules. "We must once again be responsible for our own asylum policy."**

The Dutch government has officially requested a voluntary exemption clause from the EU migration and asylum system from the European Commission, an unprecedented measure from a founding EU member state. Marjolein Faber, the Dutch Minister for Asylum and Migration, stated that the Netherlands wants to be responsible for its own asylum policy again.

News, 18.09.2024, Euronews: <https://tinyurl.com/5dku7u5p>

## **Italy is sending its migrants to Albania. 36,000 migrants will be accommodated in two reception centers built in Albania.**

Italy, led by Giorgia Meloni, has requested Albania's help in managing illegal migrants. Under an agreement between the two countries, Italy will open two reception centers in Albania, setting a precedent within the European Union. Fifteen other EU governments are calling for the externalization of their asylum policies. Albania will not allow other countries to host migrants on its territory, emphasizing that the agreement is exclusive to Italy. Prime Minister Edi Rama insisted on the exclusivity of this program.

News, 20.09.2024, Euronews: <https://shorturl.at/IV2G7>

## **The new French Interior Minister wants a referendum on immigration. "The phenomenon has most disrupted French society"**

The new French Interior Minister, Bruno Retailleau, seeks a referendum on immigration, lamenting the impossibility of organizing one due to constitutional reasons. He stated that immigration has disrupted French society for 50 years without citizens ever expressing their views. Retailleau is willing to amend the Constitution to allow such a referendum and believes that "immigration is not an opportunity." He also discussed expulsion measures and emphasized the need for a "balance of power" in immigration management.

News, 30.09.2024, Digi24: <https://shorturl.at/2UXvu>

## **Migration hysteria - The flow of entries has decreased by 40%, but European leaders prefer far-right ideas**

Despite a 40% decrease in immigrant flows, European leaders continue to embrace far-right ideas, particularly in Germany and Austria, where firmness in migration policy has become an important political marker. In recent decades, these countries have received a significant number of refugees, and political reactions to migrant arrivals have led to a strengthening of protectionist rhetoric. At the same time, Europe has struggled to address the migration crisis since 2015, and recent pacts with third countries for the externalization of migrants raise issues related to human rights and the rule of law.

Analysis, 01.10.2024, Știri pe surse: <https://shorturl.at/nRSyy>

## **More than half of EU states unite against migrants. Urgent letter sent to the European Commission**

Seventeen European states, including France, Germany, and Italy, have requested the European Commission to establish stricter rules for returning illegal migrants. The letter is signed by 14 of the 27 EU member states and three non-member countries in the Schengen Area. This initiative follows recent elections where migration has become a key issue. The signatory states want a clearer return system with strict obligations for those returned. The European Commission has not yet commented, but migration is expected to be an important topic in Germany's legislative elections in 2025.

News, 04.10.2024, ProTV: <https://shorturl.at/ilmbX>

## **Five revolutionary women, whose involvement is changing lives, have won the Nansen Refugee Award.**

Five remarkable women will receive the 2024 Nansen Refugee Award, granted by UNHCR. The global laureate, Sister Rosita Milesi, a Brazilian nun and activist, has defended the rights of refugees and migrants for nearly 40 years. The other four regional winners are Maimouna Ba (Africa), Jin Davod (Europe), Nada Fadol (Middle East and North Africa), and Deepti Gurung (Asia-Pacific). The Moldovan people will receive an honorary award for their support of Ukrainian refugees. The awards ceremony will take place on October 14 in Geneva.

News, 14.10.2024, UNHCR: <https://shorturl.at/66COy>

## **EU offers to tighten migration stance under pressure from governments**

The European Commission will propose stricter migration measures in response to government pressures. Ursula von der Leyen outlined 10 proposals, including fast-tracking the Migration Pact and agreements with third countries for migrant returns. Germany and others introduced border checks, while Poland wants to temporarily suspend asylum rights for migrants from Belarus.

News, 15.10.2024, Reuters: <https://t.ly/AGvaP>

## **European Commission seeks new legislation to increase deportations of illegal migrants**

The European Commission will propose new legislation to facilitate the deportation of illegal migrants, calling for more effective cooperation with countries of origin. Less than 20% of expulsion decisions are effective, and the Commission intends to develop strategic relationships with these countries, such as Libya and Tunisia, to reduce departures to the EU. Additionally, the revision of the 2008 "Returns Directive" will be discussed to accelerate and facilitate the expulsion process. While illegal entries via the Central Mediterranean have decreased, those through the Western Mediterranean have increased by 56% over the past year.

News, 15.10.2024, Digi24: <https://shorturl.at/K45xl>

# **MEDIA MONITORING**

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