



All of the rumours are collected among refugees passing through Europe. By identifying misinformation and hearsay and responding to it with relevant, factual information, **NewsThatMoves** aims to keep the refugee population at the forefront of our communication response.

Rumour #1

“When we arrive on the island, they told us that either you have to accept asylum in Greece or you will be deported to Turkey.”

Answer

People arriving in Greece after the entry into force of the EU-Turkey deal still have the right to apply for asylum in Greece. If you do not apply or your asylum application is rejected you may be deported to Turkey according to the EU-Turkey deal signed on 18 March 2016. Even if you submit an asylum application, Greek authorities will first examine the possibility to return you to Turkey. Greek authorities do not deport families with children to Turkey.

For more information:

<https://newsthatmoves.org/en/first-returns-to-turkey-since-june/>

Rumour #2

“Everyday 15 people get an official card from Serbia to cross border to Hungary.”

Answer

Hungary built a fence on its border with Serbia and Croatia in 2015 to stop the flow of refugees into the country and Hungarian police are pushing back irregular migrants back to Serbia. Currently, the only legal way to cross into Hungary from Serbia is through the two so-called 'transit zones' of Röszke and Tompa, on the Hungarian-Serbian border. The current practice of Hungarian authorities is to allow only 30 people per day through the transit zones.

For more information:

<https://newsthatmoves.org/en/less-people-at-hungary-serbia-transit-zones/>

Rumour #3

“Many Syrians have deported themselves back to Turkey recently.”

Answer

According to the EU-Turkey deal signed on 18 March 2016, Syrians and other nationalities can be deported from Greece to Turkey if they came after 20 March 2016 and do not apply for asylum in Greece or their asylum application has been rejected. The Greek authorities returned five Syrian nationals from the islands of Lesbos to Turkey on September 7. The returns were carried out under the EU-Turkey deal. Since March 20, 489 persons have been returned to Turkey under the EU-Turkey deal. Returns can be voluntary (if people decide not to apply for asylum in Greece or withdraw their claim) or involuntary. All nationalities are being returned under the EU-Turkey deal, but the pace of transfers remains low.

For more information:

<https://newsthatmoves.org/en/first-returns-to-turkey-since-june/>

Rumour #4

“Most people here in Souda camp say that they will evacuate the asylum seekers from Greece islands; there is a central camp in Athens that they have made for asylum seekers to keep them for longer time.”

Answer

Greek authorities have still not created an action plan for the mass transfer of refugees from the islands to Athens or the mainland. According to Greek authorities, new smaller, long-term camps are being built in mainland Greece to host refugees in order to decongest overcrowded camps in the mainland and the islands.

For more information:

<https://newsthatmoves.org/en/no-new-sites-on-greek-islands/>

Rumour #5

“You have to live in Greece for 5 years then you will find out whether you will be a Greek citizen or no. During these five years you can't work, study and you are only allowed to live in camps during these years.”

Answer

If you are a non-European citizen living legally in Greece you can acquire Greek citizenship if you have Greek origins, marry a person with Greek citizenship or have lived in Greece for 7 consecutive years, according to the Greek Citizenship code of 2010. All applications for people of non-Greek origin, however, has been frozen since 2012. Children of third-country nationals legally residing in Greece, including refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection are eligible for citizenship if the child is enrolled in school and will continue education throughout the examination of the application for citizenship or one parent has had 5 years' continuous residence in Greece. In cases where the child is born before the completion of this 5-year period, he/she is only eligible for citizenship after one parent has legally resided in the country for 10 years. Also, a third-country child may apply for citizenship after completing 9 years of education or the entire duration of secondary school in a Greek school or holds a degree from a Greek university or technical college.

For more information:

<http://www.opengov.gr/ypes/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2015/05/sxedio-nomou-ithageneia.pdf>



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