

Europolitics on Libyan refugees

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On the morning of 6 April came the news of the death or disappearance of 150 Somali and Eritrean refugees after the boat they had escaped war-ridden Libya on sunk in the Mediterranean. According to Italian authorities, it was only possible to save fifty refugees. Amidst this tragedy, MEPs have called on the EU to show solidarity. The EP is urging the 27 member states to "redistribute" the Libyan refugees on their territories to prevent them from having to resort again to such dangerous activity. The Commission is referring to 2,000 people stuck at the Egyptian and Tunisian borders. Some 8,000 people have the refugee status in Libya, according to French Socialist MEP Sylvie Guillaume. The EP has also announced that Guillaume's draft report, whose aim is to make asylum procedures more consistent, was voted in.