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Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

**Hellenic Republic  
Ministry of Migration Policy  
General Secretariat of Reception  
Reception and Identification Service  
(R.I.S.)**

# GENERAL SITUATION

Since 2015, Greece has faced a rapid increase in the migration flows, reaching Greek territory.

Great burden for the islands in the sea borders with Turkey and from the mainland borders in Evros

Greece, in the first period, was considered as a transit country since third country nationals arriving in Greece wanted to continue their travel in the countries of Central and North Europe. This changed through the years due to borders closing.

# Statistics of migration flows in Greek Territory

## NEW ARRIVALS

For the year 2015

Mainland: 4.907 TCNs      Islands: 868.831 TCNs

For the year 2016

Mainland : 3.784 TCNs      Islands : 172.603 TCNs

For the year 2017

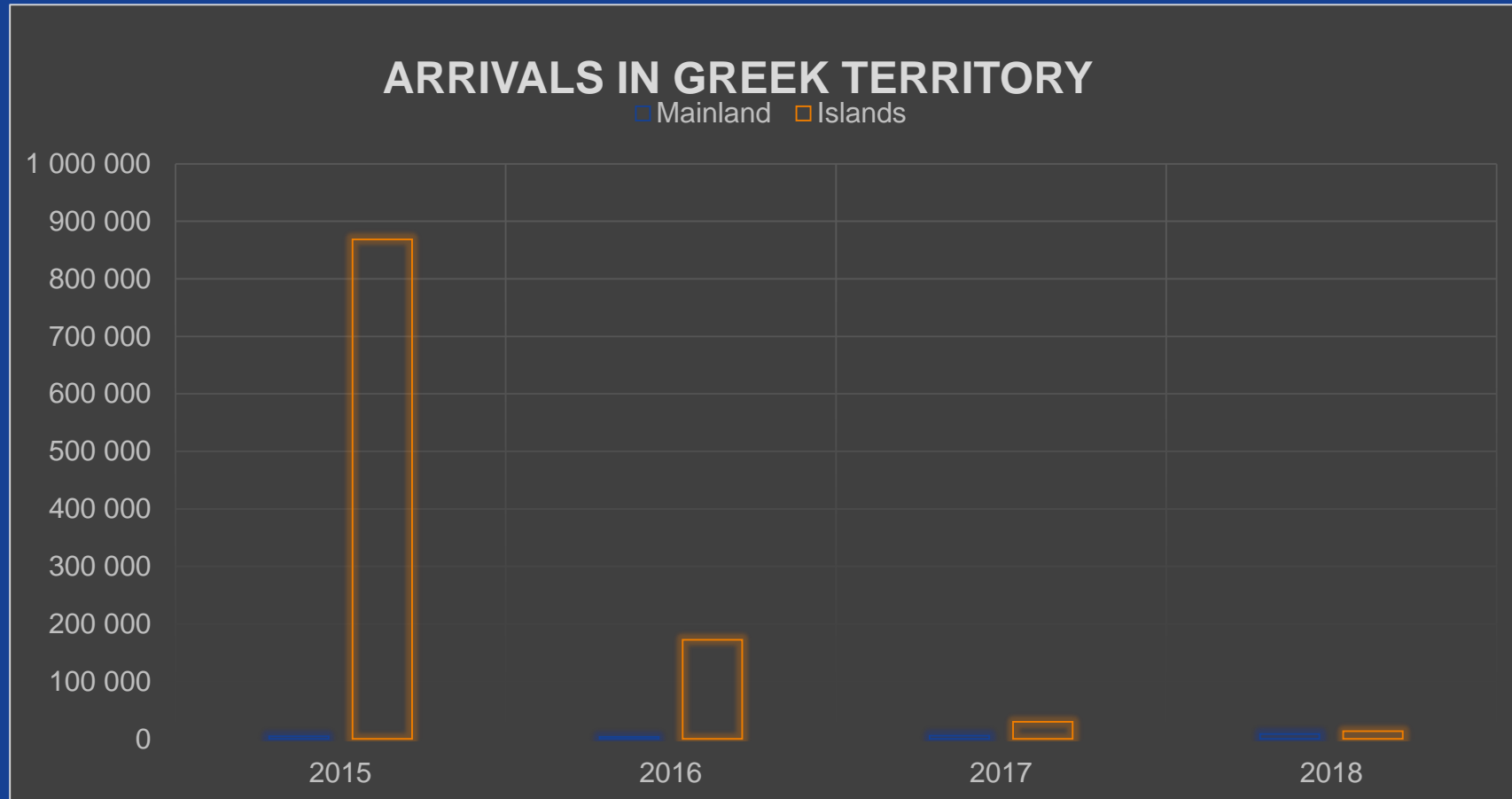
Mainland : 5.651 TCNs      Islands (5 RIC): 29.661 TCNs

For the first semester 2018

Mainland : 8407 TCNs      Islands (5 RIC) : 13.775 TCNs

Source: Hellenic Police and Coast Guard

# Statistics of migration flows in Greek Territory



# ***R.I.S. MISSION***

- **The effective process of the identification procedures of third country nationals or stateless persons entering illegally the country.**
- **R.I.S. is responsible for the establishment and operation of:**
  - **Reception and Identification Centers**
  - **Open Temporary Reception Camps for third country nationals or stateless persons who have applied for international protection or who are under a return procedure or other procedures.**

# RIS legal framework

RIS was first established in 2011 as First Reception Service, Law 3907/2011

Reception and Identification Service was established by Law 4375/2016

*“On the organization and operation of the Asylum Service, the Appeals Authority, the Reception and Identification Service, the establishment of the General Secretariat for Reception, the transposition into Greek legislation of the provisions of Directive 2013/32/EC “on common procedures for granting and withdrawing the status of international protection (recast) (L180/29.6.2013), provisions on the employment of beneficiaries of international protection and other provisions”.*

Changes in the Organizational Structure of RIS, via P.D. 122/2017

# Reception and Identification Centers

1. Lesvos Reception and Identification Center (RIC). It was established by 2969/02-12-2015 Joint Ministerial Decision (JMD), and it is located inside the “Paradellis” ex army camp at Moria, in Lesvos.
2. Kos RIC. It was established by 2969/02-12-2015 JMD and it is located at Pyli, in Kos.
3. Leros RIC. It was established by 2969/02-12-2015 JMD and is located at Lepida, in Leros.
4. Samos RIC. It was established by 6634/1-147524/08-01-2016 JMD and it is located at Vathi, in Samos.
5. Chios RIC. It was established by 6634/1-147524/08-01-2016 JMD and is located at VIAL ex factory, 7km from the city of Chios.
6. Fylakio RIC. It was established by 11.1/1076/31-12-2012 JMD and is located at Fylakio in the municipality of Orestiada.

# Open Temporary Reception Camps

1. Open Temporary Reception Camps for third country nationals or stateless persons requesting international protection, which was established by 3/14762/16-11-2016 JMD and it is located in Schisto, Attica.
2. Open Temporary Reception Camps for third country nationals or stateless persons requesting international protection, which was established by 3/14762/16-11-2016 JMD and it is located in Diavata, Thessaloniki.
3. Open Temporary Reception Camps for persons requesting International Protection, which was established by 4Δ/8484/13-07-2016 JMD and it is located in Leros.



# Open Temporary Reception Camps

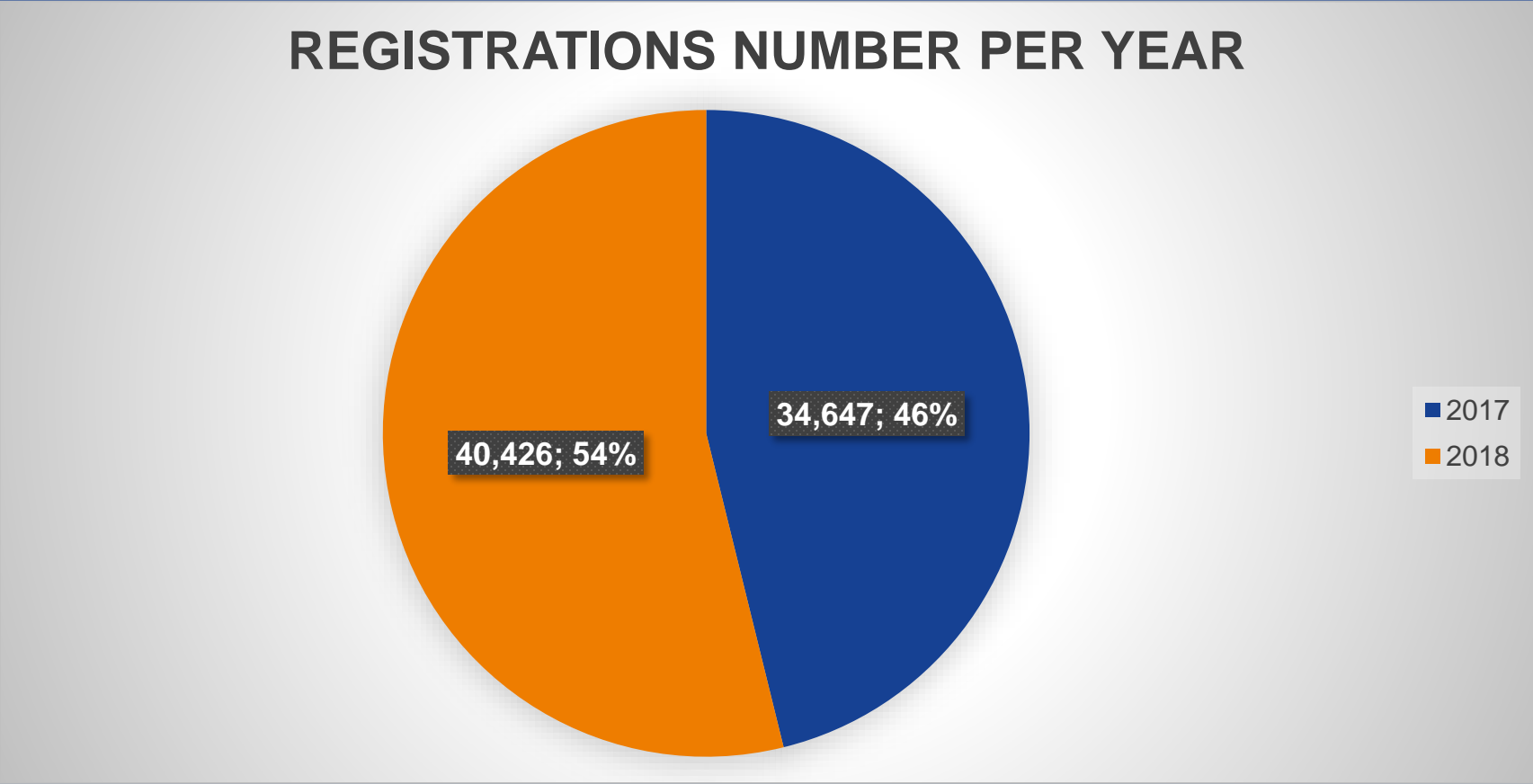
1. Open Temporary Accommodation Camps for persons requesting voluntary return, which was established by 3/5023/15-09-2015 JMD and it is located in Atticon Alsos, Athens.
2. Open Temporary Accommodation Camps for people requesting asylum and third country nationals belonging to vulnerable groups, which was established by 3/5262/18-09-2015 JMD and amended by 3/3694/31-03-2016 JMD. It is located in Eleonas, Athens.

# Reception and Identification Procedures

1. Registration and interview, including fingerprinting.
2. Verification of citizenship and identity.
3. Medical screening, necessary medical treatment and psychosocial support.
4. Information about rights and obligations, including international protection and voluntary returns.
5. Special care for persons with specific needs or vulnerabilities (including unaccompanied minors).
6. Referral to Asylum Service.
7. Referral to voluntary returns, or expulsion (for irregular immigrants).

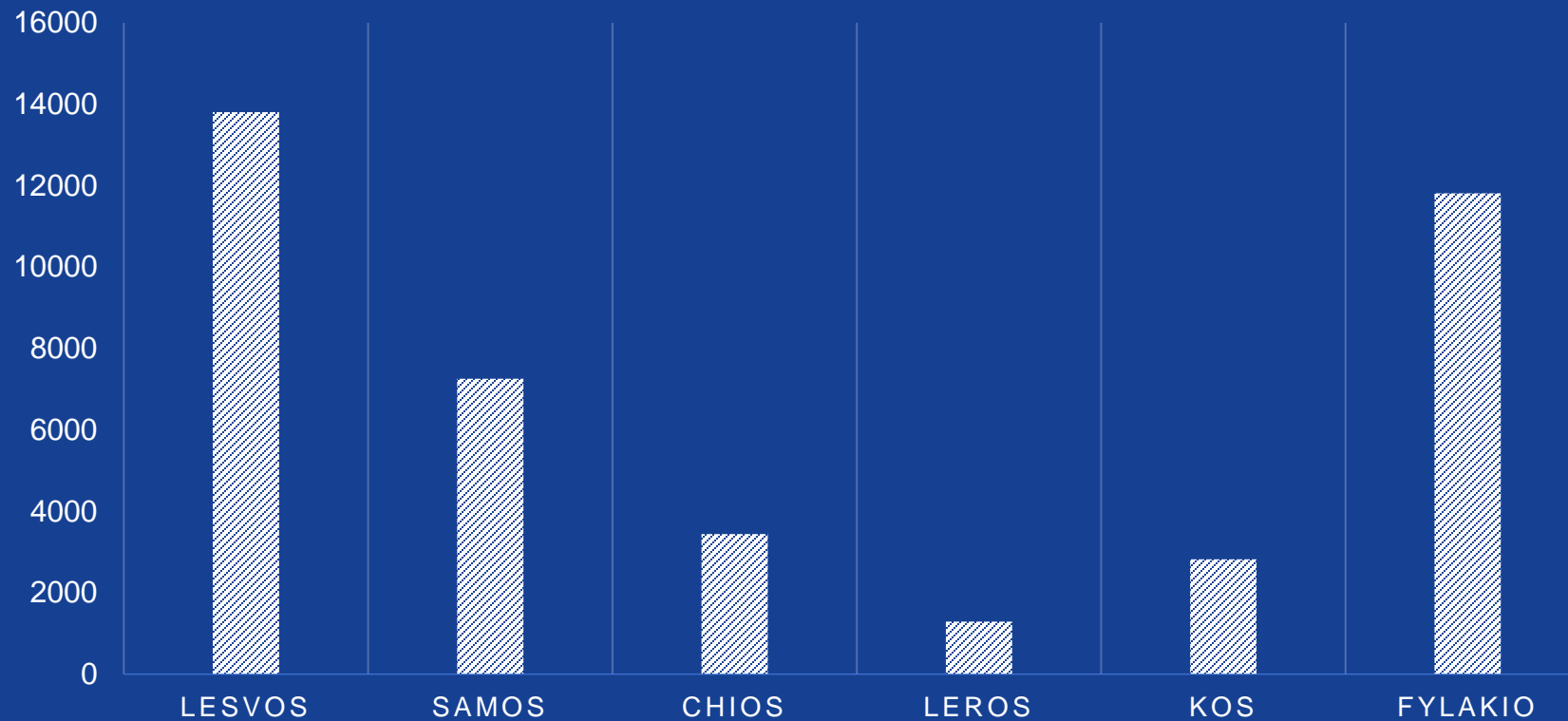
**Interpreter is needed in every stage of the procedures**

# Statistics of migration flows



# Statistics of migration flows

## NUMBER OF REGISTRANTS RICS - 2018



# Analysis of migration population

According to RIS data, there is an analogy of almost 60%-40% between men and women

For 2018, 25.519 TCN'S are men and 14.907 TCN'S are women

Of special importance are vulnerable groups:

- 2016: 5.966 cases
- 2017: 9.899 cases
- 2018: 4194 cases (till November 2018)

In 2017 most of the people were coming from Syria (almost 39%), Iraq (almost 19%), Afghanistan (almost 11%), Pakistan (almost 6%).

In 2018 until now Syrians population reaches about the 33% with an increasing percentage of Afghanistan that reaches the 14%.

# Vulnerable Groups – Statistics

- 1. Unaccompanied minors -- (2017) 1.033 TCNs , (2018) 552 TCNs**
- 2. Single parents with minor children -- (2017) 2.619 TCNs , (2018) 1.364 TCNs**
- 3. Pregnant or post-partum women -- (2017) 1.065 TCNs , (2018) 769 TCNs**
- 4. Victims of torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence or exploitation -- (2017) 3.756 TCNs , (2018) 690 TCNs**
- 5. Victims of trafficking-- (2017) 21 TCNs , (2018) 3 TCNs**
- 6. Elderly -- (2017) 104 TCNs , (2018) 47 TCNs**
- 7. Persons with disabilities or suffering from incurable or serious illnesses -- (2017) 1.301 TCNs , (2018) 769 TCNs**

# CHALLENGES

High number of arrivals in the Greek borders, since 2015 till now, pushes national migration and asylum system to its limit. Available resources of the intervened public authorities, such as RIS, are limited, reducing overall effectiveness.

In the last years, migration population, reaching Greek territory, depicts an increase in the number of vulnerable cases. Infrastructures and specialized staff, employed by the Greek public authorities must be strengthened in order to further serve effectively this target group needs.

A reassessment of European Union actions such as the relocation scheme must be examined since its planned effectiveness has not been fulfilled for southern Europe countries such as Greece.

Increased number of migrants requires an effective plan for their integration in the Greek society. Effectiveness of public administration should be enhanced via better planning and coordination. Intercultural management is vital in all public authorities participating in this process.

# CHALLENGES

Increase of extreme right parties influence in Europe, exploiting social problems caused mainly by financial crisis create hurdles in the acceptance of migration population inside southern Europe countries societies. Cases of racism events must be handled.

A crucial issue is the external policy of E.U. both aiding origin countries in accepting migrants that wish to return to their home countries and prevent migration from their territory. Reduction of the reception burden for south Europe countries such as Greece.



# MEASURES FOR CONFRONTING MIGRATION ISSUES

Decongestion from islands to mainland camps, via cooperation with various actors for the establishment of new camps

Accommodation to flats and hotels for reducing the burden to RICs

Recreational activities inside the camps for the improvement of daily life of asylum seekers

Cooperation with Greek public authorities, civil society actors and other European and international organizations for the provision of services inside the camps, for providing efficient reception services



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**Thank you**  
**for your attention**