

Source: <http://www.milliyet.com.tr/yunanistan-in-geri-gonderdigi-gundem-2569546/>



Irregulars sent back by Greece crossed over to Turkey in a boat

Irregulars in Edirne, illegally crossing over to Greece, were captured and beaten at the border by the Greek police, and then sent back to Turkey in a boat. Recording on a mobile their return on a boat on the River Maritza (Evros), the irregulars said they had been exposed to violence by the Greek police.

In spite of the readmission agreement with Turkey, Greece continues to send back the 'irregular migrants' that it intercepts at the border in the course of illegal crossing, via the River Maritza. This time, 4 irregulars --one a woman-- recorded on their mobile phones, the footage of them being sent back by the Greek police, which is claimed to have beaten up the asylum seekers crossing into their country irregularly. According to the claims of the irregulars, who use the River Maritza to illegally cross to the Greek side, they had been exposed to violence by the Greek police, then were placed in a boat and sent off to Turkey.

The video footage shows that returning back to Turkey in a boat, the irregulars are helped out by the villagers to the shore and then were taken into custody by the border patrol. After a medical check, whereby it is determined that they had been battered, the irregulars were then handed over to Edirne Migration Management Directorate for the completion of procedures.

600 illegal migrants returned in 1 month

According to data by border patrol guards around 600 illegal migrants, asylum seekers or irregular migrants were beaten up by the Greek border police after having crossed into Greece through illegal ways, their mobiles phones and money were forcibly taken and were then sent back by pointing a gun to them. The illegal migrants who were sent back through the 'push back' method said they had been left thirsty and hungry for days when they were intercepted in Greece and were then forcibly sent to back to Turkey with a boat via the Maritza river under the threat of a gun. Inquiries and investigations are underway to determine the nationality of the illegal migrants who were allegedly sent back in boats and on whom no passport, identity, mobile phone or money was found.

