Germany is last stop in rush to cross the Channel

Small boats become big business for Calais gang

Britain's patience with migrants has run out... and it's ready to 'be lectured at' by Priti Patel

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Migrant crossings

Provoke migrants, Macron complains

News Migration

Germany has long been the last hub for migrants trying to reach Europe in small boats, police and the government suspect. Six in ten of all Channel migrants now arrive in Germany on the day that they are arrested by immigration officers, according to a Frontex report, which gives Germany the highest number of migrants arriving from the Channel.

A year ago, the state of the Channel crisis was described by the German interior minister, Horst Seehofer, as ‘absolutely critical’. But while many on the continent would now agree, there is still a sense of impatience on the eastern border, where migrants are landed on beaches near Calais after making the crossing from England. In Germany, the process of filtering and registering migrants is slow and bureaucratic, leading to long delays and frustration.

The German government, under Olaf Scholz, has sought to address the situation by establishing a new migrant registration centre in the coastal city of Wismar, just across the border from Calais. The centre is designed to process migrants more efficiently and quickly, reducing the time they spend in the country.

However, many migrants arriving from the Channel are still being processed in the UK and then transported to the new centre in Germany. This has led to criticism from some organisations, who argue that the process is not quick enough and that migrants are left stranded for too long.

Despite these challenges, the German government remains committed to its strategy of processing migrants quickly and efficiently. The new centre in Wismar is seen as a key part of this approach, and it is hoped that it will help to reduce the number of migrants arriving in the UK.

The situation in Germany is in stark contrast to the chaos and confusion that have plagued the Channel crisis in recent years. In 2021, the number of migrants arriving in the UK by small boat reached its highest level since 1945, with thousands of people making the perilous journey in overcrowded boats.

According to Frontex, the European Union’s border agency, the number of migrants arriving in the UK has dropped significantly in recent months. This is partly due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has forced many migrants to cancel their travel plans.

Despite these challenges, the situation in the Channel remains tense. Migrants continue to arrive in large numbers, and the UK government is under increasing pressure to find a solution. As a result, the focus on the German government’s efforts to process migrants quickly and efficiently is likely to continue.

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