

# Death in the Mediterranean Hamas' "Sinking Business"



## Regional Crisis

Over **400,000 illegal individuals** crossed from the Middle-East and N. Africa to Europe by sea in the **past two years**.

More than **95% of migrants** are fleeing from oppressive dictatorships or nations **abused by radical Islamic regimes**.

Over **6,500 have died** crossing the Mediterranean to Europe in **2014 and 2015** – more than the previous 3 years combined.

The African European Coast is now the deadliest border crossing in the world.



## Regional Industry

The **average trip** from Egypt or Libya to the Italian coast costs **\$4,000-\$6,000**.

Over **\$2 BILLION per annum** collected by the trafficking industry.

Trafficking profits are used to fund terrorist activities in Libya, Egypt and Gaza.



## Hamas' Industry

Around **7,500 migrants** from 2013-2015 have been from the Palestinian Authority – **Gaza and the West Bank**.

During the same period, over **500 of these Palestinian migrants died at sea** fleeing the oppressive rule of Hamas in Gaza.

Up to 2,000 Gaza residents fled to Egypt through Hamas tunnels in 2014 looking to board boats to Europe.

At an average cost of \$4,000 per trip, that is an **\$8 MILLION dollar business for Hamas smugglers**.

This is on top of the other 8,000-10,000 people Hamas smuggled out into Egypt in 2014 at a rate of \$500-\$1,000 per person (another multi-million dollar business).



Jerusalem מכון  
Institute ירושלים  
of Justice לצדק

CONQUER INJUSTICE. TOGETHER.

[www.jij.org](http://www.jij.org)

**HAMAS**  
**TERRORIZES**  
the **PEOPLE** of **GAZA**



# Death in the Mediterranean Hamas' "Sinking Business"



## Escape from Hamas' oppressive rule

The Palestinian Authority has accused Hamas of stealing up to \$700 million in foreign aid given for home reconstruction in Gaza, leaving Gaza residents homeless and hopeless... and looking to escape.

A young man employed to dig an illegal Hamas tunnel to Egypt lost his job when Egypt began destroying the tunnels in late 2014. Hopelessly faced with no other option for employment, he paid Hamas to be smuggled through a remaining tunnel to Europe, only to die at sea.

Fatah spokesman Ahmad Assaf described what Hamas is doing as "high treason."

Many Gaza migrants to Europe are using money given to them by international aid organizations to rebuild their homes in order to pay for the trip.

Palestinian survivors of wrecked migrant boats tell of stories of being kidnapped, abused, starving and thrown overboard en route to Europe.



## Gaza residents dare to speak against Hamas' rule

*"The Israeli army allows supplies to come in and Hamas steals them."*

– Aid worker in Gaza

*"You have to keep in mind that Hamas is not concerned with our conditions as Gazans."*

– Researcher living in Khan Younis

*"I do not know a single Gazan who is pro-Hamas at the moment, except for those on its payroll. Hamas maintains its control here through a military dictatorship, just like North Korea. People will be killed if they protest."*

– Teacher from Gaza

*"Gazans are thirsty and Hamas is stealing the water bottles provided to us for free and selling them at 20 Israeli shekels [approximately \$5] for the big bottle and 10 Israeli shekels for the small one."*

– Imam in Gaza

*"It's better to die at sea than to die of despair and frustration in Gaza."*

– Gaza resident

*"The death of hundreds of Palestinian refugees only proves that the Palestinian leadership is utterly useless. I think that they should be ashamed of themselves, for their statements of condemnation are no longer sufficient."*

– Gaza City resident Selim Abu al-Rous

*"In Gaza, there is no future for young people, so we looked for any possible way to get out of here."*

– young, Palestinian migrant who made it to Europe

**FREE GAZA  
END HAMAS'  
OCCUPATION**



מכון  
ירושלים  
Institute  
of Justice  
לצדק

CONQUER INJUSTICE. TOGETHER.

[www.jij.org](http://www.jij.org)