
ITALY SENDS THE FIRST SHIP WITH MIGRANTS TO ALBANIA AS RIGHTS GROUPS WARN OF A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT

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Italy is transferring the first group of migrants to Albania, the Interior Ministry said Monday, as part of a contentious plan to process thousands of asylum-seekers outside its borders.

A naval ship departed from the island of Lampedusa with 16 men – 10 from Bangladesh and six from Egypt – who were rescued at sea after departing from Libya. The ship is expected to arrive Wednesday morning, a ministry spokesman said.

Premier Giorgia Meloni's far-right government on Friday formally opened the two centers in Albania where Italy plans to process thousands of male migrants requesting asylum after being intercepted in international waters while trying to cross to Europe.

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