
SYRIA WILL TAKE BACK CITIZENS TRYING TO REACH ISLAND BY BOAT, SOUTH CYPRUS SAYS

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By Gavin Blackburn with AP

Human traffickers are cutting deals with local employers to bring in Syrians, according to Cyprus' () deputy migration minister.*

Syria has agreed to take back any of its citizens who are intercepted trying to reach Cyprus by boat, the Mediterranean island country's deputy minister for migration has said.

Nicholas Ioannides confirmed that two inflatable boats each carrying 30 Syrians were turned back in recent days in line with a bilateral agreement agreed by Nicosia and Damascus.

(*) AVİM uses "Cyprus" as a geographic name. AVİM considers the expression "Republic of Cyprus" to mean the Greek Cypriot Administration of Southern Cyprus.

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