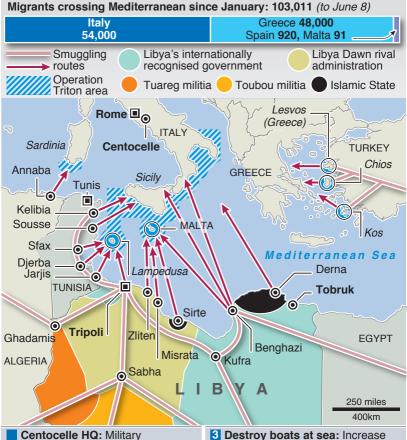
Plan to counter Libya's people smugglers

The EU plans to mount a military mission to stop criminal gangs smuggling people to Europe by destroying their lucrative business model



operation run by *EU Naval Force* – *Mediterranean*. Eight warships and 14 patrol ships already in area as part of *Triton rescue mission*



2 Naval blockade: Intercept boats within 12 nautical miles of Libyan coast. Migrants returned to shore

- 3 Destroy boats at sea: Increase financial risk to smugglers.

 Replacement cost of boat to carry 250 migrants is about €70,000

 4 Ground operations: Destroy
- 4 Ground operations: Destroy boats in harbours, fuel dumps, embarkation and collection points.

 Local warlords charge traffickers around €17,000 a month to use secure departure points and €4,500 a month to house migrants while they wait to depart
- 5 Libyan rivals: High-level EU political engagement to bring rival governments in Tobruk and Tripoli together to form *Government of National Unity* and combine militias into force to counter smugglers

Sources: IHS Jane's Defence Weekly, Frontex

Picture: Associated Press

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