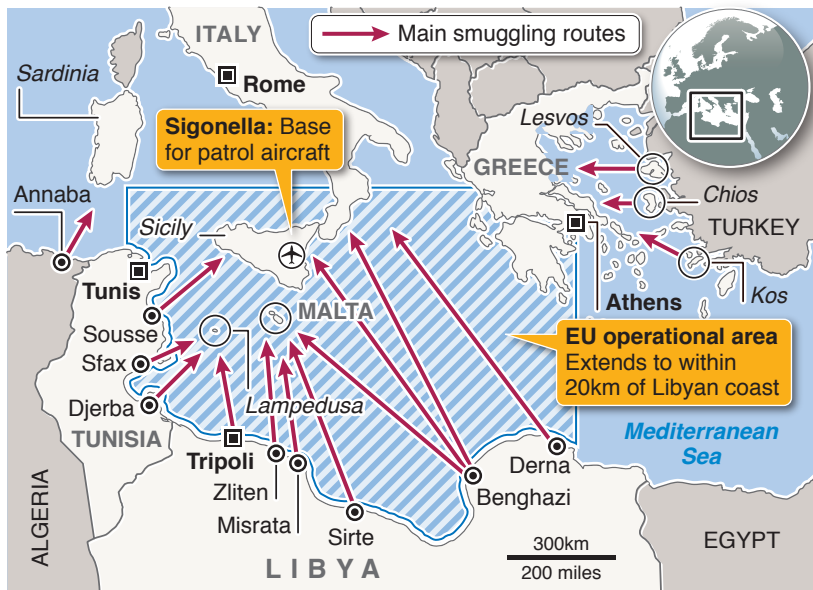


# EU launches anti-smuggler operation

The EU is launching a new naval mission in the central Mediterranean, known as Operation Sophia, which will allow its naval vessels to board search, seize and divert boats suspected of smuggling migrants



## EU NAVAL OPERATION PHASES

**1** Surveillance and assessment of Mediterranean smuggling networks

**2 Operation Sophia**  
Search and diversion of suspicious vessels

**3** Disposal of vessels and assets, capture of smugglers

## DEPLOYED UNITS

Aircraft carrier: 1	Supply ship: 1	Patrol aircraft: 3
ITA	GER	ESP FRA LUX
Frigates: 4	Helicopters: 4	
ESP FRA	ESP FRA	
GBR GER	GBR ITA	

