

FACTSHEET

FORCIBLY DISPLACED SUDANESE TRAPPED WITH THEIR HOPES AT NORTH AFRICAN BORDERS

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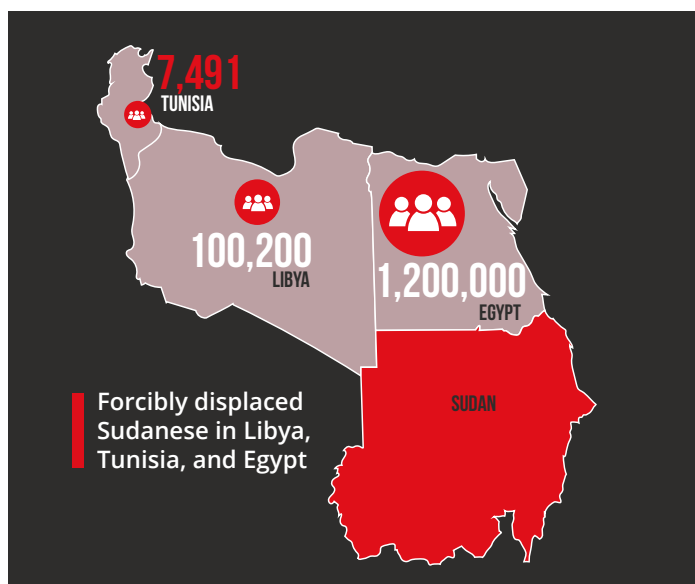


The conflict in Sudan, raging since April 2023, has displaced **over 10 million Sudanese** and forced them to seek refuge in neighbouring countries. However, instead of finding safety, they encounter a new set of challenges in a volatile North Africa marked by political and economic instability, coupled with growing resentment, xenophobia, and racial discrimination.

“We just want to be treated humanely, to be treated with respect and not as if we were less than human.”

This report, drawing on insights from surveys of 127 forcibly displaced Sudanese individuals and interviews with 11 key informants—including community leaders and representatives from local Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs), and UN agencies—sheds light on their journeys, the obstacles they face, the human rights violations they endure, and their increasingly precarious situation in Libya, Tunisia, and Egypt.

It also underscores the urgent need for comprehensive action to address their plight, including providing robust protection and support, creating safe and legal pathways for those seeking refuge, and addressing the root causes of displacement.



KEY FINDINGS

➡➡➡ Rise in Human Rights Violations and Lack of Protection:

Forcibly displaced Sudanese in Libya, Tunisia, and Egypt have faced growing resentment as the arrival flows continue to rise, leaving them increasingly vulnerable and exposed to human rights violations.

- Over **40%** of surveyed Sudanese reported experiencing increasing levels of **racial discrimination or violence in their host countries**.
- Among these, over **36%** attributed such behaviour and violations to both citizens and authorities, while more than **25%** identified **criminal or non-governmental groups**, including militias, traffickers, and smugglers, as the perpetrators.
- In **Egypt** particularly, the spectre of **deportation** looms large, with a staggering **59%** of surveyed forcibly displaced Sudanese reporting such incidents since the start of 2024.
- National laws designed to curb irregular migration are frequently used indiscriminately against them, leaving them vulnerable **to arbitrary arrest and detention, extortion, mass expulsion, forced displacement, deportation, human trafficking, torture and ill-treatment, and sexual and gender-based violence**.

➡➡➡ A Journey of Hardship displacement:

Faced with limited opportunities and mounting challenges, a growing number of forcibly displaced Sudanese see crossing to Europe as their only viable option.

- **54%** of surveyed displaced Sudanese expressed a **desire to settle in a protective country**
- **80%** intend to **attempt crossing to Europe** within six months, despite the dangers involved.

➡➡➡ Deepening Humanitarian Crisis:

Forcibly displaced Sudanese in Libya, Tunisia, and Egypt are being **denied access to adequate housing and essential services** (food, healthcare, education), forcing them to live in precarious conditions and exacerbating their vulnerability.

CONCLUSION



The cumulative impact of these restrictive policies and practices in Libya, Tunisia, and Egypt implemented through the militarisation of borders, arbitrary arrests, and deportations, are devastating, violate international human rights law and expose people on the move to grave risks. Forcibly displaced Sudanese, already grappling with the trauma of displacement and the challenges of rebuilding their lives, find themselves increasingly isolated and vulnerable to different kinds of institutional violence, while they continue to feel let down by the inadequate support received.

A growing wave of restrictions and the criminalization of humanitarian efforts are stifling the work of HRDs and CSOs, leaving vulnerable populations increasingly isolated and at risk. These restrictions include restrictive laws, bureaucratic hurdles, intimidation, and harassment. This has created a hostile environment at a time when domestic distrust of CSOs working on this issue has reached a critical point.

This report serves as a stark reminder of the urgent need for these three countries to uphold their international obligations and ensure the safety, dignity, and well-being of all those seeking refuge at and within their borders. The international community must also play a crucial role in addressing this complex crisis. This includes providing comprehensive humanitarian assistance, advocating for the creation of safe and legal pathways for resettlement, and holding host countries accountable for their treatment of people on the move, including forcibly displaced Sudanese.

