
Da: Sea-Watch 3 Bridge [REDACTED]
Inviato: lunedì 24 giugno 2019 19:07
A: itmrc; Uc Lampedusa
Cc: [REDACTED];
[REDACTED]
Oggetto: situation update 24.06. SEA-WATCH 3
Allegati: Seawatch 3 medical report 24.06.2019 signed.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam

Today the rescuees spent the 12th complete day on board my vessel. The situation can not continue like this forever. De facto it feels like needlessly and inhumanely imprisoning these people on board my vessel, even though we try to care for them as best as possible. They need a port of safety.

I am particularly concerned about the three minors for which I am responsible, but also about all the other people with medical conditions which might worsen at any moment, including psychological conditions. Please find the medical report attached.

I have sent repeated POS requests to other countries such as Malta and France and tried to involve the flag state in coordinating a POS. So far without any result. It remains beyond question that you, being responsible for the closest port of safety from the rescue position, are responsible for the safety of the rescuees.

I request once again to organise the transshipment of the rescuees outside TTW.

Kind Regards,

Carola Rackete
Master

Da: Sea-Watch 3 Bridge [REDACTED]
Inviato: martedì 25 giugno 2019 22:57
A: itmrc; Uc Lampedusa
Cc: [REDACTED]
Oggetto: Re: situation update 24.06. SEA-WATCH 3
Allegati: Medical report 25.06.2019 signed.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam

Please let me highlight once again the desperate situation on board my vessel. We are at sea for 13 days already with 42 rescuees still on board, among them 3 minors.

Our POS requests to Malta have been declined, our request to France is unanswered. My flag state has not intervened in any productive manner, even though we have been in contact with them daily. I have also written to you every day to request a transshipment without positive reply from your side. Now, we just received the verdict of the European Court of Human Rights which ruled that Italy should provide assistance to persons of vulnerability according to their age and medical situation. Please be reminded that I have 3 unaccompanied minors on board and that all people on board are vulnerable due to their mental health.

The situation on board is becoming unbearable. The psychological health situation was worsening every day. I am concerned about people who might self-harm, concerned about people who threaten to jump overboard, concerned about people who skip meals and look all desperate and depressed. How people will react to the news that their court appeal has been declined, I dare not to imagine but I will need to communicate to them tomorrow. At any moment the persisting physical medical conditions, laid out in all previous medical reports, could worsen and make another MEDEVAC likely, just like last Saturday.

My crew is also drawn to the limits of their mental and physical capacities as we are not equipped to keep people on board for such a long time, we overall lack the manpower and also specialists to provide psychological care to the rescuees. Among the crew tension and mistakes in decision making and judgement are rising due to fatigue and raised stress levels.

It's been 13 days my crew has walked this balancing line of establishing safety and security on board despite the desperate condition. It is extremely hard to draw the line and make a correct judgement when exactly the red line is crossed where the situation on board is getting out of hand and then to act on it before a major incident, resulting in the avoidable harm of people, happens. The safety of people has always been my primary concern over political games.

Considering all the information which I got about the rescuees and my crew, and the technical capacities which we have, I feel that now is the last moment were there still is a chance to act and to prevent serious harm to any of the rescuees or my crew which might be triggered by making public the results of the court ruling to them.

In light of this court ruling I hope you will provide assistance as fast as possible and tranship all 42 rescuees off my vessel, as all of them are vulnerable to the psychologic situation.

Kind Regards,

Carola Rackete
Master