# 85 migrants rescued from small boats in English Channel, part of ongoing efforts to manage crossings



Around 85 migrants were rescued from small boats in the English Channel early Tuesday morning. The rescue operation involved UK Border Force vessels and RNLI lifeboats, which were dispatched around 4 AM. This comes as part of ongoing efforts to manage the flow of migrants crossing the Channel. According to the latest Home Office figures, 184 migrants crossed in small boats in the week leading up to Monday. Over the past six-and-a-half years, more than 125,000 migrants have arrived in the UK via the Channel.

The UK government has been working with French authorities to mitigate these crossings. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, addressing the issue, linked the need to implement the stalled Rwanda policy as a deterrent. He emphasized that stopping these dangerous crossings is a priority.

Meanwhile, Labour leader Keir Starmer has criticized the current efforts and advocated for renegotiating the migrant deal with France. Starmer proposed the creation of a Border Security Command to tackle organized crime gangs involved in the crossings.

Throughout the day, RNLI lifeboats and Border Force vessels were seen off the Kent coast. The number of migrants crossing the Channel this year is inching closer to 12,000.