

News

## Open Arms, Mediterranea and Sea-Watch: saving lives in the Mediterranean together



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The Open Arms is one of these three rescue organisations which are joining efforts through the alliance #United4Med.

The three rescue organisations have created an alliance to rescue people out at sea, after the obstacles and criminalisation they have faced.

[Open Arms](#), [Mediterranea](#) and [Sea-Watch](#) are joining efforts through the alliance **#United4Med** and are out saving lives in the central Mediterranean together, rescuing people who are adrift, despite the obstacles coming from the European Union governments, especially Italy and Malta.

The three organisations have published a [manifesto](#) lamenting a “governmental and judicial strategy to turn actions of solidarity towards people in danger into punishable crimes”. Besides **denouncing this** they want to **raise awareness** among citizens to create a Solidarity-based Europe and call for their support, especially that of cities and organisations, and to **document** human rights violations.

The rescue missions as of now will be done with the vessels **Open Arms** and **Sea-Watch 3**, with the support of the aeroplane **Moonbird** to locate rafts, and monitoring activities for these missions from the vessel **Marejonio** of the organisation Mediterranea.

Over the last 5 years, **more than 17,000 people** have died in the Mediterranean; September this year was one of the deadliest months as a consequence of the humanitarian rescue vessels being expelled from the Mediterranean by European governments. One in five people trying to cross the Mediterranean died in the attempt.

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