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France Increases Migrant Expulsions in 2017

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Paris, Jan 16 (Prensa Latina) The expulsions of migrants in France have increased by 14.6 percent in 2017 to reach 14,859, according to figures released today by the Ministry of the Interior.

While the number of expulsions from the national territory in 2016 was 12,961, they almost reached 15,000 last year, the General Directorate of Immigration said in a report.

The announcement comes when the French government is boosting a new asylum law aimed at toughening immigration policy, so that humanitarian associations fear that these numbers can continue to grow.

According to data published today, the number of undocumented people rejected trying to enter the country also increased by 34 percent last year, going from 63,732 in 2016 to 85,408 in 2017.

The French Office for Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA) stated that France recently responded positively to only 36 percent of asylum claims filed in 2017, less than 38 percent reported in 2016.

According to disclosed figures, refugee applications also grew by 17 percent, reaching 100,412.

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