

Spanish coast guard rescues 61 migrants at sea

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Madrid, August 11 (RHC)-- Spanish coast guards rescued 61 sub-Saharan migrants approaching Gran Canaria's coast in a boat on Tuesday. Late in the evening, coast guards reached the boat sailing four miles (6.5k) off Arguineguin port in the Atlantic Ocean and transferred the migrants to a rescue boat.

While the migrants, all of them male, were attended by emergency services, police found the body of a 19-year-old male under cover in the wooden boat. According to Interior Ministry figures, more than 9,589 migrants have arrived in the Canary Islands by sea up to July 31 - a 27.3% increase over the same period last year.

Last year, some 4,400 people were lost at sea attempting to reach Spain, according to monitoring group Walking Borders.

A total of 22,316 migrants crossed by boat to the Canary Islands in 2021, a drop from the 23,271 who made the crossing in 2020, Spain interior ministry data reported.

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