

522 migrant kids reunited

2,053 separated minors still remains in the care of US Department of Health and Human services

AFP/Washington

More than 500 children separated from family members under the US "zero tolerance" immigration policy have been reunited, administration officials say, after confusion followed President Donald Trump's sudden backtracking on the practice.

Releasing its first official data since Trump on Wednesday ended the family separations -- but without an immediate plan for putting parents and children back together -- the Department of Homeland Security said the reunification process "is well coordinated."

It said 522 children separated as part of "zero tolerance" have been reunited with their families, but another 2,053 separated minors remained in the care of the US Department of Health and Human Services as of Wednesday.

"The United States government knows the location of all children in its custody and is working to reunite them with



Demonstrators block a bus with immigrant children onboard during a protest outside the U.S. Border Patrol Central Processing Center in McAllen, Texas.

their families," Homeland Security said in a statement late Saturday.

'A great sadness'

Trying to stanch the flow of tens of thousands of migrants from Central America and Mexico arriving at the southern border

every month, Trump in early May had ordered that all adults crossing illegally would be arrested, and their children held separately as a result.

After images of children in chain-link enclosures sparked domestic and global outrage, Trump ended the separation

practice but has continued his hardline talk on immigration.

He sees the issue as crucial ahead of midterm congressional elections in November.

"We cannot allow all of these people to invade our Country," Trump said Sunday on Twitter. "When somebody comes in,



The term zero tolerance was first employed by President Ronald Reagan's administration when it launched its War on Drugs initiative in the early 1980s

we must immediately, with no Judges or Court Cases, bring them back from where they came," said Trump, suggesting they be handled without the due legal process guaranteed for "any person" by the US Constitution. Nearly all of the arriving families have officially requested asylum. "Our system is a mockery to good immigration policy and Law and Order," said Trump.

EU leaders seek new migration solutions

Several countries with anti-migrant governments did not attend

AFP | Brussels

The leaders of France and Germany said yesterday they were prepared to sidestep anti-migrant EU members and do deals with individual countries on how to respond to a migrant influx that has caused deep splits in the bloc.

The talks among 16 of the European Union's 28 leaders began after Italy's new populist government turned away another ship packed with migrants. The meeting, which began amid a flurry of mutual fingerpointing by France and Italy, is seen as crucial for German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who faces her own political crisis at home.

"The European Council will not yet provide an overall solution to the migration problem," Merkel said conceding a lack of consensus among EU members. "That is why it is also about



Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel

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ANGELA MERKEL

bilateral or trilateral agreements for mutual benefit," she added.

Officials warn that a new surge of migrants could trigger the collapse of free travel within the EU, its signature achievement.

Yesterday's meeting was aimed at clearing the air before a full EU summit on Thursday and Friday. But several countries with anti-migrant governments, including Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia, did not attend.

French President Emmanuel Macron urged his counter-

parts to take advantage of the sharp drop in migrant arrivals since a 2015 peak -- Europe's worst such crisis since World War II -- to find solutions.

Echoing ally Merkel, he urged a European solution, "whether that is cooperation among 28 or among several countries that decide to move forward together."

At stake, Macron warned, was Europe's values of human rights and solidarity. But he has angered the new government of Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte who accuses him of playing down the scale of the problem in Italy.



Experts and police officers work at the scene, where five men and a woman were murdered in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua state, Mexico

Mexico shooting: 14 killed in attacks in Juarez

AFP | Ciudad Juarez

At least 14 people were killed Saturday in three shooting incidents in the northern Mexican city of Juarez, notorious for its drug gang related violence.

One of the attacks occurred in the southern part of the city, where eight men who were gathered watching the World Cup football match between Mexico and South Korea, were shot at by armed gunmen who killed six and injured two, according to security officials.

Almost simultaneously, in a downtown neighbourhood,

five other men gathered at a hairdressing salon to watch football were killed by a group who arrived at the scene in a blue van, according to witnesses. Hours earlier, during the early hours of the morning, three other people were taken from a party in a neighbourhood on the outskirts of the city and executed by gunmen.

The killings bring to 128 the number of people killed in the city this month alone.

More than 200,000 people have been killed in Mexico since the government launched a controversial anti-drug offensive in late 2006.



US first lady Melania Trump

Fashion firm sells its take on Melania's jacket

Reuters | New York

A U.S. clothing company is taking a sartorial swipe at first lady Melania Trump, selling jackets saying "I really care, don't you?" in response to the "I really don't care" jacket she wore to visit migrant children separated from their parents.

All proceeds from the jackets, selling for \$98, will be donated to a Texas-based refugee and immigrant advocacy group, said Emma McIlroy, chief executive of the Wildfang clothing company in Portland, Oregon.

The first lady's visit on Thursday to a Texas shelter housing

I thought 'Why don't we make the opposite jacket? Why don't we make the jacket that does good in the world?'

EMMA MCILROY

migrant children was overshadowed by the jacket she wore with the words: "I really don't care, do u?" scrawled in white brush strokes on the back.

Her jacket prompted a mael-

strom on social media over what it meant. Her spokeswoman said the jacket had no hidden message, while President Donald Trump tweeted that it referred to "fake news."

Wildfang had its version of the jacket, with its slogan on the back, for sale online the same day as the first lady's visit, McIlroy told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. "I thought 'Why don't we make the opposite jacket? Why don't we make the jacket that does good in the world?'" she said.

The first batch of 100 military-style jackets sold out within an hour, and a second batch

sold just as quickly.

The small, 5-year-old clothing company is now taking requests for t-shirts and other emblazoned jackets to fulfill in the next few weeks, McIlroy said.

"I think it's just incredibly hopeful and refreshing," she said of the response.

The furor over the jackets shows the power of fashion, especially in turbulent political times when the public is "so angry about everything," said Paco Underhill, chief executive of EnviroSell, a research and consulting company, and author of "Why We Buy: The Science of Shopping."

Zimbabwe pledges vote will go ahead

AFP | Chitungwiza

Zimbabwe ruled out yesterday delaying July elections after a bomb blast at a ruling party rally in which President Emmerson Mnangagwa narrowly escaped unharm.

Vice President Constantino Chiwenga -- who was among those injured in Saturday's attack -- said the first parliamentary and presidential polls of the post-Robert Mugabe era would go ahead as scheduled on July 30. "Let me be very clear, nothing will stop the election in Zimbabwe, nothing at all," Chiwenga told a rally of the ruling ZANU-PF party.

Attack on Roma camp in Ukraine leaves one dead, four injured

AFP | Kiev

Masked assailants have attacked a Roma camp in western Ukraine, killing one person and injuring four others including a child, police said Sunday.

The incident follows a series of attacks on Roma communities in Ukraine's capital Kiev and in the cities of Lviv and Ternopil that have been condemned by rights groups.

A group of masked individuals attacked the camp on the outskirts of Lviv late on Saturday.

France extradites Serb war crimes suspect to Bosnia

AFP | Sarajevo

France has extradited to Bosnia a former ethnic Serb soldier accused of taking part in the burning alive of more than 50 Muslim civilians during the country's 1990s war, prosecutors said Sunday.

Radomir Susnjak, 62, known also as 'Lalco,' was identified as living in France by an investigation by Bosnian prosecutors.

He was arrested in France in 2014.

Banksy needles France on migrants with Paris mural blitz

AFP | Paris

The mysterious British street artist Banksy appears to have taken aim at the French government's crackdown on migrants in a series of new murals in Paris.

The world's best known graffiti painter apparently "blitzed" the French capital over the last few days, leaving as many as six works on walls across the city. None of the works were signed but experts said that they look genuine.