



THE WESTERN AFRICAN MIGRATORY ROUTE TO THE CANARY ISLANDS. FROM THE CAYUCOS CRISIS OF 2006 TO THE 2020-2021 MIGRATION CRISIS. ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT

The sea has traditionally been the main route of entry to Spanish territory for irregular immigrants primarily from Sub-Saharan Africa. The reactivation of the Atlantic route at the end of 2019 has considerably increased the arrival of immigrants from Morocco to the Canary Islands. This paper analyses the political and operational mechanisms established by the Spanish authorities, also in the European Union (EU), to control Spain's maritime borders, especially in the Canary Islands, paying special attention to what was learned after the cayuco crisis in 2006.