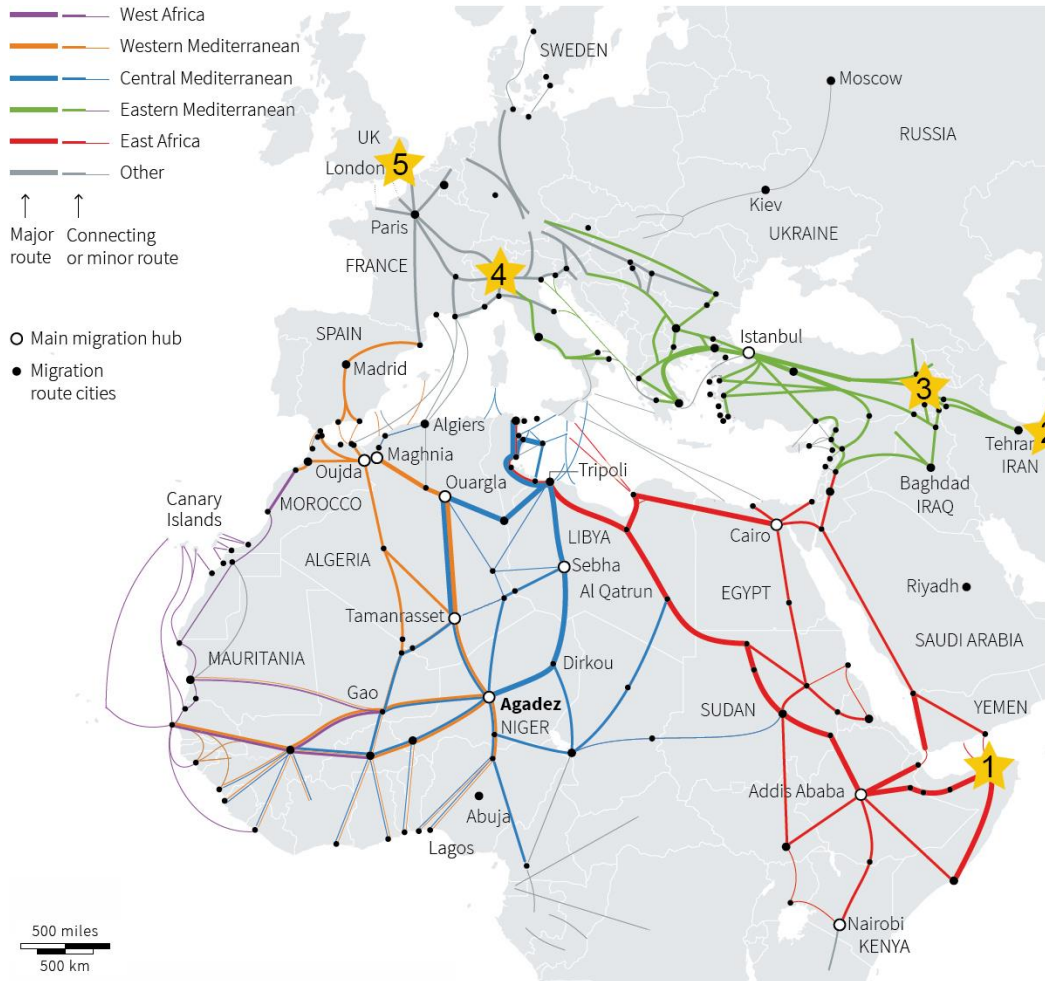


When we meet the characters at the beginning of *The Container*, they have all already been on long journeys in search of a safe and steady life. The map below from Reuters demonstrates the most common routes migrants take to get into Europe, with the numbered stars demonstrating important places specific to *The Container*.



1. **Somalia**, origin of Fatima and Asha.
2. **Afghanistan**, origin of Ahmad and Mariam. It is so far away it is not even on this map, located east of Iran.
3. **Southeast Turkey**, origin of Jemal.
4. **The northern border of Italy with France**, where the beginning of *The Container* is located.
5. **Southern United Kingdom**, particularly London, where the characters are hoping to complete their journey.

Looking in this map helps to bring into perspective not just the distance of their individual journeys, but also the complexity that brought them all together in the same shipping container in northern Italy.