

# Deadly crossings, a global warning and boarding school blues

**In Europe's ongoing migrant crisis, much media attention understandably focuses on Mediterranean sea crossings from North Africa.** But our big story this week focuses on another deadly passage, from Africa's western coast to the Spanish Atlantic territory of the Canary Islands. While official death rates are comparatively low, concerns are growing that undocumented fatalities on this extremely dangerous crossing could be many times higher. Sam Jones reports from Gran Canaria.

**The big story** [Page 10](#) →

**As extreme weather-fuelled wildfires continued to blaze in several parts of the world,** a major new report from hundreds of top scientists laid bare the severe extent of our damage to the Earth's climate and the disaster looming if the slim chance to avert global heating above 1.5C is not grasped. Environment editor Damian Carrington analyses what the IPCC report means, while on our Opinion pages, the UK government's chief scientific adviser, Patrick Vallance, warns starkly that only a complete transformation of our societies can now arrest the warming process.

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**English boarding schools such as Eton and Harrow are famed for producing leaders and captains of industry worldwide.** But what are the emotional scars of family separation at such a young age? Author Richard Beard, who passed through the system at around the same time as UK prime minister Boris Johnson, explains why such institutions are the last places we should be looking for our future leaders. **The childhood of a leader** [Page 34](#) →



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**On the cover**

The number of recorded fatalities on the Atlantic migrant route from west Africa to the Canary Islands so far this year is around 250, though it is feared the true number could be closer to 2,000.

*Photograph: Andris Barbans/Getty*



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