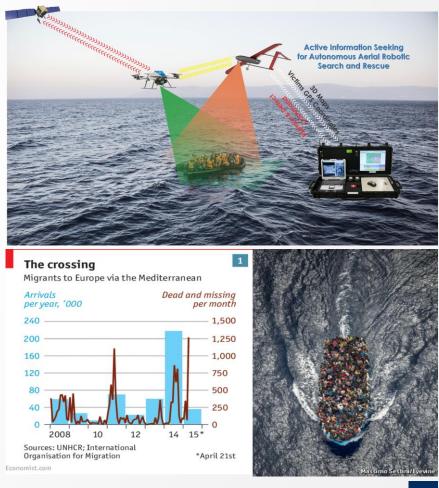# Active Information Seeking for Autonomous Aerial Robotic Search and Rescue

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NEED – Humanitarian action and emergency response needs are rising in response to catastrophic events and wars. The need to assist the refugee waves trying to cross the Mediterranean sea at the moment corresponds to the main motivation of this project.

SOLUTION – We aim to equip aerial robots with the capacity to actively seek and detect victims in their environment. An active observer approach around visible and thermal camera data will be tested and the robot will intelligently select its viewpoints to optimize its exploratory - human detection behavior.

PROJECT – We are developing an open source tool for the active information seeking algorithm and will utilize a thermal camera. At a minimum, we will demonstrate the performance of the system in a realistic testbed environment (TRL=6) while we aim for real-life deployment testing.

The crossing
Migrants to Europe via the Mediterranean

Sources: UNHCR; International Organisation for Migration   *April 21st

url: http://www.kostasalexis.com/activeseeking