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Prince Charles' visit shines spotlight
on Cuba's classic British cars: Inside

Theresa May to resign if Brexit deal is delivered

● The prime minister told MPs last night: "I am prepared to leave this job earlier than I intended in order to secure a smooth and orderly Brexit": **page 20**



EU to end ship patrols in
scaled down migrant
rescue operation, says
diplomats

The European Union will cease the maritime patrols that have rescued thousands of migrants making the perilous Mediterranean Sea crossing from North Africa to Europe, but it will extend air missions, two diplomats said yesterday.

A new agreement on the EU's Operation Sophia was hammered out after Italy, where anti-migrant sentiment is rising, said it would no longer receive those rescued at sea.

Operation Sophia's mandate was due to expire on Sunday but should now continue for another six months with the same aim of deterring people smugglers in the Mediterranean. But it will no longer deploy ships, instead relying on air patrols and closer coordination with Libya, the diplomats said.

"It is awkward, but this was the only way forward given Italy's position, because nobody wanted the Sophia mission completely shut down," one EU diplomat said.

A second diplomat confirmed a deal had been reached and said it must be endorsed by all EU governments yesterday.

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