

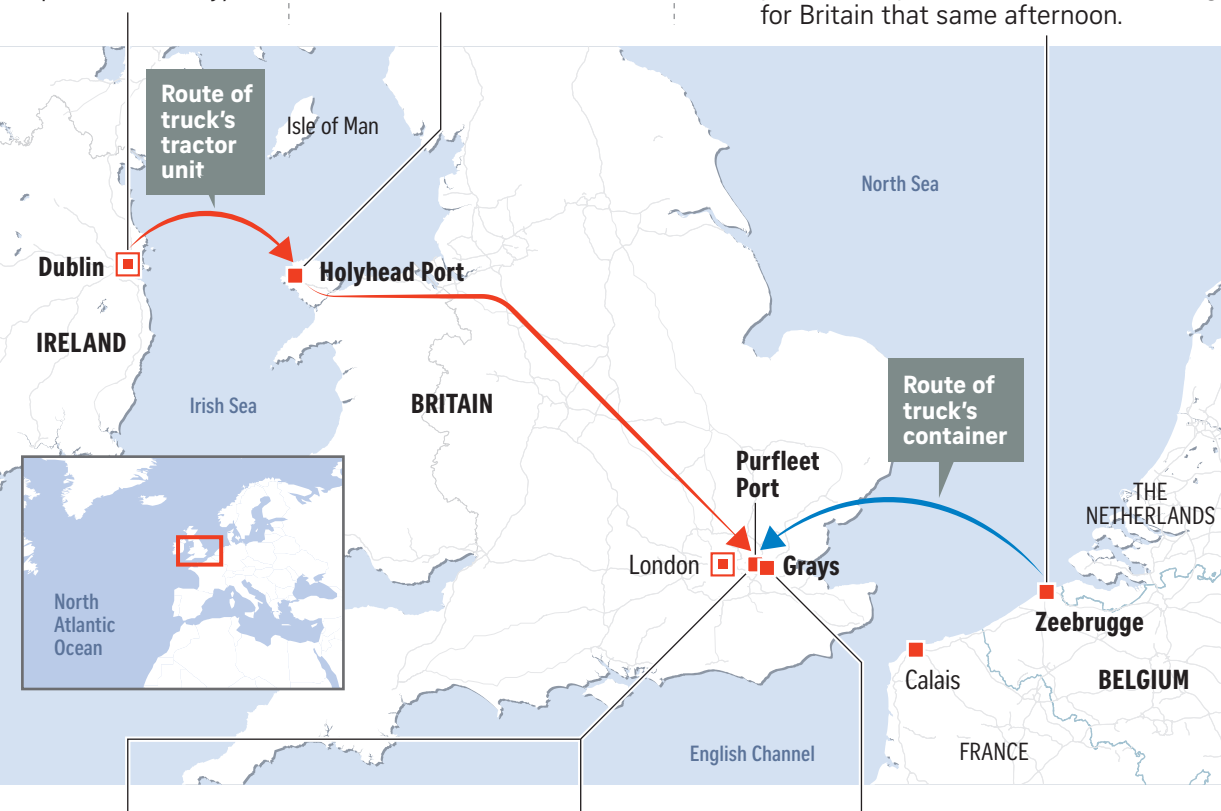
# Container tragedy

In the latest case of human trafficking leading to tragedy, 39 people were found dead in a refrigerated trailer truck in southeastern England last week.

**1 Dublin, Ireland**  
Driver leaves with tractor unit (front part of the lorry).

**2 Sunday, Oct 20**  
**Holyhead Port, Wales**  
Tractor unit enters Britain.

**3 Tuesday, Oct 22**  
**Zeebrugge, Belgium**  
The refrigerated container arrives at port at 2.49pm local time before leaving for Britain that same afternoon.



**4 Wednesday, Oct 23**  
**Purfleet port, Britain**  
Container arrives at Purfleet port at 12.30am and is collected by the tractor unit.

**5 Wednesday, Oct 23**  
**Purfleet port, Britain**  
The lorry container leaves at 1.05am and heads for Waterglade Industrial Park in Grays, in the southern English county of Essex.

**6 Wednesday, Oct 23**  
**Grays, Britain**  
Police are alerted by emergency services at about 1.40am after paramedics discover 39 people dead in the truck container. The driver is arrested.

## Who are the victims?

- Essex police earlier said all 39 victims – eight women and 31 men – were Chinese nationals, but reports have since emerged that many of them could possibly be from Vietnam.

- The Vietnamese Embassy in Britain is working to “accelerate the process of confirming the victims’ identities”, according to a statement from the Vietnam Foreign Ministry.



## Who have been arrested?

- The truck driver (below), named by local media as Mo Robinson, has been charged with 39 counts of manslaughter.
- Three others – a couple and a man – have been detained on suspicion of manslaughter and conspiracy to traffic people.
- A man in his early 20s from Northern Ireland has been arrested at Dublin port.



## What are the authorities doing?

- Police have launched a murder investigation into the tragedy, believed to be Britain's largest murder probe since the 2005 London suicide bombings.

- Three properties in Northern Ireland have been raided by the police and CNN reported that the National Crime Agency (NCA) is working to establish if “organised crime groups” were involved.

- All the bodies have been removed from the container and transported to a hospital.

## What's next?

- Investigators started carrying out autopsies on Friday to establish how the victims died, so that work on identifying them could begin.