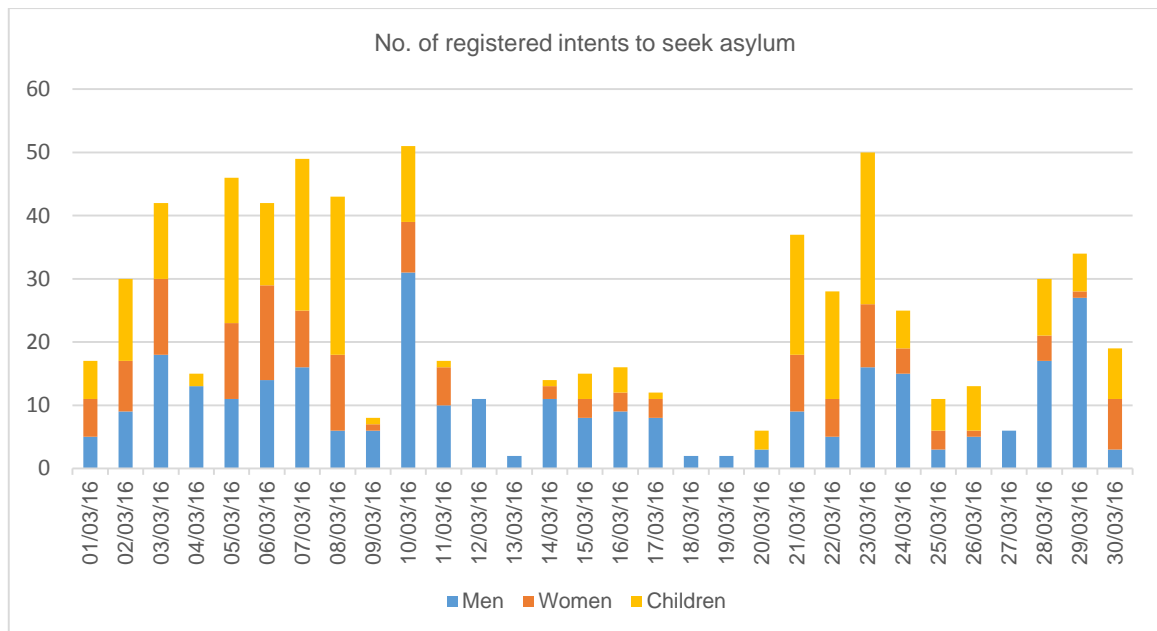


STATISTICS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Opening a one-day conference on *System of Asylum and Migration: Refugee Crisis and Reform Processes* in Belgrade Prime Minister Vucic confirmed that Serbia's response to the refugee crisis "... was natural, human, normal and rational, and I do not think that we need to be praised for it. Countries that received refugees permanently should be." He added that Serbia is "not a rich country and this was the key reason why refugees did not want to stay," but added "hope that some of them will stay and that Serbia will become their fatherland." http://www.b92.net/eng/news/politics.php?yyyy=2016&mm=03&dd=30&nav_id=97526
- UNHCR is aware of **21** irregular arrivals from FYR Macedonia.
- Estimate of refugees/migrants currently in Serbia: **1,700**
- 19** persons expressed intent to seek asylum, bringing the total in March 2016 to **693** (statistics courtesy of the Ministry of Interior).



SOUTH

Authorities issued a new ID cards for approximately **580** refugees currently hosted in the Reception Centre (RC) in Presevo.

Inside the RC hot meals were served by REMAR, Red Cross, Caritas and Humedica, while Border Free Association provided food outside the RC. Philanthropy distributed cash cards to all refugees inside the RC. UNHCR/SPDE distributed 1,022 water bottles, ten UNHCR blankets, 537 WFP HEBs. Divac Foundation distributed other clothes and food to refugees. The UNICEF/DRC/CSW child friendly space hosted 20 children and 20 women. The Health Clinic assisted 46 refugees inside the RC while Natan/Humedica clinic had 41 patients. One Afghan refugee was transferred to Vranje Hospital for emergency medical care.

BELGRADE

Around **90** refugees and asylum seekers, mostly from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran and Morocco were assisted daily by UNHCR partners in Belgrade. Some 20 spent the night in parks near the bus and train stations.

The Asylum Info Center (AIC) encountered three groups of Afghans, in total 21 individuals, who claimed to have arrived irregularly from FYR Macedonia. Two men were referred to MSF doctors for medical assistance. All were counselled on their right to seek asylum in Serbia.

Prime Minister Vucic and the UNHCR Representative delivered introductory statements to one day conference on "*System of Asylum and Migration: Refugee Crisis and Reform Processes*", organized by Group 484 in partnership with the Belgrade Centre for Human Rights, the Belgrade Center for Security Policy and the Embassy of Norway. UNHCR experts also sat on all other panels, discussing the draft new refugee law with more than 100 representatives of state institutions and civil society organizations.

The UN Country Team, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare convened a 7th monthly Partners' Briefing on the refugee/migration situation in Serbia. The UNHCR Representative presented summary results of recent protection assessments, which UNHCR conducted together with authorities with all refugees currently in the country, highlighting new opportunities and challenges, including reception conditions, access to legal status and solutions.

WEST

Children having breakfast in Sid RAP, Sid (Serbia)
©UNHCR, 28 March 2016

Approximately **500** refugees were hosted in the three Refugee Aid Points (RAP) in the West:

Some 120 refugees were accommodated in the Sid RAP, where the situation was calm with no major development.

Some 200 refugees were hosted in Adasevci RAP. BCM/Sid Health Centre treated 7 refugees and the UNICEF/WV/CSW child friendly space hosted 50 children and 15 women.

Over 170 refugees were hosted in Principovac RAP, where Serbian Red Cross, Mercy Corps and Philanthropy, Caritas, CRS/Divac Foundation distributed food, water, clothes, SIM cards, provided access to internet and other humanitarian aid. SCRM also distributed new blankets, bed sheets and anti-lice shampoo.

UNHCR and authorities continued individual protection assessments at all sites.

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