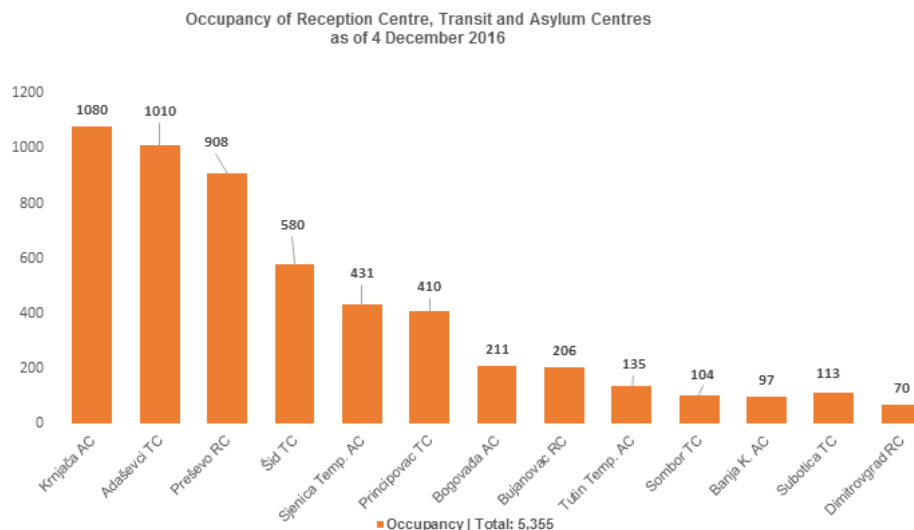


HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

- Authorities, UNHCR, and partners encountered a stable number of around 6,400 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants. Over 5,300 (i.e. 84%) were accommodated in thirteen governmental facilities, while the remainder were counted sleeping rough in Belgrade City centre or at the border with Hungary.
- With all Asylum (AC) and Transit Centres (TC) fully occupied (see chart), the police continued to refer newly registered asylum-seekers to the Reception Centre (RC) of Presevo and Dimitrovgrad until the latter reached its capacity. Supporting access to better accommodation and services as well as the decongesting of Belgrade city centre, UNHCR and partners assisted over 60 newly registered asylum seekers with transport from Belgrade to Presevo and Dimitrovgrad RCs.
- In response to winter weather, UNHCR and partners distributed over the last four days over 160 UNHCR blankets, 320 pairs of footwear, 220 winter jackets and many other clothing items for children and adults across the centres in the country.
- In November, 1,503 intentions to seek asylum in Serbia were registered. 34% were made by men, 17% by women and 49% were registered for children. Most applications were made by citizens of Afghanistan (39%), Iraq (37%), Syria (12%), Pakistan (5%), Iran (3%) and other nationalities (4%). No first-instance decisions were recorded in November. Jan-Nov 2016, 74 first instance decisions were issued, including 17 persons granted subsidiary protection, 17 refugee status and 40 rejected, compared to 33 decisions (16 refugee status, 14 subsidiary protection and 3 rejections) in the same period of 2015.



SOUTH



Refugee children playing at the RC, Presevo (Serbia)
@UNHCR, 04 December 2016

Over 1,100 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were accommodated in two RCs: Presevo (908) and Bujanovac (206). Some 43% of residents of Presevo RC are from Afghanistan, 23% from Iraq, 19% from Pakistan, and 8% from Syria. Residents of Bujanovac RC, which accommodates only families and unaccompanied and separated children, are from Afghanistan (35%), Iraq (35%) and Syria (30%).

UNHCR and many other organizations assisted with food and non-food items, medical services, counselling, interpretation, referrals and recreational activities. Upon request of authorities, UNHCR and Indigo continued to support the Centre for Social Work in conducting Best Interest Assessments for unaccompanied and separated children.

Combatting body lice, another new round of treatment and disinfection in the Presevo RC started and will be finalized the coming week.

EAST

On 04 December, the new Reception Centre in Dimitrovgrad accommodated 72 asylum seekers, majority from Iraq (65%) and Afghanistan (26%). Over half of them are children.

The authorities provide assistance in food and medical services, and local civil society is available for support in non-food items, interpretation and counselling. While functional since 25 November, the RC was officially opened on 01 December.

BELGRADE

Some 1,000 refugees/migrants slept rough in the city centre, while Krnjaca AC sheltered 1,080 asylum-seekers.

Humanitarian agencies provided counselling, referrals and transport to accommodation in governmental centres, registration with the police, child protection and medical services.

WEST

TCs in the West continued to shelter some 2,000 refugees and migrants: 1,010 in Adasevci, 580 in Sid, and 410 in Principovac.

Civil society organizations assisted the SCRM with food, non-food and medical aid, counselling, referrals, child support, and recreational activities.

UNHCR and partners encountered some six foreign nationals who reported to have been collectively expelled into Serbia, without having been granted access to asylum procedures in Croatia.

NORTH

340 asylum seekers were counted in the North on 04 December: 113 in Subotica TC and 117 in Sombor TC, while around 110 camped in the open on Serbian soil close to the two Hungarian “transit zones” near Horgos I and Kelebija border-crossings. UNHCR and partners reiterated offers of support to authorities to gravel the access road near Horgos I and in further winterising conditions of asylum-seekers closer to the “transit zones”.

UNHCR and partners provided humanitarian aid, including food, non-food aid, hygiene packages, support to maintenance of the sanitary conditions, medical assistance, referrals, as well as legal and other counselling.

38 asylum-seekers were admitted into Hungarian “transit zones”, while UNHCR and partners encountered over 100 foreign nationals who reported to have been collectively expelled into Serbia, without having been granted access to asylum procedures in Hungary.

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