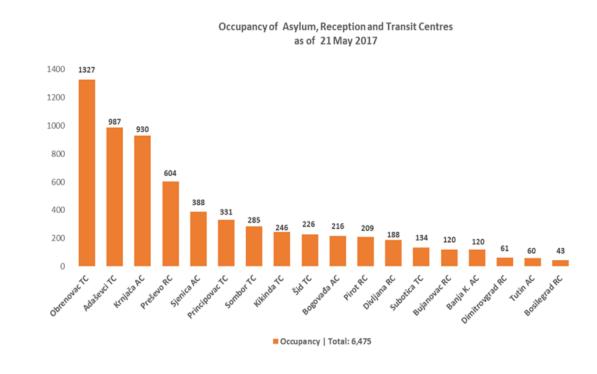


SERBIA UPDATE, 15-21 May 2017

# HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

- The number of refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants continued to stabilise with 6,842 counted in Serbia on 21 May. 95% of them were accommodated in 18 governmental shelters (below chart refers).
- Reports of 137 collective expulsions from Croatia were received more than double the preceding week, with
  many alleging to have been denied access to asylum procedures and to disproportionate use of force by
  Croatian authorities.
- UNHCR and partners met and assisted only 53 new arrivals of which 75% arrived from Bulgaria and 25% from FYR Macedonia.
- On 16 May, the UN Resident Coordinator, UNHCR, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Labor, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs gathered over 80 reps of the diplomatic and donor community, authorities and civil society for a 16<sup>th</sup> Partners Briefing on the Refugee and Migration Response. UNHCR analysed recent developments and UN support to Serbia, IOM updated on RMRP, while the Assistant Minister of Health and WHO briefed on health issues.
- On 18 May, multifunctional teams of authorities, partners, donors and UNHCR representatives conducted
  participatory discussions with separate groups of refugee men, women and adolescent boys and girls in
  Adasevci TC, Krnjaca AC, Divljana RC and Presevo and Bujanovac RCs, on the theme of education and other
  protection matters. Refugee turnout and participation was good, very interested in participating in the search
  for solutions to their plight.
- On 17 May, the European Commission in its <u>Press Release</u> related to infringement procedure against Hungary concerning its asylum law, reiterated concerns over the issues that remain to be addressed "in addition to new incompatibilities of the Hungarian asylum law, as recently modified by the amendments of 2017. The incompatibilities focus mainly on three areas: asylum procedures, rules on return and reception conditions."
- 01-21 May, 368 individuals registered intention to seek asylum in Serbia.





SERBIA UPDATE, 15-21 May 2017

## **EAST**

**499** refugees and migrant were accommodated in four Reception Centres: 209 in Pirot, 188 in Divljana, 61 in Dimitrovgrad and 41 in Bosilegrad. Most are from Iraq and Afghanistan, followed by Syria, while around half are children.



Focus group discussion with refugee boys in Presevo RC, Presevo (Serbia) UNHCR, 18 May 2017

#### SOUTH

**724** refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were accommodated in the Reception Centres of Presevo (604) and Bujanovac (120).

56% of the residents of Presevo RC are from Afghanistan, 28% from Iraq, 7% from Pakistan and 6% from Syria. 48% are children. In Bujanovac, which continues to accommodate only families with children and UASCs, 40% are from Iraq, 22% Afghanistan, 22% from Syria and 16% from Iran and other countries. 58% are children.

## **BELGRADE**

Following the voluntary relocations to governmental shelters over the past two weeks, the number of refugees and migrants in Belgrade city centre remained very low.

Krnjaca Asylum Centre accommodated **930** asylum-seekers (including 200 UASCs), mainly families from Afghanistan, Iraq or Syria, and **1,327** refugees and migrants (including 372 unaccompanied or separated boys) were sheltered in Obrenovac. Most are from Afghanistan, followed by Pakistan and very few from Iraq or Syria, and other countries.

#### **WEST**

Transit Centres (TCs) in the West sheltered **1,544** refugees and migrants: 987 in Adasevci, 226 in Sid and 331 in Principovac. They are mainly from Afghanistan, followed by Pakistan, Iraq, and Syria.

# **NORTH**

**48** asylum seekers, mainly families from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria were admitted into Hungary. Only five asylum seekers camped at Horgos (4) and Kelebija (1) border sites. Subotica TC sheltered 134 asylum-seekers, Sombor TC 285, and Kikinda TC 246, mostly families from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria.



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