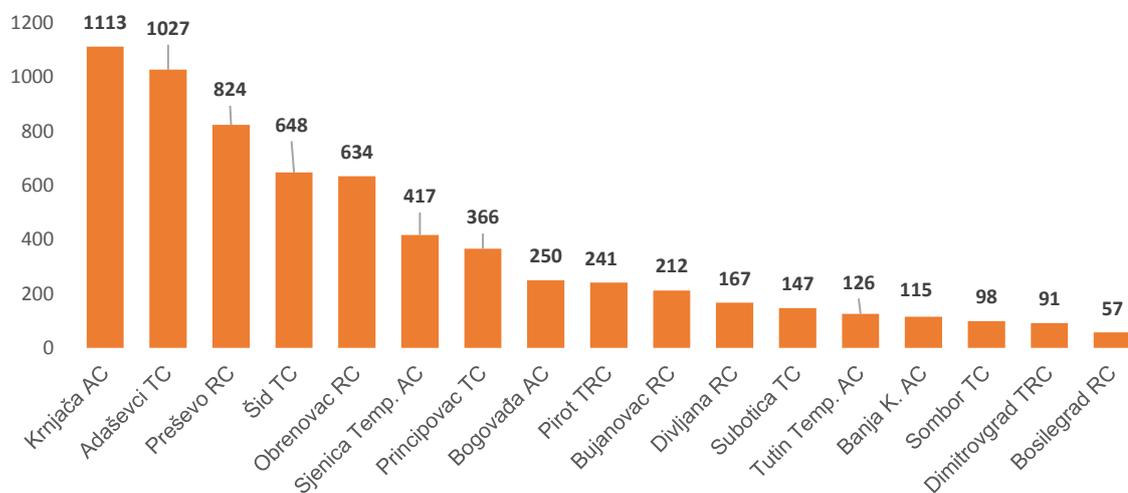


HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

- The overall number of refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants counted in Serbia stood around 7,700. Over 6,500 (85%) of them were sheltered in 17 heated government facilities. According to available data, most were children (47%) and women (16%), with 37% adult men. 82% fled three so called “refugee producing countries, namely Afghanistan (52%), Iraq (20%) and Syria (9%).
- Authorities, supported by UNHCR, continued rapid refurbishment to further expand and improve the capacity of the new centre in Obrenovac near Belgrade, where an increasing number of refugee and migrant men and boys were accommodated. Accordingly, fewer refugee and migrant men and boys appear to be sleeping rough in Belgrade city centre. Authorities organised daily transport from the city centre to Obrenovac, while also accepting self-referrals, who show up in Obrenovac spontaneously. As a next step, communal buildings, protection and other services will need to be put in place/strengthened.
- As of 06 February, authorities and humanitarian organizations opened informal education classes for some 160 school age refugee/migrant children (age 7 to 15) in Presevo Reception Centre (RC). The classes are divided by four age groups and teaching Serbian and other languages, mathematics, and art. These developments are seen also as a positive step to encouraging international financial support to ensure that all refugee and migrant children in Serbia can enjoy accessing their right to formal education.
- Hungarian authorities admitted 34 asylum seekers to territory and asylum procedures at the Hungarian “transit zones” near Kelebija and Horgos border crossings.
- During the last three days 80 asylum-seekers informed UNHCR and partners to have been denied access to asylum procedures in Hungary and 35 in Croatia but instead been collectively expelled back into Serbia, with some alleging maltreatment by the authorities of these EU member states.
- In February, 102 intentions to seek asylum in Serbia were registered.

Occupancy of Asylum, Reception and Transit Centres
 as of 08 February 2017: 6.533



EAST

Over 530 asylum seekers were accommodated in four government centres: 91 in the Reception Centre in Dimitrovgrad, 57 in Bosilegrad, 241 in Pirot and 167 in Divljana. Most are from Iraq, followed by Afghanistan and Syria and around half of them are children.

Authorities provided food and medical services, UNHCR provided NFIs, and NGOs were available for support in non-food items delivery, interpretation and counselling.



SOUTH

1,042 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were accommodated in two Reception Centres (RC): Presevo (824) and Bujanovac (212).

UNHCR and partners assisted with food and non-food items, medical services, counselling, interpretation, referrals and recreational activities.

Upon request of authorities, UNHCR and partners continued to support the Centre for Social Work in conducting Best Interest Assessments for unaccompanied and separated children and appointing legal guardians to them.

First day of informal classes in Presevo RC
UNHCR, 06 February 2017

BELGRADE

Around 2,700 refugees and migrants were counted in Belgrade. Close to 1,000 men and boys are estimated to remain sleeping rough in the city centre, of which 68 boys in MSF tents, yet refusing to move to Obrenovac. Krnjaca AC sheltered 1,113 asylum-seekers and Obrenovac 634 refugees and migrants including close to 300 unaccompanied or separated boys. Most are from Afghanistan (453) or Pakistan (127).

Humanitarian agencies provided life-saving aid, counselling, support to registration with the police, as well as referrals to child protection and medical services in the city centre.

WEST

Transit Centres (TCs) in the West sheltered 2,041 refugees and migrants: 1,027 in Adasevci, 648 in Sid and 366 in Principovac. Civil society organizations assisted authorities with food, non-food and medical aid, counselling, referrals, child support and recreational activities.

NORTH

Subotica TC sheltered 147 asylum-seekers and Sombor TC around 100, while only five asylum seekers camped at Horgos and seven at Kelebija border sites, awaiting admission into Hungarian "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. With fairer weather the Horgos site can no longer be accessed by car, meaning that humanitarian workers have to carry all aid there on foot. In autumn UNHCR had agreed to a request by the Municipality of Kanjiza to restore the access road. Authorisation for these works has been pending with Roads of Serbia since mid-October.

Groups of unregistered migrant men from North Africa, Pakistan and Afghanistan, sleeping rough around Subotica intending to irregularly enter Hungary, continue being observed.



Have you already signed?
#WithRefugees

The 2017 UNHCR Serbia Operation is grateful for funding by:



and private donors in Spain