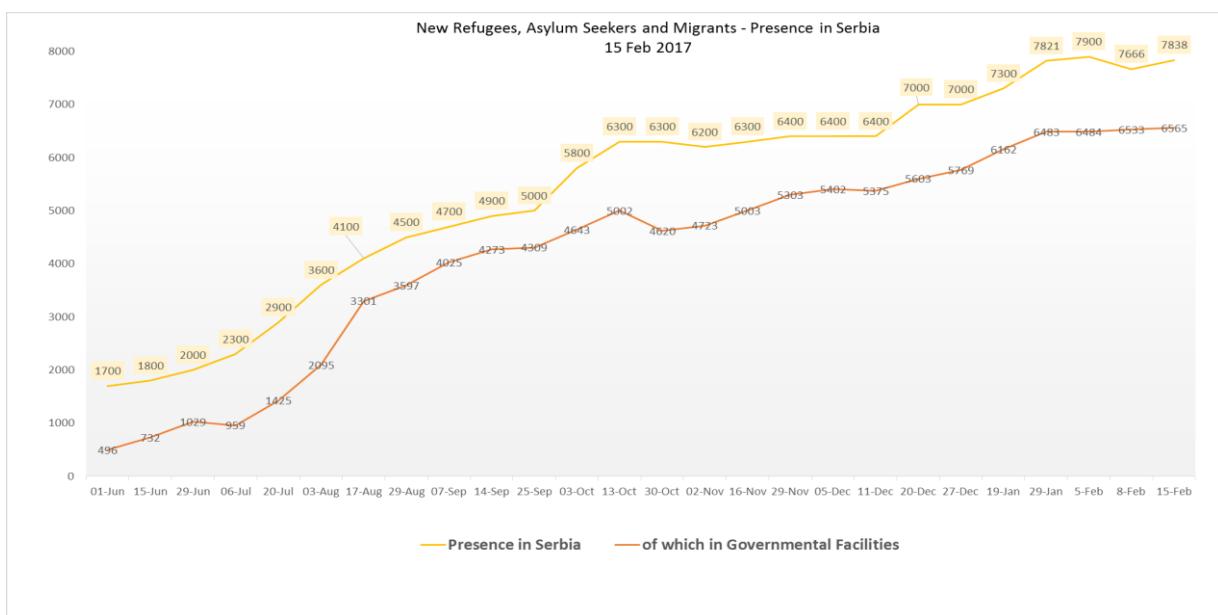


SERBIA UPDATE, 13-15 Feb 2017

HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

- The overall number of refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants counted in Serbia stood around 7,850. 6,565 (84%) of them were sheltered in 17 winterised government facilities. The rest were sleeping rough in Belgrade city centre or the North.
- "*Serbia is doing all it can do to assist European countries in preventing illegal migration, but is dissatisfied with Europe's lack of common solution to the migration crisis*", media reported Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić as informing Austrian Foreign Minister Sebastian Kurz on 13 February in Belgrade. "*We have fulfilled our obligations in line with what was agreed in Brussels. We haven't used force against migrants, not even once, but we do not wish that our country becomes a parking lot for them. Neither Austria nor any other European country wish this either, since they are not prepared to pay such a price*" - he added.
- 1-15 February, police registered 208 intentions to seek asylum in Serbia.



EAST

Over 570 asylum seekers were accommodated in four Reception Centres: 242 in Pirot, 181 in Divljana, 91 in Dimitrovgrad and 57 in Bosilegrad. Most are from Iraq, followed by Afghanistan and Syria and around half of them are children.



Mobile Dental Clinic Preševo (Serbia), @UNHCR, 13 February

Authorities provided food and medical services and UNHCR NFIs, while NGOs were available for support in aid delivery, interpretation and counselling.

SOUTH

1,032 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were accommodated in the Reception Centres of Preševo (810) and Bujanovac (222). Most are from Afghanistan and Iraq, followed by Syria and Pakistan, and over a half of them (53%) are children. UNHCR and partners assisted with food and non-food items, medical services, counselling, interpretation, referrals and recreational activities.

A Mobile Dental Clinic, organised by Border Free in cooperation with the MASROOR Medical Research Institute of Switzerland, started working in Preševo and Bujanovac. The Mobile Dental Clinic's team consists of two dentists (hired through the local Employment Bureau) and two nurses. Upon referral from the local Centres for Social Welfare, the clinic serves both refugees/migrants

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accommodated in the two Reception Centres as well as needy local residents of Preševo and Bujanovac.

BELGRADE

Close to 2,900 refugees and migrants were in Belgrade: Knjača Asylum Centre accommodated 1,111 asylum-seekers, including many families, while 741 male refugees and migrants - including around 350 unaccompanied or separated boys - were sheltered in Obrenovac. Authorities counted 1,050 refugees/migrants in the city centre. UNHCR and partners provided life-saving aid, counselling, support to registration with the police, as well as referrals to child protection and medical services.

Groups of men and boys continued to use daily governmental transfers to move from the city centre into Obrenovac, while some also went spontaneously, to be accommodated there. UNHCR and partners transported 5 newly registered asylum seekers from Belgrade city centre to asylum centres.

WEST

Transit Centres (TCs) in the West sheltered 1,976 refugees and migrants: 963 in Adasevci, 643 in Sid and 370 in Principovac. Civil society organizations assisted authorities with food, non-food and medical aid, counselling, referrals, child support and recreational activities.

During this period, 5 asylum-seekers informed UNHCR and partners to have been denied access to asylum procedures in Croatia, but instead been collectively expelled back into Serbia.

NORTH

Hungarian authorities admitted 31 asylum seekers into procedures at their "transit zones" near Kelebija and Horgoš border crossings. During the same period, over 85 asylum-seekers informed UNHCR and partners to have been denied access to asylum procedures in Hungary, but instead been collectively expelled back into Serbia.

Subotica TC sheltered 121 asylum-seekers and Sombor TC around 100, while only 5 male asylum seekers camped at Horgoš and 6 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. Due to the weather, the access road to Horgoš transit zone remained inaccessible for vehicles, and UNHCR and partners were accessing the site on foot.

Around 150 unregistered migrant men from North Africa, Pakistan and Afghanistan were counted sleeping rough around Subotica, waiting to irregularly enter Hungary.



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