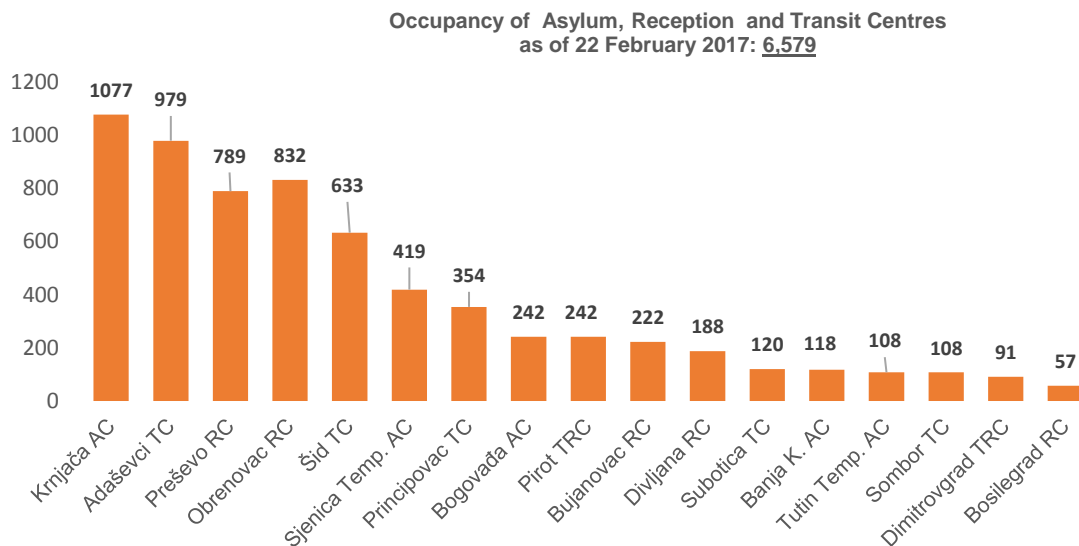


HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

- The overall number of refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants counted in Serbia stood close to 7,700. Over 6,570 (86%) of them were sheltered in 17 heated government facilities (below chart refers). The rest were staying rough in Belgrade city centre or the North.
- Closely monitoring the protection situation, UNHCR and partners have not yet been able to confirm or reject allegations of survival sex amongst refugee and migrant men and boys Belgrade city covered by media (e.g. <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-serbia-sex-idUSKBN15V1KH>). National authorities, in the meantime, publicly dismissed them.
- Hungarian authorities admitted 35 asylum seekers into procedures at the Hungarian “transit zones” near Kelebija and Horgos border crossings. During the same period, over 180 asylum-seekers reported to UNHCR and partners to have been denied access to asylum procedures in Hungary but instead collectively expelled back into Serbia, with some alleging serious maltreatment by Hungarian authorities.
- Between 01 and 22 February, 413 intentions to seek asylum in Serbia were registered.



EAST

Over 570 asylum seekers were accommodated in four Reception Centres: 242 in Pirot, 188 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.

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

SOUTH

1,011 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were accommodated in the Reception Centres of Presevo (789) and Bujanovac (222). In Presevo RC, half of the population is from Afghanistan, 24% from Iraq, 13% from Pakistan and 6% from Syria. 52% are children. In Bujanovac, 30% are from Afghanistan and Iraq each, 24% from Syria, and 62% of the total population is children.



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

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

Newly arrived asylum seeking family being admitted into the RC Presevo, Presevo (Serbia) @ UNHCR, 19 Feb 2017

BELGRADE

Around 2,700 refugees and migrants were counted in Belgrade, of which over 840 sleeping rough in the city centre, where UNHCR and partners continued providing life-saving aid, counselling, support to registration with the police, as well as referrals to child protection and medical services as well as transport to governmental shelters.

Krnjaca Asylum Centre accommodated 1,077 asylum-seekers, while 832 refugees and migrants (including 305 unaccompanied or separated boys) were sheltered in Obrenovac. Small groups of men and boys continued using governmental transport from the city centre to move into Obrenovac, while some also went to Obrenovac spontaneously, requesting accommodation. UNHCR continued supporting the rapid refurbishment of capacities in Obrenovac, and maintained regular protection presence offering counselling, identification of persons with specific needs and referrals, including to IOM for Assisted Voluntary Return.

WEST

Transit Centres (TCs) in the West sheltered 1,966 refugees and migrants: 979 in Adasevci, 633 in Sid and 354 in Principovac.

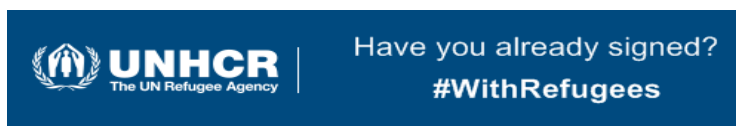
Civil society organizations assisted authorities with food, non-food and medical aid, counselling, referrals, child support and recreational activities. On 20 February, the tenth round of body lice treatment in Sid TC was conducted, when all residents were examined and premises disinfected.

NORTH

Subotica TC sheltered 120 asylum-seekers and Sombor TC 108, while 8 asylum seekers camped at Horgos and 15 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.

The access road to Horgoš/Rösztke transit zone remained inaccessible by car, and humanitarian workers have to carry all aid there on foot, while asylum seekers collect food parcels from an agreed point near outside the site.

Over 200 unregistered migrant men from North Africa, Pakistan and Afghanistan continue being observed sleeping rough around Subotica, trying to irregularly enter Hungary, some repeatedly.



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