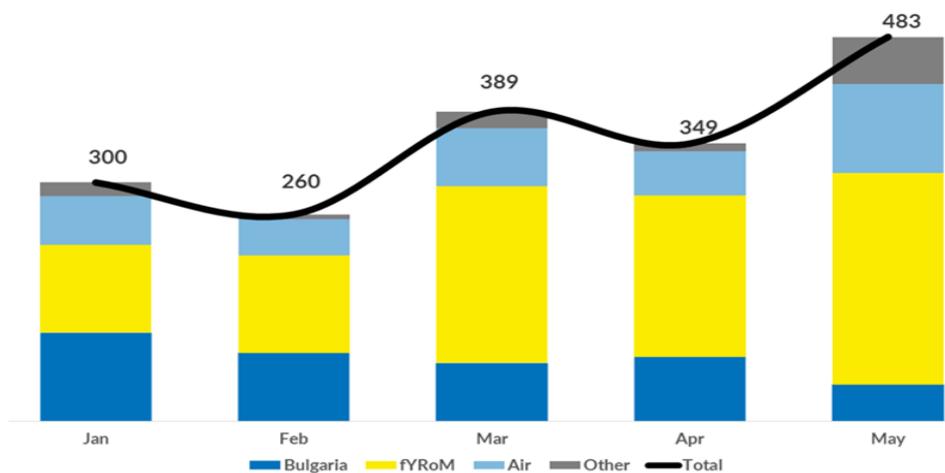


UNHCR SERBIA UPDATE

- UNHCR and partners continue to note an **increase in new arrivals** when assisting **253** (compared to 230 during the preceding two weeks – below chart refers). Arrivals from FYR Macedonia remained at the same level (55%), as did those by air (31%), while fewer arrived from Bulgaria (4%). Men continued to constitute majority with 62%, while 9% were women and 29% children. Nationals of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran constituted relatively equal number of new arrivals.
- New arrivals appeared to almost offset irregular departures, reportedly mainly to Bosnia and Herzegovina, stabilising the number of new refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants counted in Serbia on 27 May at **3,041**. While 2,736 (i.e. 90%) of them were accommodated in 18 governmental centres, around 300 were observed outside of centres: some 150 in Belgrade City and 150 camping close to borders with Croatia or Hungary. On 22 May, authorities gathered 76 single migrant men, who were sleeping rough in the vicinity of Sombor and transported them to Divljana, Pirot and Bosilegrad Reception Centres.
- Reports of **collective expulsions grew to 409** (up from 362 during the preceding two weeks), including 229 asylum-seekers from Croatia, 106 from Hungary, 46 from Bosnia and Herzegovina and 28 from Romania.
- Hungary admitted **22** asylum-seekers into procedures in its so-called “transit-zones”, compared to 19 during the preceding two weeks.
- On 21 May, the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and UNHCR signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) on cooperation in the inclusion of asylum-seekers and refugees in the labour market.
- 14-16 May, UNHCR and CRPC, in coordination with UNICEF and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, conducted cultural orientation sessions for 67 primary and secondary schools teachers from Bogovađa, Banja Koviljača, Šid, Principovac, Sombor, Subotica and Kikinda. The sessions shared information on the life of refugee children and country of origin information from Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan and Syria.
- On 26 May, celebrating “Three Years of Solidarity”, the municipality of Presevo honoured UNHCR, along with government representatives, citizens of Presevo, local and international volunteers and local and international organizations, with a Certificate of Appreciation for its contribution to managing the refugee crisis.

Observed arrivals per month 2018
Total: 1,781





An Afghan refugee boy wins a table tennis tournament in Presevo RC, @UNHCR, 14 May 2018

- On 16 May, UNHCR organized a visit by 23 students of the legal clinic, Faculty of Law, University of Novi Sad to the Asylum Centre in Banja Koviljaca, where they had an opportunity to see direct implementation of what they have been hearing during the spring semester course on refugee law.
- On 22 May in Nis, UNHCR and partners hosted a second seminar for representative of local self-governments on the Institutional and Strategic Framework of Roma inclusion in Serbia.
- UNHCR and partners identified at least 48 new unaccompanied or separated refugee children (UASC), all boys from Afghanistan or Pakistan and referred them to Child Welfare Services. According to government statistics, 74 UASC are accommodated in refugee/migrant centres (mainly Krnjaca Asylum Centre), 16 in specialised care institutions (including with the support of UNHCR) and two in the JRS shelter. On 16 May UNHCR hosted a Child Protection Coordination meeting to discuss a new instruction by the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs on procedures for accommodation of UASC. On 25 May seven UASC students were attacked in Belgrade, reportedly by family-members of a school-mate. While the victims received medical and psycho-social care, the alleged perpetrators were arrested by the police. UNHCR, together with partners is supporting educational and other authorities in follow-up.



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