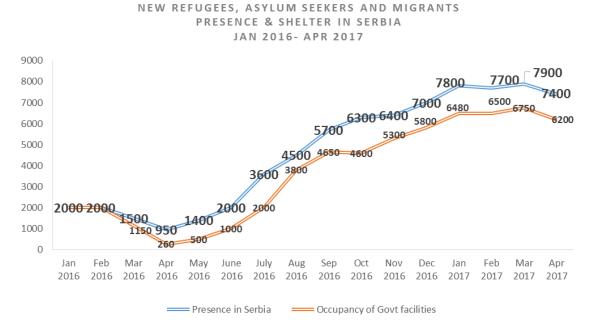


SERBIA UPDATE, 17-23 April 2017

HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

- The number of new refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in Serbia appears to stabilise (see the chart below). On 23 April, **7,363** were counted in Serbia. 84% (6,162) were sheltered in 18 government facilities, while the rest were counted sleeping rough in Belgrade city centre or close to the borders with Croatia or Hungary.
- UNHCR, the Centre for Social Welfare and the Crisis Response and Policy Centre (CRPC) supported the participation of 13 refugee youth from Krnjaca Asylum Centre (AC) in the 30th Belgrade Marathon of 22 Apr (see the photo below).
- Among some 117 new arrivals that were met and assisted by UNHCR and partners during the week, ten were unaccompanied and separated refugee children (UASC), boys from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Libya. All were referred by UNHCR and partners to Centres for Social Work.
- 149 intentions to seek asylum in Serbia were registered in the reporting period, which makes a total of 419 during April and 1,803 since the beginning of the year (compared to 2,484 during the same period in 2016). Since the beginning of the year, the Asylum Office has not yet made any positive decisions on granting refugee status or subsidiary protection



EAST

554 refugees and migrants were accommodated in four Reception Centres: 222 in Pirot, 221 in Divljana, 64 in Dimitrovgrad and 47 in Bosilegrad. Most are from Iraq, followed by Afghanistan and Syria and around half are children.

SOUTH

886 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were accommodated in the Reception Centres of Presevo (715) and Bujanovac (171). 59% of the residents of Presevo RC are from Afghanistan, 27% from Iraq, 6% from Pakistan and 5% from Syria. 51% are children. In Bujanovac, which continues to accommodate

Asylum statistics are provided by the Ministry of Interior. Other information is based on findings of UNHCR staff and partners. If you use this content, please refer to UNHCR as source. **CONTACTS:** *General:* Ivana Zujovic-Simic +381 63 452 950; External Relations: Indira Beganovic, +381 63 431 886; *Media:* Mirjana Milenkovski +381 63 275 154



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only families with children and UASCs, 33% are from Iraq, 30% from Afghanistan, 27% from Syria and 10% from Iran. 57% are children.



13 refugee youth joined the 30th Belgrade Marathon, Belgrade (Serbia), ©UNHCR, 22 April 2017

BELGRADE

Over **3,000** refugees and migrants were counted in Belgrade. Krnjaca AC accommodated 906 asylumseekers, mainly families from Afghanistan, Iraq or Syria. 1,071 male refugees and migrants (including 339 unaccompanied/separated boys) were sheltered in Obrenovac. Most were from Afghanistan, followed by Pakistan and very few from Iraq, Syria, and other countries. In fairer weather, some 1,000, mostly Afghan and Pakistani men and boys, appear to sleep rough in the city centre.

On 21 April, outside the Faculty of Economics, two Afghan men sustained knife injuries in a conflict with a group of Pakistani men, allegedly over food portions. An ambulance brought the injured to hospital while the police opened an investigation.

WEST

Transit Centres (TCs) in the West sheltered **1,625** refugees and migrants: 863 in Adasevci, 495 in Sid and 267 in Principovac. Their residents are mainly from Afghanistan, followed by Pakistan, Iraq, Syria and Iran. In addition some 50 men and boys were sleeping rough in and around Sid area.

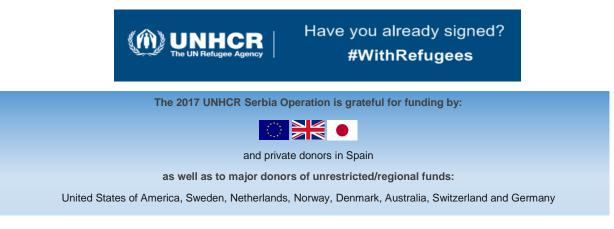
As authorities continue to reduce occupancy of Sid TC, 2,500 local citizens petitioned to close it. On 19 April, authorities apprehended 21 unregistered migrant/refuge men in Sid. Misdemeanour courts referred most back to the police for asylum registration as they could demonstrate that prior requests to register for asylum had not been entertained by authorities.

72 asylum-seekers reported to have been collectively expelled from Croatia, without being granted access to asylum procedures there, having entered Croatia irregularly from Serbia.

NORTH

41 asylum seekers, mainly families but also single men, were admitted by Hungary. Only six were camping outside Horgos (5) and Kelebija (1) "transit zones".

Subotica TC sheltered 132, Sombor TC 167 and Kikinda TC 151 asylum-seekers, all families from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, waiting for soon admission by Hungary.



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