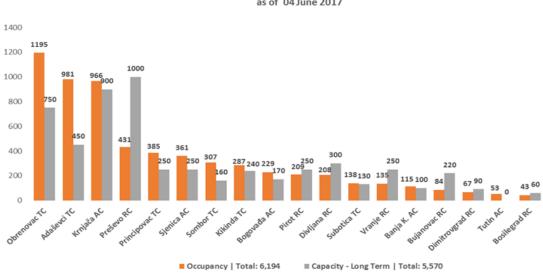


SERBIA UPDATE, 29 May - 04 June 2017

HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

- The number of new refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in Serbia continued to stabilise, with **6,618** counted on 4 June. 94% were accommodated in 18 governmental shelters.
- On 30 May, a new Reception Centre (RC) in Vranje (South) accommodated a first 135 refugees while, on the next day, the last 200 residents of Transit Centre (TC) Sid were moved to other centres. Chairperson of the Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Mixed Migration, Minister Aleksandar Vulin announced "The number of migrants is under control and therefore we can reduce the accommodation capacity and carry out the redistribution of migrants in accordance with the fact if they are families with children, single people, unaccompanied minors or companied minors. We will try to minimize the burden in city centres" he added. If decreasing number of migrants continues, we will close other centres as well. We are trying not to have a big camp with bad conditions or is more difficult to organize the work. Instead we have several smaller camps that do not burden local communities." As the Minister confirmed, current availability of long-term shelter capacities (see below chart) should allow for continuing decongestion of overcrowded centres and closure of temporary emergency shelter in tents or rub-halls (currently still used in the TCs of Adasevci, Principovac and Kikinda). In addition to protection sensitive camp management through separate accommodation of men, families and UASC, UNHCR also welcomes the intentions of authorities to again accommodate refugees/migrants in line with their legal status, i.e. to concentrate all asylum-seekers in a select few suitable asylum-centres.
- At end-May, some 80% of residents in governmental centres were from so-called refugee-producing countries:
 Afghanistan (62%), Iraq (12%) and Syria (5%). 13% from Pakistan and 8% from other countries. 41% were children, 12% adult women and 47% adult men.
- In May 2017, 577 individuals registered intent to seek asylum in Serbia: 41% were adult men, 2% adult women and 56% children. Most applications were made by citizens of Afghanistan (74%), Pakistan (12%), Iraq (4%), or Syria (4%). The Asylum Office did not issue any substantive first-instance decisions.
- UNHCR and partners recorded a very high number of collective expulsions, with many alleging to have been
 denied access to asylum procedures, from the following EU States: 130 from Hungary, 85 from Croatia and
 21 from Romania.



Occupancy of Asylum, Reception and Transit Centres as of 04 June 2017

EAST

527 refugees and migrant were accommodated in four Reception Centres: 209 in Pirot, 208 in Divljana, 67 in Dimitrovgrad and 43 in Bosilegrad. Most are from Iraq and Afghanistan, followed by Syria; around half are children.



SERBIA UPDATE, 29 May - 04 June 2017



Reception of families and UASCs from Presevo RC at Vranje RC, Vranje (Serbia), ©UNHCR, 31 May 2017

SOUTH

On 30 May the new RC in Vranje received a first 135 residents, transferred from Presevo RC. The RC in Vranje had been renovated with ECHO funding and received additional staffing, medical and other support from UNHCR and others. It offers 65 rooms, each with its own bathroom, i.e. facilities and privacy for refugee families.

650 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were accommodated in the three Reception Centres of Presevo (431), Vranje RC (135) and Bujanovac (84). Most residents of Presevo RC are from Afghanistan (43%) and Iraq (39%), and 45% are children. In Bujanovac RC, most are from Iraq (46%) or Syria (29 %), 50% children. Vranje RC currently houses only families and UASCs from Afghanistan, including 55% children.

BELGRADE

According to official estimates, less than 350 migrant men still overnight in Belgrade city centre. Krnjaca Asylum Centre accommodated **966** asylum-seekers (including 225 UASCs), mainly families from Afghanistan, Iraq or Syria. **1,195** refugees and migrants (including 297 unaccompanied or separated boys) were sheltered in Obrenovac. Most are from Afghanistan, followed by Pakistan and very few from Iraq or Syria, and other countries.

WEST

After the closure of TC Sid on 31 May, other TCs in the West sheltered **1,366** refugees and migrants: 981 in Adasevci and 385 in Principovac. As most remaining residents of TC Sid were transferred there, pressure on utilities and services, as well as occupancy of emergency transit shelters (rub-halls and tents) in TC Adasevci and Principovac increased. Residents are mainly from Afghanistan, with fewer from by Pakistan, Iraq, and Syria.

NORTH

50 asylum seekers, mainly families from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria were admitted into Hungary. Some eight asylum seekers camped at Horgos (7) and Kelebija (1) border sites. Subotica TC sheltered 138 asylum-seekers, Sombor TC 307, and Kikinda TC 287, mostly families from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria.

The Hungarian Helsinki Committee published <u>an updated overview</u> of interim measures granted by the European Court of Human Rights or the United Nations Human Rights Committee until May 2017, mainly relating to asylumseekers who entered Hungary from Serbia, with summary of all cases, including implementation by Hungarian authorities.



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