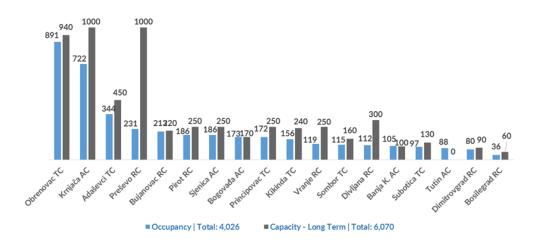


UNHCR SERBIA UPDATE

HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

- During the first half of the **16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence**, UNHCR Serbia together with partners and authorities organized separate Focus Group Discussions with adult males, adult females, adolescent males and adolescent females in Principovac, Kikinda and Krnjaca centres, which discussed safety in the community, GBV, as well as challenges faced by women and girls. In addition, four Country Cultural Sessions were organized to equip frontline workers and authorities in Belgrade, Pirot and Presevo with cultural knowledge on Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq and Pakistan. UN Serbia will conduct more 16 Days Activities this week.
- On 03 December, **4,400** new refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were counted in Serbia, with **4,026** housed in 18 governmental centres. At least 68% are from so-called refugee-producing countries: Afghanistan (52%), Iraq (14%) and Syria (2%). 34% are children, 15% adult women and 51% adult men.
- The <u>Joint Assessment of Government Centres</u>, available as pdf on the global UNHCR website as well as <u>interactive link</u> on the UNHCR Serbia website, is also available in Serbian language on the <u>website</u> of the Serbian Commissariat for Refugees and Migration. With over 30,000 hits, it remains the second most popular information tool of UNHCR in Europe.
- On 28 November, the Psycho-Social Innovation Network (PIN), as part of its project supported by UNHCR, presented two studies, one on the situation of <u>Refugees' mental health</u> and the other on <u>Challenges and potentials</u> of refugee children.
- 29-30 November, UNHCR distributed further winter items, this time mainly winter boots, in all centres around Serbia.
- UNHCR and partners assisted **132 new arrivals** (as compared to 126 the previous week). Profiling of a sample in Belgrade showed that 15% were adult women, 34% children and 51% adult men. 46% originated from Afghanistan, 37% from Iraq, and 9% each from Syria or Iran. 73% entered Serbia from Bulgaria. Also the numbers of reported **collective expulsions** into Serbia stayed high: 98 from Romania (compared to 103 last week) and 96 from Croatia (99 last week).
- UNHCR is grateful to the Government of Sweden for having accepted for **resettlement** a vulnerable single refugee mother, who, together with her two children, departed from Serbia this week.
- In November, 549 persons registered intentions to seek asylum in Serbia. 53% were men, 15% women and 32% were filed for children. Almost all applicants were citizens of Afghanistan (26%), Iran (22%), Iraq (21%) or Pakistan (21%). The Asylum Office rejected one claim. Total positive first-instance decisions by the Asylum Office since the beginning of 2017 thus remained unchanged at 13.





www.unhcr.org 1





Marking the 16 Days of Activism, through discussions with girls and boys in Principovac TC, (Serbia)@UNHCR, 27 Nov 2017

SOUTH

563 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were accommodated in the three Reception Centres of Presevo (231), Bujanovac (213) and Vranje (119), including 22 unaccompanied or separated children (UASC).

BELGRADE

Krnjaca Asylum Centre (AC) accommodated **722** asylum-seekers, including 152 UASC, while **891** male refugees/migrants (including 41 unaccompanied or separated boys) were sheltered in Obrenovac TC. Additionally, it is estimated that some 150 refugees/migrants continue to stay at the city centre.

EAST

414 refugees and migrants were accommodated in four Reception Centres: 186 in Pirot, 112 in Divljana, 80 in Dimitrovgrad and 36 in Bosilegrad.

WEST

Transit Centres (TCs) in the West sheltered **516** refugees and migrants: 344 in Adasevci and 172 in Principovac. UNHCR and partners observed some 120 refugee/migrant men and boys sleeping rough near Sid.

NORTH

50 asylum seekers were admitted into so-called "transit zones" of Hungary. On 03 December, 4 asylum seekers camped at Horgos and Kelebija border sites awaiting admission into Hungary. Subotica TC sheltered **97** asylum-seekers, Sombor TC **115**, and Kikinda TC **156**.



The 2017 UNHCR Serbia Operation is grateful for funding by:

and private donors in Spain and France
as well as to major donors of unrestricted/regional funds:

United States of America, Sweden, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Norway, Japan, Denmark, Australia, Canada, Switzerland, France, Germany, Italy and private donors