

## Quantitative Snapshot of UNHCR Serbia Achievements Jan-June 2019

### Population of Concern to UNHCR in Serbia<sup>1</sup>

- Observed arrivals of **10,287** new asylum seekers and migrants
- **145** asylum-seekers entered substantive procedures
- **2,032** persons remained threatened with statelessness
- **68,514** amongst **199,543** Internally Displaced Persons suffer under displacement-related needs
- **26,502** refugees from former Yugoslav republics

### UNHCR Serbia priorities

UNHCR supported Serbia *inter alia* in the following fields:

- Asylum System Development
- Solutions for Refugees
- Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness
- Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons

### Working with Partners

UNHCR Serbia is grateful for the excellent cooperation of **13** partners under Project Partnership Agreements:



As well as for the excellent cooperation from operational partners, which included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labor, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs (MoLEVSA), Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, the Serbian Commissariat for Refugees and Migration (SCRM), OSCE, IOM, UNRCO, UNICEF, UNV and WHO.

Around **20** UNHCR and **100** partner staff conducted regular protection activities in over **30** sites throughout Serbia.

### External / Donors Relations

Jan-June 2019, UNHCR Serbia expended **USD 4,3 mil** thanks to its generous donors.

#### Special thanks to major donors of unearmarked contributions- 2019<sup>2</sup> | USD

**Sweden** 90.4 million | **Norway** 44.5 million | **Private Donors Spain** 39.6 million | **Netherlands** 37.5 million | **United Kingdom** 31.7 million | **Germany** 26.7 million | **Denmark** 24.4 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 20.6 million | **Switzerland** 15.1 million

#### Thanks to donors of other softly earmarked contributions accessible to the Serbian Operation - 2019<sup>3</sup> | USD

**United States of America** 9.8 million | **Private donors Australia** 6.2 million | **Germany** 5.4 million | **Sweden** 3.3 million | **Private donors Germany** 2.8 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 2.7 million

#### Thanks to donors of earmarked contributions to the 2019 UNHCR Serbia operation

**United States of America** | **Russian Federation** | **Japan** | **Republic of Korea** | **Serbia**

For more information: <http://reporting.unhcr.org>

<sup>1</sup> Source: SCRM, Ministry of Interior and UNHCR

<sup>2</sup> Contributed without restrictions on its use, unearmarked funding allows UNHCR critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk. Where a donor has contribution \$10 million or more, the total amount of the contribution is shown.

<sup>3</sup> Due to their earmarking at the region or sub-region, or to a related situation or theme, the other softly earmarked contributions listed are those which can potentially be used for Bosnia and Herzegovina Regional Office. Where a donor has contributed \$2 million or more, the total amount of the contributions is shown.

## 1. ASYLUM SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

### Asylum

- UNHCR and partners provided legal counselling on asylum in over **3,300** instances
- Assisted **3,000** asylum-seekers with registration and transport to government centres
- Represented **88** asylum-seekers in asylum procedure (incl. **13** UASC), of which **11** were granted refugee status (incl. **1** UASC) and **11** subsidiary protection
- Supported **15** asylum seekers to appeal with the Commission for Asylum, administrative courts or the Constitutional Court
- Prevented the extradition of an asylum seeker by facilitated an **interim measure** by the Committee against Torture
- Supported analysis of asylum system and trends including BCHR Periodic Reports: [Right to Asylum in the Republic of Serbia in January-March 2019](#) and [Right to Asylum in the Republic of Serbia in January-June 2019](#)

### Identification and Referrals

- Provided over **17,100** translation/cultural mediation services to asylum seekers/migrants
- and over **13,700** information/counselling services
- Profiled over **6,800** new arrivals
- Identified and referred to appropriate services **1,300 persons with specific needs (PSN)**, including **19** cases of gender based violence
- Conducted over **780** monitoring visits to Asylum Centres (ACs), Reception/Transit Centres (RTCs) and Institutions for Accommodation for UASC
- Conducted **Participatory Assessments** with **327** asylum seekers from all age, gender and background groups
- Conducted over **23** protection interviews
- Trained partner staff on *LGBTI Rights and Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Based Refugee Claims Training*
- Organised a seminar on *Harmful Practices and Attitudes towards LGBTI Persons in Country of Origin* for actors involved in refugee protection
- Organised Focus Group Discussions to raise awareness on **Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)** with **109** asylum seekers in **9** asylum/reception centres
- Organised two refresher sessions for partner staff on PSEA
- Supported HCIT and CRPC Joint Publication [Between closed borders 2018](#)

### Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC)

- Provided psychological support and counselling to children, including UASC, in over **1,900** instances
- Identified, assisted, counselled and/or referred **2,200** UASC (incl. **5** girls)
- Provided guardians under UNHCR project with IDEAS to **796** UASC
- Provided legal representation in asylum procedures to **13** UASC
- Organized a conference on *Protection of Unaccompanied and Separated Asylum-Seeking, Refugee and Migrant Children in Serbia - A Call for Action*

### Psychosocial

- Provided mental health & psychosocial support in:
  - **544** individual/group psychological/psychiatric counselling sessions/psychotherapy
  - **64** immediate first psychological/psychiatric interventions
  - **6** community-based support groups' meetings
  - **546** psychosocial/creative/recreational etc. workshops
  - **26** psychological assessments/reports for asylum procedures or other purposes
  - Monitoring of **105** asylum seekers (incl. **36** UASC) in constant need of psychological support
  - **6** visits to specialized institutions for mental health
- Supported PIN to publish a chapter on *Methods and Ethics in Refugee Research* in the [International Handbook Forced Migration and Social Trauma - Interdisciplinary Perspectives](#) and an article on the *Development and Validation of the Stressful Experiences in Transit Questionnaire (SET-Q)* and its *Short Form (SET-SF)* in the [European Journal of Psychotraumatology](#)
- Supported PIN to conduct *Psychological First Aid Training (PFA)* for **community leaders** of RTC Vranje and Bujanovac and the Centre for Unaccompanied Minors in Niš

### Education

- Assisted **160** asylum seeker children with homework and better understanding of school subjects
- Assisted **37** asylum seeker children in enrolment and adapting to formal education and school environment
- Provided **417** educational workshops (also conducted by **8** refugee women and youth volunteers) to adult and children asylum seekers

- 117 recreational/occupational workshops
- 36 workshops and group counselling sessions for asylum seeker parents to strengthening their parenting skills
- Over 40 cultural mediation services for UASC of “Branko Pešić School” or of Vodovodska Centre

### Reception

- Regularly updated and posted online [Joint Assessment](#) with the SCRM of governmental Asylum, Reception and Transit Centres against applicable UN, EU and national reception standards
- Supported institutions accommodating UASC and supporting vulnerable children and adults with over 19,500 non-food items (clothing & hygiene parcels, bed linen, beds, etc.)

### Coordination and Communication

- Under the **Refugee Coordination Model**, UNHCR Serbia co-chaired:
  - 3 Refugee and Migrants Theme Group meetings of the UN Country Team and
  - 1 Refugee Protection Working Group meeting, as well as
  - sectoral, Belgrade and other local coordination meetings
- Produced close to 40 updates on UNHCR operation in Serbia
- Maintained strong social media presence, including 4,900 Facebook followers; 1,100 twitter account engagements; 16,400 visits to the [UNHCR Serbia website](#) and 50 interviews for electronic and print media
- Presented Serbian filmmaker Aleksandar Aleksić with an international [award](#) for his short film on asylum-seekers and migrants entitled “Anywhere”
- Undertook regular **Cross Border Missions** with UNHCR colleagues and partners in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and North Macedonia and with colleagues from Priština
- Supported the production of Serbia’s [Voluntary National Review on the Implementation of Agenda 2030](#)
- Supported the SCRM in reporting on the situation of refugees and asylum-seekers-against Agenda 2030 indicators through the [Migration Profile](#)

## 2. SOLUTIONS FOR REFUGEES

### Free Legal Aid

- UNHCR and partners provided free legal counselling and legal aid to 1,408 refugees

### Local Integration

- Supported the local integration of 403 refugees
- Supported 106 refugees in obtaining documents
- Provided financial assistance to 108 refugees, one-off grants to 103 refugees, other material support to 41 refugees and non-food items to 47 refugees
- Referred 15 elderly refugees to homecare services
- Provided 533 Serbian language lessons to over 215 adult asylum seekers
- Facilitated participation of asylum-seekers and refugees (incl. UASC) in 10 joint events with local population
- Informed 173 asylum-seekers in workshops on education, employment, social and health protection systems
- Provided 52 refugees with Serbian language lessons, IT trainings, digital marketing course, driving course and sewing course, enhancing their employment/business opportunities
- Supported 27 refugees in securing employment
- Supported UASC to take part in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Belgrade Marathon
- Supported asylum seeking women to exhibit their [handicrafts](#)
- Supported the celebration of World Roma Day in „Branko Pešić” school with 15 UASC refugees
- Enabled participation of 3 LGBTI refugees in Novi Sad PRIDE Festival
- Supported participation of 8 UASCs in the *International Festival of Children’s Recreation* in Kopaonik.
- Supported participation of 5 refugees in the *Heritage Day* tour of Kosmaj Mountain
- Supported participation of 10 UASC and one adult asylum-seeker in *Recreation and Health Day*
- Marking World Refugee Day, organised *Games without Borders* for local and refugee/migrant children in Vranje and Bujanovac
- Published 5 local integration [stories](#) and [videos](#)
- Supported the Government in preparing experiences, pledges and contribution related to the [Global Refugee Compact](#) for the 1st [Global Refugee Forum](#) on 17-18 December 2019 in Geneva

### Resettlement

- Supported the successful resettlement of 5 refugees to third countries
- Submitted 2 new refugees for resettlement

### Regional Housing programme (RHP)

- Supported 1,238 housing solutions to 3,961 refugees by – together with the OSCE - monitoring RHP beneficiary selection and sustainability

- Assisted **272** refugees on housing in Countries of Origin, through legal advice, power of attorney for acquisition of documents, compiling of documents and submitting demands for housing care, drafting replies to authorities, etc.
- Assisted **141** Roma refugees to access labour, social, status and other rights
- Supported **69** Roma refugees to access to RHP or other housing programmes
- Supported vulnerable refugees to obtain **83** documents free of charge

### 3. PREVENTION AND REDUCTION OF STATELESSNESS

#### Free Legal Aid

- UNHCR and partners facilitated the issuance of **886** ID cards
- Supported the obtaining of **145** registry certificates
- Supported **100** administrative/court procedures, including **2** through cross-boundary cooperation
- Followed up on **204** procedures initiated in 2018 or earlier but not yet completed

#### Capacity Building and Advocacy

- Organized **4** awareness-raising workshops for schoolchildren on the prevention and elimination of child, early and forced marriages (CEFM)
- Joined the National Coalition against Child Marriages
- Supported the Government in preparing pledges for the High Level Segment marking five years of the ten year global campaign to end statelessness by 2024 ([#IBelong](#)) on 7 October in Geneva

### 4. SUPPORT FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS)

#### Free Legal Aid

- Provided **731** IDPs with free legal aid

#### Voluntary Return

- UNHCR and partners organised **6** Go and See Visits and **3** return-informative meetings, registered **69** families for return to Kosovo<sup>4</sup>, and continued daily cross-boundary cooperation on returns

#### Local Integration

- Supported the local integration of **1,235** IDPs (incl. **578** Roma)
- Supported **249** IDPs in collecting documents
- Through Centres for Social Work (CSW) provided: financial social assistance to **329** vulnerable IDPs, one-off grants to **361** IDPs, other material support to **161** IDPs and referred **194** IDPs to Food Bank
- Through Red Cross, provided non-food items to **135** vulnerable IDPs
- Referred **27** elderly IDPs to homecare services

#### Advocacy & Capacity Building

- Participated in the [Skopje Initiative for Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons from Kosovo](#)<sup>5</sup> with the OSCE and relevant institutions from Priština, Belgrade, Skopje and Podgorica
- Trained **89** local social protection workers and SCRMs Trustees in **20** municipalities on *Anti-Discrimination Regulations of Importance for Refugees and IDPs*
- Extended national UN Volunteer (UNV) contracts for **15** Roma youth beyond 2018 and further strengthened their position in cooperation with the Association of Roma Coordinators
- Trained **15** new Roma youth in **5** two day workshops and employed them as UNV for **6** months in local-self-governments
- Engaged **10** staff in **10** CSW and support access of vulnerable refugees and IDPs to the social protection system of **10** key municipalities under tripartite **MoU** to *Support to the Local Integration of IDPs, Refugees and Asylum-Seekers* with MoLEVSA and Amity
- With support from UNHCR, partner A 11 published a manual on the access to economic and social rights and personal documents "[How to realize your rights? A guide for realizing human rights](#)"
- Filed a [Submission](#) on follow-up document to the United Nations Human Rights Committee in relation to Concluding Observations on the Third Periodic Report of Serbia, with special reference to the position of Roma IDP community
- Organized a conference "[20 Years of Internal Displacement in Serbia – Experiences and Lessons for the Future](#)" [#IRL20](#), to examine and improve the situation of IDPs from the aspect of availability of economic and social rights
- Produced a short [documentary film](#) on the last collective centre "Salvatore" in Bujanovac to raise awareness and advocate for better living conditions of Roma IDPs

<sup>4</sup> References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999)

<sup>5</sup> *ibid*

- Organized exhibition *Internal Displacement through Eyes of a Child* consisting of photographs produced by internally displaced children from informal collective centre “Stara škola” in Belgrade
- Received a [recommendation](#) from the Commissioner for Protection of Equality to implement antidiscrimination training and organized **antidiscrimination training** for Social Welfare Centres

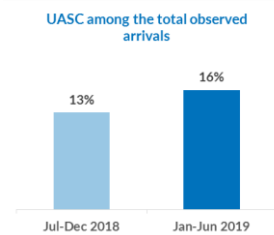
### Inclusion of Roma IDP children

- Provided **672** classes of learning support to Roma IDP children, monitoring school attendance
- Assisted **332** Roma IDP children in homework and studying; providing school books/materials, school meals (for **252** children, daily), and/or monthly bus tickets, etc.
- Signed cooperation agreements with **8** educational institutions, supporting the inclusion of Roma IDP children
- Engaged **15** volunteers, **3** assistants for cooperation with families and **6** associates for children’s attendance and performance monitoring in these eight institutions
- Organised **7** workshops for **93** Roma IDP parents
- Outings and “outdoor education for **79** Roma IDP children
- 10** empowerment workshops for **29** Roma IDP girls
- 8** workshops for **119** primary school children
- A gathering on Goč Mountain, for **29** Roma IDP children and **8** teachers from **4** primary schools
- 4** advocacy meetings for introduction of free meals / transport for disadvantaged pupils
- Intervened with the Republic Education Inspector to combat discrimination or segregation of Roma pupils

## 5. MAIN STATISTICAL TRENDS OF SITUATION

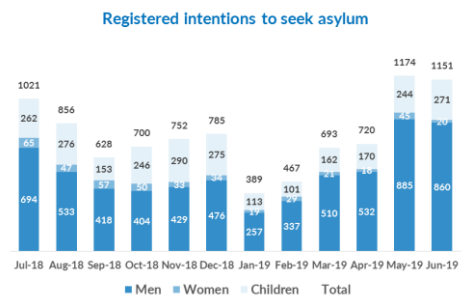
### General

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Total (observed) arrivals - January-June 2019:                                      | 10,287 ↓ |
| Total (observed) arrivals - July-December 2018:                                     | 12,045 ↓ |
| Total (observed) arrivals of unaccompanied/separated children - January-June 2019:  | 1,634 ↑  |
| Total (observed) arrivals of unaccompanied/separated children - July-December 2018: | 1,616 ↓  |
| Total occupancy of government centres – end June 2019:                              | 2,678 ↓  |
| Total occupancy of government centres - end December 2018:                          | 4,205 ↓  |
| Total presence of refugees/migrants/asylum-seekers – end June 2019:                 | 3,464 ↓  |
| Total presence of refugees/migrants/asylum-seekers – end December 2018:             | 4,468 ↓  |

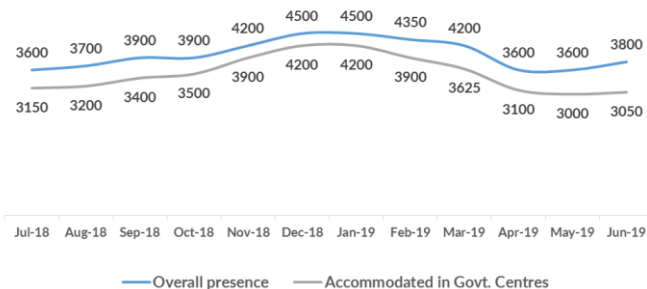


### Asylum processing

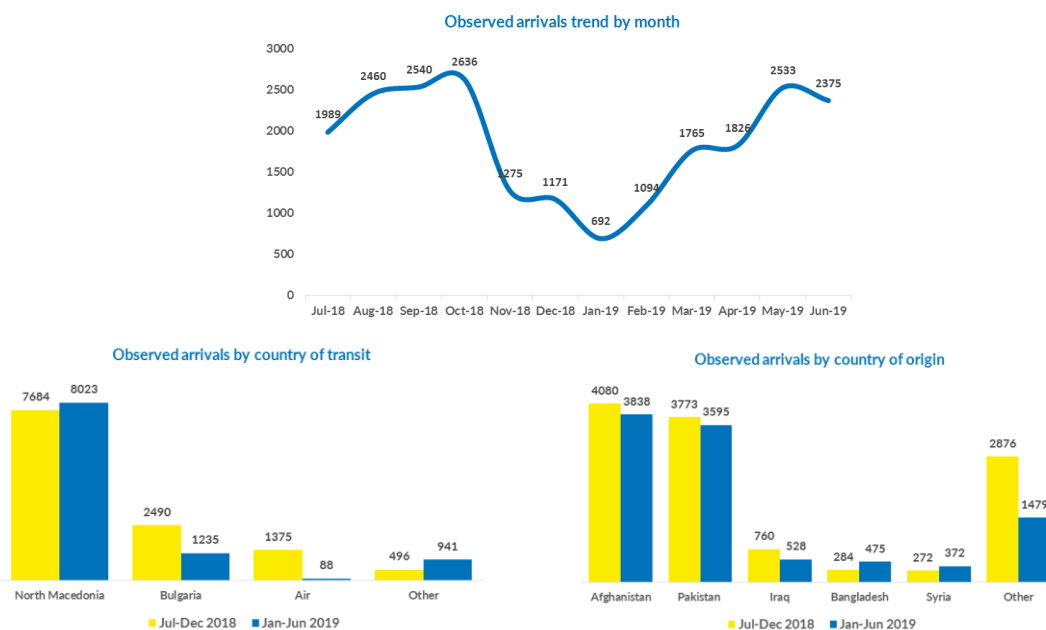
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| Intentions to seek asylum - January-June 2019:             | 4,594 ↓ |
| Intentions to seek asylum - July-December 2018:            | 4,742 ↓ |
| Applications for asylum submitted - January-June 2019:     | 145 ↓   |
| Applications for asylum submitted - July-December 2018:    | 229 ↓   |
| Substantive first-instance decisions - January-June 2019:  | 56 ↑    |
| Substantive first-instance decisions - July-December 2018: | 25 ↓    |
| Positive decisions - January-June 2019:                    | 27 ↑    |
| Positive decisions - July-December 2018:                   | 9 ↓     |



### New asylum-seekers and migrants - presence and shelter

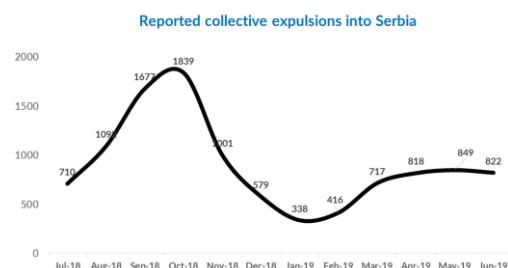


### Observed new arrivals - demographics and country of transit



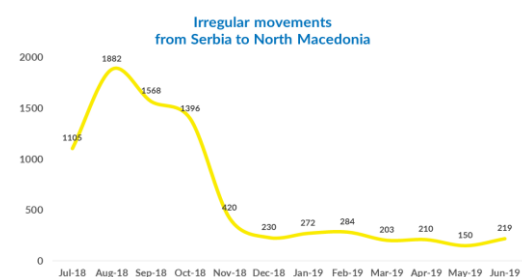
### Reported collective expulsions into Serbia

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| <b>Total collective expulsions - January-June 2019:</b>        | <b>3,960</b> ↓ |
| Total collective expulsions - July-December 2018:              | 7,008 ↓        |
| <b>Collective expulsions from Hungary - January-June 2019:</b> | <b>898</b> ↑   |
| Collective expulsions from Hungary - July-December 2018:       | 394 ↑          |
| <b>Collective expulsion from Croatia - January-June 2019:</b>  | <b>1,825</b> ↓ |
| Collective expulsions from Croatia - July-December 2018:       | 4,446 ↓        |
| <b>Collective expulsions from Romania - January-June 2019:</b> | <b>361</b> ↓   |
| Collective expulsions from Romania - July-December 2018:       | 488 ↓          |
| <b>Collective expulsions from BiH - January-June 2019:</b>     | <b>876</b> ↓   |
| Collective expulsions from BiH - July-December 2018:           | 1,568 ↓        |

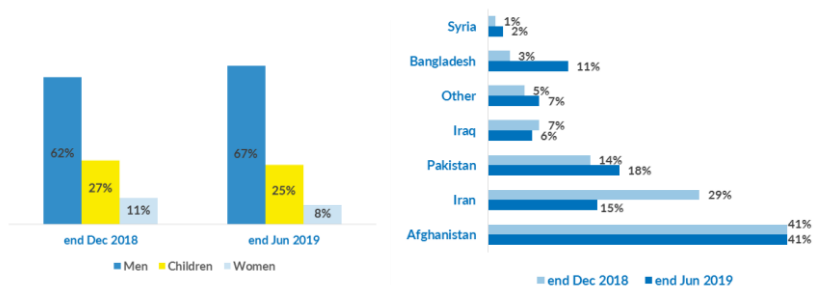


### Reported irregular movements from Serbia to North Macedonia

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| <b>Irregular movements to N. Macedonia - January-June 2019:</b> | <b>1,338</b> ↓ |
| Irregular movements to N. Macedonia - July-December 2018:       | 6,601 ↓        |

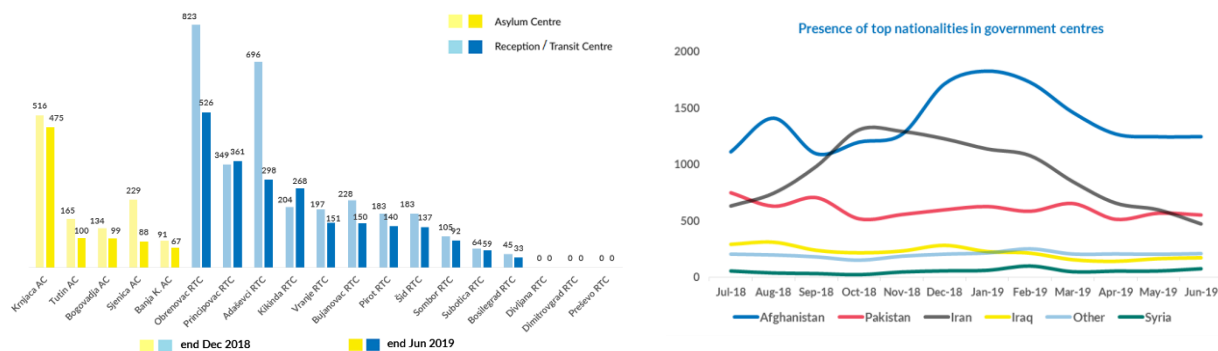


### Profile of asylum-seekers and migrants



### Occupancy of Asylum, Reception and Transit Centres

\* please also see [Site Profiles](#)



UNHCR Serbia  
August 2019