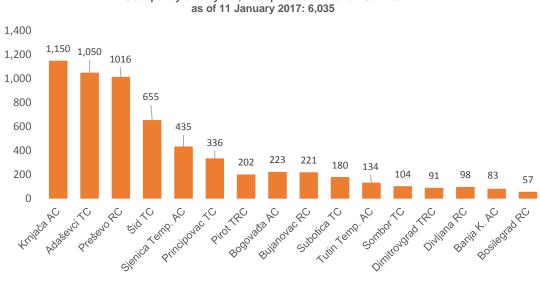


SERBIA UPDATE, 09-11 Jan 2017

#### **HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS**

- With more refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants seeking registration and shelter in harsh winter-weather, their overall count in Serbia increased to close to 7,400. Over 82% were accommodated in 16 government shelters, many exceeding capacities (see below chart). The rest stayed rough in Belgrade city centre or near the border with Hungary.
- In Belgrade, UNHCR and partners continued support authorities in counselling, registration and transporting asylum-seekers to designated governmental centres. UNHCR alone moved another 45 during the reporting period from Belgrade city centre to designated camps, making a total of 672 transported during the last month. As a number of men sleeping rough in the city centre still opt not to move to government shelters despite the harsh weather, UNHCR and civil society, in close coordination with the authorities, continued to provide life-saving aid, such as stoves and additional blankets, winter clothes. At the same time, UNHCR and other humanitarian actors renewed their offers to assist authorities in increasing emergency shelter capacities through additional heated rub-halls, equipping new emergency shelters, introducing vouchers for private accommodation and/or moving unaccompanied or separated children into child care facilities.
- On 11 January, authorities transported 167 unregistered men, mostly from North Africa or South Asia, who
  were staying rough in and around Subotica, including Kelebija, to the Presevo Reception Centre (RC). UNHCR
  and partners supported their dignified reception and accommodation in the RC. As a result, in the North, only
  37 asylum seekers, remained at the two improvised outside the Hungarian "transit zones" near Kelerbije and
  Horgos border-crossings.
- Despite harsh winter conditions, UNHCR and partners continued receiving reports of foreign nationals being
  collectively expelled. They encountered 50 refugees/migrants claiming to have been denied access to asylum
  procedures in Hungary but collectively expelled back into Serbia after having entered Hungary irregularly. At
  the same time UNHCR and partners in fYR Macedonia interviewed 12 persons who claimed to have been
  pushed-back from Serbia.
- 01-11 January 2017, the police registered 274 intentions to seek asylum in Serbia.



# Occupancy of Asylum, Reception and Transit Centres

## **EAST**

On 11 January, over 440 asylum seekers were accommodated in four government centres: 91 asylum seekers in the Reception Centre in Dimitrovgrad, 57 in Bosilegrad, 202 in Pirot and 98 in Divljana. Majority are from Iraq, followed by Afghanistan and Syria and around half of them are children. Authorities also provided food and medical services, while NGOs were available for support in non-food items, interpretation and counselling.



SERBIA UPDATE, 09-11 Jan 2017

#### SOUTH



New arrivals transferred from the North on 11 January undergoing reception procedure, Presevo RC (Serbia) UNHCR, 11 January 2017

With the arrival of 167 men from the North, there are now over 1,230 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants accommodated in two Reception Centres (RC): Presevo (1,016) and Bujanovac (221). Some 45% of residents of Presevo RC are from Afghanistan, 22% from Iraq, 17% from Pakistan, and 6% from Syria. Bujanovac RC, accommodates only families and unaccompanied and separated children, from Syria (32%), Iraq (29%), and Afghanistan (26%), with 13% others.

UNHCR and partners assisted with food and nonfood items, medical services, counselling, interpretation, referrals and recreational activities. Upon request of authorities, UNHCR and partners continued to support the Centre for Social Work in

conducting Best Interest Assessments for unaccompanied and separated children.

#### **BELGRADE**

It is estimated that 1,200 refugee/migrant men remain sleeping rough in the city centre, while Krnjaca Asylum Centre sheltered 1,150 asylum-seekers.

Humanitarian agencies provided counselling, referrals and transport to accommodation in governmental centres, registration with the police, child protection and medical services. Additionally, UNHCR and partners, in support to the relevant national institutions, such as Centers for Social Work, intensified identification of unaccompanied and separated boys among the men sleeping rough in the city centre, to ensure they receive special assistance and support.

#### **WEST**

Transit Centres (TCs) in the West sheltered over 2,040 refugees and migrants: 1,050 in Adasevci, 655 in Sid and 336 in Principovac.

Civil society organizations assisted authorities with food, non-food and medical aid, counselling, referrals, child support, and recreational activities. A seventh round of treatment for body lice/scabies in all three TCs is planned to take place in the coming days.

### **NORTH**

61 asylum-seekers were admitted into the two Hungarian "transit zones". Around 370 asylum seekers were counted in the North, including 180 at the Subotica TC and 104 in Sombor TC, while 15 asylum seekers stayed in Horgos and 22 in Kelebija border sites outside the Hungarian "transit zones", awaiting admission into Hungary. On 11 January, following the relocation of unregistered migrants from Kelebija, authorities removed tents at the site and allowed those asylum seekers pending imminent admission by Hungary to stay in a nearby abandoned hard shelter instead.

UNHCR and partners provided humanitarian aid, including food, non-food aid, hygiene packages, support to maintenance of the sanitary conditions, medical assistance, referrals, as well as legal and other counselling.

