

# Kosovo<sup>1</sup>

4 April 2019

In 2019, 290 individuals sought asylum in Kosovo.

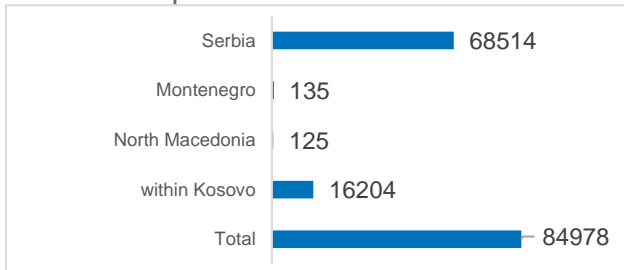
The number of individuals seeking asylum in Kosovo in 2018 was 595.

About 500 individuals are persons at risk of statelessness.

28,144 displaced persons have returned to/within Kosovo between 2000 and February 2019. In 2018, 327 displaced persons have returned. Approximately 85,000 are with displacement related needs in the region and within Kosovo.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN

### Place of displacement

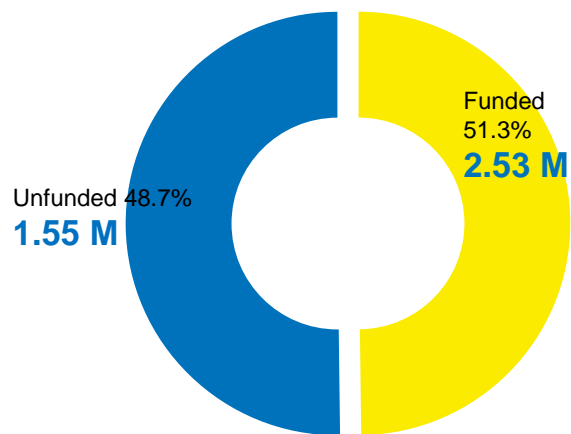


84,978 individuals remain with displacement related needs in the region (Montenegro, Serbia and North Macedonia) and within Kosovo

Out of 16,204 displaced persons within Kosovo, 412 are living in 22 temporary collective shelters

## FUNDING (2019)

USD 4.08 M



## UNHCR PRESENCE

### Staff:

- 24 National Staff including 2 UNOPS staff)
- 1 International Staff
- 1 Intern

### Offices:

- 1 Chief of Mission Office



Voluntary returnee family near Pristina © UNHCR

<sup>1</sup> References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

## Working with Partners

- The UN Refugee Agency, mission in Pristina, coordinates activities with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission (UNMIK) and the European Union Office in Kosovo, and is a member of the UN Kosovo Team (UNKT) and as such contributes to the implementation of the UNKT Common Development Plan. UNHCR also works closely with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the Council of Europe Office in Pristina, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and other stakeholders in Kosovo.
- For 2019, UNHCR has signed project partnership agreements with the Civil Rights Program Kosovo (CRPK), Advancing Together (AT) and the Kosova Rehabilitation Center for Tortured Victims (KRCT).
- UNHCR supports and cooperates with Kosovo institutions; namely the Ministry of Communities and Return, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Kosovo Agency for Statistics, the Kosovo Property Comparison and Verification Agency, the Judicial Institutions, the Ombudsperson Institution as well as Municipalities.
- The Office works with other international organizations and local NGOs such as: the Danish Refugee Council, the Mother Teresa Society, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Jesuit Refugee Service.

## Main Activities

### Protection

- UNHCR engages in the development of legislative and administrative frameworks in the areas of asylum, civil documentation and durable solutions. By strengthening the capacity of the central and municipal authorities, UNHCR fosters the development and implementation of a protection framework, which should meet international and regional human rights standards. In that respect,
  - UNHCR contributes to the establishment of an efficient asylum system in Kosovo. Through various partnerships, UNHCR develops the capacity of relevant stakeholders engaged in asylum matters, taking into consideration the mixed migration perspective. In collaboration with the responsible law enforcement authorities and partners, UNHCR monitors all official entry points with the aim to support the institutions in establishing protection-sensitive entry mechanisms and implementing asylum legislation.
  - Provides technical legal support and advice to legal and administrative institutions with the identification of the legislative and administrative gaps, assessing the situation of unregistered and undocumented Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities and recommends measures for systematic solution to reduce and prevent the risk of statelessness.
- In the context of durable solutions and sustainable reintegration, UNHCR regularly monitors the protection situation of the minority voluntary returns and internally displaced populations across Kosovo. Their needs and rights are addressed through an active engagement of relevant institutions in finding solutions to obstacles in voluntary return and reintegration.

- In close coordination with the Kosovo institutions and international actors, UNHCR supports durable solutions to internally displaced persons, in particular those in temporary collective centers.
- UNHCR also promotes confidence-building and peaceful co-existence through forums involving communities' representatives, interested stakeholders and the civil society. Those activities provide space for seeking joint solutions, hence laying the foundations for durable solutions and sustainable reintegration.

### Assistance

- Through its partners, UNHCR supports the people we care for with legal aid and counseling. Regular protection monitoring is done to identify the basic needs of the people we care for. This creates possibilities for UNHCR and other partners to intervene on their behalf at the local and central level. Through outreach activities and community advocates, UNHCR aims mobilizing communities to practice their basic rights; providing greater understanding of the importance of birth registration, raising awareness on the prevention of sexual gender-based violence (SGBV).

### CONTACTS

Shpend Halili, Communications

[Halilis@unhcr.org](mailto:Halilis@unhcr.org) Tel: +383 38 241 509 Ext. 2700, Cell +383 (0) 45 286 862

### LINKS

<https://www.facebook.com/unhcr.kosovo/>

<http://unhcr.org/2018/04/21/18-years-displacement-interest-return-local-integration-yet-realized-unhcrs-reports-findings/>

<http://unhcr.org/2018/11/01/every-child-right-birth-certificate/>

<http://unhcr.org/2018/11/23/unhcr-advocates-durable-solutions-displaced-persons/>