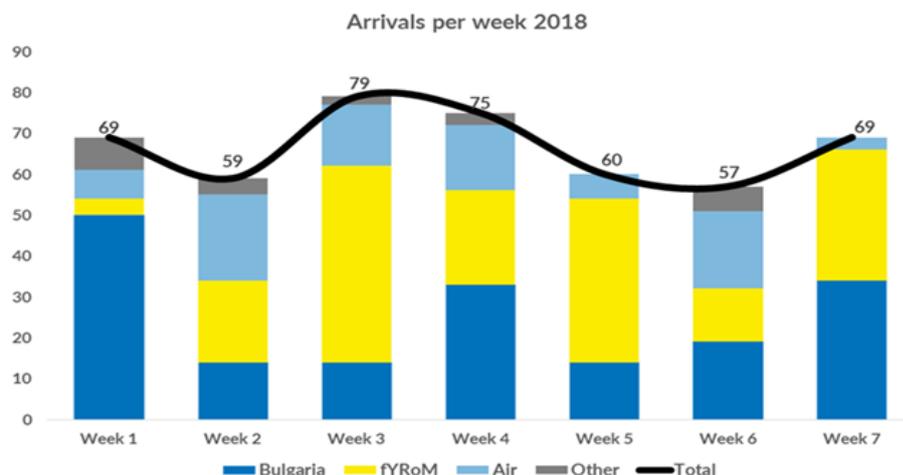


UNHCR SERBIA UPDATE

- Hungarian authorities **admitted 23 asylum-seekers** from Serbia into asylum procedures at its so-called “transit zones”, compared to 39 in the preceding two weeks.
- The overall number of **new refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants** remained stable with **3,963** counted in Serbia on 18 February. 94% (or 3,718) were accommodated in 18 governmental centres (see also the January Update of [Joint Assessment of Government Centres](#)). As fewer number of refugees/migrant men sleeping rough in Belgrade City centre were noted, some 150 were observed sleeping rough near the border to Croatia and Hungary
- UNHCR and partners assisted **126 new arrivals** (compared to 135 the preceding two weeks). 42% arrived from Bulgaria, 36% from fYRoM, and 17% by air. Most were from Iraq (36%), followed by Iran (18%), Syria (16%), Pakistan (16%) or Afghanistan (13%). 70% were men, 13% women and 17% children. While Iranians continue arriving by air, most Syrians and Pakistani arrived via fYRo Macedonia (below chart reflects arrivals in 2018 by transit country).
- Two cases of measles among the refugee/migrant population were confirmed by medical authorities, including a 17 year old boy in a government centre and a 26 year old man who squatted near Sid. Both were hospitalised while responsible medical institutions are looking into adequate preventative measures, including the vaccination of refugee/migrant children who have not yet been vaccinated.
- Illustrating the risks of irregular movements, 11 men from Algeria and Morocco, had to be hospitalised on 14 February. They were found in Sid train station with severe symptoms of poisoning after inhaling fumes from pesticides in train wagons in which they had hidden, trying to enter Croatia.





Refugee and local youth from Presevo painting the fence at the Presevo Reception Centre as part of a community based project, Presevo (Serbia) @UNHCR, 15 February 2018

- UNHCR and partners received reports of 110 asylum-seekers collectively expelled from Croatia (compared to 98 the preceding two weeks), 32 from Hungary (compared to 45) and 50 from Romania (compared to 24).
- UNHCR is grateful to the Government of Sweden for having accepted for resettlement five vulnerable refugees from Afghanistan : one family and one unaccompanied minor departed from Serbia to Sweden on 14 February.
- In follow up to security incidents, the police conducted biometric registration of single men in Krnjaca and Obrenovac centres.
- Presevo Youth Office volunteers joined refugee youth in painting fences of the RC Presevo. They will continue with painting benches and repairing the basketball yard at the local school, which also refugee children use.
- To support government efforts in the social inclusion of Roma men and women, UNHCR and UNDP signed an agreement to support 30 local municipalities in hiring Roma youth activists as UN Volunteers.
- In January 2018, **427** foreigners registered **intentions to seek asylum in Serbia**. 60% were registered by adult men, 10% by adult women and 30% for children. Most applications were filed by citizens of Afghanistan (24%), Iran (22%), Pakistan (22%), Syria (11%), or Iraq (8%). Two persons were granted refugee status, and one subsidiary protection.