Summary of key trends observed

- In April the number of arrivals in the region has decreased by 70% compared to the previous month. This trend is due to COVID-19 situation and to some complete closure of borders between countries. The reported intentions to apply for asylum decreased by 93.7% compared to March. At the same time, the overall number of submitted asylum applications in the Western Balkans has decreased by 99% compared to March.

- In comparison to data reported in March 2020, the percentage of submitted intentions that turned into actual asylum applications in April 2020 has increased with a rate of 17% of them. This change is due to the change of policy in Kosovo* and with retroactive updates from this side.

- For this fourth month of the year, two first instance decisions were reached from the total of 3,377 asylum applications in 2020. The total number of new granted refugee status in 2020 is still 7 cases, in addition 8 cases were provided subsidiary protection status while 41 other applications were rejected. Since January, 1209 cases were closed, because applicants absconded the asylum procedure. The COVID-19 situation is reducing all activities and therefore the asylum procedures are impacted drastically, for example in April no interview was conducted in the region.

- The total number of pending decisions recorded stands at 1,281 for the month of April. This is a decrease of 3.4% compared to March. This is a worrisome trend considering that the total number of asylum decisions on the first instance remains low compared to the remaining pending cases.

- In 2020, women represent over 18.8% (633) of the yearly new applications. In addition, there were 677 children including 85 UASC (12.6%) among applicants in 2020.
New Applications Regional Trends

Total New Asylum Applications by Country of Asylum

- Albania: 2050
- Kosovo*: 661
- Montenegro: 384
- North Macedonia: 162
- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 78
- Serbia: 42

Total Asylum Intentions by Country of Asylum

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 4211
- Montenegro: 1204
- Serbia: 839
- Kosovo*: 568

Total New Asylum Applications by Month

- January: 1413
- February: 1344
- March: 584
- April: 16

Total New Asylum Intentions by Month

- January: 2413
- February: 4008
- March: 2326
- April: 125

New Asylum Applications by Month and Country of Asylum

New Asylum Intentions by Month and Country of Asylum

First Instance Decisions Trends

Total Decisions by Month and Country of Asylum

- Albania: 761
- Kosovo*: 519
- Montenegro: 290
- North Macedonia: 470
- Serbia: 400

First instance Decisions by Type and Country

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 20
- North Macedonia: 10
- Serbia: 7
- Albania: 3
- Kosovo*: 2
- Montenegro: 3

Total Otherwise Closed Applications by Country

- Montenegro: 495
- Kosovo*: 279
- North Macedonia: 237
- Serbia: 127
- Albania: 55
- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 16

*disaggregated figures by age/gender are not always available

Kosovo*: Designations of Kosovo* are without prejudice to positions on status, and are in line with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

Data source: SEE Regional Asylum Statistics and UNHCR data available at https://popstats.unhcr.org. For further information or any questions concerning this factsheet please contact: Gabriel Mathieu, mathieu@unhcr.org

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### Monthly New Asylum Applications

**Monthly New Asylum Applications by Country of Asylum**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Macedonia</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo*</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Monthly New Intentions to Seek Asylum by Reporting Country**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Monthly First Instance Decisions

**Monthly Decisions by Type of Decision**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Decision</th>
<th>Decisions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Otherwise closed</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rejected</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsidiary Protection</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Monthly Type of Decisions by Nationality**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of decision</th>
<th>Rejected</th>
<th>Subsidiary Protection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuwait</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Monthly Interviews by Country of Asylum

**Monthly Interviews by Country of Asylum**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Interviews</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo*</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Macedonia</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Monthly Decisions by Country of Asylum and Type of Decision

**Monthly Decisions by Country of Asylum and Type of Decision**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Otherwise closed</th>
<th>Rejected</th>
<th>Subsidiary Protection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo*</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Monthly Otherwise Closed Applications by Nationality (Top 10)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Average Length of Procedure (days) by Country

**Average Length of Procedure (days) by Country**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Average Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo*</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Pending Asylum Applications by Country of Asylum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Pending Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo*</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Macedonia</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Albania has not provided any pending cases information for August

Kosovo*: Designations of Kosovo* are without prejudice to positions on status, and are in line with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

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