Summary of key trends observed

- In May the number of arrivals in the region has increased by 145% compared to the previous month. This is an indication that COVID-19 situation and potentially the end of the crisis is not stopping the mixed migration flows. However due to some country internal situation or measures movements could be constraints. The reported intentions to apply for asylum started again after a stop due to COVID-19, the intentions were multiplied by almost 5 compared to April. At the same time, the overall number of submitted asylum applications in the Western Balkans has increased of 150% compared to April.

- In comparison to data reported in April 2020, the percentage of submitted intentions that turned into actual asylum applications in May 2020 has decreased of 1 point with a rate of 16% of them. With the change of policy in Kosovo* and with retroactive updates currently ongoing, this rate may change again.

- For this month, unless rejections no first instance decisions were reached from the total of 3,417 asylum applications in 2020. The total number of new granted refugee status in 2020 is still 7 persons, in addition 8 persons were provided subsidiary protection status while 71 other applications were rejected. Since January 1357 submissions were closed, because applicants absconded the asylum procedure. The COVID-19 situation has reduced all activities and therefore the asylum procedures have been impacted drastically, however in May 9 interviews were conducted in the region. Therefore, it's a sign that asylum procedure is starting again.

- The number of pending decisions recorded stands at 1,026 for the month of May. This is a decrease of 20% compared to April. The capacity of asylum authorities remains low compared to the total number of asylum applications in the region.

- The total number of new applications in 2020 represents over 18.6% (635) of the yearly new applications. In addition, there were 682 children including 88 UASC (12.9% of children) among applicants in 2020.
**New Applications Regional Trends**

### Key figures

- **3417** New Applications of which:
  - **88** Unaccompanied or separated children*
  - **7** Recognized Refugees
  - **71** Subsidiary Protection
  - **1387** Closed cases

### New Applications by Country of Asylum

- **Albania**: 2056
- **Kosovo**: 693
- **Montenegro**: 384
- **North Macedonia**: 163
- **Bosnia and Herzegovina**: 78
- **Serbia**: 43

### New Applications by Month and Country of Asylum

- **January**
  - **777** Albania
  - **628** Kosovo*
  - **290** Montenegro
  - **115** North Macedonia
  - **7** Serbia

- **February**
  - **939** Albania
  - **334** Kosovo*
  - **400** Montenegro
  - **241** North Macedonia
  - **18** Serbia

- **March**
  - **1458** Albania
  - **1458** Kosovo*
  - **470** Montenegro
  - **324** North Macedonia
  - **24** Serbia

### First Instance Decisions Trends

### Total Decisions by Country of Asylum

- **Albania**: 761
- **North Macedonia**: 519
- **Bosnia and Herzegovina**: 290
- **Serbia**: 470
- **Kosovo**: 400

### First instance Decisions by Type and Country

- **Refugee**: 71
- **Rejected**: 1387
- **Subsidiary Protection**: 26

### Total Otherwise Closed Applications by Country

- **Montenegro**: 524
- **Bosnia and Herzegovina**: 330
- **North Macedonia**: 324
- **Serbia**: 137
- **Albania**: 56
- **Kosovo**: 16

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*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

In most cases, data for this factsheet is provided by country level governmental institutions. Retroactive changes in data may occur.

*disaggregated figures by age/gender are not always available*
Monthly New Applications

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

- Kosovo*: 32
- Albania: 6
- North Macedonia: 1
- Serbia: 1
- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 0
- Montenegro: 0

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

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 477
- Serbia: 71
- Montenegro: 37

**Monthly First Instance Decisions**

**Monthly Decisions by Type of Decision**

- Otherwise closed: 30

**Monthly Type of Decisions by Nationality**

**Type of Decision**

- Rejected

- Afghanistan: 3
- Iran: 14
- Russian Federation: 1
- Syria: 1
- Turkey: 10
- Ukraine: 1

**Monthly Interviews by Country of Asylum**

- Montenegro: 9
- Kosovo*: 0
- Albania: 0
- North Macedonia: 0
- Kosovo*: 0
- Montenegro: 0
- Serbia: 0

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

- Montenegro: 75
- Kosovo*: 92
- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 228

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

- Morocco: 20
- Algeria: 6

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

- Rejected

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 15
- Montenegro: 14
- Kosovo*: 1
- Serbia: 1
- North Macedonia: 0
- Albania: 0

**Total Pending Asylum Applications by Country of Asylum**

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 421
- Montenegro: 236
- Kosovo*: 149
- Serbia: 129
- North Macedonia: 87
- Albania: 0

*Disaggregated figures by age/gender are not always fully 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).


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