



REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

MIGRATION PROFILE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA FOR 2016



РЕПУБЛИКА СРБИЈА
ВЛАДА РЕПУБЛИКЕ СРБИЈЕ

MIGRATION PROFILE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA FOR 2016

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ACRONYMS

| | |
|-------|---|
| AP | Autonomous Province |
| BPD | Border Police Directorate |
| B&H | Bosnia and Herzegovina |
| BPS | Border Police Station |
| CRM | Commissariat for Refugees and Migration of the Republic of Serbia |
| DCP | Diplomatic-consular post |
| DRC | The Democratic Republic of the Congo |
| EU | European Union |
| FRY | Federal Republic of Yugoslavia |
| IDP | Internally Displaced Persons |
| IOM | International Organisation for Migration |
| NES | National Employment Service |
| NGO | Non-governmental organisation |
| PCI | Penal Correctional Institution |
| PRC | People's Republic of China |
| SAR | South African Republic |
| SDC | Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency |
| SFRY | Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia |
| SORS | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |
| UAE | United Arab Emirates |
| UN | United Nations |
| UNDAF | UN Development Assistance Framework |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| USA | United States of America |

A. INTRODUCTION

The Migration Profile is a document which compiles data on all categories of migrants in the country, classified in accordance with the Regulation 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007, on Community statistics on migration and international protection, and provides a description and analysis of the overall situation relating to migration in the Republic of Serbia. The development of the Migration Profile and its regular updating on an annual basis is the obligation of the Republic of Serbia in accordance with the Visa Liberalization Roadmap, as well as the specific goal set by the Migration Management Strategy (Official Gazette RS, No. 59/09).

Republic of Serbia has for seven consecutive years been independently developing the Migration Profile of the Republic of Serbia. Data on different categories of migrants are collected from competent institutions, which enables regular updates of the profile on annual level, under overall leadership of the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration (CRM).

The Migration Profile is a general overview of statistics on migration and migration policies in the country, in order to provide to the stakeholders included in migration management and the broader public with a comprehensive insight into the migration situation. Precise data are necessary for planning and undertaking appropriate measures with the aim to achieve comprehensive migration flow management. In addition to providing an overview of all data on migrants and serving as means to monitor migration flows and trends in the country, the Migration Profile also attempts to identify and analyse key challenges in the area of migration. Primary data for the development of this instrument are official statistics collected by competent authorities, also using data from international organisations and experts, as well as relevant studies and research.

The main idea behind the Migration Profile is for it to serve as an instrument aimed to provide support for key state actors in planning adequate migration policies, as well as for the representatives of the civil society and the academic community in the analysis of current migration flows. Regular annual updating provides better insight into the overall situation relating to migration in the country. The document aims to provide competent authorities in the Republic of Serbia with an insight into relevant migration trends, and thus enable the development of policies and the adoption of necessary legislation in the area of migration management. Meanwhile, the Migration Profile is being constantly improved globally, giving rise to a second generation of the profile, entitled the Extended Migration Profile. Therefore, the Migration Profile of the Republic of Serbia for 2016 will be advanced including the segment on achieved objectives of the project Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies.

The Republic of Serbia Commission for Accreditation and Quality Control has accredited the first master programme on migration in the Western Balkans. The studies will be led by the University in Belgrade, and courses taught by professors from six faculties (Economy, Philosophy, Political Science, Security, Law and Geography), specializing in socio-economic, security-related, demographic and human rights and migration aspects. The first master programme on migration was initiated within the pilot project of the Faculty of Political Science *Support to Mainstreaming Migration into the Academic*

Curriculum: the Development of the Curriculum for Master Studies on Migration. Six faculties participated in the development of the curriculum for the master programme, and the participation of the Faculty of Political Science from Zagreb as the seventh partner gave this project a regional dimension.

B1. General cross-border mobility

1.1. Visa issuance

The EU Regulation establishing a Community code on visas (Regulation (EC) No. 810/09 of the European Parliament and of the Council) regulates the manner of visa issuance and reporting. Under this regulation, issuing of visas should be monitored separately for A and C types of visa. At the moment, it is not possible to keep records of the issuing of visas in this manner in the Republic of Serbia.

In 2016, a decrease in the number of issued visas was recorded in comparison with the previous year, from 10,134 issued visas in 2015, to 9,504 issued visas in 2016. The highest number of visas was issued to the citizens of China (21%) and Iran (9%)

Table 1:
Visas issued in 2016 by citizenship and sex of the visa applicant

| Country | Number of visas issued | Men | Women | % |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| China | 1,967 | 1,313 | 654 | 20.69 |
| Iran | 869 | 649 | 220 | 9.144 |
| Lebanon | 693 | 562 | 131 | 7.292 |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 684 | 442 | 242 | 7.197 |
| Egypt | 492 | 408 | 84 | 5.177 |
| India | 433 | 346 | 87 | 4.556 |
| Stateless | 400 | 235 | 165 | 4.209 |
| SAR | 388 | 210 | 178 | 4.082 |
| Algeria | 273 | 192 | 81 | 2.872 |
| Azerbaijan | 225 | 139 | 86 | 2.367 |
| Iraq | 187 | 146 | 41 | 1.968 |
| Indonesia | 179 | 108 | 71 | 1.883 |
| Jordan | 175 | 118 | 57 | 1.841 |

B1. General cross-border mobility

| Country | Number of visas issued | Men | Women | % |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----|-------|-------|
| Philippines | 166 | 37 | 129 | 1.747 |
| Nigeria | 165 | 119 | 46 | 1.736 |
| Armenia | 157 | 93 | 64 | 1.652 |
| Georgia | 153 | 85 | 68 | 1.610 |
| Syria | 123 | 84 | 39 | 1.294 |
| Thailand | 122 | 53 | 69 | 1.284 |
| Malaysia | 118 | 60 | 58 | 1.242 |
| Ghana | 99 | 61 | 38 | 1.042 |
| Vietnam | 95 | 49 | 46 | 1.000 |
| Kenya | 78 | 52 | 26 | 0.821 |
| Palestine | 73 | 47 | 26 | 0.768 |
| Angola | 67 | 49 | 18 | 0.705 |
| Kyrgyzstan | 62 | 33 | 29 | 0.652 |
| Russian Federation | 60 | 26 | 34 | 0.631 |
| Morocco | 57 | 37 | 20 | 0.600 |
| Uzbekistan | 56 | 34 | 22 | 0.589 |
| Tajikistan | 46 | 15 | 31 | 0.484 |
| Sudan | 43 | 38 | 5 | 0.452 |
| Colombia | 42 | 20 | 22 | 0.442 |
| Peru | 39 | 16 | 23 | 0.410 |
| Ethiopia | 38 | 20 | 18 | 0.400 |
| Bangladesh | 37 | 36 | 1 | 0.389 |
| Pakistan | 36 | 34 | 2 | 0.379 |
| France | 34 | 18 | 16 | 0.358 |
| Venezuela | 34 | 13 | 21 | 0.358 |
| Cameroon | 33 | 24 | 9 | 0.347 |
| Myanmar | 31 | 26 | 5 | 0.326 |
| Germany | 25 | 16 | 9 | 0.263 |
| Ukraine | 24 | 9 | 15 | 0.253 |

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| Country | Number of visas issued | Men | Women | % |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----|-------|-------|
| Nepal | 19 | 13 | 6 | 0.200 |
| Uganda | 19 | 5 | 14 | 0.200 |
| Switzerland | 18 | 11 | 7 | 0.189 |
| DRC | 16 | 13 | 3 | 0.168 |
| Yemen | 15 | 10 | 5 | 0.158 |
| Gambia | 14 | 14 | 0 | 0.147 |
| Sri Lanka | 14 | 12 | 2 | 0.147 |
| Turkmenistan | 14 | 8 | 6 | 0.147 |
| Zimbabwe | 14 | 11 | 3 | 0.147 |
| Botswana | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0.126 |
| Saudi Arabia | 12 | 10 | 2 | 0.126 |
| Kazakhstan | 11 | 4 | 7 | 0.116 |
| Mauritius | 11 | 7 | 4 | 0.116 |
| Namibia | 10 | 7 | 3 | 0.105 |
| Italy | 9 | 8 | 1 | 0.095 |
| Netherlands | 8 | 4 | 4 | 0.084 |
| Croatia | 8 | 3 | 5 | 0.084 |
| Mali | 8 | 7 | 1 | 0.084 |
| Ivory Coast | 8 | 6 | 2 | 0.084 |
| Tanzania | 8 | 7 | 1 | 0.084 |
| Afghanistan | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0.074 |
| Equatorial Guinea | 7 | 1 | 6 | 0.074 |
| Latvia | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0.074 |
| Moldova | 7 | 1 | 6 | 0.074 |
| UK | 7 | 4 | 3 | 0.074 |
| Burundi | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0.063 |
| Ecuador | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0.063 |
| Greece | 6 | 3 | 3 | 0.063 |
| Canada | 6 | 2 | 4 | 0.063 |

B1. General cross-border mobility

| Country | Number of visas issued | Men | Women | % |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----|-------|-------|
| Somalia | 6 | 5 | 1 | 0.063 |
| Zambia | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0.063 |
| Belarus | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0.053 |
| Dominican Republic | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0.053 |
| South Korea | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0.053 |
| Ruanda | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0.053 |
| USA | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0.053 |
| El Salvador | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0.042 |
| Gabon | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0.042 |
| Cambodia | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0.042 |
| Comoros Islands | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0.042 |
| Mozambique | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0.042 |
| Paraguay | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0.042 |
| Serbia | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0.042 |
| B&H | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0.032 |
| Czech Republic | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0.032 |
| Liberia | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0.032 |
| Nicaragua | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0.032 |
| Panama | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0.032 |
| Senegal | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0.032 |
| Slovakia | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0.032 |
| Togo | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0.032 |
| Barbados | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0.021 |
| Guatemala | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0.021 |
| Jamaica | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0.021 |
| Japan | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0.021 |
| Kiribati | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0.021 |
| Laos | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0.021 |

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| Country | Number of visas issued | Men | Women | % |
|--------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Macedonia | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0.021 |
| Bulgaria | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.011 |
| Burkina Faso | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.011 |
| Bhutan | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.011 |
| Guyana | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.011 |
| South Sudan | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.011 |
| Congo | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.011 |
| Madagascar | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.011 |
| Hungary | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.011 |
| Malawi | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.011 |
| Maldives | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.011 |
| Portugal | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.011 |
| Sierra Leone | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.011 |
| Slovenia | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.011 |
| Swaziland | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.011 |
| Saint Lucia | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.011 |
| Vanuatu | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.011 |
| Total | 9,504 | 6,351 | 3,153 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

As in the previous years, current records in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs do not allow for differentiation between visas issued by type¹, so it cannot be determined for which purposes they were issued.

1.2. Cross-border mobility that is not migration

According to the data from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, over 25 million entries were registered into Serbia and nearly 25 million exits from the Republic of Serbia in 2016, most of which were registered among foreign nationals.

¹ In addition to the visa type A which is for the airport transit, there is also a regular transit visa of type B, and in addition to the visa type C for short stay, there is also a type D visa, issued for temporary residence (Article 15 of the Law on Foreigners)

B2. International migration, temporary residence permits

Table 2:
Cross-border mobility in the Republic of Serbia in 2016

| | Number of entries in the Republic of Serbia | Number of exits from the Republic of Serbia |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Republic of Serbia citizens | 8,865,902 | 9,882,294 |
| Foreign citizens | 16,501,707 | 14,876,764 |
| Total | 25,367,609 | 24,759,058 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

As in the previous year, available data do not allow further disaggregation of cross-border mobility according to the purpose of entry into the Republic of Serbia, but only register the total number of persons entering and exiting the Republic of Serbia at any border crossing.

B2. International migration, temporary residence permits, permanent resident population and naturalization

2.1. Immigration

Article 2 of the Law on Migration Management (Official Gazette RS, No. 107/12) defines immigration as external migration into the Republic of Serbia which lasts, or is expected to last over 12 months. Such definition and monitoring of immigration is in line with the EU Regulation 862.

In 2014, 2015 and 2016 the largest share of immigrants came from PRC and the Russian Federation. In 2016, the highest number of immigrants were still the citizens of China (17%) and the Russian Federation (12.4%).

Table 3:
Countries with the highest number of citizens among the immigrant population in the Republic of Serbia in 2015 and 2016

| Citizenship | 2015 | 2016 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Share in total immigration in % | Share in total immigration in % |
| PRC | 19,1 | 17 |
| Russian Federation | 11,3 | 12,4 |
| Romania | 6,7 | 7,5 |
| Macedonia | 8,9 | 7,1 |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 6,7 | 6,3 |
| Total | 52,7 | 50,3 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

In 2015, there was a very high percentage of women (73.1%, 61.7% and 58% respectively) among immigrants from Romania, Russian Federation and Macedonia. The same trend continued in 2016, with Romania (80.5% women), Russian Federation (65.7% women) and Macedonia (62% women).

Table 4:
The largest immigrant population in the Republic of Serbia in 2015 and 2016, by citizenship and sex

| Citizenship | 2015 | | 2016 | |
|------------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| | Total | Women (%) | Total | Women (%) |
| PRC | 6,469 | 42.7 | 4,512 | 43.1 |
| Russian Federation | 3,854 | 61.7 | 3,297 | 65.7 |
| Romania | 2,274 | 72.0 | 1,997 | 80.5 |
| Macedonia | 3,044 | 58.0 | 1,902 | 62.0 |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 2,269 | 42.4 | 1,668 | 42.2 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

2.2. Temporary residence permit

According to the Law on Foreigners, Article 24, foreigners may stay up to 90 days, on a basis of a temporary or permanent residence. Temporary residence may be permitted to a foreigner whose intention is to stay in the Republic of Serbia for longer than 90 days for the purposes of:

- 1) Work, employment, economic or other professional activities;
- 2) Education, attending university or a specialist education course, scientific research, practical training, participation in programmes of international exchange of pupils and university students, and/or other scientific and educational activities;
- 3) Family reunification;
- 4) Other justifiable grounds in accordance with the Law or an international treaty (Article 26 of the Law on Foreigners).

In 2016, 6,325 temporary residence permits were issued for the first time. The highest number of permits were issued for the first time to the citizens of PRC (12.15%) and the Russian Federation (10.8%).

Table 5:
Persons who were issued temporary residence permits for the first time,
by citizenship, in 2016

| Citizenship | 2016 | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| | Number of issued permits | Share in total number of issued permits (%) |
| PRC | 757 | 12.1 |
| Russian Federation | 680 | 10.8 |
| Ukraine | 367 | 5.8 |
| B&H | 338 | 5.4 |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 321 | 5.0 |
| Macedonia | 318 | 5.0 |
| Turkey | 314 | 4.9 |
| Croatia | 231 | 3.6 |
| Montenegro | 221 | 3.5 |
| Italy | 196 | 3.1 |
| <i>Other</i> | 2,582 | 40.8 |
| Total | 6,325 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

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In comparison with the year 2015, when 7,103 temporary residence permits were issued for the first time, in 2016 this number was 6,325.

Disaggregation by grounds for approval shows that in 2014, 2015 and 2016, work was the most common grounds for issuing temporary residence (41.7%, 42.9% and 43% respectively).

Table 6:
Temporary residence permits issued for the first time according to grounds for approval, 2015 and 2016

| Grounds for approval | 2015 | | 2016 | |
|----------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| | Number | % | Number | % |
| Family reunification | 2,794 | 39.3 | 2,592 | 41.0 |
| Work | 3,054 | 42.9 | 2,714 | 43.0 |
| Education | 803 | 11.5 | 619 | 9.8 |
| <i>Other</i> | 452 | 6.3 | 398 | 6.2 |
| Total | 7,103 | 100 | 6,323 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

Disaggregation by citizenship shows that in 2016 again the highest number of Chinese citizens came on the grounds of work (18.2%).

Table 7:
Temporary residence permits on the grounds of work issued for the first time in 2015 and 2016, by citizenship

| Citizenship | 2015 | | Citizenship | 2016 | |
|--------------------|----------------|------|--------------------|----------------|------|
| | No. of persons | % | | No. of persons | % |
| PRC | 740 | 24.2 | PRC | 448 | 18.2 |
| Greece | 97 | 3.1 | Ukraine | 187 | 7.6 |
| Russian Federation | 292 | 9.8 | Russian Federation | 174 | 7.0 |
| Italy | 205 | 6.7 | Romania | 163 | 6.6 |
| Turkey | 93 | 3.0 | Turkey | 145 | 5.9 |
| B&H | 123 | 4.0 | B&H | 138 | 5.6 |
| Croatia | 96 | 3.1 | Italy | 111 | 4.5 |

B2. International migration, temporary residence permits

| Citizenship | 2015 | | Citizenship | 2016 | |
|--------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|
| | No. of persons | % | | No. of persons | % |
| Montenegro | 83 | 2.7 | Macedonia | 93 | 3.9 |
| Romania | 126 | 4.1 | Croatia | 81 | 3.3 |
| Ukraine | 315 | 10.3 | Algeria | 65 | 2.7 |
| <i>Other</i> | <i>884</i> | <i>29.0</i> | <i>Other</i> | <i>853</i> | <i>34.7</i> |
| Total | 3,054 | 100 | Total | 2,458 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

Regarding temporary residence permits on the grounds of family reunification issued for the first time, a decrease in that number is recorded, with the citizens of the Russian Federation still representing the highest share in this type of permit.

Table 8:
Temporary residence permits on the grounds of family reunification issued for the first time, 2015 and 2016

| Citizenship | 2015 | | Citizenship | 2016 | |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| | No. of persons | % | | No. of persons | % |
| Russian Federation | 477 | 17.5 | Russian Federation | 314 | 13.8 |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 465 | 16.6 | PRC | 205 | 9.3 |
| PRC | 211 | 7.7 | Macedonia | 173 | 7.76 |
| Ukraine | 151 | 5.04 | Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 166 | 7.3 |
| B&H | 141 | 5.04 | B&H | 147 | 6.47 |
| Croatia | 108 | 3.8 | Montenegro | 122 | 5.37 |
| <i>Other</i> | <i>1,241</i> | <i>44.4</i> | <i>Other</i> | <i>1,144</i> | <i>50.0</i> |
| Total | 2,794 | 100 | Total | 2,794 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

Regarding temporary residence permits on the grounds of education issued for the first time, the trend continues in this year also, with the highest share in this type of permit with the citizens of Libya (8.2%).

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Table 9:
Temporary residence permits on the grounds of education
issued for the first time, 2016

| Citizenship | 2016 | |
|------------------------|----------------|------------|
| | No. of persons | % |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 48 | 8.2 |
| USA | 42 | 7.3 |
| Turkey | 34 | 5.8 |
| Russian Federation | 32 | 5.5 |
| Macedonia | 29 | 5.0 |
| Spain | 28 | 4.9 |
| Greece | 27 | 4.7 |
| B&H | 22 | 3.8 |
| Croatia | 22 | 3.8 |
| Montenegro | 21 | 3.6 |
| PRC | 19 | 3.4 |
| <i>Other</i> | 255 | 44.0 |
| Total | 579 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

Looking at the sex structure of persons issued temporary residence permits for the first time, women only dominate among the permits on the grounds of family reunification both in 2015 and 2016.

Table 10:
Temporary residence permits issued for the first time by sex and type
of permit for 2015 and 2016

| Grounds for issuance | 2015 | | | 2016 | | |
|----------------------|------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| | Men | Women | Total | Men | Women | Total |
| Work | 84.2 | 15.8 | 100 | 82.3 | 17.7 | 100 |
| Family reunification | 37.9 | 62.1 | 100 | 33.6 | 66.4 | 100 |
| Education | 58.4 | 41.6 | 100 | 54.8 | 45.2 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

B2. International migration, temporary residence permits

Temporary residence permits valid at the end of 2016 include the number of issued permits, but also permits not revoked or expired. In 2016, a total of 19,929 temporary residence permits were issued. The highest number of permits were issued for the citizens of China (16.5%) and Russian Federation (13.5%).

Table 11:
Temporary residence permits valid at the end of 2016, by citizenship

| Citizenship | No. of persons | % |
|--------------------|----------------|------------|
| PRC | 3,280 | 16,5 |
| Russian Federation | 2,677 | 13,5 |
| Libya | 1,656 | 8,3 |
| Macedonia | 1,386 | 7,0 |
| Ukraine | 1,031 | 5,2 |
| Romania | 836 | 4,2 |
| Croatia | 716 | 3,6 |
| Italy | 572 | 2,9 |
| B&H | 543 | 2,7 |
| Montenegro | 538 | 2,7 |
| Germany | 538 | 2,7 |
| Greece | 446 | 2,2 |
| Albania | 442 | 2,2 |
| Turkey | 435 | 2,1 |
| Other | 4,833 | 24,2 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>19,929</i> | <i>100</i> |
| Total | 28,139 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

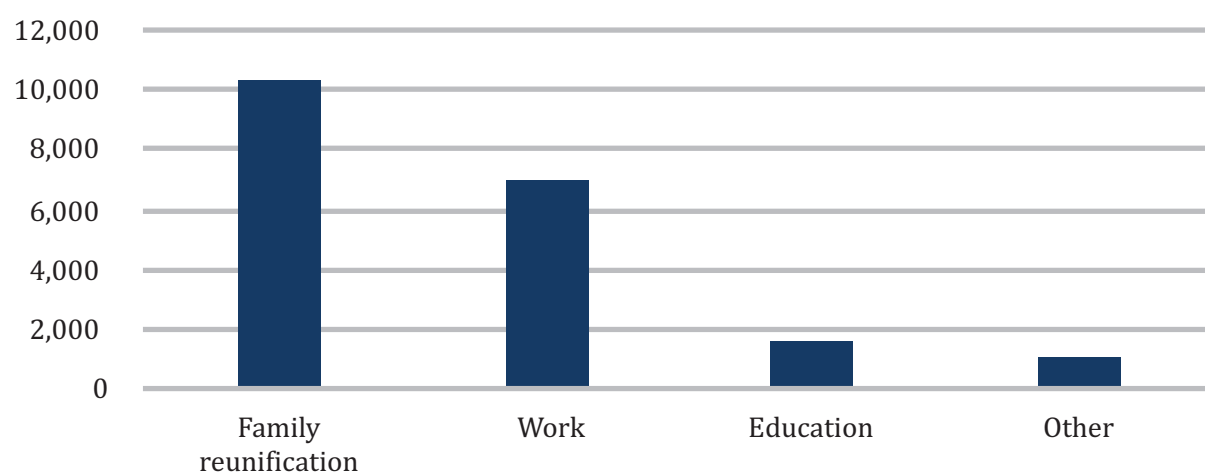
The majority of permits valid at the end of 2016 were issued on the grounds of family reunification, as was the case in 2015 and 2014. In comparison with 2015, the share of permits on the grounds of family reunification did not change significantly, i.e. those grounds account for one-half of the permits overall (in 2015 it was 47.5% of the total number of temporary residence permits, while in 2016 it was 51.5%).

Table 12:
Temporary residence permits valid at the end of 2016, by grounds for approval

| Grounds for approval | No. of persons | % |
|----------------------|----------------|------------|
| Family reunification | 10,276 | 51.5 |
| Work | 6,957 | 35.0 |
| Education | 1,659 | 8.3 |
| <i>Other</i> | <i>1,037</i> | <i>5.2</i> |
| Total | 19,929 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

Chart 1:
Temporary residence permits valid at the end of 2016, by grounds for approval



Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

2.3. Foreigners permanently residing in the Republic of Serbia

According to the Law on Foreigners, permanent residence can be granted to a foreigner:

- 1) Who has stayed with no interruptions in the Republic of Serbia for at least five years on the basis of a temporary residence permit before applying for permanent residence permit;

B2. International migration, temporary residence permits

- 2) Who has been married for at least three years to a citizen of the Republic of Serbia, or a foreigner with permanent residence;²
- 3) Who is an underage person with temporary residence in the Republic of Serbia if one of the parents is a citizen of the Republic of Serbia or a foreigner with permanent residence, subject to the consent of the other parent;
- 4) Who has ancestral links to the territory of the Republic of Serbia (Article 37).

In 2016, there were 6,684 permanently residing foreigners, which represents a slight increase in comparison with 2015, when there were 5,721 individuals. Among the foreigners permanently residing, the majority came from China (18.4%) and Romania (17.3%).

Table 13:
Foreigners permanently residing in the Republic of Serbia in 2016, by citizenship

| Citizenship | No. of persons | % |
|--------------------|----------------|------------|
| PRC | 1,232 | 18.4 |
| Romania | 1,162 | 17.3 |
| Russian Federation | 620 | 9.3 |
| Macedonia | 516 | 7.7 |
| Ukraine | 340 | 5.0 |
| Germany | 312 | 4.8 |
| Bulgaria | 237 | 3.5 |
| Albania | 182 | 2.8 |
| Poland | 172 | 2.6 |
| Croatia | 157 | 2.3 |
| Hungary | 128 | 2.0 |
| <i>Other</i> | 1,626 | 24.3 |
| Total | 6,684 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

As in the previous years, in 2016 the highest number of foreigners were approved permanent residence on the grounds of marriage (70.7%). Other grounds accounted for a significantly lower percentage and did not represent a substantial difference compared

² Within the meaning of this paragraph of the Law on Foreigners, marriage is a matrimonial community for the purposes of living together in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, Permanent residence based on marriage cannot be permitted unless the couple has spent three years living on the territory of the Republic of Serbia,

to 2015, except with the grounds for residence of 10 years, for which an increase was recorded (from 12% in 2015 to 18.8% in 2016).

Table 14:
Foreigners permanently residing in the Republic of Serbia by grounds
for approval in 2015 and 2016

| Grounds for residence | 2015 | | 2016 | |
|---|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| | No. of persons | % | No. of persons | % |
| 10 years of residence | 684 | 12.0 | 1,243 | 18.8 |
| 5 years of residence | 443 | 7.7 | 546 | 8.3 |
| Marriage | 4,392 | 76.8 | 4,667 | 70.7 |
| Interest of the Republic of Serbia/ humanitarian reasons | 128 | 2.2 | 122 | 1.8 |
| Ancestral links to the territory of the Republic of Serbia | 74 | 1.3 | 24 | 0.4 |
| Total | 5,721 | 100 | 6,602 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

2.4. Labour immigration

Temporary residence for work, employment, entrepreneurial or other professional activity can be granted to a foreigner:

- 1) Who has acquired a right to work, or temporary residence as a precondition for approval of such right, in conformity with the regulations governing the work of foreigners in the Republic of Serbia;
- 2) Who intends to stay in the Republic of Serbia for more than 90 days, if he fulfils other conditions prescribed by the Law on Foreigners, and does not need a work permit pursuant to the regulations governing the work of foreigners in the Republic of Serbia (Article 30 of the Law on Foreigners).

At the end of 2016, a total of 6,325 foreigners were issued temporary residence permits on the grounds of work. This number was a considerable decrease in comparison with 2015, when 11,862 foreigners resided in the Republic of Serbia on the grounds of work. Out of the total number of foreigners, the majority were Chinese nationals (30.5%).

B2. International migration, temporary residence permits

Table 15:
Foreigners residing in Serbia on the grounds of work in 2016, by citizenship

| Citizenship | No. of persons | % |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| PRC | 1,932 | 30.5 |
| Russian Federation | 542 | 8.6 |
| Ukraine | 401 | 6.3 |
| Italy | 334 | 5.3 |
| Macedonia | 312 | 4.9 |
| Romania | 309 | 4.9 |
| Greece | 222 | 3.5 |
| Croatia | 208 | 3.3 |
| Turkey | 166 | 2.6 |
| B&H | 158 | 2.5 |
| Slovenia | 145 | 2.3 |
| Germany | 145 | 2.3 |
| <i>Other</i> | <i>1,451</i> | <i>23.0</i> |
| Total | 6,325 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

Employment of foreigners in the Republic of Serbia is regulated by the Law on Employment of Foreigners (Official Gazette RS, No. 128/14), as well as the Rulebook on Work Permits (Official Gazette RS, No. 94/2015), which more closely regulates the manner of issuance, or extension of the work permit, the ways in which fulfilment of conditions is proven and the necessary evidence for issuing or extending the work permit and the form and content of the work permit.

The Law stipulates that the foreigner employed in the Republic of Serbia, in accordance with this Law, has equal rights and obligations in relation to work, employment and self-employment as nationals, if conditions are met in accordance with the Law. Employment of foreigners is realised under the condition that they have temporary residence permit, regardless of duration of the residence or permanent residence in accordance with the Law and work permit.

Work permits may be issued as personal work permits or as work permits. Personal work permit is issued on the request of the foreigner if they have permanent residence approved, if they have refugee status, or belong to special categories of foreigners (asylum seeker, temporary protection grantee, victim of trafficking in human beings, or person granted subsidiary protection, in accordance with the Law).

Work permit is a type of permit issued as work permit for employment, work permit for special cases of employment (posted workers, inter-corporate transfers, independent professionals) as well as work permit for self-employment.

In the period between 1 January and 31 December 2016, National Employment Service (NES) issued a total of 7,340 work permits to foreign nationals, out of which 981 personal work permits, 512 for inter-corporate transfers, 5 for independent professionals, 2,153 for self-employment, 538 for posted workers and 3,151 work permits for employment.

In 2016, 7,139 work permits were issued to foreigners with temporary residence permit in the Republic of Serbia, as well as 201 work permits to foreigners with permanent residence permits in the Republic of Serbia.

The number of issued work permits to foreigners with temporary residence in the Republic of Serbia was almost equal, ranging between 2,490 in 2009 and 2,892 in 2014. The number of issued work permits to foreigners with temporary residence permits in the Republic of Serbia considerably increased in 2016 to 7,139 and represents an increase also compared to 2015 (6,203). These indicators show that there were major deviations in the number of issued work permits in relation to previous years.

As the number of persons with work permits relates only to individuals that applied for employment in accordance with the then valid Law on Conditions for Employment of Foreign Nationals (Official Gazette SFRY, No. 11/78 and 64/89, Official Gazette SRY, No. 42/92, 24/94 and 28/96 and Official Gazette RS, No. 101/05 – other Law), it is estimated that the number of foreigners working in the Republic of Serbia is considerably higher than the number of issued work permits, because it does not relate to engaging foreigners without formal employment, members of management boards and other types of engagement. This also accounts for the difference between the number of approved residence permits on the grounds of work by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the number of issued work permits by the NES.

In 2015, 6,203 work permits were issued to foreigners with temporary residence, which is a considerably higher number in relation to the number of work permits issued to foreigners with permanent residence (170). The highest number of work permits was issued to foreigners with temporary residence from China (1,501 or 24.2%), the Russian Federation (739, or 12%) and Macedonia (344, or 5.5%).

Out of the total number of 7,139 issued permits to foreigners with temporary residence in 2016, 1,922 were issued to women. The majority of permits were issued in the following branch offices: Belgrade (63.2%), Novi Sad (11.7%), Niš (4.0%), Leskovac (2.1%), Sremska Mitrovica (2.0%), Kragujevac (1.6%), Sombor (1.5%), Čačak (1.4%), Novi Pazar (1.4%), Subotica (1.1%).

A total of 201 work permits were issued to foreigners with permanent residence in 2016, out of which 116 were issued to women.

B2. International migration, temporary residence permits

Table 16:

The number of work permits issued to foreigners with temporary residence in 2016, by citizenship

| Citizenship | Number of work permits |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| PRC | 1,549 |
| Russian Federation | 783 |
| Macedonia | 500 |
| Italy | 390 |
| Greece | 330 |
| Croatia | 319 |
| B&H | 288 |
| Turkey | 254 |
| Montenegro | 197 |
| Germany | 190 |
| Slovenia | 170 |
| Ukraine | 169 |
| Romania | 139 |
| UK | 135 |
| Spain | 113 |
| France | 111 |
| Bulgaria | 98 |
| Azerbaijan | 97 |
| USA | 91 |
| Austria | 83 |
| Poland | 78 |
| Portugal | 70 |
| Hungary | 59 |
| Netherlands | 50 |
| Israel | 47 |
| Czech Republic | 43 |

Migration Profile of the Republic of Serbia for 2016

| Citizenship | Number of work permits |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Kazakhstan | 36 |
| Belarus | 34 |
| Slovakia | 34 |
| India | 32 |
| Tunisia | 32 |
| Philippines | 31 |
| Korea | 30 |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 29 |
| Albania | 28 |
| Cuba | 26 |
| Thailand | 25 |
| Australia | 23 |
| Syrian Arab Republic | 23 |
| Brazil | 21 |
| Moldova | 21 |
| Sweden | 21 |
| Jordan | 20 |
| Canada | 18 |
| Denmark | 15 |
| | 18 |
| Ireland | 17 |
| Egypt | 17 |
| Iraq | 16 |
| Belgium | 15 |
| Norway | 15 |
| Switzerland | 15 |
| Lebanon | 14 |
| Japan | 13 |

B2. International migration, temporary residence permits

| Citizenship | Number of work permits |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Cyprus | 12 |
| Georgia | 10 |
| Iran | 10 |
| Mexico | 9 |
| Algeria | 8 |
| Lithuania | 7 |
| Armenia | 6 |
| Latvia | 6 |
| Morocco | 6 |
| South Africa | 6 |
| Indonesia | 5 |
| Ivory Coast | 5 |
| Nigeria | 4 |
| Zimbabwe | 4 |
| Uzbekistan | 4 |
| Colombia | 3 |
| El Salvador | 3 |
| Finland | 3 |
| Ghana | 3 |
| Iceland | 3 |
| Venezuela | 3 |
| Bahrain | 2 |
| Bolivia | 2 |
| Sri Lanka | 2 |
| Chile | 2 |
| Costa Rica | 2 |
| Ecuador | 2 |
| Estonia | 2 |

Migration Profile of the Republic of Serbia for 2016

| Citizenship | Number of work permits |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Pakistan | 2 |
| Peru | 2 |
| Seychelles | 2 |
| Sudan | 2 |
| UAE | 2 |
| Afghanistan | 1 |
| Angola | 1 |
| Argentina | 1 |
| Botswana | 1 |
| Cameroon | 1 |
| DRC | 1 |
| Dominican Republic | 1 |
| Ethiopia | 1 |
| Palestine | 1 |
| Jamaica | 1 |
| Mongolia | 1 |
| Nepal | 1 |
| Guinea-Bissau | 1 |
| Senegal | 1 |
| Singapore | 1 |
| South Sudan | 1 |
| Tajikistan | 1 |
| Tanzania | 1 |
| Total | 7,139 |

Source: NES

B2. International migration, temporary residence permits

Table 17:

The number of work permits issued to foreigners with permanent residence in 2016, by citizenship

| Citizenship | Number of work permits |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| PRC | 80 |
| Macedonia | 22 |
| Ukraine | 15 |
| Romania | 12 |
| Russian Federation | 12 |
| Germany | 5 |
| Montenegro | 4 |
| Bulgaria | 3 |
| Croatia | 3 |
| Greece | 3 |
| Slovakia | 3 |
| Tunisia | 3 |
| Turkey | 3 |
| Brazil | 2 |
| Ireland | 2 |
| Italy | 2 |
| Moldova | 2 |
| Netherlands | 2 |
| Slovenia | 2 |
| Albania | 1 |
| Austria | 1 |
| Armenia | 1 |
| Belgium | 1 |
| B&H | 1 |
| Belarus | 1 |
| Canada | 1 |

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| Citizenship | Number of work permits |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| France | 1 |
| Hungary | 1 |
| Iraq | 1 |
| Ivory Coast | 1 |
| Kazakhstan | 1 |
| Jordan | 1 |
| Kuwait | 1 |
| Poland | 1 |
| Spain | 1 |
| Sweden | 1 |
| Switzerland | 1 |
| Thailand | 1 |
| UK | 1 |
| USA | 1 |
| Total | 201 |

Source: NES

Foreign nationals registered as unemployed with NES are individuals with temporary residence permit or permanent residence (approved by the Ministry of Internal Affairs), registered with NES.

On 31 December 2016, there was a total of 804 unemployed foreign nationals on NES records, out of whom 81.59% women.

NES records on 31 December 2016 registered a total of 700,947 unemployed individuals, 0.11% of whom were registered as foreign citizens.

There were 360,877 unemployed women on NES records on 31 December 2016, 0.18% of whom were registered as foreign citizens.

B2. International migration, temporary residence permits

Table 18:
Foreigners registered with NES on 31 Dec 2016, by citizenship

| Country | No. of persons | % |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------|
| Macedonia | 158 | 19.65% |
| Romania | 108 | 13.43% |
| Russian Federation | 82 | 10.20% |
| Montenegro | 72 | 8.96% |
| Ukraine | 62 | 7.71% |
| Albania | 51 | 6.34% |
| B&H | 45 | 5.60% |
| Bulgaria | 38 | 4.73% |
| Moldova | 19 | 2.36% |
| Croatia | 18 | 2.24% |
| Poland | 11 | 1.37% |
| Slovakia | 11 | 1.37% |
| Serbia and Montenegro | 10 | 1.24% |
| Greece | 9 | 1.12% |
| Belarus | 7 | 0.87% |
| Czech Republic | 7 | 0.87% |
| Serbia | 7 | 0.87% |
| Hungary | 6 | 0.75% |
| Slovenia | 6 | 0.75% |
| Armenia | 5 | 0.62% |
| Germany | 5 | 0.62% |
| Iraq | 5 | 0.62% |
| PRC | 4 | 0.50% |
| Kazakhstan | 4 | 0.50% |
| Syrian Arab Republic | 4 | 0.50% |
| Algeria | 3 | 0.37% |

Migration Profile of the Republic of Serbia for 2016

| Country | No. of persons | % |
|--------------|----------------|-------|
| Philippines | 3 | 0.37% |
| Tunisia | 3 | 0.37% |
| Azerbaijan | 2 | 0.25% |
| Palestine | 2 | 0.25% |
| Italy | 2 | 0.25% |
| Switzerland | 2 | 0.25% |
| Turkmenistan | 2 | 0.25% |
| Egypt | 2 | 0.25% |
| UK | 2 | 0.25% |
| USA | 2 | 0.25% |
| Uzbekistan | 2 | 0.25% |
| Austria | 1 | 0.12% |
| Brazil | 1 | 0.12% |
| Canada | 1 | 0.12% |
| Cuba | 1 | 0.12% |
| El Salvador | 1 | 0.12% |
| Ethiopia | 1 | 0.12% |
| Ghana | 1 | 0.12% |
| India | 1 | 0.12% |
| Indonesia | 1 | 0.12% |
| Iran | 1 | 0.12% |
| Japan | 1 | 0.12% |
| Jordan | 1 | 0.12% |
| Lebanon | 1 | 0.12% |
| Lithuania | 1 | 0.12% |
| Mexico | 1 | 0.12% |
| Nigeria | 1 | 0.12% |
| Peru | 1 | 0.12% |

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| Country | No. of persons | % |
|--------------|----------------|------------|
| Senegal | 1 | 0.12% |
| Vietnam | 1 | 0.12% |
| Sudan | 1 | 0.12% |
| Turkey | 1 | 0.12% |
| Uganda | 1 | 0.12% |
| Venezuela | 1 | 0.12% |
| Total | 804 | 100 |

Source: NES

Table 19:
Foreigners registered with NES on 31 December 2016, by age

| Age groups | No. of persons | % |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Youth (15–29) | 138 | 17.16% |
| Middle age group (30–49) | 522 | 64.93% |
| Older workers (50–64) | 144 | 17.91% |
| Total | 804 | 100 |

Source: NES

Observed by educational structure of foreigners registered with NES on 31 December 2016, registered up to 12 months, persons with no education and incomplete primary school have the highest share (46.39%), followed by persons with completed primary school (29.22%), while the persons with completed high vocational school and university have the lowest share.

Table 20:
 Foreigners registered with NES on 31 Dec. 2016, by education

| Highest completed educational level | Registered up to 12 months | | Registered over 12 months | |
|---|----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|------------|
| | No. of persons | % | No. of persons | % |
| No education or incomplete primary school | 154 | 46.39 | 174 | 36.86 |
| Complete primary school | 97 | 29.22 | 168 | 35.59 |
| High school | 59 | 17.77 | 92 | 19.49 |
| College and university | 22 | 6.63 | 38 | 8.05 |
| Total | 332 | 100 | 472 | 100 |

Source: NES

In 2016, a total of 629 foreign nationals registered with NES. The highest share of newly registered individuals came from Macedonia (21.62%), Romania (9.54%) and the Russian Federation (9.1%). There are no changes compared to 2015 (626).

Table 21:
 Foreigners registered with NES in 2016, by citizenship

| Citizenship | No. of persons | % |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------|
| Macedonia | 136 | 21.62% |
| Romania | 60 | 9.54% |
| Russian Federation | 57 | 9.06% |
| B&H | 54 | 8.59% |
| Montenegro | 54 | 8.59% |
| Ukraine | 49 | 7.79% |
| Albania | 39 | 6.20% |
| Bulgaria | 20 | 3.18% |
| Moldova | 17 | 2.70% |
| Croatia | 15 | 2.38% |
| Serbia and Montenegro | 11 | 1.75% |

B2. International migration, temporary residence permits

| Citizenship | No. of persons | % |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------|
| Belarus | 8 | 1.27% |
| PRC | 7 | 1.11% |
| Poland | 7 | 1.11% |
| Armenia | 6 | 0.95% |
| Germany | 5 | 0.79% |
| Italy | 5 | 0.79% |
| Cuba | 4 | 0.64% |
| Greece | 4 | 0.64% |
| Slovenia | 4 | 0.64% |
| Syrian Arab Republic | 4 | 0.64% |
| Tunisia | 4 | 0.64% |
| Palestine | 3 | 0.48% |
| Hungary | 3 | 0.48% |
| Kazakhstan | 3 | 0.48% |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 3 | 0.48% |
| Philippines | 3 | 0.48% |
| Serbia | 3 | 0.48% |
| Slovakia | 3 | 0.48% |
| Turkey | 3 | 0.48% |
| Turkmenistan | 3 | 0.48% |
| Algeria | 2 | 0.32% |
| Ghana | 2 | 0.32% |
| Lebanon | 2 | 0.32% |
| Senegal | 2 | 0.32% |
| Uzbekistan | 2 | 0.32% |
| Austria | 1 | 0.16% |
| Brazil | 1 | 0.16% |
| Central African Republic | 1 | 0.16% |

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| Citizenship | No. of persons | % |
|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Czech Republic | 1 | 0.16% |
| El Salvador | 1 | 0.16% |
| Ethiopia | 1 | 0.16% |
| Georgia | 1 | 0.16% |
| India | 1 | 0.16% |
| Iran | 1 | 0.16% |
| Iraq | 1 | 0.16% |
| Mexico | 1 | 0.16% |
| Morocco | 1 | 0.16% |
| Nigeria | 1 | 0.16% |
| Peru | 1 | 0.16% |
| Vietnam | 1 | 0.16% |
| Sudan | 1 | 0.16% |
| Switzerland | 1 | 0.16% |
| Thailand | 1 | 0.16% |
| Uganda | 1 | 0.16% |
| Egypt | 1 | 0.16% |
| USA | 1 | 0.16% |
| Venezuela | 1 | 0.16% |
| Total | 629 | 100 |

Source: NES

2.5. Foreign students

At the end of 2016, 1,703 foreigners were in the Republic of Serbia with temporary residence on the grounds of education, which is a slight increase compared to 2015, when there were 1,674. Most of them came from Libya (35.8%).

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Table 22:

Foreigners with valid temporary residence permits on the grounds of education, at the end of 2016, by citizenship

| Citizenship | No. of persons | % |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Libya | 610 | 35.8 |
| Russian Federation | 93 | 5.6 |
| Macedonia | 69 | 4.0 |
| Greece | 51 | 3.0 |
| Croatia | 51 | 3.0 |
| Montenegro | 50 | 2.9 |
| PRC | 39 | 2.3 |
| USA | 38 | 2.2 |
| B&H | 35 | 2.0 |
| Palestine | 32 | 1.9 |
| Germany | 31 | 1.8 |
| Turkey | 31 | 1.8 |
| Algeria | 30 | 1.7 |
| <i>Other</i> | <i>543</i> | <i>32.0</i> |
| Total | 1,703 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

2.6. Acquisition of citizenship

In 2016, 23,737 persons acquired Serbian citizenship, which is an increase compared to 20,279 persons that acquired citizenship in 2015. These were largely citizens of B&H (76.12%), Montenegro (8.95%) and Croatia (4.93%).

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Table 23:
Newly admitted citizens of the Republic of Serbia in 2016, by previous citizenship

| Previous citizenship | Number of persons | % |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------|
| B&H | 18,068 | 76.12 |
| Montenegro | 2,125 | 8.95 |
| Croatia | 1,171 | 4.93 |
| Turkey | 980 | 4.13 |
| Macedonia | 466 | 1.96 |
| SFRY | 213 | 0.90 |
| Austria | 176 | 0.74 |
| Slovenia | 70 | 0.29 |
| Russian Federation | 67 | 0.28 |
| USA | 38 | 0.16 |
| Germany | 36 | 0.15 |
| Romania | 34 | 0.14 |
| Australia | 32 | 0.13 |
| Albania | 28 | 0.12 |
| Canada | 24 | 0.10 |
| Ukraine | 21 | 0.09 |
| Switzerland | 15 | 0.06 |
| Netherlands | 14 | 0.06 |
| Italy | 14 | 0.06 |
| SAR | 14 | 0.06 |
| France | 13 | 0.05 |
| SRY | 13 | 0.05 |
| Sweden | 13 | 0.05 |
| Czech Republic | 7 | 0.03 |
| Syria | 6 | 0.03 |
| Bulgaria | 5 | 0.02 |

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| Previous citizenship | Number of persons | % |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------|
| UK | 5 | 0.02 |
| Greece | 4 | 0.02 |
| New Zealand | 4 | 0.02 |
| Belgium | 3 | 0.01 |
| Belarus | 3 | 0.01 |
| Brazil | 3 | 0.01 |
| Denmark | 3 | 0.01 |
| Philippines | 3 | 0.01 |
| Iraq | 3 | 0.01 |
| Israel | 3 | 0.01 |
| Hungary | 3 | 0.01 |
| Egypt | 2 | 0.008 |
| Iran | 2 | 0.008 |
| Kazakhstan | 2 | 0.008 |
| Chine | 2 | 0.008 |
| Luxembourg | 2 | 0.008 |
| Moldavia | 2 | 0.008 |
| Slovakia | 2 | 0.008 |
| Venezuela | 2 | 0.008 |
| Argentine | 1 | 0.004 |
| Dominican Republic | 1 | 0.004 |
| Ireland | 1 | 0.004 |
| Armenia | 1 | 0.004 |
| Jordan | 1 | 0.004 |
| Cyprus | 1 | 0.004 |
| Columbia | 1 | 0.004 |
| Lithuania | 1 | 0.004 |
| Morocco | 1 | 0.004 |

Migration Profile of the Republic of Serbia for 2016

| Previous citizenship | Number of persons | % |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Mexico | 1 | 0.004 |
| Mongolia | 1 | 0.004 |
| Nigeria | 1 | 0.004 |
| Norway | 1 | 0.004 |
| Palestine | 1 | 0.004 |
| Poland | 1 | 0.004 |
| Puerto Rico | 1 | 0.004 |
| Portugal | 1 | 0.004 |
| Samoa | 1 | 0.004 |
| Spain | 1 | 0.004 |
| Tajikistan | 1 | 0.004 |
| Zambia | 1 | 0.004 |
| Total | 23,737 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

2.7. Emigration

2.7.1. Emigration from the Republic of Serbia to European countries³

According to the Law on Permanent and Temporary Residence of Citizens (Official Gazette RS, No. 87/11), which regulates reporting the start and end of temporary and permanent residence, reporting temporary residence abroad, competences and manner of keeping appropriate records, the citizens of the Republic of Serbia who go abroad with the intention to stay abroad continually up to 90 days, and extend their stay, are obliged to report their temporary residence extending beyond 90 days to a competent authority through diplomatic-consular posts (DCP) (Article 19).

The Law on Migration Management (Official Gazette RS, No. 107/12) defines emigration as external migration from the Republic of Serbia which lasts, or is expected to last, over 12 months (Article 2).

Republic of Serbia is an emigration country, but, like many other states, does not keep full records of persons emigrating from the country, so for the Migration Profile, data obtained from the Eurostat were used, published by EU member states on the number of immigrants in the current year.

³ The latest data published for this area on Eurostat are for 2015.

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In addition to regular data sharing on the estimated population size for the current year, the countries also send to Eurostat data on immigration and emigration, published annually. Thus, referent data on population size, live births, deaths, immigration and emigration both on national and regional levels are available in Eurostat database, together with demographic indicators derived from the data.

In 2015, according to Eurostat data, a total of 4.7 million persons immigrated into one of the 28 EU member states, and it was estimated that 2.4 million of them were nationals of non-EU member states, including Serbian nationals, 1.4 million citizens of a different EU member and 19,000 stateless persons.

Data mentioned do not provide a comprehensive presentation of the persons that emigrated from the Republic of Serbia during the referent year, considering that the data from certain countries is neither updated nor presented regularly. For example, Germany reported the highest number of immigrants in 2015 (over 1.5 million), but the data on the number of Serbs in Germany are not presented separately on Eurostat.

Table 24 shows that a total of 13,870 Serbian citizens left the Republic of Serbia in 2015, i.e. that the said number of Serbian citizens was registered in 2015 as newly arrived immigrants in some EU and European countries that submit data to Eurostat.

It is important to mention that since 2014, Eurostat has been publishing data on immigration in the form of newly arrived registered immigrants.

Table 24:
Republic of Serbia citizens registered in 2015 as newly arrived immigrants
in European countries that submit data to Eurostat⁴

| Destination countries | 2015 | | |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Total | Men | Women |
| Austria | 5,297 | 2,868 | 2,429 |
| Sweden | 1,693 | 866 | 827 |
| Switzerland | 1,353 | 608 | 745 |
| Slovenia | 1,251 | 886 | 365 |
| Italy | 788 | 342 | 446 |
| Norway | 692 | 334 | 358 |
| Hungary | 583 | 441 | 142 |
| Belgium | 406 | 197 | 209 |
| Croatia | 404 | 179 | 225 |
| Netherlands | 268 | 111 | 157 |

⁴ Germany data are not available because they were not revised at the moment of accessing Eurostat database, Database accessed on 15 May 2017,

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| Destination countries | 2015 | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Total | Men | Women |
| Romania | 242 | 161 | 81 |
| Bulgaria | 229 | 127 | 102 |
| Luxembourg | 154 | 77 | 77 |
| Czech Republic | 142 | 106 | 36 |
| Denmark | 135 | 82 | 53 |
| Ireland | 93 | 51 | 42 |
| Finland | 63 | 31 | 32 |
| Slovakia | 46 | 25 | 21 |
| Iceland | 17 | 8 | 9 |
| Estonia | 8 | 4 | 4 |
| Liechtenstein | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| Lithuania | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Total | 13,870 | 7,507 | 6,363 |

Source: EUROSTAT, <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database> and <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do> (Accessed on 19 May 2017)

2.7.2. Employment of the citizens of the Republic of Serbia and referral of employees to work abroad

Employment of citizens of the Republic of Serbia abroad is governed by the Law on Employment and Unemployment Insurance (Official Gazette RS, No. 36/09, 88/10 and 38/15). The National Employment Service (NES) and employment agencies are in charge of agency activities in employment abroad, both for unemployed persons and those looking to change jobs. NES and private employment agencies provide information on the opportunities and conditions for employment abroad, working and living conditions, labour related rights and obligations, and forms and manners of protection in accordance with the contract on employment abroad, as well as the rights upon return from working abroad, in accordance with the law. Those agencies in charge of employment activity have the duty to provide protection for persons that get employment abroad, which includes at least equal treatment in labour relations with the citizens of the country of employment.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Law, in 2016, through NES, after implemented procedures of agency in employment upon request of foreign employers, 27 citizens of

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the Republic of Serbia were employed abroad (Germany and Slovenia), as well as 360 citizens for the needs of known employer in Germany, while 126 citizens were employed in Germany through the Triple Win project.

Based on employment agencies' reports submitted semi-annually, in the first six months of 2016, 3,166 persons were employed abroad with foreign employers (USA, Germany, Greece, Macedonia, UAE, Russia, MSC ships – Panama, Slovakia, etc.), while in the second six months 1,891 citizens of the Republic of Serbia found employment with foreign employers (Qatar, Slovakia, Germany, USA, Malta, Nigeria, UAE, Switzerland, etc.).

In 2016, 19 new work permits were issued to employment agencies. Six work permits were extended to employment agencies, while two permits were revoked. On 31 December 2016, there were 88 employment agencies registered in the Republic of Serbia. Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs is providing oversight over the work of NES and employment agencies.

In 2016, NES records included 804 foreigners, which represents 0.11% of the total number of the unemployed. Out of this number, there were 655 women, which is 81.59% of the total number of registered unemployed foreign nationals.

Pursuant to Article 20 of the Law on Conditions for Referral of Employees for Temporary Work Abroad and Their Protection (Official Gazette RS, No. 91/15), which has been implemented since 13 January 2016, regulating the rights of employees referred to temporary work abroad, conditions, procedures and obligations of employers in relation to referring employees for temporary work abroad, in 2016, 343 employers in the Republic of Serbia submitted 3,052 notifications, referring 10,576 employees for temporary work abroad. Data on the number of referrals for temporary work abroad are the following:

- Work on investment and other works and service provision (investment and other works 7,666; service provision 2,587 – total 10,253);
- Work or vocational training and professional development commissioned by the employer in its business units abroad (work 2,289, vocational training and development 289 – total 2,578) and
- Work or vocational training and professional development commissioned by the employer within inter-corporate transfers (work 1,207, vocational training and development 675 – total 1,882)

The majority of employees were sent to work temporarily in Germany (2,062), Russian Federation (418), Romania (220), Montenegro (167), SAR (144), Austria (143), Croatia (108), Algeria (105), Italy (80) and Kazakhstan (67).

For the year 2015–2016, the competent authorities of Germany approved the quota of 2,770 work permits, and average utilization was 1,821 work permits. The Decision of the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs No. 119-01-16/2016-02 of 22 June 2016, which was adopted based on the Government Conclusion 05 No. 337-4653/2016 of 17 May 2016, the Chamber of Commerce of Serbia was designated as suitable organization for distributing the determined maximum number of detached workers among employers from the territory of the Republic of Serbia, keeping records on the distribution of the group and control of use of the awarded group in accordance with the Agreement between the Federal Executive Council of the SFRY and the Government of Germany on referring Yugoslav associated workers from SFRY and their employment in Germany, on the grounds of works agreement, starting with the year 2016/2017.

Migration service centres

Through an established network of seven migration service centres (MSCs) (Belgrade, Niš, Novi Pazar, Novi Sad, Kraljevo, Kruševac and Bor), formed within NES, migrants and potential migrants are offered information about risks involved in irregular migration, migrants' rights, procedures for obtaining visas, work and residence permits, possibilities for employment and study abroad, access to health care and education abroad and other, which contributes to efficient dissemination of information concerning legal migration flows, that is, equips them with better information in preparation for potential leaving, or suitable adjustment to conditions and regulations in force in destination countries. Also, one of the activities involves the referral of immigrants, returnees under readmission agreement and asylum seekers in the process of integration in the Republic of Serbia to relevant local institutions so they can exercise their rights.

In 2016, according to NES data, the services of MSCs were used by a total of 1,144 persons that contacted NES in person. Compared to 2015, there is an increase of 64.4%. In addition to users contacting NES personally, MSCs also provide services to users that contact them on the telephone, as well as through the NES website.

Out of the total number of users, the majority are from Kruševac (33.2% or 387 persons) and from Belgrade (30.2% or 345 persons), in comparison with users coming from other places in the Republic of Serbia (33.6% or 412 persons). In terms of (destination) country of choice of potential migrants, the country of first choice is Germany, followed by Austria, third choice is Switzerland and then other EU countries (primarily Sweden and Norway) and the most important non-European country is Canada.

Out of the total number of service users, 62.2% or 711 were men, while 37.8% or 433 were women. According to status, the majority of service users were unemployed (76.6% or 876 persons), 20.9% were employed (239 employed persons) out of the total number of users, while 1% of the users said they were students.

In terms of the level of formal education, the highest share of persons completed secondary school (634), followed by persons with completed graduate studies (242) and persons with completed college (108). Looking at age groups, the majority of users came from the 31 to 50 age group (543), followed by the 26 to 30 age group (202), then persons under 25 (153) and persons over 50 years of age (119).

Professions that were more likely to be interested in migration potentials were technicians of different specialties, who appeared in much higher numbers compared to the total number of registered service users. They were followed by medical nurses and medical technicians (166), engineers, drivers (153), machinists (45) and cooks (22). Among registered service users with higher levels of education, medical doctors stand out (24), dentists (11), followed by economists, architects and physical therapists. Other professions include electricians, professors, waiters, salespersons, designers, veterinarians, pedagogues, auto mechanics, but in far lower numbers.

Bilateral agreements

Serbia has signed bilateral agreements on social security with the following 28 countries: Austria, Cyprus, Slovakia, United Kingdom, Luxembourg, France, Hungary, Denmark, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Slovenia, Netherlands, Poland, Belgium, Romania, Croatia, Norway, Switzerland, Panama, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Macedonia, Canada and Turkey.

B2. International migration, temporary residence permits

In the implementation of bilateral agreements on social insurance, in the part related to using the right to financial compensation on grounds of unemployment, in 2016 a total of 769 cases were formed, for initiating procedures for issuing certificates of insurance periods and using the right to financial compensation submitted to other signatory countries. Out of this number, 385 requests were sent to Croatia, 243 to B&H, 60 to Montenegro, 20 to Macedonia, 51 to Slovenia, one to Cyprus, three to Austria, one to Italy, one to Czech Republic, two to Sweden, one to UK and one to Hungary.

In response to previously submitted requests, 938 certificates of insurance periods were received: 469 from Croatia, 332 from B&H, 54 from Montenegro, 20 from Macedonia, 59 from Slovenia, one from Italy, two from Austria and one from Hungary.

277 requests for certification of insurance period were received from signatory countries in the Republic of Serbia: 52 from Croatia, 48 from B&H, 55 from Montenegro, 103 from Slovenia, eight from Hungary, eight from Austria and three from Bulgaria.

In response to the requests received, 617 certificates of insurance periods in the Republic of Serbia were sent out: 79 to Croatia, 101 to B&H, 85 to Montenegro, 305 to Slovenia, three to Slovakia, 15 to Austria, five to Czech Republic, five to Bulgaria and 19 certificates to Hungary.

Within the implementation of the agreement between FRY and B&H on social insurance enabling transfer of benefits, a total of eight requests were submitted from B&H, and a total of 10 requests were submitted to B&H.

The Republic of Serbia signed two bilateral agreements on temporary employment of migrant workers with Belarus and B&H.

2.7.3 Diaspora

According to the latest information of the Republic of Serbia DCPs abroad, although a comprehensive census of our diaspora and Serbs in the region has never been conducted, it is estimated that Republic of Serbia diaspora, including Serbs in the region, today counts around 5 million people. Out of this number around 2 million are Republic of Serbia citizens, with a considerable number of dual citizenships, meaning they also have the citizenship of the country of immigration. It is estimated that there are over 1,300 different associations active abroad, gathering people from here on all five continents, with the majority being in EU countries, North America and Australia. According to the percentage of diaspora members in relation to the number of residents in the country, Republic of Serbia is among the countries with very large diaspora. Such a high number of people in diaspora abroad and Serbs in the region is the result of a long history of outmigration of Serbian population from their country for different reasons in different periods, ranging from economic, political, religious, cultural, family to even outmigration before violence and persecution. Within the meaning of the Law on Diaspora and Serbs in the Region (Official Gazette RS, No. 88/09), "Serbs in the region" are members of the Serbian people who live in Slovenia, Croatia, B&H, Montenegro, Macedonia, Romania, Albania and Hungary (Article 2).

After democratic changes in the motherland, diaspora and Serbs in the region wish to be actively and equally involved in the political, social and economic life of the motherland and to get involved in its rehabilitation and development. Diaspora representatives may have an important role as investors in the country of origin considering they

have many advantages resulting from their experience and skills, new professional culture, numerous business contacts in the country of origin and country of destination that facilitate cooperation.

B3. Statistics relating to the prevention of illegal entry and stay

3.1. Prevention of illegal entry into the Republic of Serbia

According to the Article 11 of the Law on Foreigners, the entry into the Republic of Serbia shall be refused to a foreigner who:

- 1) Does not have a valid travelling document or a visa if it is required;
- 2) Does not have sufficient funds to pay for his upkeep during the stay in the Republic of Serbia, for return in the country of origin or transit into a third country, or if his upkeep has not been provided in some other manner during his stay in the Republic of Serbia;
- 3) Is in transit, but does not comply with the conditions for entering a third country;
- 4) Is the object of a protective measure of removal or the security measure of expulsion, or if his permission to stay has been cancelled, and/or other measures recognized in the domestic or international law, which include the prohibition of crossing the state border are effective; this prohibition shall apply during the period in which the respective measure, or the cancellation of the permission to stay, is in force;
- 5) Does not have the certificate of vaccination or other proof of good health, when arriving from areas affected by an epidemic of infectious diseases;
- 6) If it necessary for reasons related to the protection of public order or safety of the Republic of Serbia and its citizens;
- 7) Is registered as an international offender in relevant records;
- 8) There is reasonable doubt that they would take advantage of the stay for purposes other than declared.

The above reasons also provide grounds for cancellation of stay to foreigners in the Republic of Serbia. In 2016, the entry into the territory of the Republic of Serbia has not been provided to a total of 6,899 foreign citizens, which represents a decrease in comparison with 2015 (7,718).

In 2016, among the total number of foreign citizens who were denied entry into the Republic of Serbia, the highest share are the citizens group of Turkey, B&H and stateless persons. This trend was repeated compared to 2014 and 2015, when there was also the highest number of citizens of Turkey and B&H.

As for the reasons for denying entry into the Republic of Serbia, there is no major difference in comparison with 2014 and 2015. The highest number of foreigners were returned because they did not have (valid) personal documents (visas/ID cards).

B3. Statistics relating to the prevention of illegal entry and stay

Table 25:
Persons who were refused entry into the Republic of Serbia,
by citizenship and reasons for refusal in 2016⁵

| Nationality | No/invalid document/ visa/PD/ID | Unclear purpose of stay | Overextended stay | Insufficient funds for subsistence | Imposed measure | Threat to security | Unfulfilled condition for this country | Other | Data unavailable | Total |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| Turkey | 98 | 958 | 10 | 59 | 7 | 1 | | 212 | | 1.345 |
| B&H | 136 | 5 | | 13 | 15 | 8 | | 600 | | 777 |
| Stateless persons | 562 | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | 564 |
| Germany | 363 | | | | 16 | 3 | | 68 | | 450 |
| Bulgaria | 221 | | | 86 | 5 | 15 | | 89 | | 416 |
| Romania | 246 | 6 | | 21 | 22 | 10 | | 27 | | 332 |
| Hungary | 101 | | | 1 | 3 | | | 128 | 1 | 234 |
| Tunisia | 3 | 228 | | | 1 | | | | | 232 |
| Austria | 153 | 3 | | | 1 | | | 52 | | 209 |
| Unknown citizenship | 203 | | | | 1 | | | | | 204 |
| Cuba | 3 | 194 | | | | | | | | 197 |
| Croatia | 125 | 2 | | | 9 | 1 | | 56 | | 193 |
| Montenegro | 17 | | | 2 | 130 | 2 | | 37 | | 188 |
| Albania | 32 | 72 | | 11 | 13 | 9 | | 16 | | 153 |
| Switzerland | 102 | | | | 2 | | | 14 | | 118 |
| France | 77 | | | | 1 | | | 10 | | 88 |
| Macedonia | 57 | | | | 7 | 3 | | 21 | | 88 |
| <i>Other</i> | 730 | 214 | 0 | 7 | 30 | 6 | 0 | 124 | 0 | 1,111 |
| Total | 3,229 | 1,682 | 10 | 201 | 263 | 58 | 0 | 1,455 | 1 | 6,899 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

5 BPD collects data on persons refused entry into the Republic of Serbia in the forms required by the Frontex, within the Western Balkans Risk Analysis Network, the reasons have been defined in accordance with national legislation,

3.2. Return of individuals illegally residing in the Republic of Serbia

In 2016, the number of foreigners that have been issued the measure of termination of residence in the Republic of Serbia was 6,231. In comparison with 2015, this number drastically decreased by over 9,000 persons. Among the persons whose residence was terminated in 2016, over one-half were citizens of Afghanistan and Pakistan, because of increased influx of migrants in 2015 and 2016.

Table 26:
The number of persons issued the measure of termination of residence in 2015 and 2016, by citizenship

| Citizenship | 2015 | | Citizenship | 2016 | |
|--------------|----------------|------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|
| | No. of persons | % | | No. of persons | % |
| Syria | 8,199 | 53.5 | Afghanistan | 2,404 | 38.6 |
| Afghanistan | 3,212 | 20.9 | Pakistan | 743 | 11.9 |
| Iraq | 1,099 | 7.6 | Iraq | 719 | 11.5 |
| Pakistan | 630 | 4.1 | Syria | 606 | 9.7 |
| Somalia | 356 | 2.3 | Iran | 237 | 3.8 |
| Algeria | 213 | 1.4 | Turkey | 151 | 2.5 |
| Palestine | 170 | 1.1 | Algeria | 148 | 2.4 |
| Turkey | 161 | 1.1 | Albania | 135 | 2.2 |
| Bulgaria | 122 | 0.8 | Morocco | 132 | 2.1 |
| Bangladesh | 117 | 0.7 | Bulgaria | 121 | 1.9 |
| Iran | 103 | 0.6 | Romania | 81 | 1.3 |
| Eritrea | 74 | 0.4 | Bangladesh | 77 | 1.2 |
| <i>Other</i> | <i>850</i> | <i>5.5</i> | <i>Other</i> | <i>677</i> | <i>10.9</i> |
| Total | 15,306 | 100 | Total | 6,231 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

Compared to 2015, when the protective measure of removal of foreigners from the territory of the Republic of Serbia was issued in 1,506 cases, in 2016, there is a drastic decrease to 164. Among these, citizens of Afghanistan (over 28%), Albania and Iraq (both 6.1%) account for the majority of protective measures of removal.

B3. Statistics relating to the prevention of illegal entry and stay

Table 27:

The number of citizens of other countries and stateless persons issued the protective measure of removal of foreigner from the territory of Republic of Serbia, by citizenship, 2016

| Citizenship | No. of persons | % |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Afghanistan | 46 | 28,05 |
| Albania | 10 | 6,10 |
| Iraq | 10 | 6,10 |
| Pakistan | 9 | 5,49 |
| Romania | 8 | 4,88 |
| Morocco | 7 | 4,27 |
| Bulgaria | 6 | 3,66 |
| Syria | 6 | 3,66 |
| Belgium | 5 | 3,05 |
| Turkey | 5 | 3,05 |
| Iran | 4 | 2,44 |
| Macedonia | 4 | 2,44 |
| Germany | 4 | 2,44 |
| Ivory Coast | 3 | 1,83 |
| Montenegro | 3 | 1,83 |
| Algeria | 2 | 1,22 |
| Bangladesh | 2 | 1,22 |
| PRC | 2 | 1,22 |
| B&H | 1 | 0,61 |
| Libya | 1 | 0,61 |
| Nigeria | 1 | 0,61 |
| Tunisia | 1 | 0,61 |
| Other | 24 | 14,63 |
| Total | 164 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Justice

Looking at the age structure of the citizens of other countries and stateless persons issued the protective measure of removal of foreigner from the territory of the Republic of Serbia in 2016, the dominating group were persons between 21 and 40 years of age (71.95%). Out of the total number of persons issued the protective measure of removal in 2016, the majority were men. The most common reasons for removal are illegal stay in the Republic of Serbia and illegal crossing of the state border.

Table 28:

The number of citizens of other countries and stateless persons who were issued the protective measure of removal of foreigner from the territory of Republic of Serbia, by age, 2016

| Age | No. of persons | % |
|--------------|----------------|------------|
| 14-20 | 12 | 7.32 |
| 21-40 | 118 | 71.95 |
| 41-60 | 24 | 14.63 |
| Over 60 | 5 | 3.05 |
| Unknown | 5 | 3.05 |
| Total | 164 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Justice

B3. Statistics relating to the prevention of illegal entry and stay

Table 29:

The number of citizens of other countries and stateless persons who were issued the protective measure of removal of foreigner from the territory of Republic of Serbia, by reason of removal, in 2016

| Reason | No. of persons | % |
|---|----------------|------------|
| Article 85, paragraph 1, item 3) of the Law on Foreigners (illegal stay in RS) | 54 | 32.73 |
| Article 84, Paragraph 1, item 2) of the Law on Foreigners (person who has not left RS in the provided timeframe) | 46 | 27.88 |
| Article 84, paragraph 1, item 1) of the Law on Foreigners (illegal entry in the Republic of Serbia) | 40 | 24.24 |
| Article 65, paragraph 1, item 1) of the Law on Protection of State Border and Movement in the Border Area (crossing the border outside the border crossing point) | 9 | 5.45 |
| Article 292, paragraph 1, item 1) of the Law on Customs (transfer of goods through the border crossing when it is not open, concealing goods) | 6 | 3.64 |
| Article 84, Paragraph 1, item 3) of the Law on Foreigners (leaving the shelter, not abiding by the rules of stay in the shelter) | 3 | 1.82 |
| Article 65, paragraph 1, item 2) of the Law on Protection of State Border (no document in possession upon crossing the border, avoiding control) | 2 | 1.21 |
| Article 85, paragraph 1, item 1) of the Law on Foreigners (movement outside of area designated pursuant to Article 5 of the Law on Foreigners) | 1 | 0.61 |
| Article 86, paragraph 1, item 1) and item 6) of the Law on Foreigners (failure to file an application for the extension of residence permit, failure to register the change of address) | 1 | 0.61 |
| Article 6, paragraph 2 of the Law on Public Peace and Order | 1 | 0.61 |
| Article 86, paragraph 1 of the Law on Foreigners | 1 | 0.61 |
| Article 9, paragraph 1 of the Law on Public Peace and Order | 1 | 0.61 |
| Total | 165 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Justice

In 2016, 141 persons were ordered the measure of expulsion from the country due to criminal offence. Observed by age groups, the highest percentage of persons ordered the safety measure of expulsion from the country due to criminal offence were in the group between 18 and 30 years (46.8%), followed by the group between 30 and 40 years (34.8%). Disaggregated by sex, it is perceived that the measure was issued to 107 men and 34 women.

Table 30:
Citizens of other states and stateless persons ordered the safety measure of expulsion from the country due to criminal offence, by age, 2016

| Age | Number |
|--------------|------------|
| 18–30 | 66 |
| 30–40 | 49 |
| 40–50 | 14 |
| Over 50 | 12 |
| Total | 141 |

Source: Ministry of Justice

The safety measure of expulsion from the country was ordered to 63 persons for unauthorised production and putting in circulation narcotic drugs (Article 246, paragraph 1 of the Criminal Code), 37 persons for theft (Article 203 of the Criminal Code), for 15 persons because of illegal crossing of the state border and human smuggling (Article 350, paragraph 3 of the Criminal Code), to 4 persons who admitted to a criminal offence (Article 88 of the Criminal Code), as well as for other criminal offences.

Assisted voluntary return

Assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) was developed in the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) over 20 years ago. Over the last decade, IOM has helped more than a million migrants across the world to return to their home countries voluntarily and safely. IOM feels AVRR is a crucial element of a comprehensive approach to migration management, bringing together different parts of the migration management system, such as efficient border management, effective processing of asylum applications and fast and dignified return and reintegration for those not qualified or not seeking international protection. In cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Serbia, IOM Office in Belgrade provided assistance with voluntary return of 101 migrants, who returned from the Republic of Serbia to their countries of origin during 2016.

IOM has provided information related to return, medical screening, transport to the country of origin, and reception and assistance upon return. AVRR staff interviewed each migrant, cooperated with embassies to obtain the necessary documentation and used the global network of IOM offices to organise safe return of migrants to their final destinations.

B3. Statistics relating to the prevention of illegal entry and stay

Table 31:
Number of voluntary returns to the countries of origin in 2016 by months

| Country of origin | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total |
|--------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Afghanistan | | | 2 | | | | 1 | | | | | 3 |
| Algeria | | | 5 | | | | | | 1 | 3 | 2 | 11 |
| Bangladesh | 1 | | | | | | | | | 1 | | 2 |
| Iran | | 1 | 6 | | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | | 3 | 3 | 24 |
| Iraq | | | 3 | | 6 | | 1 | | 1 | 5 | 9 | 25 |
| Morocco | 2 | 4 | 9 | | | 1 | | | | | | 16 |
| Turkey | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | 2 |
| Lebanon | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 |
| South Africa | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Tunisia | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Senegal | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Pakistan | | | | | | | | | | | 7 | 7 |
| Egypt | | | | | | | | | 2 | | 2 | 4 |
| Cuba | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | 2 |
| Russian Federation | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Total | 3 | 5 | 26 | 1 | 11 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 17 | 23 | 101 |

Source: International Organisation for Migration (IOM)

3.3. Trafficking in human beings

The data on victims of trafficking in human beings (THB) presented in this section come from two sources – the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Serbia and the Centre for Human Trafficking Victims Protection (CHTVP), which is a state institution delegated authority to identify victims of THB. The data supplied by the Ministry of Internal Affairs were provided based on the number of criminal charges brought against perpetrators of THB offences. The data from CHTVP were given based on the identification procedure, which is based on the violation of human rights of the victim in a THB situation, even though it does not necessarily result in criminal proceedings for THB and a sentence for the perpetrator. This is the reason why the number of identified victims of THB in Serbia exceeds the figure obtained from the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

According to the data from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, based on the number of criminal charges brought against perpetrators for the criminal offence of THB during 2015, there were 32 victims of THB in 2015 and 31 in 2016. All covered victims of THB in 2016 were citizens of the Republic of Serbia.

Table 32:
Victims of THB by citizenship, 2015 and 2016

| Citizenship | Number of victims | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| | 2015 | 2016 |
| Republic of Serbia | 32 | 31 |
| Total | 32 | 31 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

The number of THB victims has not changed in comparison with 2015. In 2016, among both men and women victims, predominant age group was over 18 years of age.

Table 33:
Victims of THB by sex and age, 2015 and 2016

| Age | 2015 | | 2016 | |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| | Men | Women | Men | Women |
| Up to 14 | – | 1 | – | – |
| 14–18 years of age | – | 3 | – | 5 |
| Over 18 | 9 | 19 | 3 | 23 |
| Total | 9 | 23 | 3 | 28 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

According to data of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, in 2016 the most frequent form of exploitation was sexual, to which only women were exposed (26).

Table 34:
Victims of THB by type of exploitation and sex, 2015 and 2016

| Type of exploitation | 2015 | | 2016 | |
|---|------|-------|------|-------|
| | Men | Women | Men | Women |
| Sexual exploitation | / | 20 | / | 26 |
| Labour exploitation | 8 | / | 3 | / |
| Exploitation for perpetrating criminal offences | 1 | / | / | / |
| Exploitation for begging | / | / | / | / |

B3. Statistics relating to the prevention of illegal entry and stay

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Forced marriage | / | / | / | 2 |
| No exploitation | / | 3 | / | / |
| Total | 9 | 23 | 3 | 28 |
| | 32 | | 31 | |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

The identification of THB victims is organised as professional procedure within CHTVP, implemented in accordance with the standards and rules of social work in the social protection system. Since 2015, CHTVP, in order to harmonise with EUROSTAT, introduced reporting on victims only monitoring the group “identified THB victim” (there being no longer a difference between potential and exploited victims, because ultimately, they are recorded as THB victims).

In 2016, 55 THB victims were identified, out of which 21 minor and 34 adult victims. Compared to the previous year, 37% more victims were identified. Minor THB victims account for 38% of the total number of identified victims, which is a decrease in the share of minor victims during the previous year. Among the minor victims, girls were exploited in 90% of the cases. Adult victims account for 62% of identified victims, which is an increase compared to the previous year. Among the adult victims, in 92% of the cases it was exploitation of women.

Women were exploited considerably more than men and account for 85% of the total number of victims. Girls dominated in the group of exploited females, appearing as victims in 60% of the cases.

Table 35:

Presentation of identified THB victims by type of exploitation, age and sex, 2016

| Type of exploitation | Up to 18 years of age | | Over 18 years of age | | TOTAL |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------------|---|-----------|
| | W | M | W | M | |
| Sexual exploitation | 7 | | 22 | | 29 |
| Labour exploitation | | 1 | | 6 | 7 |
| Forced marriage | 3 | | 1 | | 4 |
| Forced begging | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Illegal adoption | 2 | | | | 2 |
| Forced criminal activities | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Multiple | 6 | | 5 | | 11 |
| SUBTOTAL | 19 | 2 | 28 | 6 | 55 |
| TOTAL | 21 | | 34 | | 55 |

Source: Centre for Human Trafficking Victims Protection

Migration Profile of the Republic of Serbia for 2016

Serbia is the country of origin and country of exploitation of THB victims. THB victims are mostly citizens of the Republic of Serbia and predominantly exploited within the Republic of Serbia – in 67% of the cases. Out of the total number of identified victims, citizens of Serbia account for 93% victims (51 Serbian citizens). Other victims originate from Nepal, Afghanistan, Albania and one victim is stateless.

In national THB, minors constitute 60%. The number of women dominated at 72%, among whom 50% were girls. The prevailing type of exploitation was sexual exploitation, present among 48% of the victims, followed by forced begging, present among 28% of the victims.

Multiple exploitation of victims appeared in 11 cases (20% of victims). Among multiply exploited victims minor and adult victims were nearly equally represented and all multiply exploited victims were female (6 girls and 5 adult girls and women). It is evident that sexual exploitation occurs among nearly all multiply exploited victims (in 8 cases), while forced marriage appears in 6 cases.

Table 36:
Structure of identified THB victims by country of exploitation and age, 2016⁶

| Country | Minors | Adults |
|--------------------|--------|--------|
| Republic of Serbia | 13 | 22 |
| Germany | 4 | 4 |
| Russian Federation | | 4 |
| Macedonia | | 1 |
| Netherlands | 1 | |
| Montenegro | 1 | |
| Italy | 1 | 1 |
| Switzerland | | 2 |
| Syria | 1 | |
| Turkey | | 1 |
| Greece | | 1 |
| Afghanistan | 1 | |

Source: CHTVP

Considering the increased influx of migrants and risks of entering in exploitation in the form of THB, in 2016, CHTVP established special records for identification for reports related to migrants. In 2016, 40 reports were received for identification among the migrant

6 The numbers in the table do not show the number of natural persons, considering that some victims were exploited in multiple countries – 1 victim in Germany and Italy (minor), 1 in Montenegro and Serbia (minor) and 1 in Turkey and Greece (adult),

B3. Statistics relating to the prevention of illegal entry and stay

population, out of which 35 reports of children and 5 reports of adults. A total of 9 females were reported (5 girls and 4 adult girls and women) and 31 males (30 boys and 1 adult man). 2 victims of THB were identified, while 5 victims were determined as non-victims of THB. Both identified victims were female. One case is multiple national trafficking (labour exploitation and forced marriage, minor victim originally from Afghanistan) and the other was sexual transnational trafficking (adult female originally from Nepal exploited in Turkey and Greece). For 29 boys it was determined that at the moment they could not be identified as victims, but there was risk of THB in the country of destination.

In 2016, police officers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs brought criminal charges against 14 persons (12 men and 2 women) for the criminal offence of THB under Article 388 of the Criminal Code. All 14 persons were citizens of the Republic of Serbia.

In 2016, first instance courts in the Republic of Serbia pronounced a total of 26 judgements for the criminal offence of THB under Article 388 of the Criminal Code, out of which 21 final convictions and no acquittals. It is evident that the number of judgements has decreased in comparison with 2015.

Table 37:
Number of judgements against perpetrators of THB pronounced
in 2015 and 2016, by type of judgement

| Type of judgement | 2015 | 2016 |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Sentencing – final | 53 | 21 |
| Sentencing – non-final | 14 | 5 |
| Final acquitting | 23 | 0 |
| Total | 90 | 26 |

Source: Ministry of Justice

Looking at the age structure, the majority of persons convicted of the criminal offence of THB are 30 to over 50 years old.

Table 38:
Number of persons convicted for criminal offence of THB, by age, 2016

| Age | Number |
|--------------|-----------|
| 18–30 | 3 |
| 30–40 | 8 |
| 40–50 | 6 |
| Over 50 | 9 |
| Total | 26 |

Source: Ministry of Justice

B4. Statistics on forced migration and international protection

4.1. Asylum seekers

In 2016, there were 12,811 expressed intents to seek asylum in the Republic of Serbia, by 9,121 men and 3,690 women. The majority of asylum seekers came from Afghanistan (43%), Iraq (21%), and Syria (17%), all due to increased influx of migrants coming from the Middle East and Africa. As of May 2015, there was a sudden increase in the number of persons expressing intent to seek asylum in the Republic of Serbia. This number dropped rapidly in 2016 (from 579,519 in 2015 to 12,811 in 2016) due to the closing of the migration route in March 2016.

Table 39: Persons that expressed intent to seek asylum in the Republic of Serbia in 2016, by citizenship

| Citizenship | Number | % |
|--------------|---------------|------------|
| Afghanistan | 5,581 | 43 |
| Iraq | 2,699 | 21 |
| Syria | 2,305 | 17 |
| Pakistan | 1,001 | 8 |
| Iran | 282 | 2 |
| Other | 943 | 9 |
| Total | 12,811 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

Out of the total number of persons expressing intent to seek asylum in the Republic of Serbia, 5,368 were minors, with 3,689 boys and 1,679 girls. Out of the total number of minors expressing intent to seek asylum, there were 180 unaccompanied minors (169 boys and 11 girls).

In 10,515 cases, intent to seek asylum was expressed in Regional Police Directorates, while 1,208 persons expressed intent at the Reception Centre Preševo.

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Table 40:
Expressed intent to seek asylum by place of expression, 2016

| Place of expression of intent | No. of persons |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Reception centre for foreigners | 8 |
| Regional police directorates | 10,515 |
| Reception Centre Preševo | 1,208 |
| Border crossing (line) | 616 |
| Asylum Office | 443 |
| Nikola Tesla Airport | 20 |
| PCI | 1 |
| Total | 12,811 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

In 2016, pursuant to the decision of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, proof of entry into the territory of the Republic of Serbia was issued to citizens coming from countries in which their lives were in danger – “Proof of entry into the territory of the Republic of Serbia for migrants”. In relation to the above, the following two tables, Table 41 and 42 show the numbers of proofs issued by the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

We can see in the above-mentioned tables that the majority of proofs were issued to persons from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq, mostly in the Reception Centre in Preševo.

Table 41:
Number of proofs for migrants staying on the territory
of Republic of Serbia in 2016

| Citizenship | Number | % |
|--------------|---------------|------------|
| Syria | 45,923 | 48 |
| Afghanistan | 28,715 | 30 |
| Iraq | 21,189 | 22 |
| Somalia | 162 | 0.16 |
| Pakistan | 68 | 0.07 |
| <i>Other</i> | 179 | 0.18 |
| Total | 96,236 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

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Table 42:
Place of issuance of the proof for migrants staying in the territory
of Republic of Serbia in 2016

| Place of issuance of proof for migrants | Number of persons |
|---|-------------------|
| Reception centre for foreigners | 22 |
| Regional police directorates | 3,116 |
| Reception centre Preševo | 90,285 |
| Border crossing (line) | 2,684 |
| Asylum Office | 124 |
| Nikola Tesla Airport | 5 |
| Total | 96,236 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

Out of the total of 12,811 expressed intents to seek asylum, only 577 persons, i.e. only 4.5% of the total number of persons submitted asylum applications. Out of the total number of submitted applications, 33% were the citizens of Afghanistan.

Table 43:
The number of submitted asylum applications, by citizenship, 2016

| Citizenship | No. of persons | % |
|--------------|----------------|------------|
| Afghanistan | 188 | 33 |
| Iraq | 147 | 25 |
| Syria | 102 | 18 |
| Pakistan | 60 | 10 |
| Iran | 16 | 3 |
| <i>Other</i> | 64 | 11 |
| Total | 577 | 100 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

4.2. First instance decisions on asylum applications

The statistics on asylum procedure shows that proceedings are suspended for the majority of asylum seekers, which is the result of the fact that the majority of persons continue migrating on, not waiting for the first instance decision on their asylum application.

After the interview, the Asylum Office makes the decision on the asylum application, either approving the application for asylum and recognizing the foreigner's right to refuge or subsidiary protection or making a decision to reject the application for asylum upon determining that the application is unfounded or there are reasons to deny the right to asylum. In 2016, the Asylum Office made 27 decisions approving asylum applications, 49 decisions rejecting asylum applications and 247 conclusions suspending the procedure because the asylum seekers left the Asylum Centre after submitting the application. In 2015, there were 16 decisions refusing asylum applications.

The Asylum Office issued 14 decisions on approving asylum applications and granting refuge for 19 persons (14 men and 5 women), including 4 citizens of Cuba, 4 citizens of Sudan, 1 citizen of Libya, 1 citizen of Cameroon, 1 citizen of Afghanistan, 1 citizen of Iran, 1 citizen of Kazakhstan and 1 citizen of Syria. Also, the Asylum Office issued 13 decisions approving asylum applications and awarding subsidiary protection for 23 persons (12 men and 11 women), including 3 citizens of Libya, 3 citizens of Afghanistan, 3 citizens of Ukraine, 2 citizens of Syria, 1 citizen of Somalia and 1 citizen of Iraq.

Table 44:

First instance decisions on asylum applications, by type of decision in 2015 and 2016

| Decisions | 2015 | 2016 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Rejected applications | 19 for 29 persons | 49 for 64 persons |
| Refused applications | 6 for 11 persons | 16 for 49 persons |
| Approved applications | 24 for 30 persons | 27 for 42 persons |
| Suspended proceedings | 451 for 546 persons | 267 for 491 persons |
| Decision on rejecting the appeal | 1 for 1 person | 3 for 3 persons |
| Total | 501 for 617 | 362 for 649 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

4.3. Second instance decisions on appeals lodged against decisions on asylum applications

Asylum Commission makes second instance decisions on appeals against the decisions of the Asylum Office, and it is consisted of the Chair and eight members appointed by the Government for a period of four years. The Asylum Commission is independent

and decides by majority vote of the total number of members. The appeal is lodged within 15 days of the submission of the first instance decision to the asylum seeker or his/her proxy and has suspensive effect.

In 2016, 49 appeals were lodged with the Asylum Commission for 93 asylum seekers. In the same period, 20 decisions were issued on lodged appeals rejecting the appeal for 26 persons and 10 decisions voiding the decisions of the Asylum Office for 32 persons. In one case, the Asylum Commission decided on the merit of the asylum application and awarded subsidiary protection. In one case, the Asylum Commission reversed the decision of the Asylum Office refusing asylum application and made the decision awarding subsidiary protection.

4.4. Decisions based on administrative disputes

The number of persons whose appeal was rejected in administrative disputes or which ended in suspended procedure in 2016 were 2, it was one male and one female person from Libya. In 2016, the number of persons whose appeals to the second instance decisions on asylum application were rejected by the Administrative Court as unfounded or the administrative decision was overturned, and the case returned to competent authority for retrial was 12 (9 men and 3 women). These persons were the citizens of Libya (5), Sudan (3), Morocco (1), Russia (1), Pakistan (1) and Macedonia (1).

4.5. Returnees under Readmission Agreements

According to the records of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, there were 5,779 readmission requests received in 2016, out of which 4,850 requests were approved, and in the same period, under Readmission Agreements, 7,484 citizens returned to the Republic of Serbia via border crossings.

Out of the total number of received requests for readmission in 2016, 76% of applications were submitted by Germany. In terms of the sex structure, 53.8% were men, while there were 45.2% women. In terms of age structure, there were 53.7% of adults and 46.3% of minors.

Table 45:
Readmission applications by country, sex and age of returnees in 2016

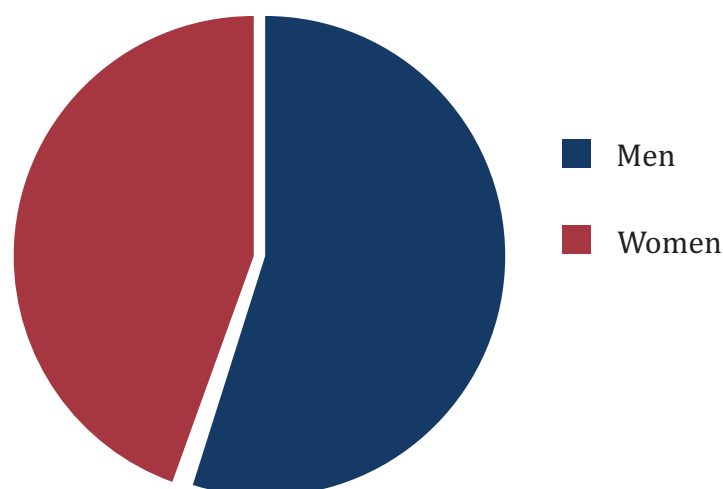
| Requesting country | Men | | Women | | Total |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Minor | Adult | Minor | Adult | |
| Germany | 1,114 | 1,132 | 1,096 | 1,048 | 4,390 |
| Netherlands | 70 | 84 | 50 | 48 | 252 |
| Sweden | 51 | 59 | 45 | 54 | 209 |
| Switzerland | 29 | 56 | 25 | 26 | 136 |

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| Requesting country | Men | | Women | | Total |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Minor | Adult | Minor | Adult | |
| Belgium | 22 | 59 | 17 | 34 | 132 |
| France | 18 | 58 | 16 | 25 | 117 |
| Austria | 8 | 81 | 12 | 15 | 116 |
| Croatia | 20 | 47 | 15 | 23 | 105 |
| Hungary | 19 | 51 | 11 | 7 | 88 |
| Romania | 6 | 46 | 2 | 2 | 56 |
| Denmark | 3 | 21 | 5 | 5 | 34 |
| Montenegro | 2 | 29 | 1 | 1 | 33 |
| B&H | 2 | 13 | / | 5 | 20 |
| Finland | 4 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 18 |
| Luxembourg | 3 | 7 | 3 | / | 13 |
| Norway | 2 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 12 |
| UK | / | 5 | / | 5 | 10 |
| Italy | / | 6 | / | 3 | 9 |
| Spain | / | 9 | | / | 9 |
| Slovakia | / | 6 | / | 2 | 8 |
| Slovenia | / | 7 | / | / | 7 |
| Poland | / | 1 | / | / | 1 |
| Greece | / | 1 | / | / | 1 |
| Macedonia | / | 1 | / | / | 1 |
| Bulgaria | / | 1 | / | / | 1 |
| Portugal | / | / | / | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 1,373 | 1,795 | 1,302 | 1,309 | 5,779 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

Chart 2:
Readmission requests by sex of returnee, 2016



Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

Out of the total number of approved readmission requests (4,850) in 2016, the highest number of requests approved were from Germany (77%). Among the returnees whose requests for readmission were approved, there were 54.2% men and 45.8% women. Out of the total number of approved requests, the majority were for adults (55%). Among the 2,200 minors who were approved requests, there were 1,113 boys and 1,087 girls.

Table 46:
Approvals of requests to return citizens of the Republic of Serbia under Readmission Agreement in 2016

| Requesting country | Men | | Women | | Total |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Minor | Adult | Minor | Adult | |
| Germany | 910 | 989 | 921 | 913 | 3,733 |
| Netherlands | 61 | 74 | 39 | 46 | 220 |
| Sweden | 48 | 57 | 43 | 52 | 200 |
| Austria | 9 | 81 | 12 | 14 | 115 |
| Switzerland | 24 | 48 | 15 | 22 | 109 |
| France | 14 | 46 | 15 | 19 | 94 |
| Belgium | 15 | 43 | 13 | 22 | 93 |
| Croatia | 16 | 33 | 15 | 21 | 85 |

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| Requesting country | Men | | Women | | Total |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Minor | Adult | Minor | Adult | |
| Hungary | 2 | 26 | 3 | 5 | 36 |
| Montenegro | / | 25 | 1 | 1 | 27 |
| Denmark | 2 | 18 | 3 | 4 | 27 |
| Romania | 1 | 22 | / | / | 23 |
| B&H | 2 | 13 | / | 5 | 20 |
| Finland | 4 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 18 |
| Norway | 2 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 11 |
| Luxembourg | 3 | 3 | 3 | / | 9 |
| Slovakia | / | 6 | / | 2 | 8 |
| Spain | / | 7 | / | / | 7 |
| Italy | / | 3 | / | 2 | 5 |
| Slovenia | / | 5 | / | / | 5 |
| Poland | / | 1 | / | / | 1 |
| Greece | / | 1 | / | / | 1 |
| Bulgaria | / | 1 | / | / | 1 |
| UK | / | 1 | / | / | 1 |
| Macedonia | / | 1 | / | / | 1 |
| Total | 1,113 | 1,517 | 1,087 | 1,133 | 4,850 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

Out of the total number of returnees under Readmission Agreement that returned in 2016 via border crossings (7,484), as many as 97% returned to the Republic of Serbia via the BPS Belgrade border crossing (Nikola Tesla Airport).

Table 47:
Number of returnees under Readmission Agreements for 2016,
by border crossing registration

| Regional centre (border police station) | Number of citizens of the Republic of Serbia |
|--|---|
| BPS Belgrade | 7,282 |
| Towards Hungary | 40 |
| Towards Croatia | 62 |
| Towards B&H | 36 |
| Towards Romania | 4 |
| Towards Bulgaria | 1 |
| Towards Macedonia | 0 |
| Towards Montenegro | 28 |
| BPS Niš | 31 |
| Total | 7,484 |

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs

During the same period, 3,655 or 1,299 families addressed the Readmission Office at the Nikola Tesla Airport for information and assistance with return.

Table 48:
Number of returnees registered with the Readmission Office by sex, 2016

| Persons/Families | Total | Men | Women |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Number of persons | 3,655 | 1,997 | 1,658 |
| Number of families | 1,299 | | |

Source: Commissariat for Refugees and Migration

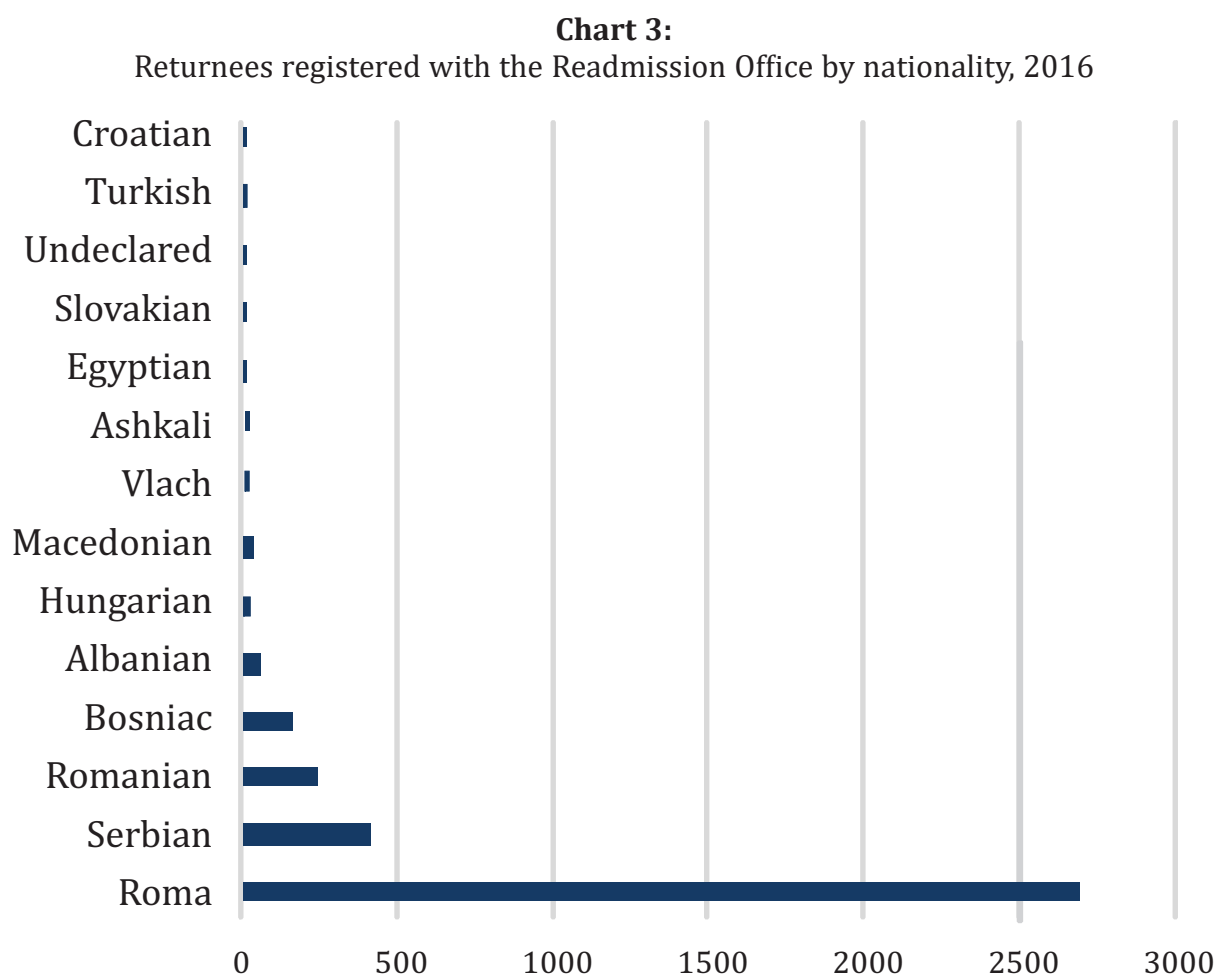
The highest number of returnees registered with the Readmission Office at the Nikola Tesla Airport came from Germany (94.3%), followed by Sweden (4.2%). The structure by country of temporary residence has not changed compared to 2015, where also the majority of returns recorded are from Germany (89%) and Sweden (6.6%)

Table 49:
 Returnees registered with the Readmission Office
 by country they returned from, 2016

| Country | Number |
|--------------|--------------|
| Germany | 3,448 |
| Sweden | 153 |
| Switzerland | 21 |
| France | 13 |
| Netherlands | 7 |
| Belgium | 6 |
| Spain | 2 |
| Poland | 1 |
| Finland | 1 |
| Austria | 1 |
| Total | 3.655 |

Source: Commissariat for Refugees and Migration

In 2016, the share of Roma in the total number of returnees under Readmission Agreements registered by the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration was 73.8%, followed by returnees of Serbian nationality, with 11.3%. It can be concluded that the trend did not change in comparison with 2015.



Source: Commissariat for Refugees and Migration

Based on the number of families and adult and minor returnees registered by the Readmission Office, we can conclude that returnee families have three members on average.

Table 50:
Returnees registered with the Readmission Office, by age, 2016

| Age | Number | % |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Adult | 2,002 | 54.8 |
| Minor | 1,653 | 45.2 |
| Total | 3,655 | 100 |

Source: Commissariat for Refugees and Migration

Also, records are kept of the educational profile and employment status of returnees. Out of the total number, 54.8% of returnees are unemployed. The remaining 45% are children and students, and if we look at the year 2015, we will see that the situation was the same.

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Educational structure of returnees may be the cause of unemployment, because only 0.5% completed college or university, while 16.5% have no education, and 24% did not complete primary school. There were 19.6% of returnees with completed primary school.

Table 51:

Returnees registered with the Readmission Office, by employment status, 2016

| Employment status | Number |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Child | 1,039 |
| Pupil | 587 |
| Student | 1 |
| Employed | 9 |
| Unemployed | 2,002 |
| Pensioner | 6 |
| Other | 11 |
| Total | 3,655 |

Source: Commissariat for Refugees and Migration

Table 52:

Returnees registered with the Readmission Office,
by attained level of education, 2016

| Educational status | Number |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| No education | 606 |
| Incomplete primary school | 884 |
| Primary school | 715 |
| Secondary school | 308 |
| College | 9 |
| University | 11 |
| Other | 1,122 |
| Total | 3,655 |

Source: Commissariat for Refugees and Migration

4.5.1. Identifying and defining the set of indicators for evaluation of reintegration of returnees under Readmission Agreement

Based on the recommendations of EC experts of the Peer Review Mission held in February 2014, which covered key areas for Chapters 23 and 24, the CRM has developed a set of indicators for evaluation of reintegration of returnees, measuring the efficiency of measures taken in the field of reintegration of returnees under Readmission Agreement. The development of indicators was necessary also for collecting data on concrete progress on maintaining the visa-free regime and preventing remigration of returnees to EU countries and preventing secondary migration. Reporting on these indicators was included for the first time in the 2015 Migration Profile.

Table 53:
List of indicators for monitoring reintegration of returnees under Readmission Agreement in the Republic of Serbia, 2016

| INSTITUTION | INDICATORS | |
|---|--|--|
| Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development | Number of public calls, projects and budget funds allocated by the MESTD, related to returnees | MESTD has not specifically listed returnees under Readmission Agreement as the category of public calls, projects and budget funds beneficiaries. |
| Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development | Number of returnees enrolled in appropriate grade (primary + high school) + disaggregated by age and sex | <p>During school year 2016/2017, primary schools in the territory of the Republic of Serbia enrolled a total of 711 returnee students (369 girls and 342 boys). There were no students enrolled in the first grade, while 101 were enrolled in the second, 234 in the third, 262 in the fourth, 88 in the fifth, 13 in the sixth, 9 in the seventh and 4 returnee students in the eighth grade.</p> <p>During the school year 2016/2017, high schools in the territory of the Republic of Serbia enrolled a total of 15 returnee students (6 girls and 9 boys). 7 were enrolled in the second grade, and 8 returnee students in the third.</p> |
| Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development | The number of returnees that filled the questionnaire for placement/enrolment in appropriate grade/level | 726 returnee students filled the questionnaire for placement/enrolment in appropriate grade |

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development | Number of requests for certificate equivalency and recognition of diplomas | To recognise diplomas of returnee children, a total of 296 requests (163 girls and 133 boys) were resolved, while for high school a total of 31 requests (17 boys and 14 girls) were resolved. |
| Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development | Number of scholarships, financial support and number of free books distributed to returnees | Out of the total number of accommodation capacities, scholarships and credits, MESTD sets aside up to 10% for university students and up to 10% for school students from vulnerable social groups. During school year 2016/2017 there were no applications for using these measures of support on the grounds of return under Readmission Agreement. |
| Ministry of Foreign Affairs | Number of travel documents issued to returnees | 988 travel documents issued to returnees |
| Ministry of Foreign Affairs | As general indicator: number of asylum seekers from the Republic of Serbia applying for asylum in EU countries and Schengen member states (source DCP) | 17,900 asylum applications in EU countries and Schengen member states |
| Office for Cooperation with Civil Society | Number of projects/programmes funded from the Republic of Serbia Budget, directly benefitting IDPs and refugees, returnees under Readmission Agreement, migrants, asylum seekers and Roma | <p>145 projects/programmes – refugees and IDPs</p> <p>11 projects/programmes – returnees under Readmission Agreements</p> <p>1 project – asylum seekers</p> <p>Note: Data submitted are for 2015, collected by the public administration – LSG, AP Vojvodina, government bodies, through an electronic questionnaire developed by the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society. Preparations for data collection for 2016 are under way. Note: The question on final beneficiaries was multiple-choice.</p> |
| Ombudsman | Number of reported cases of human rights violations of returnees under Readmission Agreement | No cases reported |

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| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Office for Human and Minority Rights | Number of Roma coordinators (their role is to be in contact with the Roma community, provide mediation and support, counselling, cooperate with the NGO sector and LSG units) | 52 Roma coordinators |
| CRM | Number of public calls/ projects dedicated to returnees (funded by CRM) for LSG units (number of municipalities included, also) | 1 public call (value 20 million dinars) 15 LSG units applied for the Public Calls. 10 projects were supported, out of which 4 projects for assistance for finalisation or adaptation of housing through purchase of construction material, 1 for assistance to purchase a village house with garden and 4 for funds aimed at the procurement and distribution of goods and materials to start, develop and promote income-generating activities in the area of agriculture, crafts, services or other areas relevant to returnees. |
| CRM | The number of public calls/ projects for returnees (funded by CRM) aimed at CSOs | 3 public calls A total of 11 projects supported related to reintegration of returnees based on RA, in the amount of 1,999,000.00 dinars. |
| CRM | Number of returnees registered at the Belgrade Airport (Nikola Tesla) who contacted commissioners for refugees and migration (at the local level) | 3,655 persons, i.e. 1,299 families to obtain information and assistance with return |
| CRM | CRM support provided to LSGs with the aim to revise existing LAPs to include returnees | Out of the total of 154 municipalities that adopted LAPs, 103 revised and extended LAPs to include the category of returnees under Readmission Agreement |
| CRM | Number of information booklets printed on rights and obligations of returnees under Readmission Agreement | 3,000 |

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| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| CRM | Number of people placed by CRM in centres for emergency reception (in case of necessity/urgent need) + average length of stay + total number of awarded financial compensations to returnees by CRM | A total of 24 persons stayed in emergency reception centres. Average length of stay in the emergency reception centre was around 6 months 7 financial assistance packages were awarded |
| CRM | Frequency of meetings of the Team (representatives of different ministries) for the implementation of the Strategy for Reintegration of Returnees. General indicator (not directly related to services available to returnees) | 0 |
| CRM | Number of articles (in printed media) on returnees | 34 articles on returnees |
| All relevant institutions | Number of civil servants who are/will be in charge of returnees under Readmission Agreement within various ministries/government bodies | CRM – 3 (as per classification) + 3 (added) |
| All relevant institutions | Free legal support/advice for returnees | |

Source: Commissariat for Refugees and Migration

4.6. Refugees under the Law on Refugees

In 2016, 29,457 refugees lived in the Republic of Serbia. The majority came from Croatia (20,256). In the period between 2015 and 2016, the refugee population was reduced by 5,838 persons.

Table 54:
Refugee population in the Republic of Serbia by country of origin, 2015 and 2016

| Country of origin | 2015 | 2016 |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Croatia | 25,962 | 20,256 |
| B&H | 9,287 | 9,161 |
| Slovenia | 45 | 1 |
| Macedonia | 1 | 39 |
| Total | 35,295 | 29,457 |

Source: Commissariat for Refugees and Migration

Data on age structure indicate substantial share of elderly age cohorts, with 58.4% of persons over 65 years of age.

Table 55:
Refugee population in the Republic of Serbia by age, 2016

| Age | % |
|--------------|------------|
| 0-14 | 0.14 |
| 15-29 | 7.2 |
| 30-39 | 9.7 |
| 40-49 | 8.8 |
| 50-64 | 15.8 |
| 65+ | 58.4 |
| Total | 100 |

Source: Commissariat for Refugees and Migration

According to data from the Commissariat, out of the total number of refugees in 2016, the majority of refugees live in the Belgrade District (26.4%), followed by South Bačka District (16.6%) and Srem District (15.6%).

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Table 56:
Number of refugees by districts in the Republic of Serbia, 2016

| District | Number of refugees |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| North Bačka | 865 |
| Central Banat | 818 |
| North Banat | 301 |
| South Banat | 1,189 |
| West Bačka | 2,081 |
| South Bačka | 4,904 |
| Srem | 4,589 |
| Mačva | 2,152 |
| Kolubara | 337 |
| Podunavlje | 382 |
| Braničevo | 433 |
| Šumadija | 537 |
| Pomoravlje | 441 |
| Bor | 176 |
| Zaječar | 208 |
| Zlatibor | 428 |
| Moravica | 375 |
| Raška | 377 |
| Rasina | 230 |
| Nišava | 375 |
| Toplica | 97 |
| Pirot | 81 |
| Jablanica | 133 |
| Pčinja | 85 |
| Kosovo | 12 |
| Kosovska Mitrovica | 86 |

| District | Number of refugees |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Belgrade | 7,764 |
| Total Republic of Serbia | 29,457 |

Source: Commissariat for Refugees and Migration

4.7. Internally displaced persons (IDPs)

In 2016, 203,140 persons displaced from AP Kosovo and Metohija lived in the Republic of Serbia. 58,220 IDPs lived on the territory of Belgrade. As for the rest of the Republic of Serbia, the highest share of IDPs lived in Raška, Šumadija, Nišava and Toplica districts. In terms of ethnic structure, the most numerous among IDPs were Serbs, followed by Roma, while the Gorani, Bosniacs/Muslims, Montenegrins and others accounted for the minority of the population.

Table 57:
The number of IDPs by districts in the Republic of Serbia, 2016

| District | Number |
|---------------|--------|
| North Bačka | 2,849 |
| North Bačka | 2,849 |
| Central Banat | 1,026 |
| North Banat | 230 |
| South Banat | 1,975 |
| West Bačka | 667 |
| South Bačka | 5,213 |
| Srem | 1,183 |
| Mačva | 994 |
| Kolubara | 878 |
| Podunavlje | 11,136 |
| Braničevo | 2,298 |
| Šumadija | 15,976 |
| Pomoravlje | 8,248 |
| Bor | 1,303 |

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| District | Number |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Zaječar | 1,684 |
| Zlatibor | 1,770 |
| Moravica | 3,959 |
| Raška | 30,543 |
| Rasina | 9,731 |
| Nišava | 12,424 |
| Toplica | 12,195 |
| Pirot | 601 |
| Jablanica | 6,613 |
| Pčinja | 11,424 |
| Belgrade | 58,220 |
| Republic of Serbia total | 203,140 |

Source: Commissariat for Refugees and Migration

In 2016, 582 IDPs returned to AP Kosovo and Metohija (448 persons with support, 134 persons spontaneously, while nobody returned in an organised manner), which represents an increase in comparison with 2015, when 304 people returned.

The age structure of returnees shows that the majority were children with parents, that is, the majority of the population was in the age group between 0 and 14 years of age (27.2%) and 30 and 49 years (25.8%).

Table 58:
IDPs returned to AP Kosovo and Metohija according to municipality
of return, sex and age in 2016

| Municipality | Sex | Subtotal | Age structure | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|----------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| | | | 0-14 | 15-29 | 30-49 | 50-64 | 65+ |
| Municipality Gnjilane | Women | 25 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 2 |
| | Men | 34 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 5 | 3 |
| Municipality Istok | Women | 12 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| | Men | 20 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 1 |
| Municipality Klina | Women | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | Men | 7 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| Municipality Kosovo Polje | Women | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | Men | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Municipality K. Kamenica | Women | 23 | 10 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 3 |
| | Men | 24 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 1 |
| Municipality Priština | Women | 17 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| | Men | 19 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| Municipality Novo Brdo | Women | 6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| | Men | 7 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Municipality Obilić | Women | 45 | 15 | 17 | 8 | 5 | 0 |
| | Men | 45 | 14 | 8 | 17 | 5 | 1 |
| Municipality Orahovac | Women | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | Men | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Municipality Peć | Women | 42 | 14 | 10 | 9 | 6 | 3 |
| | Men | 46 | 15 | 16 | 7 | 7 | 1 |
| Municipality Prizren | Women | 12 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| | Men | 5 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Municipality Štrpce | Women | 19 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 2 |
| | Men | 13 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 1 |

B4. Statistics on forced migration and international protection

| Municipality | Sex | Subtotal | Age structure | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|------------|---------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | 0-14 | 15-29 | 30-49 | 50-64 | 65+ |
| Municipality Vitina | Women | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | Men | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Municipality Đakovica | Women | 37 | 18 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 1 |
| | Men | 42 | 15 | 12 | 12 | 1 | 2 |
| Municipality Leposavić | Women | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| | Men | 9 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Municipality K. Mitrovica | Women | 21 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 10 | 2 |
| | Men | 17 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| Municipality Zvečan | Women | 8 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | Men | 8 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| Total | | 582 | 158 | 143 | 150 | 84 | 47 |

Source: Office for Kosovo and Metohija

Table 59:
IDPs that returned to AP Kosovo and Metohija in 2016
– by municipality and manner of return

| Municipality | Number | Manner of return | | |
|---------------------------|--------|------------------|-----------|-------------|
| | Total | Supported | Organised | Spontaneous |
| Municipality Gnjilane | 59 | 58 | 0 | 1 |
| Municipality Priština | 36 | 36 | 0 | 0 |
| Municipality Istok | 32 | 25 | 0 | 7 |
| Municipality Klina | 9 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| Municipality Kosovo Polje | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Municipality Obilić | 90 | 78 | 0 | 12 |

Migration Profile of the Republic of Serbia for 2016

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|----------|------------|
| Municipality Orahovac | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Municipality Peć | 88 | 82 | 0 | 6 |
| Municipality Prizren | 17 | 7 | 0 | 10 |
| Municipality Kosovska Kamenica | 47 | 0 | 0 | 47 |
| Municipality Vitina | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Municipality Novo Brdo | 13 | 0 | 0 | 13 |
| Municipality Štrpce | 32 | 32 | 0 | 0 |
| Municipality Leposavić | 13 | 7 | 0 | 6 |
| Municipality Đakovica | 79 | 68 | 0 | 11 |
| Municipality Zvečan | 16 | 8 | 0 | 8 |
| Municipality Kosovska Mitrovica | 38 | 38 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 582 | 448 | 0 | 134 |

Source: Office for Kosovo and Metohija

B5. Statistics on internal migration

According to the estimate of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (SORS), the total population size in the Republic of Serbia has been continuously decreasing during the last 14 years. From 2001, the population size has decreased by over 427,000 people. Population size was estimated on 1 January 2016.

B5. Statistics on internal migration

Table 60:
Estimated population size in the Republic of Serbia for the period 2001–2016,
by type of settlement and sex

| | Total population | | | Urban population | | | Rural population | | |
|--------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female |
| 2001 | 7,503,433 | 3,648,533 | 3,854,900 | 4,215,583 | 2,016,029 | 2,199,554 | 3,287,850 | 1,632,504 | 1,655,346 |
| 2002 | 7,500,031 | 3,647,190 | 3,852,841 | 4,233,303 | 2,023,817 | 2,209,486 | 3,266,728 | 1,623,373 | 1,643,355 |
| 2003 | 7,480,591 | 3,637,789 | 3,842,802 | 4,239,980 | 2,026,423 | 2,213,557 | 3,240,611 | 1,611,366 | 1,629,245 |
| 2004 | 7,463,157 | 3,629,194 | 3,833,963 | 4,249,544 | 2,030,310 | 2,219,234 | 3,213,613 | 1,598,884 | 1,614,729 |
| 2005 | 7,440,769 | 3,618,040 | 3,822,729 | 4,257,878 | 2,033,178 | 2,224,700 | 3,182,891 | 1,584,862 | 1,598,029 |
| 2006 | 7,411,569 | 3,603,698 | 3,807,871 | 4,263,386 | 2,034,616 | 2,228,770 | 3,148,183 | 1,569,082 | 1,579,101 |
| 2007 | 7,381,579 | 3,588,957 | 3,792,622 | 4,270,400 | 2,037,012 | 2,233,388 | 3,111,179 | 1,551,945 | 1,559,234 |
| 2008 | 7,350,222 | 3,573,814 | 3,776,408 | 4,275,245 | 2,038,642 | 2,236,603 | 3,074,977 | 1,535,172 | 1,539,805 |
| 2009 | 7,320,807 | 3,560,048 | 3,760,759 | 4,279,035 | 2,039,934 | 2,239,101 | 3,041,772 | 1,520,114 | 1,521,658 |
| 2010 | 7,291,436 | 3,546,374 | 3,745,062 | 4,283,985 | 2,041,975 | 2,242,010 | 3,007,451 | 1,504,399 | 1,503,052 |
| 2011 | 7,258,753 | 3,530,924 | 3,727,829 | 4,286,114 | 2,042,566 | 2,243,548 | 2,972,639 | 1,488,358 | 1,484,281 |
| 2012 | 7,199,077 | 3,505,713 | 3,693,364 | 4,273,980 | 2,039,174 | 2,234,806 | 2,925,097 | 1,466,539 | 1,458,558 |
| 2013 | 7,166,552 | 3,489,683 | 3,676,869 | 4,272,061 | 2,037,554 | 2,234,507 | 2,894,491 | 1,452,129 | 1,442,362 |
| 2014 | 7,131,787 | 3,472,746 | 3,659,041 | 4,270,367 | 2,035,772 | 2,234,595 | 2,861,420 | 1,436,974 | 1,424,446 |
| 2015 | 7,095,383 | 3,455,335 | 3,640,048 | 4,267,079 | 2,033,446 | 2,233,633 | 2,828,304 | 1,421,889 | 1,406,415 |
| 2016* | 7,076,372 | 3,446,258 | 3,630,114 | 4,264,826 | 2,031,983 | 2,232,843 | 2,811,546 | 1,414,275 | 1,397,271 |

Source: SORS

The data on internal migration are collected for all persons that take permanent residence within the borders of the Republic of Serbia (without data for AP Kosovo and Metohija) and then apply for registration or deregistration of residence to the Ministry of Internal Affairs responsible for keeping records on residence.⁷

⁷ Data in tables No. 60, 61, 62 and 63 are for 2015, considering that SORS publishes statistics for the previous year on 30 June of the current year.

Table 61:
Comparative overview of population that migrated in and out
of the Republic of Serbia, by sex, 2015

| | | 2015 | | |
|---|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | | Total | Male | Female |
| Serbia-North (Belgrade region and Vojvodina region) | Immigration | 79.653 | 36.182 | 43.471 |
| | Outmigration | 72.295 | 33.073 | 39.222 |
| Serbia-South (Šumadija and West Serbia regions and South and East Serbia regions) | Immigration | 45.362 | 18.991 | 26.371 |
| | Outmigration | 52.720 | 22.100 | 30.620 |

Source: SORS

Table 62:
Migrant population by type of settlement and sex, 2015 (internal migration)

| Area | Type of settlement | Immigration % | | Outmigration % | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| | | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| Serbia-North | Urban | 79 | 78 | 78 | 74 |
| | Other | 21 | 22 | 22 | 26 |
| Serbia-South | Urban | 53 | 51 | 51 | 46 |
| | Other | 47 | 49 | 49 | 54 |
| Republic of Serbia | Urban | 70 | 68 | 67 | 61 |
| | Other | 30 | 32 | 33 | 39 |

Source: SORS

B5. Statistics on internal migration

Table 63:
Migrant population by type of settlement and sex, 2015 (internal migration)

| Area | Immigration % | | Outmigration % | |
|--------------------|---------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| Serbia-North | 45 | 55 | 46 | 54 |
| Serbia-South | 42 | 58 | 42 | 58 |
| Republic of Serbia | 44 | 56 | 44 | 56 |

Source: SORS

Table 64:
Migrant population by age groups in the Republic of Serbia, 2015
(internal migration)

| Age | Republic of Serbia | Serbia-North | Serbia-South |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Immigration | | | |
| 0-14 | 18,579 | 12,230 | 6,349 |
| 15-64 | 98,136 | 62,151 | 35,985 |
| 65 and over | 8,300 | 5,272 | 3,028 |
| Outmigration | | | |
| 0-14 | 18,579 | 12,073 | 6,506 |
| 15-64 | 98,136 | 55,198 | 42,938 |
| 65 and over | 8,300 | 5,024 | 3,276 |

Source: SORS

C. Mainstreaming migration into national development strategies

In 2011, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and IOM started implementation of the two-year project Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies in Bangladesh, Jamaica, Moldavia and Tunisia. Since then, the project helped strengthen the capacities of the states to include the migration and development nexus in their development strategies, as well as to direct UN teams providing assistance to states and their partners on the issues related to migration and development. In addition, the project so far also helped the exchange of experiences between previously included countries in the context of activities implemented by the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). Based on the experiences and results of this previous project, as well as increased interest among GFMD member states, in February 2014, the project entered its second phase, and it was envisaged to include additional countries, among which Serbia. The project is jointly implemented by IOM and UNDP in Bangladesh, Equator, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Morocco, Serbia and Tunisia. The aims of the joint programme were formulated at the national and global levels, emphasising interlinkages and the need for enhancing activities on both levels. Therefore, long-term objectives of this project are to provide support to countries to mainstream migration into their national development plans and policies and to continuously monitor and adapt their approach to migration and development, as well as to encourage active and mutually beneficial partnerships between countries in the area of migration and development. Activities planned in Serbia include the collection of data and statistics in the area of migration and development with the aim of successful planning of development policies, through extending the migration profile of the Republic of Serbia with migration and development issues, as well as to provide new data on internal and external migration. Also, in this area, the impacts of labour migration on the demographic situation and the situation on the labour market are considered, but also the influence of diaspora on development in Serbia, as well as data collection on the presence of migration in academic curricula.

A prominent place for future migration and development policies, within the mentioned project, is held by five studies, which filled the gaps in knowledge and different sector policies. The studies were based on relevant data and contain conclusions requiring government response in different areas. Each study provided a detailed list of recommendations on actions to be included in sector policies in relation to the labour market, youth mobility and education of minorities to enhance the development potential.

The following studies were developed:

1. Study on External and Internal Migration of Serbia's Citizens with Particular Focus on Youth (Prof Mirjana Bobić PhD, Milica Vesković Anđelković, Vlasta Kokotović Kanazir)
2. Migration Studies in Serbian Universities Curricula (Prof Dragan R. Simić PhD, Ass. Dragan Živojinović MA)
3. Labour Migration and its Effects on the Demography and Labour market of Serbia (Dragana Marjanović)

4. Impact of education in minority languages on the internal and external migrations of national minorities (Goran Bašić, PhD)
5. Migration and Development in Serbia (Prof Mirjana Rašević PhD)

- **Study: Labour Migration and its Effects on the Demography and Labour market of Serbia**

The concept of this research was to respond to the needs of the Employment Sector with the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs in the context of the revision of National Employment Strategy 2011–2020, to provide the latest presentation of the situation in the field of internal migration of labour force in Serbia, and also support to sector policy makers in formulating goals and developing measures.

The existing National Employment Strategy identifies the issue of population size decrease, which is primarily caused by the decreasing birth rate and migration as a result of economic transition and lack of opportunities for employment, with an increasing polarization in the zones of concentration and zones of emigration and depopulation. The present situation is grave, having in mind the effects that these demographic changes will have on the reduced labour force, as well as the risks of increased emigration of young highly educated experts and qualified workers, primarily to EU countries.

In terms of internal labour migration, low economic activity and lack of jobs cause migration of labour force to regions with greater opportunities for employment. This is also seen in southern parts of the country in comparison with the northern, as well as in rural in comparison with urban areas. Due to migration, the demographic structure of urban areas has been changing, and some places are losing considerable numbers of citizens.

Improving existing infrastructure and increasing employment opportunities through decentralization and development of local and regional employment measures are preconditions for the stability and return of labour force to poor and underdeveloped areas.

The measures that could potentially remove obstacles to labour force mobility in the Republic of Serbia, are related to passive labour market measures, support with moving and transport, support in housing, educational measures, and social integration and anti-discrimination measures.

Some recent examples of other countries have shown that relatively high compensations for the unemployed have positive impacts on mobility, enabling free use of own income and reducing the risks of moving. High levels of fees for the unemployed create decent living conditions which is necessary for people to stay in the region, but do not attract domestic or international migrants.

Support for transport and moving is provided through a limited number of active labour market programmes. Successful measures include compensation for everyday travel to work in the countries and areas with less geographic distances, as well as tax reliefs in relation to mobility.

Measures of housing support are complex but also very important, because existing obstacles represent considerable barriers to mobility in many countries. Educational policies have a high potential for positive influence on the labour force mobility.

Young people who are educated away from their place of birth, have higher chances of also being mobile later in their lives. Therefore, exchange programmes can be used to break initial psychological barriers to moving from home area. Educational measures can also be used to attract students and workers to affected areas, by for example, placing universities in these areas, or through support for on-the job training in the affected areas.

Data show that young people are more mobile in general. They respond better to and are more interested in the services provided by government bodies to promote mobility.

- **Study on External and Internal Migration of Serbia's Citizens with Particular Focus on Youth**

Managing migration of the young population was set as the main goal of this study. During the development of the study, the research team mapped existing data sources on migration, then evaluated their quality in terms of availability, reliability, comprehensiveness and comparability, and within the recommendations, proposed measures to improve the methodology for regular monitoring of migration, particularly at the local level. Based on existing bases of quantitative and qualitative empirical evidence, a desk analysis was conducted, as well as secondary analysis of other, close studies, in order to gain a more complete insight in the migration flows – including movement of asylum seekers of Serbian origin abroad, returnees from abroad, youth, with the aim to achieve an in-depth description, understanding, identification and interpretation of trends, causes and patterns of migration – particularly of young Serbian citizens.

In terms of external migration, Serbia is traditionally an area of emigration. Educational and economic characteristics of external migrants from Serbia change in time, in parallel with the demands from the labour markets of developed economies and local transformation processes, which particularly encourage continued emigration of youth from the beginning of 1990s until today. In the total population of emigrants, the share of young people ages 30–34 and 30–39 is the highest, the majority being male. Regionally, according to the level of education, highly educated population or people with primary school have the highest share in the total emigration. The main motives they report for leaving Serbia are unemployment and poor economic living conditions, and somewhat more rarely political instability, crime and corruption. Contrary to these issues of the local community, which we can observe as push factors, potential migrants primarily expect increased chances for employment, but also improved quality of life in all aspects in the new environment.

In internal migration, several unfavourable tendencies were perceived, such as spatial concentration of the population in large urban agglomerations and domination of local movement within the same area or municipality, which, with long-term low fertility rates, has an impact on population ageing and depopulation, particularly high in the regions of South and East of the country. The analysis has shown that, according to the data of the last population census, over 50% of the migrant population was registered in 26 municipalities. In the total migrant population, observed according to the place of migration, nearly 80% of migrants come from Serbia and around 20% from abroad. The fact is also that Belgrade is still the main desired destination of potential migrants, but research shows that large towns that are regional centres attract citizens more and more. The main motive, as pull factors, is identical as for external migrations, better op-

portunities for employment and expectation of better living standard as well as better quality of life, which would, in addition to economic situation also include a better quality of the environment, municipal development, better work of the institutions, but also better cultural offer. Unlike external migration which includes the majority of men as potential migrants, women much more think about movement that does not entail leaving the country.

Young people, who are very unhappy with their social situation, especially in underdeveloped regions, i.e. in the South and the East of the country, expressed intentions to emigrate, and the migration potential is the highest among younger persons up to 30 years of age. The fulfilling of the intent to move within the country and abroad is, however, the most frequent among persons ages 35–39, because of the need for previous accumulation of resources, acquisition of cultural capital by activating social networks and migration chains, but also final separation from the family of origin. The main push factor for youth is the lack of jobs and sources of income, although the shortage of housing should not be neglected, especially in urban areas. In addition, there is also dissatisfaction with political actors, especially at the local level. The young who see their future abroad, primarily expect to have the opportunity to find better work there and that their quality of life will increase. It is the same with potential migrants within Serbian borders: belief that other towns provide better chances for work and that living in them is of higher quality. In terms of daily migration, it can be said that it is present among the young population, who travel to school every day between villages and towns.

Having in mind the mentioned push and pull factors, the following strategic directions of action can be used to stop/monitor emigration from local areas: economic empowerment of youth, direct and indirect measures in relation to employment; more flexible internal mobility; balance of education with the needs of future investors and local labour markets; higher support for youth to address key issues: housing, education and medical treatment but also balancing life and work, and enjoying good quality leisure. The study particularly emphasizes the importance of networking with the Serbian diaspora for improving short-time stay, professional development, brain circulation, adoption of new technologies and skills – and even through expanding models of virtual connections, which is a very important resource for domestic growth, total and local sustainable development.

Recommendations provided are based on the assumption that emigration from Serbia will continue, especially for younger generations and their efforts to improve their personal human resources, by acquiring better quality education and better career opportunities, or employment abroad. In terms of the migration of youth, which is also the topic of this study, the general view is that it cannot be prevented, but that it is necessary to work on mitigating push factors present at the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia. In this respect, the study emphasises the possibility of establishing control over both external and internal movements, which could be used to integrate migration management in all strategic government documents and plans within all social subsystems.

The first set of recommendations is related to the institutionalisation and professionalisation of research and migration management for overall sustainable development. The main assumption for this is improved records (regular data collection and monitoring trends, characteristics and motives of all types of regular migration movements).

Concrete policies in the area of migration, especially of youth, include recommendations related to e.g. state labour policies, encouraging moving to less developed areas; stronger incentives for small and medium enterprises; removing regional development disparities, and similar, followed by attracting foreigners, particularly returnees of local origin and connecting them with local communities.

In the area of education, the strengthening of migration studies in universities is recommended, especially interdisciplinary programmes. It is pointed out that it is important to increase coverage with tertiary education of youth from poor families, that is, to remove barriers for extended education in the setting of modern knowledge-based economies.

- **Migration Studies in Serbian Universities Curricula**

Taking into account the fact that the process of higher education in Serbia underwent major changes with the adoption of the Bologna Declaration and the new Law on Higher Education in 2005, the aim of this research is to present, analyse, explain and assess the place and importance of migration in curricula of graduate (basic), postgraduate (master) and doctoral studies in public universities in the Republic of Serbia (University in Belgrade, University in Novi Sad, University in Kragujevac, University in Niš, University in Priština (Kosovska Mitrovica) and State University in Novi Pazar), as well as two private Serbian universities (Megatrend and Singidunum).

The research presents and evaluates the situation of migration studies in the Republic of Serbia, but also provides recommendations on how to increase and deepen the knowledge on migration according to the highest European and global standards, as well as to suggest introducing new curricula in the existing study programmes. Key research analyses present that the insight in curricula and syllabi of graduate (basic), postgraduate (master) and doctoral studies at the above-mentioned universities, shows that there is no systematic, unified, comprehensive study of migration issues in all their manifestations, or comprehensive knowledge on all effects (social, political, economic, security, psychological, environmental and other) that they produce.

In relation to this, key research recommendations point out that it is necessary, in order to raise general awareness of the issues of migration, to study this phenomenon using a multidisciplinary approach, within a unique programme, that is, in a systematic, overarching and comprehensive manner. Also, one of the recommendations was to initiate master studies – programme at the University of Belgrade, with cooperation of all other universities in the Republic of Serbia, and with adequate assistance of government and international institutions, which would address the existing fragmentations, repetitions and ineffectiveness of the existing knowledge and action in this area.

- **Study: Impact of education in minority languages on the internal and external migrations of national minorities**

The report on the impact of education in national minority languages on external and internal migration of national minorities was produced on the initiative of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development. The right of national minorities to education in their mother tongues is regulated by the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, laws regulating the position of national minorities and their minority self-governments and laws and regulations on educational work at different levels.

In the majority of minority communities that have the right to complete education in minority languages, bilingual education in Serbian and the language of the national minority, a decrease in the number of students attending this type of programmes has been identified. It is assumed that the reasons why the number of students studying in national minority languages is that the majority of students after completing primary and high school in the national minority language decide to continue their studies abroad.

Also, on the other hand, it is reported that education in mother tongue in ethnically, culturally and linguistically close environments most often results in permanent departure from the country. In this way, the education in the mother tongue, which is conducted according to the same aims as general educational aims, which should additionally contribute to the preservation and strengthening of national minority identities, becomes the opposite, or, instead of strengthening the identity of the national minority, it contributes to linguistic and cultural homogenisation of the minority group, its segregation and finally external migration which adds to depopulation and quiet assimilation of the minority.

The conducted research has demonstrated that there is a causal link between education in national minority languages and temporary or permanent emigration of national minority population to the countries of origin. It has been determined that emigration is not only the choice of the Albanian and Hungarian national minority, which have entire school programmes in mother tongues at all levels, but also Bosniacs, Croatians, Vlachs, Romanians and other national minorities opt to emigrate. There are more and more persons with university education among emigrants, and among returnees mainly persons with lower levels of education.

The conclusion also presents the fact that emigration is also the choice for minorities whose languages are close to Serbian, and that external migration flows more often lead towards other European countries, USA, Canada is indicative of the fact that language and ethnic origin are not key factors for the choice of the country of immigration.

The author of the study has pointed out that the response to pronounced external migration of the minority population and internal migration towards ethnically homogeneous centres of minority culture, should be sought in the development of general economic and social events, development of the human rights culture and the implementation of anti-discrimination policy, building mutual trust of ethnic groups, which also entails opting for integrative multicultural policy.

• **Study: Migration and Development in Serbia**

In the recent years, the understanding of complex relations between migration and development has shifted, with the initiatives coming from scientific and political circles to approach migration comprehensively in the function of development of all countries included in the migration chain. United Nations were the first to indirectly include migration in the Millennium Development Goal 8 for the 21st century, which was defined as Develop a global partnership for development.

The aim of this study was to review the demographic and socioeconomic momentum and migration model, identify different effects of migration, critically analyse mainstreaming migration into key national development and sector strategic documents and define recommendations for balanced inclusion of this phenomenon in public policy agenda.

The Revised Push and Pull Model (Fassman, Musil, 2014) and Migration Transition Model: from emigration to immigration countries (Fassman, Reeger, 2012) were chosen as theoretical baseline for the paper. The former enables to understand more fully the deterministic basis of individual decisions related to emigration/immigration, and the latter shows the present and future phases of the migration process in the Republic of Serbia.

The focus of the study was on quantitative exploration of the topics, based on different sources of evidence, including the findings of the implemented qualitative study. A critical analysis of 14 relevant valid documents adopted at the highest level was also provided. The possibility for using migration for the development of the country was also discussed. In this respect, some of the opportunities for turning emigration related losses into potential gains were identified, opening questions on using immigration potentials for the development of the country, including demographic revitalisation. The results of the study are aimed at decision makers.

A total of 38 public policy recommendations were defined, divided according to purpose on conceptual and strategic, those that aim at strengthening institutions, improving data and providing support to research, followed by a set of recommendations on remittances and development, encouraging investment in the country of origin and supporting transnational activities of the diaspora, with further eight recommendations defined to increase the appeal of domestic universities, and final recommendations regarding the preparations for increased immigration into Serbia.

B7. CONCLUSION

- With regards to immigration, the Republic of Serbia is still not a destination country, not even among the countries in the region, especially for migrants whose aim is employment. Countries from which the majority of immigrants came in 2016 were PRC, the Russian Federation, Romania, Macedonia and Libya. The situation did not change in comparison with 2015.
- After the single Readmission Agreement with the EU entered into force on 1 January 2008, many citizens of the Republic of Serbia were returned from EU countries. Among these persons there were those who lost the legal grounds for residence on the territory of one of EU member states, but still these were predominantly persons that applied for asylum on the territory of EU member states after visa liberalisation. Out of the total number of received applications for readmission, the majority were from Germany, Netherlands and Sweden. The majority of returnees registered with the Readmission Office at the Nikola Tesla Airport came from Germany and Sweden.
- Republic of Serbia faced an unprecedented transit of migrants during the second half of 2015 and in 2016, when over 700,000 persons passed through its territory. In 2016, the number of asylum seekers was 45 times lower than in 2015, because the situation in 2016 changed. After the formal closure of the Western Balkan Route (March 2016), the stay of the migrants on the territory of the Republic of Serbia became much longer, so the Government of the Republic of Serbia began issuing proof of entry into the territory of the Republic of Serbia for citizens of countries in which their lives were in danger. For this reason, the number of asylum seekers decreased drastically.
- The issue of refugees and IDPs is still ongoing in the Republic of Serbia. The number of refugees has decreased by 6,000 in comparison with 2015, while the number of IDPs has remained unchanged. Having in mind that sustainable return is not possible, internal displacement remains a great challenge for the Republic of Serbia. The decrease in the number of refugees is not the result of return of these persons to the countries of previous residence, but the process of their integration in the Republic of Serbia.
- The changes in the population size in the Republic of Serbia are in part caused by low, i.e. negative population growth, which is the result of low birth rates (among the lowest in European countries) and high mortality rates, depopulation of agrarian areas, as well as movement of the population abroad (economic migration, brain drain, etc.) to work/stay there temporarily, which is becoming increasingly permanent, and which is ever present in greater or lesser intensity.
- In terms of external migration, the Republic of Serbia is traditionally an area of emigration. Today it records a clear negative migration balance. Birth crisis and its effects related to population ageing and open depopulation will continue and become more profound in the time to come.
- Serbia is faced with a number of political, economic, social and cultural challenges explaining why there is still a high emigration and a low immigration potential of the country, as well as that return to Serbia today is a complex and relative option.

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