



TC Tabanovce

During the reporting period the push backs from Serbia continued, the number remained the same as in the previous months. The NGOs that monitor the hotspots for irregular border crossings, unofficially informed us that the total number of refugees pushed back from Serbia during April was approximately **100** people, all of whom are staying in the villages Lojane and Vaksince.

The number of refugees coming illegally from Greece and reaching the northern border was around **50** people. However as in previous months no one is allowed to enter the camp except vulnerable groups who are allowed entrance only for few hours.

Since the institutions are not allowing refugees to enter in the camp the number of people what are staying in the railway continue to increase. MYLAs field lawyer interviewed 2 persons who were not allowed to enter the camp and informed them about the asylum procedure in Macedonia but all of them continue their journey to find a way to reach one of the EU countries.

There are **6** new unaccompanied and separated children who arrived in TC Tabanovce during April, the officials appointed a guardian for all of them. At the end of the month the number of unaccompanied minors in the camp was **4**. The rest left the camp in an unknown direction.

During the month of April **8** refugees/migrants were informed about the asylum procedure.

The official number of refugees who are staying in TC Tabanovce in April was **22**.

TC Vinojug

During April the situation in TC Vinojug did not change drastically in comparison to previous months. Almost **50** persons were offered legal aid and majority of them were caught by the border police in an attempt to enter Macedonia irregularly. After being caught they were taken to the transit center where they were questioned by the police and profiled and later on pushed back to Greece.

What is evident from the conversation MYLAs field lawyers had with them was that all of the refugees tried to cross the border with the help of smugglers. Most of the refugees were caught and brought in TC Vinojug by the Macedonian police in the first half of the month, while the second half of the month was much calmer.

The number of caught and pushed back persons in April is significantly lower in comparison to previous months but it is unclear whether the reason behind this is that the authorities are not taking back all of the refugees to the transit center for questioning or simply because the refugees have managed to find alternative crossing points and routes and they manage to transit through Macedonia without being detected by the police authorities. MYLAs field lawyers gave the refugees the information they needed on questions regarding the asylum procedure in Macedonia, the conditions for accommodation in the reception center for asylum seekers in the Reception Center for Asylum Seekers in Vizbegovo, the integration process in Macedonia and other information.

During April the number of persons accommodated in TC Vinojug varied between **19** and **9** persons. The persons accommodated in TC Vinojug are those who have begun the procedure of family reunification. On April 13th a man and a woman from Syria with their baby and their two cousins were accommodated in TC Vinojug. The reason of their accommodation was the baby's health issues. On April 22nd, after stabilizing the medical condition of the baby, the whole family voluntarily left to Greece.

Macedonian Young Lawyers Association (MYLA) is an independent, non-partisan, non-governmental professional organization which provides legal aid and strategically litigates to protect human rights. By using the knowledge and innovative capacities of young lawyers, MYLA promotes the rule of law and influences policy through research and advocacy. MYLA strives for a society in which the rule of law is established and people proactively strive for the respect of their human rights.

MYLA is the only organization in the Republic of Macedonia that provides free legal aid and represents asylum seekers, refugees, stateless persons and other persons of concern in procedures related to asylum, legal residence and other social rights.

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