



Hungary: Key Asylum Figures as of 1 August 2016

Hungarian Helsinki Committee

How many?

Despite the construction of the border fence on the Serbian and Croatian border sections, the number of **irregular migrants** apprehended by the Hungarian police has been constantly **on the rise** since the beginning of 2016:

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Total
Irregular migrants apprehended	553	2 398	3 412	3 946	3 395	3 768	572	18 044
Blocked entries since 5 July	0	0	0	0	0	0	4 396	4 396
Total	553	2 398	3 412	3 946	3 395	3 768	4 968	22 440

Since the '8-kilometre rule' legalising push-backs came into force on 5 July, the number of registered asylum applications radically decreased:

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Total
Asylum-seekers registered in Hungary	433	2 175	4 574	5 812	4 752	4 745	1 866	24 357

In January-June 2016, only **252** asylum-seekers were **granted protection** (of which 87 were refugee and 165 were "subsidiary protection" statuses).

From where?

During the first six months of 2016, the majority of asylum-seekers (**65 %**) **came from war- and terror-torn countries**, including 16% from Syria, 37% from Afghanistan, 11% from Iraq and 1% from Somalia. Of all the applicants, **26 %** were **children** and **20 % women**.

Where are they?

Based on the information provided to the HHC by UNHCR, the facilities of the Office of Immigration and Nationality hosted **1237** persons on 25 July, **the majority** of them **in detention**: **541** were accommodated at **open reception centres** and **696 in specific "asylum jails"**.

Dublin returns

In January-June 2016, **348** asylum-seekers were **returned to Hungary** under the Dublin Regulation, primarily from Germany (180) and Switzerland (51).

Returns to Serbia

In January-June 2016, only **114** irregular migrants were officially **returned to Serbia**. (Neither the refusal of the asylum applications in the transit zones, nor the "legalised" push-backs since 5 July result in such official readmissions). Among the readmitted persons, there were 35 Serbian, 27 Kosovar and 22 Albanian citizens. None of the returnees were Syrian, Afghan, Iraqi or Somali citizens.

Criminalisation of irregular border-crossing

Between 15 September 2015 and 10 July 2016, **2 880** persons faced criminal trial, out of which 2 836 were convicted for the "prohibited crossing of the border closure", i.e. the border fence between Serbia and Hungary. There has not been a single trial for "prohibited crossing of the border closure" since 10 July 2016.