

YOU ARE IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO



Here you can find information for ASYLUM SEEKERS in KOSOVO



Who is a refugee?

A person who, owing to a well-founded **fear of being persecuted** for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is **unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it.**



Have you experienced such fear or mistreatment for one or more of these reasons?

If yes, and you are foreign national or stateless person, you can submit an application for asylum. You will become an asylum seeker.

When and where can you apply for asylum?

You can submit your asylum application at the moment of entry into Kosovo.

You can do it:

- at the border crossing point;
- in a police station;
- at the Department for Citizenship Asylum and Migration (DCAM).



You have the right to apply for asylum in a language which you understand.

What happens after you have applied for asylum? Who is responsible?

Both Police and the DCAM are responsible for receiving the application, filling out an initial form, taking your fingerprints, photographs, travel documents and other proof relating to your asylum request.



The DCAM will interview you as soon as possible.

You are obliged to declare all the facts and circumstances supporting your request for asylum, to declare the truth in all responses, to present all evidence available and to give a convincing and trustworthy explanation.

What are your rights?

You have the right to:

- Contact the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and/or Non-Governmental Organizations which offer assistance to asylum seekers;
- Reside in the Republic of Kosovo until a final decision is taken;
- Freedom of thought and religious belief;
- Basic living conditions;
- Basic health care;
- Basic social assistance;
- Free legal assistance;
- Education for children;
- Employment and professional training.



Who can you contact?

**Ministry of Internal Affairs
Public Relations Office**
Tel: + 383 (0)38 200 19 545
Email: zip-mpb@rks-gov.net
Street Luan Haradinaj
10000 Pristina, Republic of Kosovo

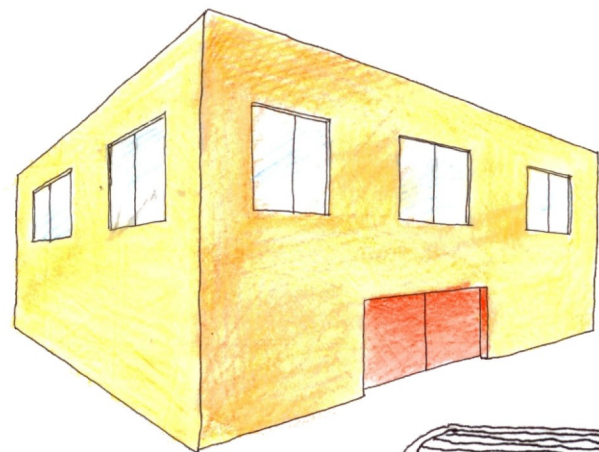
Legal Aid

Civil Rights program – Kosovo (CRP/K)
Tel: + 383 (0)38 243 610/611
Email: crp@crpkosovo.org
Street Lorenc Antoni nr. 15
Peyton city
10000 Pristina, Republic of Kosovo
CRP/K is a local non-governmental organization, partner of UNHCR.



Where will you be accommodated?

You can be accommodated in the Centre for Asylum Seekers or in another location assigned by the DCAM. If you have special needs you will be provided living standards in accordance with your specific needs.



Asylum in Kosovo is a competence of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and it is regulated by the Law on asylum (Law No. 06/L-026) which is harmonized with the 1951 Geneva Convention. The DCAM is responsible for decision-making at first instance.

What are your obligations?

- At all times act in accordance with the laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Kosovo, as well as measures taken by the state;
- Cooperate with DCAM and other relevant government bodies;
- Respond to invitations of the competent authority and other government offices and cooperate in any stage of the asylum procedure;
- Submit travel documents, identity documents and other evidence that you have available; cooperate with the competent authority regarding taking fingerprints and photography;

- Notify DCAM of any change of address within 3 days;

- Comply with orders issued by the competent authority, and all other Government orders regarding movement restrictions;

- Not to leave the territory of Kosovo without the permission of the competent authority until the asylum procedure ends.



When the asylum procedure can be suspended?

- If you withdraw the asylum application;
- If you depart from the last place of residence for over 3 days without informing the competent authority, except cases when you can prove within a reasonable time that this happened due to circumstances out of your control;
- If you leave the Republic of Kosovo during the procedure.

What happens if your application is rejected?

In this case, you have a right to lodge an appeal at the National Committee for Refugees (second instance) against the decision taken at the first instance. You will be authorized to reside in the Republic of Kosovo until a final decision is taken.