

INFORMATION BROCHURE FOR STATELESS PERSONS IN KOSOVO

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS



The printing of the brochure was supported by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Office of the Chief of the Mission in Pristina. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the UNHCR.

DEFINITIONS

OF BASIC TERMS USED IN THE BROCHURE

STATELESS PERSON

is a person who is not considered as a national by any State under the operation of its law.

SDP

STATELESS DETERMINATION PROCEDURE (SDP) is an administrative process through which an individual can apply for legal status as a stateless person. *The Department of Citizenship Asylum and Migration (DCAM) – Division of Citizenship within the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)* is the responsible authority.

DECISION

DECISION OF STATELESS STATUS is issued by the DCAM and enables further process with the Division for Foreigners (DF) within DCAM in the issuance of the residence permit.

RESIDENCE PERMIT

authorization issued by the authorities allowing a foreigner to stay legally in the territory, issued by the DF.

NATURALIZATION

is the legal process of a foreign person to acquire citizenship of a country in which they were not born.

ACCESS TO RIGHTS

is enabled after the recognition of the legal status. The rights of persons with stateless status are defined in accordance with the Law on Citizenship, Law on Foreigners, and Regulation for Integration of Foreigners and other legislative acts pertinent to the specific areas.

CIVIL STATUS DOCUMENTS

are records of life events kept under governmental authority, including birth certificates, marriage certificates, death certificates and any other certificates closely linked to life events.

DRRPF

THE DEPARTMENT FOR REINTEGRATION OF REPATRIATED PERSONS AND INTEGRATION OF FOREIGNERS (DRRPIF) within the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) is responsible for drafting, implementing and monitoring of policies for integration of foreigners.

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this brochure is to

**PROVIDE
INFORMATION**

to persons with granted stateless status and their family members, if enjoying the same status on the rights and services

Moreover, this brochure will provide segmented information on various rights and the manner of accessing services along with detailed information on the relevant municipal officials/contact persons.

You can reach out to the relevant authorities and organizations, at any time, for support and assistance.



YOU HAVE A **RIGHT** TO

- ☒ Information
- ☒ Reside in the territory
- ☒ Civil status documents
- ☒ Identity document
- ☒ Travel document
- ☒ Naturalization
- ☒ Employment and training opportunities
- ☒ Language courses
- ☒ Health care
- ☒ Education
- ☒ Freedom of thought and religion
- ☒ Family reunification
- ☒ Access to justice and free legal aid
- ☒ Own property
- ☒ Freedom of association

INFORMATION

You are entitled to receive information about your rights and obligations, as well as the procedures that concern you, in a language that you understand.

The Department for Reintegration of Repatriated Persons and Foreigners (DRRPF) within the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) is responsible for informing stateless persons about their rights and responsibilities during the integration process, in compliance with the Regulation for the Integration of Foreigners, available at: <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDocumentDetail.aspx?ActID=21006>.

This information is available in the Serbian and Albanian languages, as well as in a language that stateless persons understand. Basic integration information is provided to all stateless persons immediately upon obtaining legal status in Kosovo. Please refer to the following help page for additional resources - <https://help.crpkosovo.org/English/integration.html>.

RESIDE IN THE TERRITORY

You have the right to reside in Kosovo.

Upon being granted the legal status of the stateless person you have been granted legal ground for the stay in the territory. By obtaining the status you are obliged to respect the legislation in force, equally as the citizens. You shall not be involved in any activity that might be against the rules and order.



CIVIL STATUS DOCUMENTS

You can register the facts of birth and death in the municipal civil status registries of your residence

Municipal Civil Status Offices in your respective municipality of residence will offer you all services related to registration of birth and death, except the marriage and citizenship rights, in accordance with the Law on Civil Status, Law on Citizenship, and related sub-legal acts.

IDENTITY DOCUMENT

Once granted a stateless status, you have the right to apply and obtain a temporary residence Identity Card

Equipped with the decision of a person with stateless status you will apply for a temporary residence permit (identity card). Each person applies in person at the Foreigners Division within DCAM at the MIA in Pristina. For stateless children, up to 18 years of age, the application for ID Card issuance is made by his/her legal representative or legal guardian.

The validity of the ID Card is one (1) year, with a renewal opportunity. A request for the extension of an ID card with temporary residence is similar to the initial application, with the precondition of in-person application seven (7) working days before its expiration.

Once the ID Card is issued, you will be enabled to access all other rights.



TRAVEL DOCUMENT

You have a right to a travel document for stateless persons

Application for a travel document for a stateless person shall be submitted in person to the Foreigners Division within DCAM, MIA in Pristina.

NATURALIZATION

Five years after recognition of stateless status in Kosovo you may wish to apply for naturalization

You have the right to apply for Kosovo citizenship based on naturalization. You are eligible to apply for Kosovo citizenship through naturalization after five (5) consecutive years of regular and uninterrupted stay, starting from the day your stateless status is recognized.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Being able to be trained and find a job is an added value to your integration in the society

All information on opportunities, conditions, and active market measures is available with the DRRPIF. The Employment Agency of Kosovo and Employment Offices play a vital role in connecting you with employment and vocational training opportunities, ensuring fairness and no discrimination. Professional skills training and courses are offered by the VTC and other vocational training service providers. Please reach out to the employment office in your municipality of residence and register. The Employment Agency, through its local offices, will offer counseling, profiling, and guidance supporting you in finding suitable labor market opportunities.



LANGUAGE COURSES OFFERED BY DRRPF

Knowledge of
an additional
language
enables easier
integration
with the
communities
in locations of
your residence

The MIA/DRRPIF, in cooperation with the relevant educational institutions and organizations, offers language courses. The language courses are available in official languages at levels A1 or A2. An initial assessment will be conducted on your language knowledge, and you will be placed in the adequate language course level. Knowledge of the language is an important precondition for successful naturalization in accordance with set timeframes.

HEALTH CARE

Your health is
essential, and
services are
available to
treat any
concern of yours

The right to access primary, secondary, and tertiary health care, is available to stateless persons under the same conditions as to all residents in public institutions.

EDUCATION

Education is a
path towards a
brighter future

The right to access primary, secondary, and higher education, is available to stateless persons under the same conditions as to all residents in public institutions.

FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND RELIGION

You can practice
your religion
freely without
discrimination.

You have the right to freely exercise and express your religious opinion and belief without discrimination.

FAMILY REUNIFICATION

Family unity,
cornerstone of
your rights and
entitlements

You have the right to apply for family reunification in Kosovo under the conditions foreseen by the Law on Foreigners. To initiate the process, you must submit a request in person to the Foreigners Division within DCAM at the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Pristina.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND FREE LEGAL AID

Your rights are
important. The
access to legal
aid and justice is
guaranteed

You are entitled to free legal aid if you do not have sufficient financial means to cover the costs. You can be assisted in drafting claims and complaints and be represented before the administrative bodies and competent courts. Free legal aid to you is provided by the Free Legal Aid Agency and CRP/K.



OWN PROPERTY

Having a property is just another step towards the effective integration

You have the right to own movable and immovable property under the same conditions as foreign persons.

FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

You can join and benefit from professional organizations

You have the right to join or become a member of an organization that represents employees, employers, or other professions and to receive benefits from those organizations.

YOUR **OBLIGATIONS** IN KOSOVO

Upon recognition of the stateless status, you must adhere to the applicable legal order, as well as comply with measures taken to maintain public order.

INTEGRATION SUPPORT

You are entitled to support with specific integration measures from the DRRPIF who will evaluate the individual requirements and develop a personalized integration plan.

To begin the process, you may contact the Municipal Office for Communities and Return (MOCR) in the respective municipality of residence.

DRRPIF will implement the developed personalized integration plan in close coordination with the relevant central institutions and municipal departments in the municipality of your residence.





IMPORTANT **DOCUMENTS** TO CONSULT



Law on Citizenship, available at:
<https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=8873>



Law on Foreigners, available at:
<https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=8876>



Regulation for the Integration of Foreigners, available at:
<https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=21006>



Law on Civil Status, available at:
<https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2743>

WHO CAN YOU CONTACT?

Department for Citizenship Asylum and Migration (DCAM)/MIA

Tel: + 383 38 200 19 596
Address: Str. "Luan Haradinaj" n.n. Pristina

Division for Foreigners -DCAM/MIA

Tel: +383 38 200 19 027
Address: Str. "Luan Haradinaj" n.n. Pristina

Department for Reintegration of Repatriated Persons and Integration of Foreigners (DRRPIF)/MIA

Tel: +383 (0) 38 521 266
Centrex: +383 (0) 200 76 731
Address: Str. "Luan Haradinaj" n.n. Pristina
<https://mpb.rks-gov.net/>

Free Legal Aid Agency

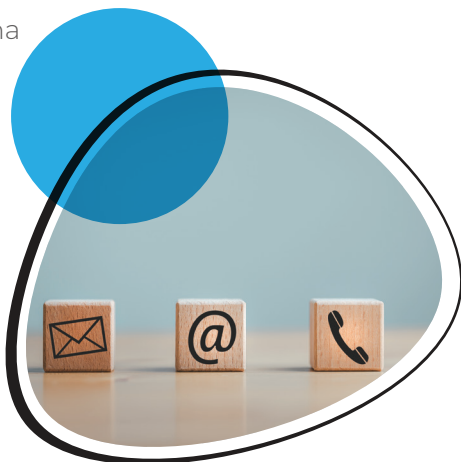
Tel: 038 200 18 941; 038 200 18 950
Email: info.anjf@rks-gov.net
Office in Pristina: Str "Zenel Salihu" no. 30

UNHCR Office of Chief of Mission in Pristina

Tel: + 383 38 241 509, 0800 22 888
Email: OCMPristina@unhcr.org
Address: Str. "Lorenc Antoni" no. 26, Pristina

Civil Rights Program – Kosovo (CRP/K)

Tel: 383 (0) 38 243- 610/611
Email: crp@crpkosovo.org
Address: Str. "Lorenc Antoni" no. 15, Pristina



**KNOW YOUR
RIGHTS AND
OBLIGATIONS**



MINISTRIA E PUNËVE TË BRENDSHME
MINISTARSTVO UNUTRASNJIH POSLOVA
MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS



CRP/K

PROGRAMI PËR TË DREJTAT CIVILE KOSOVË
CIVIL RIGHTS PROGRAM KOSOVO
PROGRAM GRAĐANSKIH PRAVA KOSOVA

INFORMATION BROCHURE FOR STATELESS PERSONS IN KOSOVO

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS!

GET IN TOUCH



+383 38 243 610



crp@crpkosovo.org



www.crpkosovo.org
help.crpkosovo.org/statelessness

