

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

About the country

Republic of North Macedonia is a country in Southeast Europe. It is a landlocked country bordering Kosovo to the northwest, Serbia to the north, Bulgaria to the east, Greece to the south, and Albania to the west. According to the preliminary results of the 2021 census the country counts 1,832,696 people. Skopje, the capital and largest city, is home to a quarter of the country's 1.83 million population. The majority of the residents are ethnic Macedonians, then Albanians form a significant minority, followed by Turks, Romani, Serbs, Bosniaks, Aromanians and a few other minorities.

Besides Skopje, the capital, other bigger cities are Bitola, Kumanovo, Prilep, Tetovo, Veles, Stip, Ohrid, Gostivar, Strumica, Kavadarci, Kocani, Kicevo, Struga, Radovis, Gevgelija, Debar, Krival Palanka, Sveti Nikole and Negotino.

Official languages are Macedonian and Albanian.

Currency in RNM is Macedonian denar.

Legal framework

The right to asylum is international protection granted by the Republic of North Macedonia, to the following categories of persons foreigners/stateless: person with refugee status (refugee according to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees) and person under subsidiary protection. In the Republic of North Macedonia two state authorities share the responsibility regarding the legal procedure/residence and social protection of the asylum seekers and refugees

RNM is signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol, as well as the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. According to the national legislation there are three categories of people seeking protection in RNM: refugees, asylum seekers holding a status of In the Republic of Macedonia two state authorities share the responsibility regarding the legal procedure/residence and social protection of the asylum seekers and refugees. The Ministry of Interior, Sector for Asylum is responsible for the asylum procedure, regardless of the fact where the application is submitted (at the border crossing points, inside the territory of the country or at the airport). During the asylum procedure, including the appeal period, asylum seekers are allowed to stay on the territory of the country. The costs related to their residence and care, are borne by the state and the responsible authority concerning the reception is the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, through the work of the Reception Center for Asylum Seekers- Vizbegovo. This Ministry is as well fully in charge of leading the process of local integration, once the protection has been granted by the Ministry of Interior to recognized refugees, persons under subsidiary and temporary protection.

OPEN GATE /**LA STRADA EMERGENCY FUND**

IF YOU ARE REFUGEE FROM UKRAINE
AND HAVE, EMERGENCY NEED PLEASE CONTACT US

FREE SOS TELEPHONE LINE - 0800 11111

  **+389 71 239 551**

LASTRADA@LASTRADA.ORG.MK.

WE PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE IN
NEED AND AT RISK OF EXPLOITATION AND TRAFFICKING!

WHEN YOU TRAVEL

Get yourself ready!

- Get yourself familiar about the country your are travelling to, how can you regulate your stay, what right will you be granted upon the arrival, institutions and organizations available, telephone numbers and SOS lines.
- Do not give your passport of identity document/s to anyone but a border guard. Have your documents close to your body, take a photo, as a backup, and send the photo to yourself via mail and/or family member or friend.
- Keep your family members and or friends informed about your travel route and your actual location, and means of transportation. Take a photo of the registration plates and send it to a person who is following your trip. If you see or feel something suspicious, LEAVE.
- Use code language with your family and friends so in case you are in trouble you can alert of the danger.
- Keep your money close to you, well hidden, maybe on multiple places.
- Be ready with an information in advance about possible accommodation of the places/location you are traveling thorough/to. Do not accept accommodation for which a favor or something in return have been asked.



What is human trafficking?



Human Trafficking means the recruitment, transportation, transfer, accommodation or reception of people through force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit. Men, women and children of all ages and from all backgrounds can become victims of this crime. It happens in every region of the world. The traffickers often use violence or fake employment agencies and fake promises of education and job opportunities, in order to trick and force their victims.

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Institutions

1 Ministry of Interior

Str. Dimce Mircev No.9, 1000 Skopje
+389 2 3 117 222
kontakt@moi.gov.mk

Sector for Asylutm

Macedonian Radio and TV – 8th floor
Str. Goce Delcev bb, 1000 Skopje
+389 2 3334 176

Guidelines and procedure for certain rights (requests) of foreigners

<https://mvr.gov.mk/upravni-rab/25>

Information about Asylum

<https://help.unhcr.org/northmacedonia/wb-content/uploads/sites/57.2020/04/Asylum-Brochure-English.pdf>

2 Ministry of Labor and Social Policy

Str. Dame Gruev No 14, 1000 Skopje
web: www.mtsp.gov.mk
e-mail: mtsp@mtsp.gov.mk

Department for Migration, Integration of Refugees and Foreigners and Humanitarian Aid

Str. Dame Gruev No 14, 1000 Skopje
+ 389 2 3106 371

Information about residence and work permit of foreigners

<https://www.mtsp.gov.mk/rabotna-dozvola-za-stranec.nspcx>



505 Help and Hotline

- **Open Gate – La Strada**
SOS Counselling 24/7 tel: 080011111
 +38971239551

- **UNHCR**
 +38970229001
<https://help.unhcr.org/northmacedonia/>

- **Association of Ukrainians in North Macedonia "Lesja Ukrainka"**
lesjaukrainka.mk@gmail.com

- **MYLA (free legal aid)**
+38978359298

- **Red Cross:**
+38970414756



Embassy

- **Embassy of Ukraine in North Macedonia**
Str. Albert Schweitzer 7-9, 1000. Skopje
+389 2 317 8120
+389 2 317 9259
emb_mk@mfa.gov.ua
<https://macedonia.mfa.gov.ua/>

Emergency contact number
122



Organisations

WHO WE ARE OPEN GATE – LA STRADA

The Association for Action Against Violence and Trafficking in Human Beings – Open Gate-La Strada is working for already 20 years on advocacy, prevention, education, assistance and support, of victims of trafficking and sexual violence. The Open Gate Association represents victims of trafficking and has an active role in provision of unconditional support to vulnerable population.

- We provide free help and support
- We offer specialized services to clients and their family members that are available 24/7
- We focus on the needs and interests of trafficked persons and vulnerable groups.
- We provide protection, capacity building and integration of trafficked persons and other vulnerable groups in society.
- We do not blame, nor do we judge. We offer services with full confidence, interest and desire to help.

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If you are in need of assistance, Open Gate/La Strada can support you!

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