

INTRODUCTION

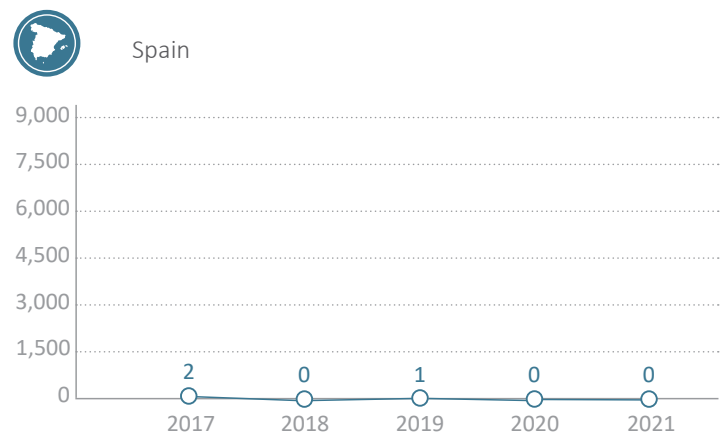
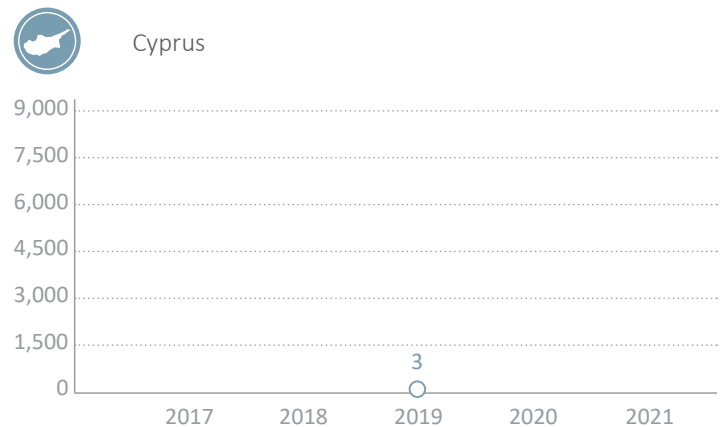
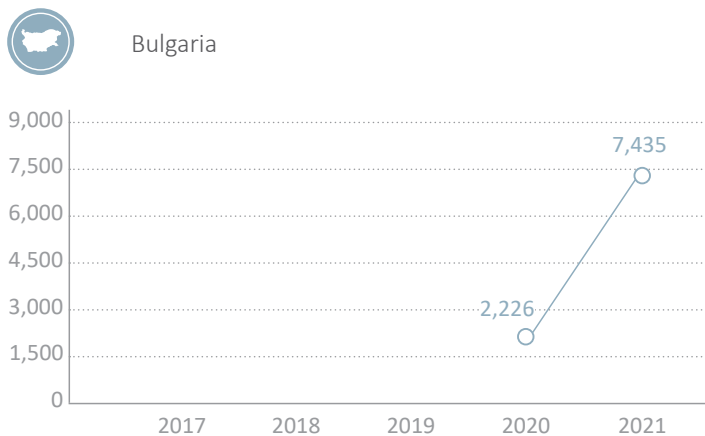
This snapshot summarizes available data on Afghan arrivals and transits in Europe between 2017 and 2021. Firstly, the snapshot report visualizes the number of Afghan nationals who arrived in the European Union by land and sea. Secondly, it presents the number of Afghan nationals who transited through the Western Balkan and Eastern European region. The data on arrivals and transits is made available by national authorities and then gathered by IOM DTM Europe.

The snapshot is part of the outputs of the EU-funded Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) project “Regional Evidence for Migration Analysis and Policy” (REMAP). The objective of DTM REMAP is to strengthen the evidence-based formulation and implementation of humanitarian and development policy and programming on migration and forced displacement in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq and Pakistan.

NUMBER OF AFGHAN NATIONALS WHO ARRIVED IN THE EUROPEAN UNION BY LAND AND SEA BETWEEN 2017 AND 2021¹

Official data on first arrivals to the European Union by land and by sea is gathered by IOM from national authorities in Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta and Spain. Between 2017 and 2021, disaggregated data by nationality is available for sea arrivals for Greece, Italy, Malta and Cyprus (2019 only), for land arrivals in Bulgaria (2020 and 2021 only) and for sea and land arrivals in Spain.

Data on nationalities in Bulgaria shows that 2,226 Afghan nationals arrived in the country in 2020 and 7,435 Afghan nationals arrived in 2021. For Cyprus, data on nationalities is available for 2019 only, when 3 Afghan arrivals were recorded. Between 2018 and 2019, arrivals of Afghan nationals in Italy decreased from 224 to 71, before increasing to 1,009 in 2020 and 2,183 in 2021. Afghan nationals were registered in very low numbers in Spain: 2 arrivals in 2017, 0 arrivals in 2018, 1 arrival in 2019 and 0 arrivals in 2020 and 2021. Zero Afghan nationals were reported arriving to Malta during the reporting period.

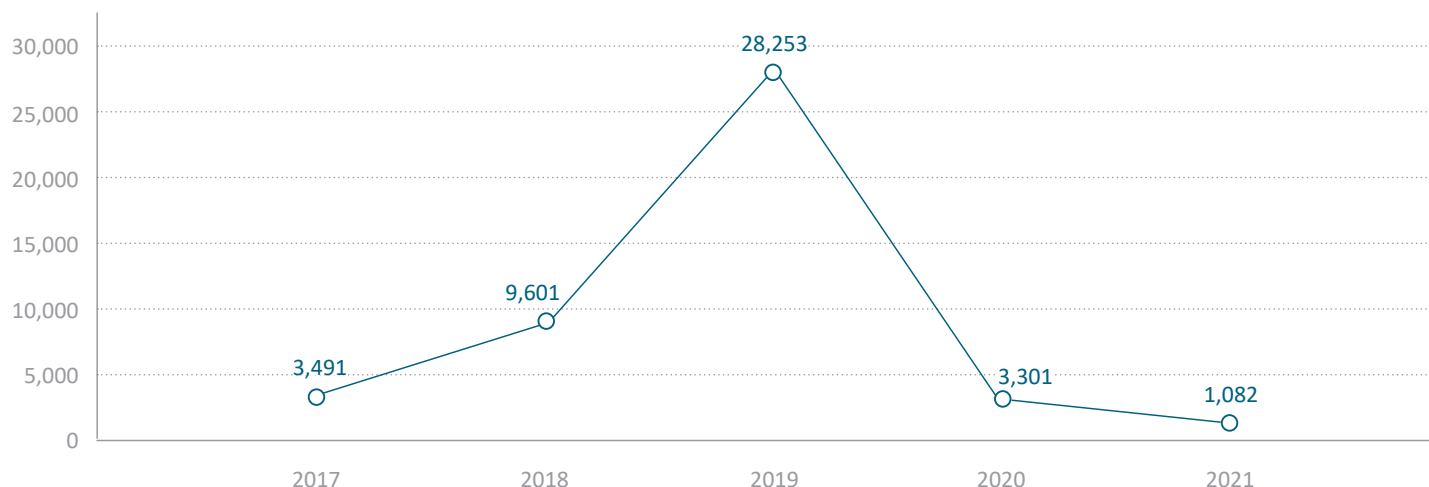


1. Mixed Migration Flows to Europe in 2021: <https://migration.iom.int/europe?type=arrivals>

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Greece



Arrivals of Afghan nationals in Greece increased significantly between 2017 and 2019, peaking at 28,253 arrivals, before decreasing rapidly in the following years, reaching a record low of 1,082 arrivals in 2021.

NUMBER OF AFGHAN NATIONALS WHO TRANSITED THROUGH THE WESTERN BALKAN AND EASTERN EUROPEAN REGION BETWEEN 2017 AND 2021³

The following timelines visualize Afghan nationals' transits through the Western Balkan and Eastern European region between 2017 and 2021. Numbers of apprehensions or registrations at the border in this region are not summed up to avoid double counting of the same persons who transit through multiple countries in their intent to reach Central and Northern Europe.

Afghan nationals' transits in Albania consistently increased from 0 in 2017 to 544 individuals in 2020. In Albania, no data is available from January 2021 onwards and therefore the data for that year is incomplete. Between 2017 and 2021, numbers of Afghan nationals' transits in Bosnia and Herzegovina increased from 85 to 5,400.

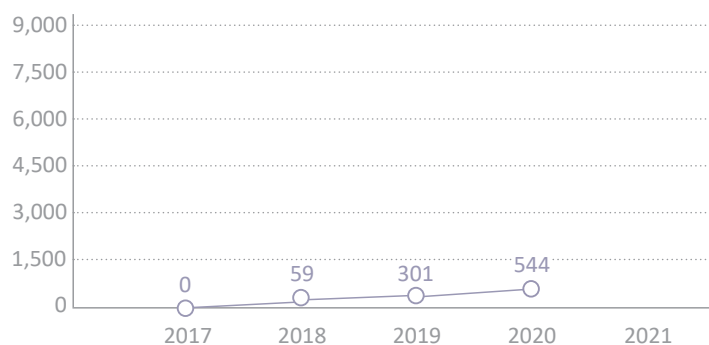
In Croatia, transits of Afghan nationals increased rapidly between 2017 and 2020, when they reached a record high of 8,455. In 2021, transits decreased but remained high at 4,834 individuals.

During the reporting period, Afghan nationals' transits increased in Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania and Slovenia, and all reached record peaks in 2021.

Between 2017 and 2018, Afghan nationals' transits in Serbia increased from 0 to 1,640 individuals. In 2019, transits quadrupled and peaked at 6,245. Since 2019, transits have decreased but have remained very high with 5,187 transits in 2020 and 4,633 transits in 2021. During the reporting period, transits of Afghan nationals in Kosovo remained low, with a total of 269 transits.



Albania⁴

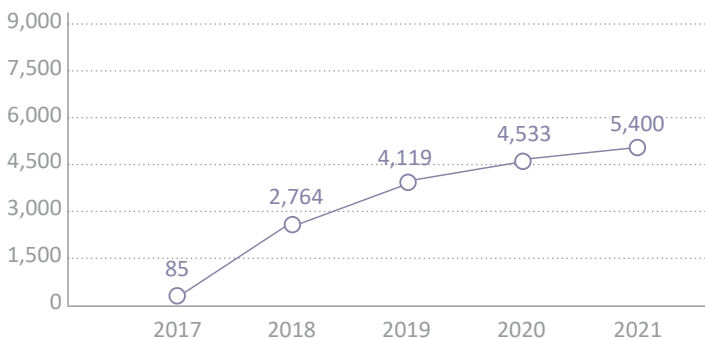


3. Mixed Migration Flows to Europe in 2021: <https://migration.iom.int/europe?type=arrivals>

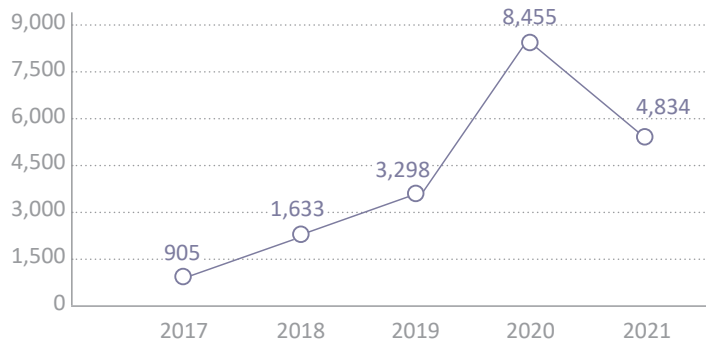
4. Data is relative to two major Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) in Albania, one in the Gjirokastra region and one in the Shkodra region. Information on other entry points is not available.



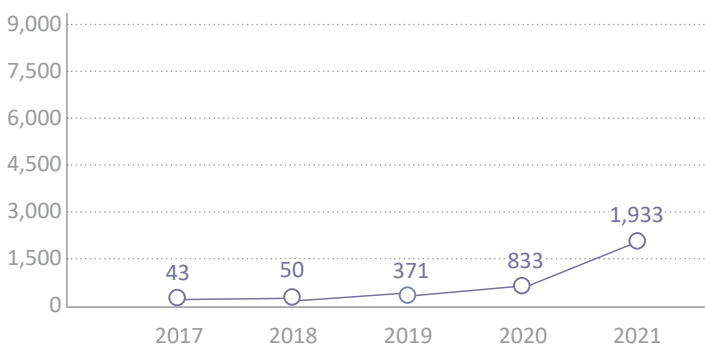
Bosnia and Herzegovina



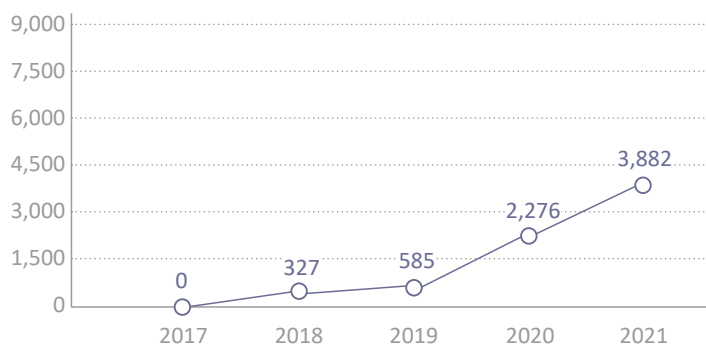
Croatia



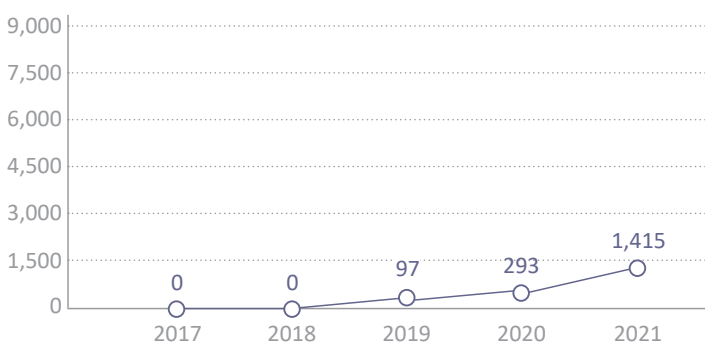
Montenegro



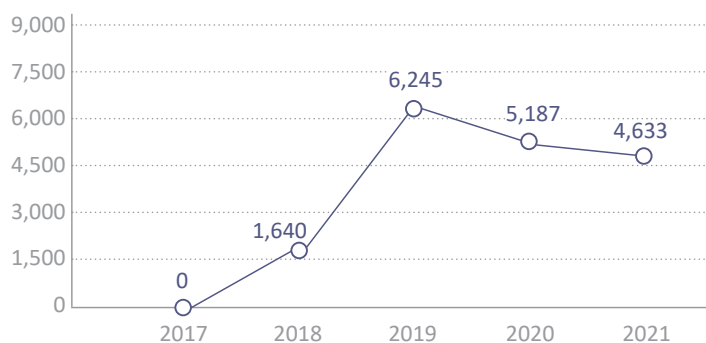
North Macedonia



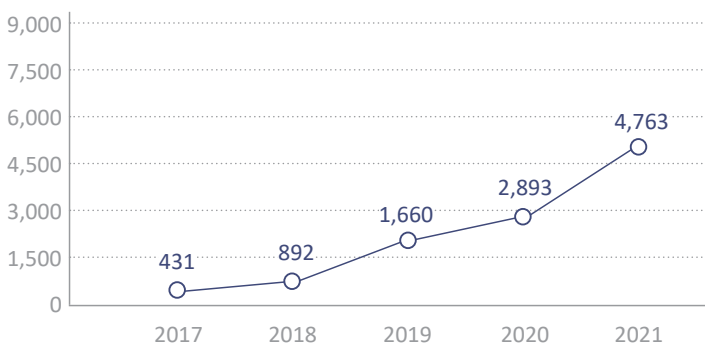
Romania



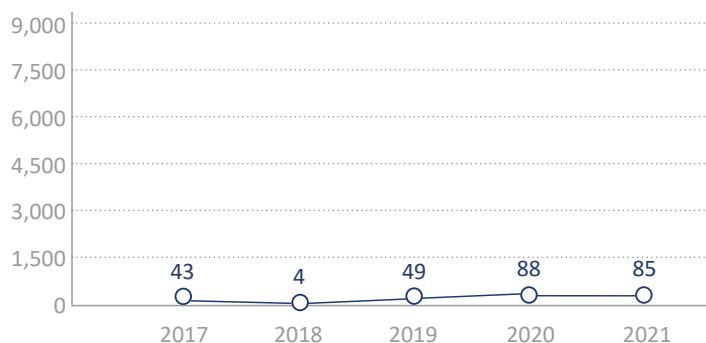
Serbia



Slovenia



Kosovo⁵



5. References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)