



QKRMT
KRCT

Qendra Kosovare për Rehabilitimin
e të Mbijetuarve të Torturës
The Kosovo Rehabilitation
Center for Torture Victims

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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ANNUAL REPORT 2023



CONTENTS

06	Message from the Executive Director
08	About KRCT
12	Our Work and Impact
	Year 2023: Success Stories
	Journey to Success
16	Rehabilitation program
18	Human Rights and Advocacy Program
20	Publications and knowledge sharing
26	Training and Knowledge Exchange
30	Advocacy and Awareness
36	Important dates
42	Support and encouragement of our work
44	KRCT as an inspiration to others
46	Governance structure
	Leadership and Management
	Networking
50	Donors

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

// Dear beneficiaries, friends, collaborators and supporters, The year that we left behind has been a challenge and an unforgettable journey for us. Through rehabilitation, advocacy and educational programs, we have left essential traces. Some of the most important successes include the historic triumph, *when the first survivor of wartime sexual violence achieved justice*, and the punishment of perpetrator by 13-year prison was upheld by the Supreme Court. This was an important step in the survivor's resilience. The achievement of justice has empowered the survivor and motivated many others to follow her path and have trust in themselves and the institutions of justice.




Another successful journey is the first compensation for a rape victim in prison. Thanks to a persistent 10-year support of KRCT, our beneficiary manages to triumph against the state and receive compensation due to the failure of the correctional institutions to provide him with protection and security.

Also, this year, in marking of the International Refugee Day, we organized the exhibition *"Flowers against the war"* and the emotional speech of the author Lyudmila Makey (refugee from Ukraine) made us feel proud and recalled our mission: changing people's lives.

During 2023, we provided over 1,000 rehabilitative, medical and legal services to war rape survivors, refugees and persons deprived of their liberty. Beyond that, KRCT has also become an important resource center, with 11 different research publications.

Together with my team, we remain fully dedicated to follow our mission for the protection of human rights and the achievement of justice. The coming year will be a jubilee year for us, we mark a quarter of a century of work and dedication, where we plan to deepen our commitment and influence the removal of the deadline for the application for the recognition of the status of the victim and the raising of new indictments for the cases of sexual violence that happened during the war in Kosovo.

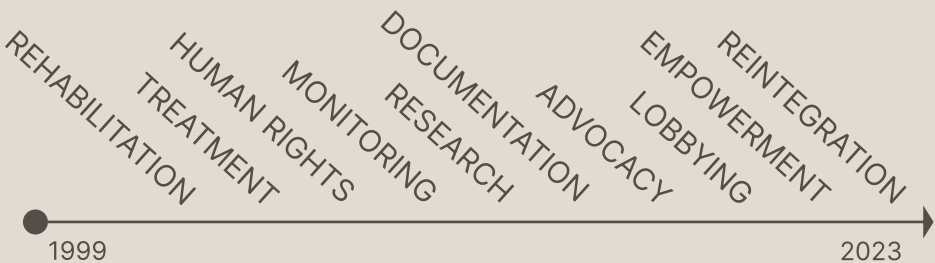
Justice is essential for peace and tranquility.

Thanks for your support! 

Dr. Feride Rushiti

ABOUT KRCT

The Kosova Rehabilitation Center for Torture Victims - KRCT is a non-governmental organization with a long tradition of community work. Founded in 1999, KRCT has cultivated and preserved the character of an organization that offers medical, psychological and social treatment and rehabilitation for torture survivors. Also, throughout its entire existence, KRCT has continuously worked on raising the capacities of its staff and the public sector in order to provide the most professional services to all beneficiaries. KRCT has continuously grown as an organization, expanding its mandate in monitoring human rights in places deprivation of liberty, including the monitoring of correctional centers, detention centers, holding centers in police stations and social care institutions. In addition, KRCT offers psycho-social services for asylum seekers and refugees in Kosovo, while repatriated persons are also provided with legal support. Finally, KRCT strongly advocates for the full realization of the rights of its beneficiaries, with an emphasis on the rights of the survivors of sexual violence from the last war in Kosovo.



Vision

We envision a society free from torture, and one where survivors of violence find understanding, support and recognition that allow them to lead fulfilling lives. KRCT envisions a society where torture and other forms of particularly degrading and inhumane treatment are eradicated. One where no survivor stands alone, where none of them experience shame, where the very social fabric is woven of acceptance, understanding and accountability. A society that understands how discrimination leads to violence and remembers how hate led to tangible acts of inhumanity. A state that treats all of its people with respect, whose purpose is always safeguarding human rights, and never violating them.

Mission

Our mission is to empower voiceless victims to become active survivors by helping them deal with trauma and by contributing to the development of an institutional system of support, acknowledgment, and accountability.



The entirety of our work is guided by the values we pursue to promote in our society:

Dignity: We believe in the value of every person's dignity. We believe that no person, in no situation, anywhere, should be subjected to torture and inhumane treatment. We believe that all people, at their best and at their worst, deserve to be treated with the most fundamental respect for their dignity, by virtue of being human.

Empathy and Solidarity: We believe that empathy and solidarity build better communities and more cohesive societies. We believe that when people are subjected to grave injustice, it is a matter of social responsibility to address it. We believe that no person subjected to torture and violence should be left alone in dealing with the consequences. We are committed to living in empathy and solidarity with survivors, and to promoting these values through all we do.

Justice and Accountability: We believe that no act of torture or violence should go unaddressed. All individuals and groups who violate another person's most fundamental rights, or infringe on another person's dignity, should be held to account. This sends a message to the society as a whole, it builds rule of law, educates people on the difference between right and wrong, and plays a key role in countering stigma so often felt by survivors.

Inclusion: We believe in the value of inclusion and social cohesion. We have witnessed and still face the consequences of hateful violence justified by de-humanization and discrimination. We are committed to ensuring that our society today is one that respects and accepts all people, irrespective of ethnic, religious, racial, sexual or other identities.



OUR WORK AND IMPACT

Year 2023: Success Stories



THE FIRST SURVIVOR TO GAIN JUSTICE

Another victory of the KRCT survivors

In 2023, the Supreme Court confirmed the conviction of Z.V. who was sentenced to 13 years in prison for crimes of sexual violence committed during the war. This is a victory for all survivors and for KRCT, which, in addition to regular provision of psychosocial services, has cooperated closely with the special prosecution and supported the victim in all stages of the process. This victory has encouraged other survivors in their journey and painstaking efforts for justice.

Brief history of the process

On the 5th of July 2021, the Basic Court in Pristina - Special Department, sentenced the accused Z.V. to 10 years in prison, for committed crimes and sexual violence during the war in Kosovo. After the appeal of the Special Prosecution to the Judgment of the Basic Court in Pristina, the Special Department of the Court of Appeal changed this judgment, increasing the sentence against the accused from 10 to 13 years of imprisonment. The defense of the accused had presented a request for the protection of legality, and the Supreme Court rejected this request and ultimately confirmed the Judgment of the Court of Appeal, according to which Z. V. was sentenced to 13 years of imprisonment.

“After 25 years, I feel relieved and free.”

- the survivor who gained justice.

Journey to Success

10 YEARS OF WORK AND DEDICATION: FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE VICTIM OF RAPE IN PRISON IS COMPENSATED

Since 2014, KRCT has supported the victim who was raped in Du-brava Prison, where, in addition to rehabilitation services, it also represented him in prolonged court proceedings to seek justice for what happened to him in 2014. In September 2023, the Basic Court in Pristina

partially approved the victim's claim and recognized his right to compensation for the damage due to the failure to act according to the legal responsibilities of security in correctional institutions and the mistreatment that occurred in 2014. According to the Court's Judgment, the Ministry of Justice, as responsible for the Correctional Service of Kosovo, is obliged to compensate the victim due to mental pain, physical pain and due to violation of dignity and honor. Immediately after the finality of the Judgment, the Ministry of Justice compensated the victim, as was foreseen by the Judgment. This is the first case of this kind, where the court makes state institutions responsible for the violations of prisoners' rights.

*"After the trauma... I found myself abandoned and lost: I lost my fiancée and friends, I thought I had reached the bottom. But the help of KRCT brought me to life and made me stronger. Because of their contribution, I am now better, they were always by my side; they have been a great help to me, giving me the strength to accept that life must go on"
- the words of the beneficiary.*



REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Within the rehabilitation program, our services are based on the holistic approach and treat all beneficiaries on individually, family and community perspective. Our program helps survivors and their families to restore health and dignity, as well as to rebuild their lives and contribute to society.

In our general view rehabilitation is **psychological** and **physical**. Therefore, our service program is based on a multidisciplinary team and our service package offers:

Counseling focusing on needs assessment and mental health issues and challenges that our beneficiaries face throughout their life, including systemic challenges such as prejudice and stigma experienced in their family, community, and society;

Psychological Rehabilitation aims to alleviate psychological suffering and improve the psychological and social functioning of beneficiaries. A specialized team composed of psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers delivers these services on daily basis: Individual psychotherapy, Group psychotherapy, Family therapy, Expressive-creative therapy, Cognitive behavioral therapy and Prolonged exposure therapy;

Medical Care diagnosis, treatment and prescriptions; and

Psychosocial Services or survivors of GBV include emotional support to assist in psychological recovery from trauma; case management, support and advocacy to help survivors access needed services; and support and assistance for social reintegration.

Program Impact

Therapies:

475

Individual

89

Family Therapy

47

Group Therapy

165

Physiotherapy

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support:

115

Asylum seekers and refugees in Kosovo have benefited from the mental health and psychosocial support program

63

New cases of repatriated women and girls received psychological, medical and legal services.

Support and Recognition:

53

War rape survivors were granted status through the support of KRCT

66

Newly identified cases of war rape

Referrals and Aid:

19

Referrals for economic empowerment of repatriated and refugee women and girls

22

Essential food and hygiene packages

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ADVOCACY PROGRAM

This program leads, coordinates, and plans all activities promoting respect for human rights and freedoms, with a particular emphasis on advancing and protecting the rights of persons deprived of liberty and survivors of war. This program is organized through the following sub-programs: Monitoring of places of deprivation of liberty, Free legal aid, Advocacy, and Transitional Justice.



Monitoring of places of deprivation of liberty

• • • The QKRMT conducts regular monitoring in places of detention: correctional and pre-trial detention centers, detention centers in police stations, and social care centers. It also promotes legislative practices and standards for the protection and advancement of respect for the rights of persons deprived of liberty. This year, more than 20 places of deprivation of liberty have been monitored. QKRMT also monitors court sessions. During the year 2023, 10 court sessions were observed.

Free legal aid •••• Since 2006, QKRMT has been providing free legal aid to its beneficiaries regarding legal issues. The lawyers and advocates in the legal aid unit provide services to beneficiaries and their families.

Advocacy •••• Through letters and advocacy campaigns, QKRMT has sought legislative changes to extend the deadline for recognizing the status of victims of sexual violence to all state institutions until July 2023. The Kosovo Assembly approved the law, extending the application deadline until May 2025.

Transitional Justice •••• Since 2019, QKRMT has been documenting cases of sexual violence during the war in Kosovo, aiming to include all cases, regardless of ethnicity, that have experienced sexual violence in the context of the war in Kosovo.

Program Impact

1300+

War rape
documented
cases

100+

Legal services
for war rape
survivors

20+

Monitoring
visits to the
places of
deprivation of
liberty

20+

Advocacy
letters

PUBLICATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

2023 was the year of publications. KRCT in 2023 has presented 11 publications in several categories such as academic research, reports, policy documents, books of confessions and work manuals. These publications are of particular importance because they are based on empirical research and practical observations. All these publications can serve scholars and scientific researchers, professional practitioners and the general public.

Monitoring Report 2022

Human Rights in Correctional Institutions in Kosovo - This report is about the one-year work of the human rights program of KRCT, in monitoring the respect of human rights and freedoms in the correctional service at the state level. Namely, in prisons, detention centers and detention centers in police stations. In addition to monitoring, this program promotes practices and legislative standards for the protection and advancement of the rights of persons deprived of their liberty. This report is comprehensive and summarizes the findings of 14 monitoring visits. The publication of this report was preceded by a round-table discussion on the report's findings and recommendations with the key actors: the Directorate of the Correctional Service and prison directors.

Manual of Family Therapy: Addressing the Impact of Trauma on the Family

Is a highly specific and important publication on trauma and its therapy. It is specific because the outcomes of this manual are based on theoretical readings and direct empirical observations

drawn from the services provided by the team of psychologists within the KRCT. This manual also provides a local, social and cultural context of the occurrence of trauma and its treatment, and as such will serve all professionals, researchers and students in the field of psychology and social sciences. This research was carried out in collaboration with the Dignity Institute, Copenhagen University Hospital and Monash University in Australia, and supported by: The Embassy of the United Kingdom in Kosovo. This research was followed by the conference: "Can family therapy restore epigenetic changes that may be caused by the effects of maternal PTSD and intergenerational trauma?" organized by KRCT, wherein the preliminary results were presented, where researchers, local and international lecturers participated.

Justice for Survivors of Sexual Violence During the War

Analysis of the legislative provisions of the criminal law and the law of criminal procedure for the investigation and prosecution of cases of sexual violence during the war in Kosovo - is an empirical research, focused on the framework of international law governing various forms of sexual violence under international law and the trial of these crimes in the recently established criminal jurisdictions of international courts, tribunals and special hybrid courts. In addition to this publication, a conference was organized with the Ministry of Justice, the Kosovo Judicial Council, the Special Prosecutor's Office and the Kosovo Police on addressing the cases of sexual violence during the war in the justice system in Kosovo.

Unheard Voices

Men's Stories of Overcoming the Trauma of Sexual Violence in War - This is the third book of stories, after I Want to Be Heard and Beyond Pain towards Courage, that contains ten stories of male war

rape survivors in Kosovo (in cooperation with forum ZFD). They speak bravely about their miserable past, their childhood, the war, the trauma they experienced during the war and the social and spiritual state after the war. In the occasion of this book promotion, **an international conference** was organized, where the experiences and difficulties of men and boys who survived war rape in Kosovo were discussed. In addition, in this conference were presented the results of the joint research between KRCT and the University of Leuven on the topic “Living with the “burden” of male survivors of sexual violence during the war in Kosovo.”

16 Days of Activism

Voices from refugee camps - is a booklet written as a guide but with a narrative language dedicated to those who have been forced to flee due to gender-based violence and other forms of hostility such as xenophobia, poverty, crime, fear and war that in a certain way has endangered their security. The promotion of this book in Pristina was part of the 16-day campaign of activism organized by KRCT. The author of the book, Ms. Ethel Manyaka, also participated in the promotion.

Work with migrants, refugees, returnees and repatriates in Kosovo (training module)

Is a publication dedicated to social workers and psychologists that deals with trauma and its psycho-physical manifestations and knowledge of daily work with migrants, refugees, returned and repatriated. Although this publication is dedicated to training for the aforementioned categories, it may also be useful to a wider audience. In addition to this publication, training on the same topic has also been organized.

Addressing hate speech and transitional justice in civic space (POLICY PAPER)

Is a publication that analyzes current trends in public space related to hate speech and transitional justice, and highlights the shrinking of public space for all of them dealing with transitional justice and addressing accountability for past crimes.

Documenting Crimes of Sexual Violence during the war in Kosovo - Documentation Methodology

This manual is a document that provides a step-by-step description of the process of documenting sexual violence during the war in Kosovo and serves as a guide for institutions and NGOs involved with the documentation of crimes of sexual violence during the war in Kosovo and abroad.

The Right to the Truth Unnamed Victims

This is an updated edition of the report of general data derived from the documentation of sexual violence during the war in Kosovo. This report includes data on 1080 cases. The updated edition provides an opportunity to further refine and expand on the original findings, deepening understanding of the context, motivations, and consequences of these crimes for all survivors, regardless of their ethnicity and gender. The continued updating of this report signals an ongoing commitment to the pursuit of truth and justice, ensuring that victims and survivors receive the recognition they deserve.

Family Support in Dealing With War Trauma

A Practical Guide – This guide provides a series of guidelines to prevent secondary traumatization of family members of traumatized individuals. It also guides the cognitive and behavioral change needed to adapt to the trauma survivor support process or to cope with the stress of secondary traumatization. After drafting this guideline, KRCT organized a roundtable discussion to present this guideline.

Legal analysis: Institutional treatment of torture and ill-treatment

Is an information and documentation sheet that presents an overview of the event that took place at the “Orenda” Center for the Aging in Peja during November 2022. This information sheet analyzes the violations and gaps in the treatment of the elderly by state institutions, the obligations of state institutions to respect the standards established by the European Court of Human Rights.



TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

Seminars •••• During 2023, KRCT has conducted a seminar with 18 journalists from Ukraine and Afghanistan; seminars with young people from different municipalities of Kosovo; as well as contributed to the high-level seminar within the HOPE network, where KRCT lectured on the prevention of radicalism and the implementation of rehabilitation programs for people returned from conflict zones.

Roundtable discussions ••• Another form of educational promotion of objectives and goals - KRCT has organized several critical roundtable discussions, such as women's empowerment; roundtable discussion with representatives of institutions and civil society from Ukraine regarding survivors of sexual violence; roundtable discussion with representatives of correctional services institutions and roundtables in various cities of Kosovo regarding awareness of stigma against sexual survivors, support, empowerment and their reintegration into society.



Capacity building of institutions • • • During the past year, KRCT has held dozens of activities and workshops for the purpose of educating, informing and advancing institutional officials regarding the topics of dealing and treating survivors of war sexual violence, trauma and individual and family therapy; workshop on the treatment of repatriated persons and refugees, where the beneficiaries of these workshops were social workers and municipal officials of the office for returned communities. In addition, KRCT has carried out training workshops where the beneficiaries were officials of the Ministry of the Interior, regarding the provision of support to refugees and asylum seekers; as well as capacity building trainings for judges and prosecutors for handling cases of sexual violence of the war-time.



Students, researchers and foreign lecturers at the KRCT

• • • Last year, KRCT hosted and held lectures for different groups of international students. The Center has hosted students from various programs, including the students of the post-graduate program for Human Rights and Democracy from the University of Vienna and Venice; students of Florida State University and lecturers from James Madison University of Virginia – USA. In these meetings, the Center’s work in providing medical, psychological and advocacy services, the advancement of human rights in Kosovo and the prevention of torture, the documentation of war crimes, as well as access to justice for survivors of sexual violence from wartime to time was presented.



Study visit to Switzerland

• • • The director of KRCT, Mrs. Feride Rushiti, during 2023, had lectured in Geneva, Switzerland, on Kosovo’s experience in terms of administrative reparation practices, the advantages and challenges of this process. A part of her speech was devoted to the conflict in Ukraine, where the sharing of Kosovo’s practices in this regard served as a model for the conception of an urgent temporary legislation for reparations in Ukraine.

Meeting • • • • The Executive Director of KRCT Feride Rushiti, together with the director of the CPWR Kadire Tahiraj, the representative from the Women's Network, MP of the Assembly of Kosovo, as well as the cabinet of the Presidency, participated in the fifth meeting of *the Women's Network for Peace and security (WPS) in Washington D.C.* At the opening of the High Level Plenary Session held at the US State Department, Mrs. Rushiti shared with the participants her experience as a leader in the WPS community, the challenges and the work of the KRCT towards empowering the survivors of sexual violence during the war in Kosovo, the promotion of a comprehensive approach, as well as the importance of combating stigmatization and social prejudices.



ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS

In July 2023, the Kosovo Assembly approved the law by extending the application deadline until May 2025. Through advocacy campaigns, KRCT has sought legislative changes to extend the deadline for recognizing the status of victims of sexual violence to all state institutions. KRCT invites to the possibility of unlimited application for recognition of the status of sexual victims of war. (Box)

KRCT RAISES ITS VOICE FOR PRISONERS' RIGHTS

Accommodation without categorization of prisoners is inhumane treatment. The Executive Director, Feride Rushiti, has stated that this type of mixed accommodation is also contrary to the applicable legal provisions, especially for detainees. Managing these categories of prisoners with other prisoners is also difficult for correctional staff. This mix of prisoners often leads to conflict and violence between prisoners.

MARKING OF THE 24TH ANNIVERSARY

In marking of the 24th anniversary of its establishment, KRCT awarded the annual “Vasfije Courage Award”, to express gratitude to outstanding persons who, has made a valuable contribution in support of the cause of survivors of sexual violence during the war in Kosovo. In 2023, KRCT in remembrance of the life and work of Dr. Shukri Gërxhaliu had honored him with the “Vasfije Courage Award”, whose dedication and commitment to survivors of sexual violence during and after the war was unsurpassed. The “Vasfije Courage Award” was awarded to Dr. Shukri Gërxhaliu, a doctor in war and in peace, who made a valuable contribution to justice. The President of the Republic of Kosovo, Mrs. Vjosa Osmani, who spoke about the ongoing institutional support for survivors of sexual violence from the wartime; the incomparable contribution of Dr. Gërxhaliu in providing professional and human assistance to the survivors; as well as the commitment that KRCT has shown to survivors of sexual violence since the immediate post-war period, serving as the only door where survivors found rehabilitation, comfort and healing for the suffering they had experienced.

Also, on the occasion of 24th anniversary of the Kosovo Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims, the RECONNECT project: Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Minors - Victims of Sexual Violence, through the provision of Rehabilitation and Legal Aid Services and Capacity Building of State Institutions - was launched, this project aims at the rehabilitation and reintegration of minors-victims of sexual violence in Kosovo.



THE VOICE OF THE SURVIVORS IS HEARD IN THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Mrs. Shyrete Tahiri Sulimani, a survivor and activist of KRCT, at the invitation of the International Council for the Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (IRCT), has participated in the international Consortium #UnitedAgainstTorture organized by the European Commission. At this event, Mrs. Sulimani in her speech shared her experience representing survivors of sexual violence during the war in Kosovo and other silenced voices of hundreds of thousands of conflict related sexual violence survivors.

“My advocacy work as an activist and survivor is both simple and complex at the same time. I use my voice, my experience and my story to raise awareness of the needs of survivors of sexual violence during war. Sharing the story is not easy because you are sharing the pain that is inside you and it is pain that never heals, it is pain that you have to learn to live with, and unfortunately my children have also been affected.”

Shyrete Tahiri Sulimani



IMPORTANT DATES

April 14

Memorial Day of Survivors of Sexual Violence during the last war in Kosovo

Historic, for the first time April 14 is marked as Memorial Day of Survivors of Sexual Violence during the last war in Kosovo. KRCT, together with the Office of the President of the Republic of Kosovo and member organizations of the “Be My Voice” Platform, organized the march in support of survivors of sexual violence during the war in Kosovo. The observance of this day honors survivors raises awareness of their empowerment, and marking this date keeps our consciousness alive in documenting the truth and collective call to commemorate history.

Since 2019, KRCT has requested that April 14 to be recognized as the Day of survivors of sexual violence from the wartime, then with the proposal of the president of the Republic of Kosovo, Mrs. Vjosa Osmani, on 12.04.2023 the Government of the Republic of Kosovo decided that April 14 will be the Day of Survivors of Sexual Violence during the last war in Kosovo.



20th of June

World Refugee Day was marked through the organization of an exhibition “Flowers against the war” with the artworks of Ukrainian refugee journalist and painter Lyudmila Makey.

Through this exhibition, the organizers conveyed the message about the importance of supporting refugees in their home countries and raising public awareness about the resilience and strength of refugees worldwide.

“Living with a Wounded Spirit”

You may not believe it, but I did not draw as a child. I started drawing as an adult, and I still wonder how this could happen. Even a year ago I could not have imagined that an exhibition of my paintings would open in the capital of Kosovo. Unfortunately, the realities under which this happens are tragic. Russia wants to destroy my country and my people. When the war started, my world turned upside down and lost its colors. But in Pristina I met an amazing person Feride Rushiti. She gave me an example how to live with a wounded soul. And she gave me materials for creativity. It changed my life and brought colors back into it. I started drawing again, and Pristina inspired me. Flowers are my ideal universe where there is no war and pain. I want the whole world to be like that. At the same time, I want to help my Ukrainian colleagues who are currently in Russian captivity. In particular, Melitopol's colleague Iryna Levchenko and her husband, who are in Russian prison. That's why I decided to sell my paintings. I will be happy if you want to buy my painting. I will give the money raised to the National Union of Journalists of Ukraine to help fellow prisoners. I dedicate this exhibition to Ukraine and thank Kosovo for its love and support. I thank everyone who came here. This means that you support Ukraine.

Thank You!

Lyudmila Makey's Speech



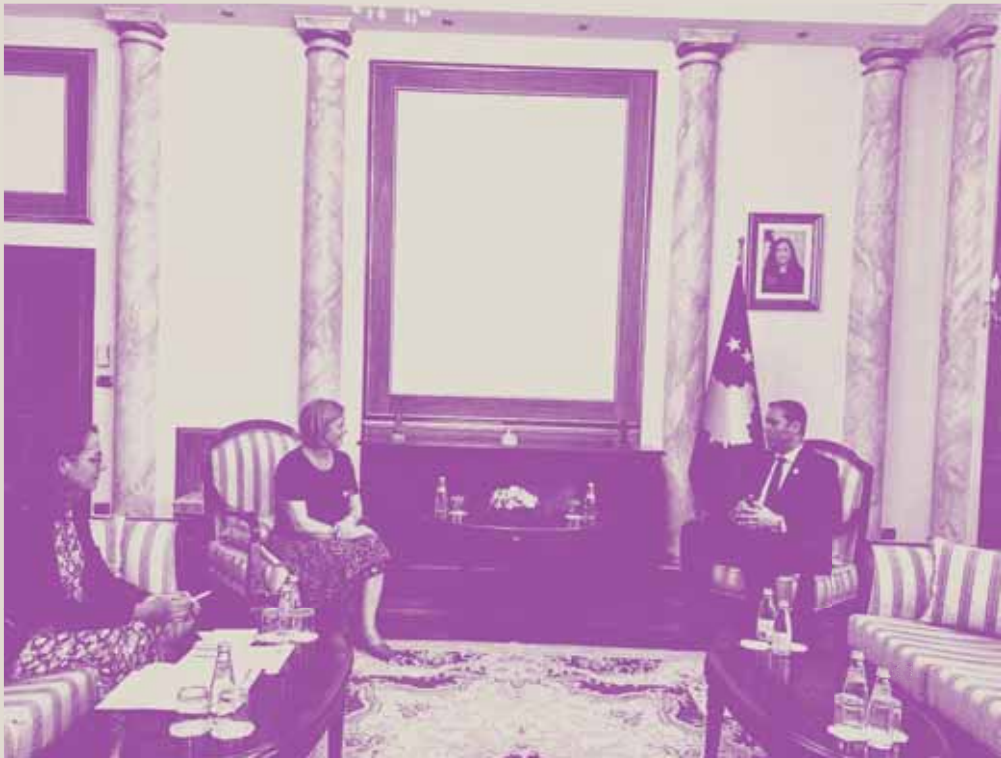
19th of June

The International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict was marked through the organization of a roundtable: "The impact of legal gaps and time limitations in the recognition process for survivors of sexual violence during the war in Kosovo". This roundtable was attended by deputies of the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo, representatives of civil society and other institutions. Marking this date was an important reminder to make the world aware of the urgent need for effective measures to protect the rights of victims and to punish the perpetrators of such crimes.



26th of June

The International Day of the United Nations in Support of Victims of Torture was marked through an advocacy activity where the director of KRCT, Dr. Feride Rushiti met the Speaker of the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo Mr. Glauk Konjufca. In this meeting, Mrs. Rushiti raised the issue of limiting the deadline for applications for recognition of the status of survivors of sexual violence from the wartime in Kosovo.



SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF OUR WORK

In the past year, our Center has been visited by members of the Commission for Legislation of the Parliament of Denmark, led by the Chairman of this Commission **Mr. Steffen Larsen** as well as the Ambassador of Denmark in Kosovo. In this meeting, the Director of KRCT, Mrs. Feride Rushiti presented more than 24-year commitment and work of KRCT, giving a special emphasis to the commitment to the prevention of torture, as well as the rule of law in relation to the correctional centers in Kosovo. The meeting also discussed the agreement between Kosovo and Denmark for the transfer of prisoners to Kosovo. Ms. Rushiti informed the guests about the conclusions of the International Conference that KRCT had organized in 2022, exactly on the subject of the transfer of prisoners to Kosovo and the agreement between the two states.

The Canadian ambassador for Croatia and Kosovo, **Mrs. Jessica Blitt** visit to KRCT - Ambassador Blitt was informed about the work of the KRCT in general, and about the progress and impact of the project "Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Minors - Victims of Sexual Violence, through the provision of Rehabilitation and Legal Aid Service and Capacity Building of State Institutions".

The Finnish Ambassador in Kosovo **Mr. Nissinen** visited KRCT, where he was informed about the goals, activities, successes and challenges of the Center in the field of rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors of sexual violence. It has also been informed, in relation to the campaigns for the promotion of human rights and the experience of KRCT in the psycho-social and health support of women and girls repatriated and refugees in Kosovo.



KRCT AS AN INSPIRATION TO OTHERS

KRCT expresses its deep gratitude to Enver Robelli, the author of the book 'Short stories for a long day', who won the 'Rexhai Surroi' award. His admirable decision to donate the fees of this book to the Kosovo Rehabilitation Center for Torture Victims serves as an inspiring example of humanitarian behavior and assistance to all who have gone through the most painful experiences. We feel good about the contribution and dedication of Enver Robelli in helping an important goal such as the rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors of torture in Kosovo. This shows his deep feeling and a real commitment in improving conditions for people in need.





BËHU *ZËRI* IM
BE MY *VOICE*
BUDI MOJ *GLAS*

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The deliberative approach is the core and fundamental principle of the organization, and reflects on decision-making, transparency, and accountability for all activities carried out within our scope. Therefore, the KRCT acts and remains confident in its mandate, goals, vision, and mission, which are defined in all relevant documents of the organization.

The Assembly of Members is the highest governing body of the KRCT, and has the main responsibilities for the policies and financial issues of the organization, including other responsibilities, such as: approval and amendment of the statute of KRCT, election and dismissal of Board members, and the approval of reports. Upon the proposal of the Board, it may also elect and/or dismiss the Executive Director. The Assembly may also delegate responsibilities to the Board, any other body, or official of the organization.

The Board of KRCT determines the method of functioning and development of the organization. Within KRCT programs, the Board analyses, researches, suggests, proposes, and gives recommendations, and is especially competent for reviewing and approving programs, revenues and expenditures, approving legal acts of the organization, nominating the Executive Director, and approving annual plans and reports.

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

The leadership and management of the organization is the direct responsibility of the Executive Director, who reports to the Board and annually reports to the Assembly of Members and is primarily responsible for implementing strategic plans, policies, and fund-raising. In addition to the mentioned responsibilities, the Executive Director, in accordance with the organization's statute and program, represents the organization to third parties, initiates Board meetings as needed, and oversees the organization's technical and administrative matters.

In the past year, KRCT reformatted the new structure of the internal organization, where three layers of management were introduced: Executive Director - Senior Management (programs) - Project Management.

The entire management team of the KRCT consists of people with professional experience and expertise in relevant fields. In order to develop a more creative commitment, the leadership and management of the KRCT considers self-assessment, self-improvement, and continuous learning to be the key values of successful management.

Networking

International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, IRCT

<http://www.irct.org/>

Civikos Platforma

<http://www.civikos.net/>

Civic Solidarity Platform

<http://www.civicsolidarity.org/>

Kosovo Women's Network

<http://www.womensnetwork.org/>

International Detention Coalition

<http://www.idcoalition.org/>

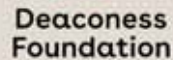
Coalition of NGOs for Child Protection in Kosovo, KOMF

<http://www.komfkosova.org/>



Donors

We express special thanks and deep gratitude to our donors. They have never hesitated to express their moral and financial support, without which support, this effort to mark a final triumph of justice and the work of KRCT in general, would be impossible.



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QKRMT-KRCT

Qendra Kosovare për Rehabilitimin
e të Mbijetuarve të Torturës

The Kosova Rehabilitation
Center for Torture Victims