



QKRMT Qendra Kosovare për Rehabilitimin
e të Mbijetuarve të Torturës
KRCT The Kosova Rehabilitation
Center for Torture Victims

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Kosova Rehabilitation
Center for Torture
Victims



This publication is supported by:

**THE
SIGRID
RAUSING
TRUST**



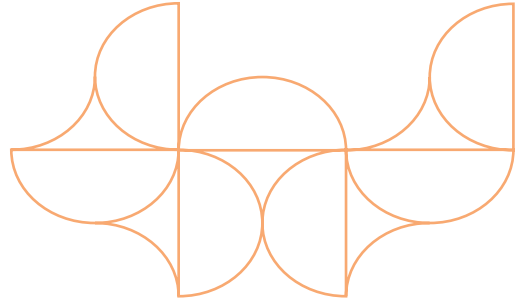
ANNUAL REPORT 2025

**Kosova Rehabilitation Center for
Torture Victims**

CONTENT

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	5
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS 2025	8
SUCCESS STORY	12
2025 IN NUMBERS: SUPPORT, JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT	13
KEY ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENTS	14
REHABILITATION, EMPOWERMENT AND REINTEGRATION OF SURVIVORS	19
REFUGEES, FORCEDLY DISPLACED PERSONS AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT	22
MONITORING OF PLACES OF DETENTION AND PROTECTION FROM TORTURE	24
AWARENESS, COMMUNITIES AND STRENGTHENING LOCAL RESPONSES	25
AWARENESS WALK AS PART OF THE 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM – 6 DECEMBER 2025	28
KNOWLEDGE SHARING, LEARNING AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	29
KRCT'S 26 th ANNIVERSARY	34
PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT FOR OUR MISSION	35

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear partners, supporters, colleagues, and friends of KRCT,

Above all, dear survivors,

2025 will remain a defining year in the history of our organization. As we marked the 26th anniversary of our shared journey towards care, hope, and justice, we witnessed once again that unwavering commitment can break even the strongest barriers of silence and stigma. Throughout the year, our collective efforts marked a historic turning point. We took decisive steps towards challenging gender-based stigma when, for the first time, a male survivor of conflict-related sexual violence, Ramadan Nishori, chose to speak publicly about his experience, opening a new chapter of courage and hope for survivors and for all of us.

This commitment and resilience also received significant international recognition. The official nomination of KRCT and myself for the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize was not only an acknowledgment of more than a quarter of a century of our work, but, above all, a recognition of the resilience, dignity, and extraordinary strength of survivors of torture and conflict-related sexual violence in Kosovo.

Behind this recognition stands the daily and tireless work carried out on the ground. Through a dedicated team of professionals, in 2025 we directly supported hundreds of individuals, including survivors, children, asylum seekers, and refugees, providing a wide range of specialized multidisciplinary



services. We also contributed to the economic empowerment of women survivors and continued documenting thousands of cases of war crimes, because a sustainable future can only be built on truth.

Alongside psychosocial and medical support, we achieved important progress on the legal front, including securing convictions of perpetrators and advancing survivors' access to rights guaranteed by law. The inauguration of the "Safe Room" at the Basic Court in Pristina established an important new standard, providing survivors with greater safety, dignity, and protection from re-traumatization throughout their pursuit of justice. Another significant achievement was the two-year extension of the deadline for applying for recognition of survivor status, a clear indication that sustained advocacy can lead to concrete and lasting change.

Yet our journey towards justice and well-being does not end here. We will continue to advocate under the motto "Trauma Has No Deadline," because the consequences of violence and torture do not disappear with the passage of time. Our goal remains clear: the permanent removal of time limitations on applications for recognition of survivor status and the further strengthening of protection mechanisms that safeguard survivors' human rights and ensure dignified treatment at every stage of their rehabilitation and pursuit of justice.

In closing, on behalf of myself and the entire KRCT team, I extend my deepest gratitude to the survivors for their trust and courage, and to our donors, partners, and collaborators whose support makes our mission possible.

Thank you!

Dr. Feride Rushiti



VISION

A society without torture, where every survivor of violence is treated with dignity, find support and lives free from stigma.



MISSION

Empowering survivors and transforming them into active citizens by helping them cope with trauma and contributing to the development of an institutional system of support, recognition and accountability.



VALUES

We work with a deep commitment to human dignity, believing that every person deserves respect and humane treatment, without exception.



EMPATHY AND SOLIDARITY

We are guided by empathy and solidarity, standing by survivors and building a more sensitive and united society.



JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We believe in justice and accountability, where every act of violence must be addressed and no violation should go unpunished.



INCLUSION AND EQUALITY

We promote inclusion and equality, opposing discrimination and building a society that accepts and respects all people in their diversity.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS 2025

■ Nomination for the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize:

The official nomination of Dr. Feride Rushiti, Executive Director of KRCT, and KRCT for the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize, proposed by Swedish Member of Parliament Magnus Jakobsson, represented significant international recognition of more than two decades of dedicated work in support of survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and torture in Kosovo. The nomination brought greater international attention and established Kosovo's cause in the global human rights arena.



16 January 2025

Stockholm

Nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize: Dr Feride Rushiti and
Kosovo Rehabilitation Center for Torture Victims (KRCT)

Dear Nomination Committee,

I wish to nominate Dr. Feride Rushiti and the NGO Kosovo Rehabilitation Center for Torture Victims (KRCT) for the Nobel Peace Prize, in recognition of their extraordinary contributions to the advancement of human rights, the dignity of survivors, and the healing of communities scarred by war. Dr. Rushiti's and the KRCT's work exemplifies the power of compassion, courage, and relentless advocacy in the face of unimaginable adversity.

As a medical doctor and human rights activist, Dr. Rushiti has dedicated her career to addressing the devastating effects of torture, sexual violence, and other wartime atrocities. Following the Kosovo War (1998-1999), she founded the Kosovo Rehabilitation Center for Torture Victims (KRCT), the first organization of its kind in Kosovo. Under her visionary leadership, KRCT has provided critical medical, psychological, and legal support to thousands of survivors, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are met.

Dr. Rushiti's groundbreaking advocacy for the recognition of survivors of wartime sexual violence has transformed the national discourse in Kosovo. Her tireless efforts led to the establishment of a legal framework that recognizes these survivors as civilian victims of war, enabling them to access long-overdue reparations. This landmark achievement, realized in 2017, has brought dignity and financial support to many survivors and stands as a beacon of hope for post-conflict justice worldwide.

Beyond her work with survivors, Dr. Rushiti has championed the humane treatment of prisoners and detainees, advancing legal and ethical standards in Kosovo's justice system. Her commitment to fostering a society rooted in respect for human rights has had a profound impact, inspiring both national and international stakeholders.

Dr. Rushiti's unwavering dedication has not gone unnoticed. In 2018, she was honored with the U.S. Secretary of State's International Women of Courage Award, an acknowledgment of her transformative impact on the lives of survivors and her role as a global leader in human rights advocacy.

The Nobel Peace Prize is intended to celebrate individuals whose work fosters peace, justice, and reconciliation. Dr. Feride Rushiti and the KRCT embodies these ideals through their lifelong commitment to supporting the most vulnerable, healing the wounds of conflict, and building a foundation for lasting peace in Kosovo and beyond.

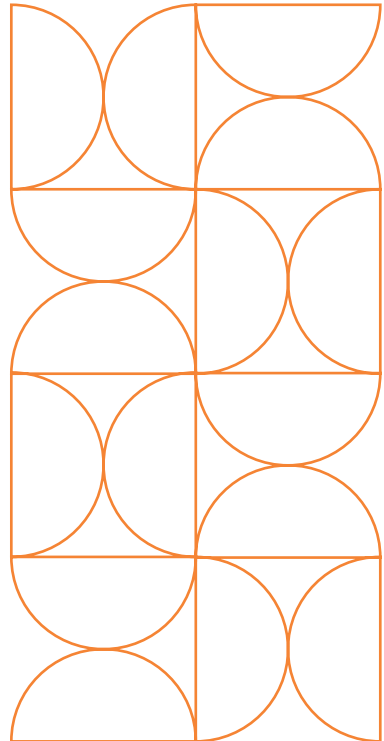
For these reasons, we strongly endorse Dr. Feride Rushiti and KRCT as a deserving recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. Her/Their work is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the profound impact of compassion in creating a more just and peaceful world.

Sincerely,

Magnus Jakobsson, KD

Member of Parliament • Swedish Parliament
Mobile: +4670 255 11 69 • E-mail: magnus.jakobsson@riksdagen.se

THE SWEDISH PARLIAMENT SE-100 12 Stockholm • www.riksdagen.se



■ **Breaking the Silence: The First Public Voice of a Male Survivor:**

On 14 April, marking the Memorial Day for Survivors of Sexual Violence during the War in Kosovo, KRCT organized the awareness-raising event “*My Voice, My Strength – No More Silence*.” On this occasion, Ramadan Nishori became the first man in Kosovo to speak publicly about his experience as a survivor of conflict-related sexual violence. His testimony marked an important step towards breaking the silence and challenging the taboos and stigma surrounding sexual violence against men. His decision to speak publicly represented an act of personal courage and a powerful call for greater recognition, justice, and support for all survivors.



■ **Opening of the Safe Room at the Basic Court in Pristina:**

The establishment of the Safe Room at the Basic Court in Pristina marked an important step towards a justice system that is more responsive to the needs of victims and witnesses. The protected space provides direct psychological and legal support, enabling survivors to participate in judicial proceedings in a safer environment, reducing the risk of re-traumatization and avoiding direct encounters with alleged perpetrators.



■ Legal Achievements and Access to Justice:

KRCT's legal representation and support for survivors produced concrete results before the courts, including prison **sentences totaling 58 years for perpetrators of conflict-related sexual violence** in Kosovo, handed down by the end of 2025. Beyond war-crimes proceedings, KRCT also achieved important results in securing survivors' legal rights through judicial processes, including **retroactive compensation for periods during which survivors were awaiting legal recognition, (with one case resulting in compensation of approximately €24,000)**. In several cases, KRCT also successfully pursued the legal recognition of survivors' entitlement to receive both the survivor pension and the old-age pension.

■ Extension of the Application Deadline (April 2025):

Following sustained advocacy and institutional engagement by KRCT, the official deadline for applications for recognition of the status of survivors of conflict-related sexual violence was extended by an additional two years. The extension provides a further opportunity for survivors who had not previously applied due to stigma, fear, lack of information, or other barriers to access the recognition process.

■ 2025 International Human Rights Award:

Dr. Feride Rushiti was honored with the 2025 International Human Rights Award by AAB College, in recognition of her lifelong contribution, visionary leadership, and sustained commitment to the protection of human rights and the rehabilitation of vulnerable groups in Kosovo.



“European of the Year” Award for Dr. Feride Rushiti:



Dr. Feride Rushiti, Executive Director of KRCT, was honored with the “European of the Year” award by the European Union Office in Kosovo. The recognition highlighted her longstanding commitment to supporting survivors of torture and conflict-related sexual violence, advancing human rights, and contributing to social progress. The award also represented recognition of KRCT’s broader work and of the contribution of survivors whose stories, resilience, and trust have shaped the organization’s mission.



Success story:

Recognition of Survivors' Right to Receive Double Pension

For the first time, a survivor of conflict-related sexual violence in Kosovo began receiving both pensions to which she was legally entitled: the survivor pension and the old-age pension. This landmark development followed legal proceedings initiated by KRCT in 2021 to establish survivors' right to receive both benefits. The successful outcome, based on decisions of the Basic Court in Pristina and the Court of Appeals, established an important judicial precedent and opened the way for other survivors who have reached retirement age to seek recognition of the same right. KRCT continues to advocate for the automatic recognition of this entitlement for all eligible survivors, without requiring them to pursue individual legal proceedings.



2025 IN NUMBERS: SUPPORT, JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

604

PEOPLE SUPPORTED

Survivors, refugees, and asylum seekers who received tailored and specialized support.

1,485

MULTIDISCIPLINARY SERVICES

From individual and family therapy to psychiatric and physiotherapy support.

38

CHILDREN SUPPORTED

Children affected by sexual abuse who received psychosocial and legal support.

80

PROFESSIONALS TRAINED

Professionals trained to strengthen trauma-informed approaches and practices within public institutions..

1,400+

STORIES DOCUMENTED

Survivor accounts documented to preserve evidence, keep their experiences alive, and support the pursuit of truth and justice.

12

INDICTMENTS

Documentation, legal support, and institutional engagement contributed to the prosecution of war-crime cases.

4

WAR-CRIME JUDGMENTS INVOLVING CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Judgments were issued in four war-crime cases involving conflict-related sexual violence, resulting in a combined 58 years of imprisonment.

30

WOMEN SURVIVORS ECONOMICALLY EMPOWERED

Women survivors supported through employment, production, and entrepreneurship opportunities.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENTS

Transitional Justice and Survivors' Rights

“Trauma Has No Deadline” Campaign – 14 April

To mark the Memorial Day for Survivors of Sexual Violence during the War in Kosovo, KRCT contributed to the launch of the “Trauma Has No Deadline” campaign, aimed at raising public awareness and mobilizing support for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in Kosovo.

One of the campaign’s key demands was the removal of the time limit for survivors to apply for recognition of their status and access the rights arising from that status. This demand reflects the need to ensure that no survivor is excluded from the recognition and support process simply because of the passage of time.





KRCT Executive Director Dr. Feride Rushiti emphasized the need to extend the mandate of the Commission for the Verification and Recognition of the Status of Victims of Sexual Violence during the War, as well as to establish sustainable, safe, and trauma-informed conditions in which survivors can come forward and seek support without time-related barriers. The campaign was supported by the British Embassy in Kosovo and implemented in cooperation with member organizations of the “Be My Voice” platform.



International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict – 19 June



To mark the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, KRCT organized the reflective panel “Trauma Has No Deadline,” bringing together survivors, professionals, and partner organizations to discuss the need for recognition, support, and justice without time limitations.

The discussion highlighted that the consequences of trauma can extend far beyond legal deadlines and that access to services, recognition of status, and justice require sustained institutional responses. The panel also addressed intergenerational trauma and its impact on younger generations. Survivors and representatives of partner organizations reiterated the need to remove the application deadline for recognition of survivor status.



First in Absentia Judgment for Wartime Sexual Violence – 28 July 2025

On 28 July 2025, an important development was recorded in the judicial response to conflict-related sexual violence in Kosovo: the first in absentia judgment in a wartime rape case, resulting in a 30-year prison sentence. This development marked an important step in efforts to ensure criminal accountability and access to justice for survivors.



Drejtësi në mungesë, por jo në heshtje – 30 vjet dënim me burgim për krimet e dhunës seksuale gjatë luftës në Kosovë

Në Gjykatën Themelore në Prishtinë u shpall sot aktgjykimi i parë në mungesë për dhunim seksual gjatë luftës në Kosovë. Ivica Rajković dhe Dragan Deniq, ish-police në Kosovë, u shpallën fajtorë për dhunimin e një gruaje në Prishtinë, krim i kryer para syve të bashkëshortit të saj, i cili më pas dëshmoi si dëshmitar kyç në procesin gjyqësor. Ata u dënuan me nga 15 vjet burgim.

Ky është rasti i parë që përfundon me aktgjykim në mungesë për këtë krim lufte dhe rasti i katërt i ndjekur penalisht për dhunë seksuale gjatë luftës që është raportuar dhe përfaqësuar nga Qendra Kosovare për Rehabilitimin e të Mbijetuarve të Torturës (QKRMT).

QKRMT ka luajtur rol të rëndësishëm në këtë proces në identifikimin dhe mbështetjen e të mbijetuarës, dokumentimin e rastit, ofrimin e përfaqësimit ligjor me qasje të ndjeshme ndaj traumës, si dhe fuqizimin e të mbijetuarës për të ndjekur drejtësinë.

Justice in absence, but not in silence – 30 year prison sentence for crimes of sexual violence during the Kosovo war

Today, the Basic Court in Pristina issued the first verdict in absentia for conflict-related sexual violence committed during the war in Kosovo. Ivica Rajković and Dragan Deniq former police officers in Kosovo, were found guilty of raping a woman in Pristina, a crime committed in front of her husband, who later served as the key witness in the judicial proceedings. They were each sentenced to 15 years in prison.

This is the first verdict in absentia for this category of war crimes, and the fourth case of conflict-related sexual violence reported and represented by the Kosovo Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims (KRCT).

KRCT played a vital role in this process by identifying and supporting the survivor, documenting the case, providing trauma-informed legal representation, and empowering the survivor to pursue justice.

This decision marks another important step toward justice for past crimes and sends a clear message: even when perpetrators are not physically present, justice can still be served.

Informing Survivors about their right on double pension

As part of Free Legal Aid Week, the Free Legal Aid Agency (FLAA), in cooperation with KRCT, organized an information session at the Center for the Promotion of Women's Rights (CPWR) in Drenas. The activity aimed to inform and empower survivors of conflict-related sexual violence about their right to receive an old-age pension in addition to the pension granted on the basis of their status as survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. Representatives of FLAA, KRCT, and CPWR presented the relevant legal procedures, required documentation, and available opportunities for free legal assistance. Through discussion and individual counselling, participants were able to address questions and specific challenges related to exercising this right. The activity contributed to strengthening inter-institutional cooperation and improving survivors' access to information and justice mechanisms.



Documentation of Sexual Violence Crimes during the War

Since 2019, KRCT has undertaken a systematic process of documenting conflict-related sexual violence crimes committed during the war in Kosovo, contributing to efforts to address the absence of a structured database on these crimes. To date, more than 1,400 cases have been documented in KRCT's database. The documentation process aims to preserve survivors' testimonies and experiences, support efforts towards justice and accountability, and contribute to greater public awareness of the scale and consequences of conflict-related sexual violence. The process is implemented by KRCT in partnership with the Center for the Promotion of Women's Rights (CPWR), Medica Kosova, and Medica Gjakova.

REHABILITATION, EMPOWERMENT AND REINTEGRATION OF SURVIVORS



“Products with Stories of Life and Resilience” Fair – May 2025

In May 2025, KRCT participated in the “Products with Stories of Life and Resilience” fair, showcasing ceramic products created by women survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. The initiative aimed to promote the economic empowerment of women survivors and support their active participation in family and community life. Beyond its economic dimension, the initiative created a space for creative expression, psychosocial empowerment, and the reaffirmation of identity and dignity. The mobile fair was also planned to be presented in Prizren, Peja, Ferizaj, Gjilan, and Mitrovica.





Art and Empowerment through Etno Fest



As part of Etno Fest, KRCT showcased handcrafted ceramic works created by survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. The participation provided an opportunity to promote survivors' empowerment, creativity, and public participation, while raising awareness of the role of art in recovery and in building a life beyond trauma.

Creative Candle-Making Workshop

KRCT organized a creative workshop for beneficiaries focused on making candles featuring the anemone flower, a symbol of remembrance, strength, and hope. The activity was designed as a space for empowerment, creativity, and social interaction, connecting artistic expression with processes of recovery and rebuilding.



Closing Conference of the project for Repatriated and Refugee Women and Girls – 21 November 2025



KRCT organized the closing conference of the project “Supporting the Socio-Economic [Re]integration and Ensuring Equal Participation Rights for Repatriated and Refugee Women and Girls in Kosovo,” under the motto “Stories of Strength, Systems of Care.” The project was implemented by KRCT and the Jesuit

Refugee Service in Kosovo (JRS), in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, within the Deaconess Foundation Development Cooperation Programme 2022–2025, with funding from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.



Between 2022 and 2025, the project provided direct support to 196 repatriated and refugee individuals, primarily women and girls, through psychosocial, legal, and medical services, as well as economic empowerment measures. At the same time, 227 professionals and public officials were strengthened through training on trauma-informed and gender-sensitive approaches.

The conference brought together project beneficiaries, public institutions, civil society organizations, and local and international partners to reflect on the project’s results, impact, challenges, and lessons learned. The panel “Echoes of Courage: Women Rebuilding Their Lives” provided participating women with a platform to share their experiences of [re]integration and their perspectives on building more sustainable systems of care.

REFUGEES, FORCEDLY DISPLACED PERSONS AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT



World Refugee Day – 20 June 2025

On 20 June 2025, KRCT, in cooperation with the UNHCR Office in Kosovo, organized an event at the National Library of Kosovo in Pristina to mark World Refugee Day. The event focused on the importance of mental health and psychosocial support for refugees and forcibly displaced persons.

In her opening remarks, KRCT Executive Director Dr. Feride Rushiti emphasized the need for long-term mental health support. The Ombudsperson, Mr. Naim Qelaj, highlighted the importance of protecting the dignity and rights of refugees, while the United Nations Development Coordinator in Kosovo, Ms. Arnhild Spence, reaffirmed the UN team's commitment to supporting forcibly displaced persons. The Head of the UNHCR Mission in Kosovo, Mr. Arjun Shrestha, stressed that mental health and psychosocial support are essential components of comprehensive support for refugees.

The event featured refugees' testimonies and first-hand experiences, alongside the professional perspective of a KRCT psychologist on trauma and the role of psychosocial support in recovery and integration.



Identifying Survivors' Needs for Access to Justice

As part of the project “Pathways to Empowerment: Promoting Justice, Healing and Inclusion for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence,” KRCT held a consultation with a group of survivors to gain a deeper understanding of their needs and concerns, particularly in relation to access to justice. The discussion focused on the effectiveness of existing services, areas requiring improvement, and the types of support the project could provide throughout survivors' journeys towards justice. The activity was supported through a regional project funded by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).



MONITORING OF PLACES OF DETENTION AND PROTECTION FROM TORTURE

Throughout 2025, KRCT raised concerns regarding restrictions on access to persons in pre-trial detention for monitoring purposes. Unlike in previous years, when KRCT staff were able to access both sentenced and pre-trial detainees, monitoring during 2025 was limited to sentenced persons. KRCT publicly raised concerns about this development and emphasized the importance of independent access to places of deprivation of liberty as an essential safeguard for the prevention of torture and ill-treatment.

International Day in Support of Victims of Torture – 26 June 2025

To mark 26 June, the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, KRCT raised concerns about the treatment of persons with mental health conditions within the penitentiary system. KRCT called for increased capacity for forensic psychiatric care, an end to the placement of persons with mental health conditions in pre-trial detention, and improved access to integrated health and psychosocial services.



AWARENESS, COMMUNITIES AND STRENGTHENING LOCAL RESPONSES

Workshop for CSOs from Minority Communities – North Mitrovica

KRCT organized a one-day workshop for civil society organizations from minority communities, focusing on the safe identification and referral of survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. Held in North Mitrovica, the workshop explored the context and legal frameworks governing conflict-related sexual violence in Kosovo, followed by practical approaches to safe identification and ethical engagement with survivors.

A significant part of the workshop focused on the specific barriers and challenges faced by survivors from minority communities, as well as the need for approaches that are more responsive and sensitive to these circumstances. Participants also discussed strengthening referral and case-coordination mechanisms to improve survivors' access to specialized services and support. The workshop aimed to strengthen the capacity of CSOs from minority communities to play a more active role in supporting survivors, facilitating safe access to justice, and strengthening community-based responses.



Survivors' Voices in Academic Spaces

As part of KRCT's cooperation with the Department of Sociology at the University of Pristina, Ramadan Nishori, the first man in Kosovo to speak publicly about his experience of conflict-related sexual violence, was invited to meet with students and participants of the Sociology Assembly.



Through sharing his personal experience, Mr. Nishori addressed the consequences of sexual violence, stigma, and the need for justice, contributing to greater awareness among students and challenging stereotypes surrounding the experiences of male survivors of sexual violence. Organized in cooperation with KRCT, the activity highlighted the importance of bringing survivors' voices into academic spaces and broader social discussions on justice and human rights.

Addressing Stigma Against Survivors – Rahovec

A joint meeting addressing stigma against survivors of conflict-related sexual violence was held at the Rahovec Municipal Assembly. The meeting brought together representatives of the municipality, local institutions, the Center for Social Work, health institutions, the police, civil society organizations, and the community.

Survivors shared their experiences of stigma and emphasized the need for collective responsibility, support, and respect. The meeting highlighted that stigma remains a significant barrier to survivors' well-being, social participation, and access to support and justice, underscoring the importance of coordinated local responses.



AWARENESS WALK AS PART OF THE 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM – 6 DECEMBER 2025

As part of the global 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign, the “Walking Together” awareness activity brought participants together in solidarity with survivors of sexual violence, refugees, and forcibly displaced women and girls. The activity aimed to raise awareness of the long-term consequences of violence and displacement, conveying the message that trauma has no deadline and that recovery requires sustained support. It also highlighted the importance of survivors’ access to rehabilitation, psychosocial services, legal support, and justice as essential components of recovery and the restoration of dignity.



The walk also served as a message of solidarity and collective commitment to building a society where survivors do not have to face the consequences of violence alone, and where younger generations can inherit not the pain of the past, but hope, dignity, safety, and freedom. The activity conveyed a clear message: survivors are not alone. Institutions, civil society, and communities have a shared responsibility to continue walking alongside them for as long as support is needed.



KNOWLEDGE SHARING, LEARNING AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



Visit of Ambassador William Walker

KRCT welcomed Ambassador William Walker to its premises for a meeting focused on KRCT's work and experience in supporting survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in Kosovo, as well as its continued engagement in advancing justice and documenting the truth. During the visit, Ambassador Walker also signed a dedication in his book, "A History of the Raçak War Crime," highlighting the importance of preserving historical memory.



KRCT at the International Forum on Women, Peace and Security 2025



As part of the International Forum "Women, Peace and Security 2025," KRCT organized the panel "Towards Justice: The Strength and Voices of Survivors," creating a space to amplify survivors' voices, break the silence surrounding conflict-related sexual violence, and highlight the importance of collective memory in the pursuit

of justice. The event also featured the Ukrainian-language edition of "Beyond Pain, Towards Courage," a collection of testimonies from survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in Kosovo. The publication was produced in cooperation with UA Experts and in partnership with Pro Peace – Kosovo, serving as a bridge of solidarity with survivors in Ukraine and conveying a shared message of justice, recognition, and dignity. The panel brought together survivors and representatives from Kosovo and Ukraine, alongside international figures engaged in advancing justice and human rights, including Dr. Feride Rushiti, Ramadan Nishori, Lyudmyla Makey, Dr. Christina Doctare, and Alysia Kovalenko.





Visit of EMA Students from Vienna and Venice

Students from the European Master's Degree in Human Rights and Democratization [EMA] visited KRCT as part of the organization's ongoing cooperation with the program. KRCT's senior management presented the organization's strategy, program, and experience, with a focus on psychological, legal, and medical services, the documentation of war crimes, access to justice, and the promotion of human rights.



Exchange of Experiences with a Delegation from Ukraine

KRCT welcomed a delegation from Ukraine and shared its 26 years of experience in the rehabilitation and protection of the rights of survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. Discussions focused on long-term support, combating stigma, survivor empowerment, access to justice, and the importance of documenting war crimes. The visit contributed to the international exchange of practices and expertise and provided an opportunity to share lessons learned from Kosovo's experience.



“Justice Delayed” Conference – Australia

At the invitation of the Australian Institute of International Affairs and the Centre of Excellence for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Kosovo participated in the conference “Justice Delayed: Challenging Impunity for Mass Sexual Violence in Conflict.” During the session “Conflict-Related Sexual Violence and Agency: Resistance, Resilience, and Redress,” KRCT representative Selvi Izeti Çarkaxhiu presented Kosovo's experience and its comprehensive, survivor-centred approach. The conference also provided an opportunity to present KRCT's experience in addressing intergenerational trauma, its contribution to the Murad Code, the establishment of the Safe Room, and the organization's readiness to share its practices with other countries in support of justice and recovery.



Summer Academy on Transitional Justice



As part of its ongoing cooperation with the International Summer Academy, KRCT Executive Director Dr. Feride Rushiti delivered a lecture on the organization's experience in transitional justice, rehabilitation, and survivor empowerment. The lecture covered KRCT's 26-year history, its rehabilitation and advocacy programs, publications and

capacity-building initiatives, as well as its efforts to promote public education. The discussion also addressed intergenerational trauma, combating stigma, and ethical, survivor-centred approaches to working with survivors.

Visit of the United Kingdom Delegation

KRCT welcomed a delegation from the United Kingdom, including representatives of the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative [PSVI] and the PSVI Survivor Advisory Group. The visit provided an opportunity to exchange experiences on rehabilitation, support, and justice for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. Discussions focused on achievements and remaining challenges, as well as opportunities for further international cooperation and long-term support for the survivors' agenda.



KRCT'S 26th ANNIVERSARY

In 2025, KRCT marked 26 years of work in supporting survivors, protecting human rights, and advancing justice. The commemorative event reflected on the organization's journey and the role of documentation and memory in processes of justice. The event also recognized the courage of survivors who have contributed to breaking the silence. The "Vasfije Courage Award" was awarded to Ramadan Nishori in recognition of his courage and contribution to strengthening survivors' voices.



PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT FOR OUR MISSION

The mission of the Kosovo Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Survivors (KRCT) is supported by a broad network of donors and institutional, professional, academic, and community-based partners. Through these partnerships, KRCT has been able to expand and strengthen its support and interventions for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and other vulnerable groups, bringing together rehabilitation, legal support, documentation, research, and advocacy.

Donor support has enabled the delivery and development of specialized services, while collaboration with organizations and professionals in the legal, psychological, and medical fields, as well as with academic institutions and community-based organizations, has contributed to a more integrated and needs-responsive approach to supporting our beneficiaries.

These long-term partnerships have contributed to important achievements, including advancing the legal recognition of the status of survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, expanding trauma-informed legal and psychosocial services, and developing programs that address the effects of intergenerational trauma. These results reflect not only KRCT's work, but also the value of sustained and collective engagement among civil society, public institutions, and international partners.

Looking ahead, KRCT remains committed to transparency, accountability, and responsible stewardship, with the aim of ensuring that its partnerships continue to translate into concrete and sustainable results for survivors and the communities we serve.

Donor



British Embassy
Pristina

THE
SIGRID
RAUSING
TRUST



ENGAGEMENT
GLOBAL



Deaconess
Foundation



Global Initiative
Against Impunity
Making Justice Work





QKRMT-KRCT

Qendra Kosovare për Rehabilitimin
e të Mbijetuarve të Torturës

The Kosova Rehabilitation
Center for Torture Victims

Tel.: +383 [0] 38 243 707

Email: info@krct.org

Website: www.krct.org