

1. Area and Population

The municipality of Podujevë/Podujevo is located in north-eastern Kosovo. It covers an area of approximately 663 km² and includes Podujevë/Podujevo town and 77 villages. According to Kosovo Population and Housing Census 2011 the total population is 88,499.

Ethnic composition

1. Kosovo Albanians: 87,523
2. Kosovo Ashkali: 680
3. Kosovo Roma: 74
4. Kosovo Bosniaks: 33
5. Kosovo Serbs: 12
6. Kosovo Turks: 5
7. Kosovo Egyptian: 2
8. Other: 43
9. Not specified: 127

(Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics)

According to UNHCR data, 3,755 persons who were displaced from Podujevë/Podujevo reside out of Kosovo.

2. Governing Structures and Political Overview

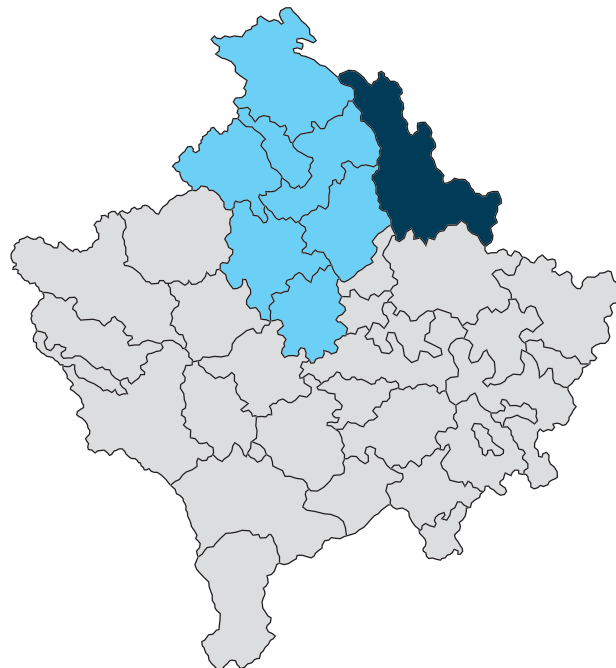
The total number of voters in Podujevë/Podujevo municipality registered for the last municipal elections held in November 2009 was 75,636 including out-of-Kosovo voters. The voter turnout was 49.06 per cent/35,784 voters (source: Central Election Commission).

The election results were as follows:

LDK - Democratic League of Kosovo	47.00%	19 seats
PDK - Democratic Party of Kosovo	30.00%	12 seats
AAK - Alliance for the Future of Kosovo	15.00%	6 seats
AKR - Alliance New Kosovo	2.00%	1 seat
C.I Civic Initiative	2.00%	1 seat
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PSD - Social Democratic Party	2.00%	1 seat

Note: Recently a member of the Alliance New Kosovo (AKR) moved to the Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK), while the sole member of the Social Democratic Party (PSD) in the municipal assembly moved to the Democratic Party of Kosovo (PDK). Thus, if compared to the graph above, there are 5 political parties represented in the municipal assembly: LDK with 20 seats, PDK with 13 Seats, AAK with 6 seats, CI with 1 seat and PD with 1 seat.

The OSCE regional centre Mitrovicë/Mitrovica covers eight (8) municipalities including Podujevë/Podujevo and has field teams working in all of them.



a. Legislative

The municipal assembly has 41 seats distributed amongst five (5) political entities. All 41 members are Kosovo Albanians, while 12 are female. The municipal assembly chairperson is Hazir Raqi (LDK).

b. Executive

Podujevë/Podujevo municipality is headed by mayor, Agim Veliu (LDK), and deputy mayor, Agim Kikaj (LDK). It has ten 11 departments and department directors: general administration (LDK); budget and finance (LDK); planning and economic development (LDK); education (LDK); health and social welfare (LDK); urban planning and environment protection (LDK); culture youth and sports (LDK); property cadastre and geodesy (LDK); public services and emergency (LDK); inspection (LDK); and agriculture forestry and rural development (LDK) (source: municipal website and municipal statute).

3. Judiciary

Prishtinë/Priština basic court has a branch in Podujevë/Podujevo with nine (9) judges; all Kosovo Albanian, one (1) female (source: Prishtinë/Priština basic court).

Additional information

Prishtinë/Priština basic prosecutor's office covers the municipality.

4. Security Presence

The Kosovo police station in Podujevë/Podujevo municipality has 107 police officers; 106 Kosovo Albanian; one (1) Kosovo Ashkali, while 12 are female. As for the international military presence, US KFOR and Hungarian LMT cover the area (*source: Kosovo police*).

5. Economy

The economy of the municipality of Podujevë/Podujevo is mainly based on agriculture, bricks and metal parts production and small trade businesses.

There are some 2,780 registered private businesses operating in the municipality. There is no reliable data on the number of people employed in private sector in Podujevë/Podujevo (*source: municipal directorate of urban planning, and environment protection*).

6. Public Services

a. Infrastructure

The overall status of infrastructure in the municipality of Podujevë/Podujevo is assessed as poor. Most of the main roads connecting major villages with the urban centre are not asphalted. Podujevë/Podujevo town and 55 out of 77 villages are connected to water supply and sewage systems. Power supply is still a problem especially in the villages and in the wintertime (*source: municipal development plan*).

b. Health

The primary health care system includes: one (1) municipal family health centre; 14 health houses and seven (7) health clinics. Health sector has 269 employees, 106 female and 163 male, including doctors, nurses and support staff. The Kosovo Serbs receive primary medical care in the family medicine centre in Orllan/Orlane village; for secondary care they mostly go to larger Serbia-run healthcare facilities elsewhere in Kosovo.

Access:

All communities have access to health care and all health facilities (*source: municipal directorate of health and social welfare*).

c. Education

There are 36 primary schools with 17,384 pupils and 1,163 teachers and technical staff; three (3) secondary schools with 5,026 students and 260 teachers and technical staff, one (1) kindergarten with 70 pupils and five (5) teachers and technical staff (*source: municipal directorate of education*).

7. Religious and Cultural Sites

Podujevë/Podujevo has 33 mosques. Most of them were renovated following the conflict. One (1) Serbian Orthodox church was damaged during the March 2004 riots and was renovated later. It is not in use (*source: municipal development plan*).

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In Podujevë/Podujevo there are:

41

seats in the municipal assembly distributed amongst 5 political entities.

107

police officers.

9

judges.

1428

teachers and technical staff in 36 primary and 3 secondary schools and 1 kindergarten.