## Mitrovicë/Mitrovica

## 1. Area and Population

The municipality of Mitrovicë/Mitrovica is located in northern Kosovo. It covers an area of approximately 350 km². Since the 1999 conflict, the city has been divided along the Ibër/Ibar River with nearly all Kosovo Serbs living in the north and Kosovo Albanians in the south. The municipality consists of Mitrovicë/Mitrovica city and 45 villages. According to the Kosovo Population and Housing Census 2011, the total population south of Ibër/Ibar is 71,909.

Ethnic composition (south)

1. Kosovo Albanians: 69,497

2. Kosovo Ashkali: 647

3. Kosovo Roma: 528

4. Kosovo Turks: 518

5. Kosovo Bosniaks: 416

6. Kosovo Gorani: 23

7. Kosovo Serbs: 14 8. Kosovo Egyptians: 6

9. Other: 47

10. Not specified: 213

(Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics)

In the northern part of Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, there are approximately 29,460 inhabitants.

#### Ethnic composition (north)

- 1. Kosovo Serbs: approximately 22,530 (of which 5,000 to 7,000 are persons displaced from elsewhere in Kosovo) residing in the town and in Suhodoll/Suvi Do village.
- 2. Kosovo Albanians: approximately 4,900 residing in the town and in Suhodoll/Suvi Do, Gushavc/Guševac and Vinarc/Vinarce villages.
- 3. Kosovo Bosniaks: approximately 1,000, residing in the town.
- 4. Kosovo Gorani: approximately 580 residing in the town.
- 5. Kosovo Turks: approximately 210 residing in the town.
- 6. Kosovo Roma: approximately 200 residing in the town.
- 7. Kosovo Ashkali: approximately 40 residing in the town (source: UNMIK Administration in Mitrovica Local Communities Office February 2010).

#### 2. Governing Structures and Political Overview

The municipality of Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, operating under the Kosovo institutional framework, is the municipal administration in the area south of Ibër/Ibar. In June 2012, the Mitrovica/Mitrovicë North Administration Office (MNAO), operating under the Kosovo institutional framework, has started offering civil services to residents residing north of the Ibër/Ibar. The UNMIK Administration

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



in Mitrovica (UAM) is the UNMIK-sanctioned municipal authority for the area north of Ibër/Ibar. A Serbia-run "municipality of Kosovska Mitrovica" also operates on the northern side.

The total number of voters registered for the last municipal elections organized by Kosovo institutions held in November 2009 was 83,307 including out-of-Kosovo voters. The voter turnout was 34.8 per cent/ 29,018 voters (source: Central Election Commission).

The election results were as follows:

PDK - Democratic Party of Kosovo	
35.00%	14 seats
LDK - Democratic League of Kosovo	
22.00%	9 seats
AKR - New Kosovo Alliance	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
17.00%	7 seats
AAK Alliance for the Future of Kosovo	
15.00%	6 seats
LDD Democratic League of Dardania	
5.00%	2 seats
KDTP Kosovo Democratic Turkish Party	
2.00%	1 seat
ORA Reformist Party	
2.00%	1 seat
PD Justice Party	
2.00%	1 seat

Serbian institutions organized municipal elections in the northern part of Mitrovicë/Mitrovica in May 2010 and formed the 'Kosovska Mitrovica' municipal assembly.

The election results were as follows:

SNS - Serb Progressive Party	
25.00%	7 seats
DSS - Democratic Party of Serbia	
24.00%	7 seats
DSS - Democratic Party of Serbia	
21.00%	6 seats
SDP - Citizens Initiative Serbia, Democracy, Justice	
11.00%	3 seats
SPS-PUPS-JS Coalition	· · · · · · · · · · ·
11.00%	2 seats
G17 Plus	
4.00%	2 seats
Independent candidates (former Social Democratic Party of Serbia)	• • • • • • • • •
4.00%	2 seats

## a. Legislative

The Mitrovicë/Mitrovica municipal assembly has 41 seats distributed amongst seven (7) political entities; 40 members are Kosovo Albanians; one (1) member, the deputy municipal assembly chairperson, is Kosovo Turk, while 15 are female. The municipal assembly chairperson is Rrustem Musa (PDK).

UNMIK Administration in Mitrovica (UAM) is an administrative structure under UN Security Council Resolution 1244. As of 1 January 2013, UAM was subject to significant downsizing.

In addition, the municipal assembly in northern Mitrovicë/ Mitrovica has 30 seats distributed among seven (7) political entities; 29 members are Kosovo Serb, one (1) is Kosovo Bosniak, while seven (7) members are female. The municipal assembly chairperson is Aleksandar Babincev (SNS). Dragan Radosavljević (an independent municipal assembly member) is his deputy.

#### **b.** Executive

Mitrovicë/Mitrovica municipal administration is headed by mayor Avni Kastrati (PDK), deputy mayor Rizah Haziri (PDK) and deputy mayor for communities Erol Zekeriya (KDTP). It has 14 departments and department directors: administration and personnel (AKR); health (PDK); education (PDK); finance, economy and development (PDK); urbanism and spatial planning (PDK); cadastre, property and geodesy (PDK); public services and infrastructure (PDK); agriculture and rural development (AKR); environmental protection (AKR); inspection (PDK); protection and rescue (PDK); culture, youth and sport (PDK); procurement (PDK); and European integration and social welfare (PDK) (source: municipal website).

The 'Kosovska Mitrovica' municipal administration is headed by municipal president Krstimir Pantić (SNS) and deputy municipal president Momir Kasalović (DSS). It further has seven (7) departments and department directors: inspection; legal and property department; general administration; finances; social affairs; economic development; and urbanism (source: department of general administration).

Note: Department directors are not politically affiliated.

#### 3. Judiciary

The Mitrovicë/Mitrovica basic court functions with limited capacity at its Vushtrri/Vučitrn branch premises. It has 18 judges, 12 male and six (6) female judges out of which one (1) is Kosovo Serb female. It has branches for Leposavić/Leposaviq, Skenderaj/Srbica, Zubin Potok and Vushtrri/Vučitrn municipalities and also covers Zvečan/Zveçan.

The Mitrovicë/Mitrovica basic prosecutor's office is also located in Vushtrri/Vučitrn and has (11 prosecutors, five (5) male and six (6) female; one (1) is Kosovo Serb. In addition to Mitrovicë/Mitrovica it covers Leposavić/Leposaviq, Skenderaj/Srbica, Zubin Potok, Zvečan/Zveçan and Vushtrri/Vučitrn municipalities (source: basic court and prosecution officials).

## 4. Security Presence

Mitrovicë/Mitrovica municipality is the seat of the regional police headquarters and has two (2) police stations, one (1) in the south and one (1) in the north. The regional police headquarters is located in the south and has 189 police officers; 142 Kosovo Albanians, 34 Kosovo Serbs, nine (9) Kosovo Bosniaks, three (3) Kosovo Turks, and one (1) Kosovo Gorani, while the south station, including the substation in Svinjarë/Svinjare village, has 155 police officers; 148 Kosovo Albanians, three (3) Kosovo Serbs, one (1) Kosovo Ashkali, two (2) Kosovo Bosniaks and one (1) Kosovo Turk.

The Kosovo police station in the north has 85 police officers; 60 Kosovo Serbs, 19 Kosovo Albanians, three (3) Kosovo Bosniaks, two (2) Kosovo Turks and one (1) Kosovo Croat.

Out of the total Kosovo police presence in the municipality, 43 are female.

As for the international military presence, multinational KFOR troops cover the area (source: Kosovo police).

#### 5. Economy

In the south, the economy of the municipality is mainly based on agriculture and small trade businesses. The Trepça/Trepča mining complex, functioning at a limited capacity, is still the largest employer in the municipality.



There are some 2,880 registered private businesses operating in the municipality. There is no reliable data on the number of people employed in private sector in Mitrovicë/Mitrovica municipality (source: municipal directorate of finance, economy and development).

The economy in the northern part of the city relies on assistance from the Serbian government: the health and education sectors are the main employers, followed by the local administration, and publicly owned enterprises. There are also a few hundred small businesses which provide goods and services. The Serbian Government Office for Kosovo and Metohija also makes efforts to support small and medium size enterprises through incentive grants (source: Serbian Government Office for Kosovo and Metohija).

#### 5. Public Services

#### a. Infrastructure

In the southern part of the municipality, the overall status of infrastructure is assessed as good. All the main roads connecting major villages with the urban centre are asphalted. Mitrovicë/Mitrovica town and the 26 villages that comprise the municipality are connected to water supply and sewage systems. Power supply is still a problem especially in the villages and in wintertime (source: municipal development plan).

In the northern part of Mitrovica/Mitrovicë, all the main roads are asphalted. The urban area of the northern Mitrovica/Mitrovicë and three villages are connected to Mitrovicë/Mitrovica regional water and sewage supply systems. Since October 2009, the northern part of Mitrovica/Mitrovicë has been connected to the power supply network of the Serbian Electric Corporation (EPS).

#### b. Health

In the southern part, the health care system currently includes: one (1) regional hospital; one (1) municipal family health centre and 22 health houses. The health sector has 603 employees, 380 females and 223 male, including doctors, nurses and support staff.

In the northern part of Mitrovica/Mitrovicë, there is one (1) regional hospital and one (1) health house operating under the Serbian Ministry of Health. The hospital serves as the main health institution for Kosovo Serbs from across Kosovo. There is also a policlinic that provides health care services for students within the university complex (source: hospital in northern Mitrovica/Mitrovicë and students' policlinic).

#### Access:

All communities have access to health care. However, provision of services is largely divided along the lines of the north-south divide (source: municipal directorate of health).

#### c. Education

In the south, there are 28 primary schools with 13,617 pupils and 881 teachers; five (5) secondary schools with 5,115 students and 312 teachers; one (1) kindergarten with 331 children and 44 teachers; one (1) preschool with 730 pupils and 29 teachers; one (1) primary music school with 379 students and 32 teachers and one (1) specialized school with 72 students and 17 teachers (source: municipal directorate of education).

In northern Mitrovica/Mitrovicë, there are 11 primary schools with 2,754 pupils and four (4) secondary schools with 1,740 students with 587 employees, including teachers, support staff and school management, one (1) kindergarten with 600 pupils and 58 employees, and other specialized schools. The majority of the students are Kosovo Serb with a small number of Kosovo Bosniaks; Kosovo Gorani and Kosovo Roma also attend. There is also a public university in northern Mitrovica/ Mitrovicë, offering lectures in Serbian language (source: UAM department of education, youth, culture and sports, 2012).

## 7. Religious and Cultural Sites

Mitrovicë/Mitrovica has 14 mosques. Five (5) mosques were burnt during the 1999 conflict, of which four (4) have since been renovated. One (1) mosque on the north side of Ibër/Ibar river has not been rebuilt. There are two (2) main Serbian Orthodox churches: one (1) in the north, which was constructed after the conflict, and the church in the southern part that was damaged in March 2004 riots and subsequently renovated. There is also one (1) Catholic church in southern Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, which is in use (source: religious representatives at municipal level).

# toknow

In Mitrovicë/Mitrovica there are:

Different municipal administrations for the south and the north.

429

Kosovo police officers.

A largely dysfunctional court system.

**1960** 

teachers in 40 primary and 9 secondary schools, 1 specialized school, 1 preschool and 2 kindergarten.

