



**Organization:** Kosova Rehabilitation Center for Torture Victims (KRCT)

**Year of establishment:** 1999

**Location:** Pristina/Kosovo

### **KRCT overview**

Kosova Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims (KRCT) is a non-governmental organization established as a response to the needed rehabilitative care for people who endured severe war-related atrocities (1999). KRCT founding aim was to provide treatment and rehabilitation for torture and trauma victims and to build management capacities and professional staff committed to promote the respect for human rights for all Kosovo ethnicities. **Targets of concern include among others: war survivors, specifically sexual violence survivors, political prisoners, repatriated persons, asylum seekers, refugees, returnees, internally displaced persons, statelessness persons and other vulnerable categories.**

Since the foundation of KRCT (1999) there are more than 18,000 individuals and their families that have directly or indirectly benefited from its services. Of this total, KRCT has provided psychosocial and legal services to more than 10,000 trauma survivors and family members of survivors who were impacted by the war. There are also more than 500 survivors of sexual violence that are currently registered to or have already undergone treatment with KRCT to aid in their recovery. Today, KRCT's main achievement has to be the recognition of legal status for survivors of sexual violence happened during the war in Kosovo (1998-1999)

KRCT has expanded its mandate to include monitoring human rights in places of deprivation of liberty, including monitoring correctional centers, detention centers, police holding cells, mental health and social care institutions. Furthermore, KRCT provides psychosocial services for asylum seekers, refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees, stateless persons, and repatriated persons in Kosovo.

At international level, KRCT has a full accreditation at the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) and is a member of the Council of IRCT ([www.irct.org](http://www.irct.org)); Civic Solidarity Platform (<http://www.civicsolidarity.org/>); The Centre for Victims of Torture CVT/USA ([www.cvt.org](http://www.cvt.org)); International Detention Coalition (<http://idcoalition.org/>).

KRCT reports are shared with a wide segment of Kosovar and international decision makers, and its findings are regularly cited by the US Department of State in its Human Rights reports, the EU Commission Progress Reports, the Council of Europe's European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT), Amnesty International and EULEX.

### **Asylum and Migration**

Psychological services for asylum seekers and refugees in Kosovo were provided for the first time in 2012, when KRCT became UNHCR Implementing partner. Nowadays, KRCT is present on daily basis in Asylum Centers and regularly conduct psychosocial activities and



workshops with children, women, youth and vulnerable categories. Most importantly, KRCT team conducts psychological assessment and offers individual treatment programs for torture/trauma survivors, vulnerable groups and gender-based violence survivors. Only during 2020, KRCT team have had under the treatment program 118 asylum seekers.