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Preliminary List of Persons Killed, Persons Forcibly Disappeared and Persons Who Died as a Consequence of the War in Kosovo

Report, 2026

This report presents the methodology, documentation process, and data analysis underpinning the Preliminary List of Persons Killed, Forcibly Disappeared, or Deceased as a Result of the War in Kosovo. The list comprises cases verified by the IKKL covering both the wartime period (1 January 1998–20 June 1999) and the post-war period (21 June 1999–31 December 2000). It represents the initial phase in the establishment of the ICCW institutional database.

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PREFACE

Documenting the victims of the war in Kosova constitutes one of the most significant institutional responsibilities in the broader process of preserving collective memory, establishing the truth, and strengthening the factual foundation for research, education, and public policy. For more than two decades following the end of the war, information concerning persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war has been collected, preserved, and published by various institutions, organizations, and individuals. These efforts have produced substantial collections of data that have contributed to safeguarding collective memory and documenting the human consequences of the war. However, the existence of multiple sources, differing documentation methodologies, and inconsistent verification standards has led to the circulation of divergent data in the public domain regarding the number and characteristics of war victims. For this reason, the Institute for Crimes Committed during the War in Kosova (ICCW) within its legal mandate has initiated a process of harmonizing, verifying, and standardizing data concerning persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war in Kosova.

This process is based on the reassessment, integration, and harmonization of existing sources in accordance with unified criteria and standardized verification procedures. Its aim is to establish a unified, reliable, and traceable institutional list, supported by available documentation, supplementary field research, and professional documentation standards. The ICCW documentation mandate encompasses various categories of victims, survivors, and other persons affected by the war. In addition to persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war, the Institute's work includes documenting cases of torture, imprisonment, forced displacement and deportation, human rights violations, conflict-related sexual violence, and other forms of war-related harm and abuse. However, this report does not encompass all of these categories. Rather, it presents the first phase of the documentation process and focuses exclusively on persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war.

The List is preliminary in nature and remains subject to revision as new documentation, information, and research findings become available. At the time of drafting this report, 178 cases remained under verification and were therefore not included in the List. Consequently, future updates may result in the inclusion of additional cases, the correction of existing data, the reclassification of cases, or a reassessment of their inclusion, in accordance with the ICCW methodology. This report presents the methodology applied and an analysis of the List's data for the wartime period (1 January 1998–20 June 1999) and the post-war period (21 June 1999–31 December 2000). It also provides analyses by case category, ethnic affiliation, gender, age group, geographical distribution, and time period. The publication of the List is intended to establish a verifiable and traceable institutional reference that contributes to truth, remembrance, research, and the public interest. The significance of this process extends beyond its administrative and statistical dimensions. For the families of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war, institutional documentation represents a form of public recognition and a means of preserving the memory of their loved ones. For society as a whole, this process contributes to the development of a fact-based collective memory and promotes a responsible culture of remembrance.

For researchers and academic institutions, the List provides an initial foundation for the development of the institutional database and facilitates historical, sociopolitical, legal, and demographic analyses of the consequences of the war in Kosova. For the institutions of the Republic of Kosova, the report will serve as an authoritative institutional reference for the formulation of public policies, the preparation of strategic documents, institutional representation, and communication with domestic and international partners concerning the human consequences of the war.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the methodology, documentation process, and findings of the Preliminary List of Persons Killed, Forcibly Disappeared, or Deceased as a Result of the War in Kosova. The List covers the wartime period from 1 January 1998 to 20 June 1999, as well as the post-war period from 21st of June 1999 to 31st of December 2000, encompassing cases with a direct and documented connection to the war and its consequences. The report outlines the methodological approach applied, the sources consulted, and the criteria used to identify, cross-reference, and verify the data. It also presents the findings of the Preliminary List, which was compiled through the harmonization of existing records and supplemented by additional research, field verification, and documentation collected by the ICCW. The List is not the product of a mechanical consolidation of existing sources; rather, it is the outcome of a standardized process involving the identification, harmonization, verification, and validation of each individual case in accordance with the ICCW methodology.

The process is based on the systematic analysis and cross-referencing of institutional sources, including records from the Civil Registration Agency (CRA), the Institute of Forensic Medicine (IFM), the Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS), the Government Commission on Missing Persons, municipalities and other public institutions, as well as materials produced by local and international organizations that have documented the human consequences of the war. These include the Council for the Defence of Human Rights and Freedoms (CDHRF), the Humanitarian Law Center (HLC), the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP), and other relevant sources. In parallel with the harmonization of these sources, the ICCW conducted supplementary field research and verification activities to complete missing data, confirm the identities of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war, and identify cases that were absent from or incompletely documented in existing sources.

The List comprises a total of 13,227 documented cases of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war during the period from 1st of January 1998 to 31st of December 2000. It constitutes the most comprehensive institutional record to date covering these three categories and was compiled through the harmonization of existing sources and supplementary verification conducted by the ICCW. The findings presented in this report provide an overview and analysis of the documented cases by case category—persons killed, forcibly disappeared, or deceased as a result of the war—as well as by gender, age group, ethnic affiliation, geographical distribution, and time period.

The List was prepared in accordance with the ICCW legal mandate and established methodology. During the harmonization and verification process, it was determined that a number of cases recorded by other institutions or organizations did not meet the criteria for inclusion in the List. These primarily concerned persons killed outside the territory of Kosova or cases for which the available documentation did not establish a direct and verifiable connection to the war in Kosova or its consequences. The List is designated as “preliminary” because it remains open to revision as new documentation, evidence, and information become available. This designation does not imply that the cases included in the List are unverified. Its publication constitutes the first phase in the

development of the ICCW institutional database, which will be supplemented, updated, and expanded during subsequent stages of the documentation process. Given that the term “victim” encompasses a broader range of experiences and categories than those covered by this publication, it is important to emphasize that the report does not document all victims or persons affected by the war. Rather, it is limited to the three categories defined in its title and scope.

PPRINCIPLES FOR DATA INTERPRETATION AND USE OF THE REPORT

The data presented in the List and this report must be interpreted within the substantive, temporal, territorial, and methodological scope of the publication. The report covers only persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war and whose cases met the IKKL's criteria at the time the List was compiled.

To ensure that the data are interpreted accurately, the following principles should be taken into consideration:

1. The data presented in the report are based on the sources and documentation available during the research, documentation, and verification process. The inclusion of, or absence of, an individual from the List reflects the documentation and information available to and verified by the ICCW at the time of publication.
2. Documentation is an ongoing process. Newly available evidence and information may result in the supplementation, correction, reclassification, or updating of the List. One of the purposes of publishing the List is to facilitate communication with the public, researchers, and the families of the individuals included therein. This engagement is expected to yield additional information that may contribute to the completion and further verification of the data.
3. The report is intended for research and documentation purposes. It neither replaces judicial, investigative, or administrative proceedings nor determines individual or collective criminal responsibility.
4. Statistical categories and classifications have been applied in accordance with the ICCW methodology to ensure the standardization and comparability of the data. Although information concerning the status of some individuals included in the List was identified during the research process, such data has not been presented at this stage of publication. This approach was adopted to ensure the consistent application of the same methodological criteria across all cases. In subsequent phases, following the completion of the comprehensive verification and classification process, additional analyses are planned for publication, including the categorization of individuals by status as either civilian victims or members of armed forces.

The documentation process does not conclude with the publication of this report; rather, it will continue through further research, ongoing data verification, and the incorporation of new documentation and evidence. The ICCW invites public institutions, local and international organizations, researchers, families of the individuals included in the List, and citizens possessing relevant documentation, evidence, or information to cooperate with the Institute and contribute to the completion, refinement, and further verification of this record in the interests of truth, institutional memory, and the public good.

PRINCIPLES FOR THE USE OF TERMINOLOGY

For the purposes of this publication, the terms “Preliminary List,” “Report,” and “Database” are defined as follows:

1. The Preliminary List, or List, refers to the record published at this stage of the documentation process and comprises verified cases of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war.
2. The Report is the accompanying document that presents the methodology applied, the documentation process, and an analysis of the data contained in the List..
3. The Database is the ICCW’s institutional system, currently under development, in which the data, source documentation, verification history, and other relevant information relating to each case are stored and interconnected. It will be supplemented, updated, and expanded in accordance with the findings of ongoing research and verification processes.

This report primarily employs descriptive terms such as “persons killed,” “persons forcibly disappeared,” and “persons who died as a result of the war.” However, this terminology should not be understood as limiting the legal or social meaning of the term “victim.” The ICCW recognizes that, under international law, domestic legislation, and established documentation practices, the term “victim” encompasses other categories of persons affected by the war, including survivors of torture, imprisonment, forced displacement or deportation, conflict-related sexual violence, and other forms of war-related harm or violations. Nevertheless, this report and the accompanying List focus exclusively on documenting persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war. Accordingly, wherever the term “victim” is used in this report, it should be understood as referring solely to these three categories and not as encompassing the full range of categories falling within the ICCW’s documentation mandate.

CHAPTER I

MANDATE OF THE ICCW AND SCOPE OF THE LIST

1.1 INSTITUTIONAL MANDATES

The Institute for Crimes Committed during the War in Kosova (ICCW) is a public institution established pursuant to Law No. 08/L-177 and mandated to document, research, collect, preserve, and analyse data relating to crimes committed during the war in Kosova and their consequences. The Institute's mandate encompasses the documentation of various categories of victims, survivors, and other persons affected by the war, as well as war-related damage and its consequences. One of the ICCW's principal priorities is to develop an institutional database documenting the human consequences of the war through the integration, harmonization, and verification of data from various sources, supplemented by additional research. This institutional documentation is intended to contribute to the preservation of memory, the formulation of public policies, and the advancement of transitional justice processes.

1.2 SCOPE OF THIS DOCUMENTATION PHASE

This phase of the documentation process is limited to three categories: persons killed, persons forcibly disappeared, and persons who died as a result of the war. The inclusion of only these categories in the List does not imply that they encompass the full range of victims of the war in Kosova. Other categories falling within the ICCW's research mandate will be addressed in subsequent phases of the documentation process.

1.3 PURPOSE OF THE LIST

The development of the List was initiated in response to the need for a unified, standardized, and verified institutional record of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war in Kosova.

The principal objectives of this process are as follows:

- to identify, compare, analyse, and integrate existing sources;
- To harmonize data collected from different sources in accordance with professional documentation standards
- To verify and standardize individual cases;
- To identify and eliminate duplicate records through documentary verification and the use of digital technologies;
- To improve the quality, accuracy, and reliability of the data;
- To establish a verified List of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war, serving as an institutional reference for research, analysis, and the formulation of public policy.

The List remains open to revision as the documentation process continues. Its publication aims, among other objectives, to facilitate the participation of the families of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war, as well as institutions, organizations, and citizens possessing relevant documents, testimonies, or information that have not previously been available to the ICCW. Such materials may be submitted to the Institute for review. Any new information will be verified in accordance with the ICCW's methodology and, if confirmed, incorporated into future updates of the List. The documentation process was conducted in accordance with the principles of objectivity, impartiality, and professionalism, and in compliance with the ICCW's methodology, which is grounded in the applicable legislation and international best practices.

1.4 SCOPE AND CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION IN THE LIST

The List was compiled on the basis of the methodological, temporal, and territorial criteria established by the ICCW. It includes only individuals who, in accordance with the Institute's methodology, are classified as persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war. The List covers the wartime period from 1st of January 1998 to 20th of June 1999, as well as the post-war period from 21st of June 1999 to 31st of December 2000, but only in cases where a direct and documented connection has been established between the killing, disappearance, or death and the events of the war in Kosova. The inclusion of this post-war period is based on the methodological principle that the human consequences of the war did not cease with the end of hostilities. Inclusion in the List is contingent upon compliance with the ICCW's methodological criteria and the availability of sufficient documentation to verify each case. The assessment examines the factual and documented connection between the case and the war in Kosova, taking into account, where applicable, the individual's place of residence, the location of the incident, the place where injuries were sustained, the place of disappearance, and any other relevant documented circumstances.

In this context, the List includes individuals who meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. Were born, lived, or resided in the territory of Kosova during the war;
2. Sustained fatal injuries or disappeared within the territory of Kosova under circumstances directly related to the war;
3. Died as a direct result of injuries sustained during the war in Kosova;
4. Had a direct and documented connection to the events of the war in Kosova, as established through verified documentation.

During the harmonization and verification process, the ICCW also identified cases recorded by other institutions or organizations that were not included in the List. These primarily concern persons killed outside the territory of Kosova or cases for which the available documentation does not establish a direct connection to the events of the war in Kosova, in accordance with the Institute's legal mandate and methodology. As a result of the application of these methodological criteria, more than 267 cases were excluded from the List. Their exclusion, however, does not constitute a denial of victim status or an assessment of the significance of these cases. Rather, it reflects the consistent application of the established methodological criteria and adherence to the ICCW's legal mandate.

1.5 CATEGORIES OF DOCUMENTED CASES

For methodological purposes and to ensure the standardization of records, the ICCW classifies the individuals concerned into three principal categories:

1. Persons killed – individuals who lost their lives as a direct result of acts of war, including killings, executions, massacres, bombardments, and other forms of violence directly related to the war;
2. Persons who died as a result of the war – individuals who sustained wounds or injuries, or experienced other direct consequences of the war that resulted in their death during or after the war, within the period covered by this report;
3. Forcibly disappeared persons – individuals whose fate or whereabouts remain unknown and for whom credible evidence indicates that their disappearance was connected to the circumstances of the war in Kosovo.

This categorization is based on the most reliable evidence available at the time of verification and may be revised if new evidence or information becomes available.

At this stage of the documentation process, the ICCW has not classified cases according to the status of the individuals concerned - whether civilians or members of armed forces. This classification will be published in subsequent phases, following the completion of the verification and classification process, in accordance with the Institute's methodology and international documentation standards.

1.6 THE IMPORTANCE OF DOCUMENTATION

Beyond its technical and statistical dimensions, the institutional documentation of the human consequences of the war is of particular social, academic, and institutional significance. At the societal level, it contributes to the preservation of collective memory and the institutional recognition of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war. From an academic perspective, it provides a reliable foundation for historical, legal, political, sociological, and demographic research into the consequences of the war. From an institutional perspective, the List provides public institutions with a standardized reference and constitutes the initial foundation for the development of the ICCW's institutional database. As such, it will serve as an important instrument for supporting transitional justice processes and state policies aimed at building a fact-based collective memory grounded in documented evidence.

CHAPTER II

DATA SOURCES AND THE HARMONIZATION PROCESS

2.1 INTRODUCTION

For more than two decades, public institutions, local and international organizations, researchers, and private individuals have documented persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war in Kosovo. These efforts have resulted in the creation of databases, publications, and archives containing information on the human consequences of the war. Although these sources provide an important foundation for documentation, they were produced at different times, for different purposes, and using different methodologies for collecting, classifying, and verifying data. Consequently, discrepancies have been identified in their data structures, inclusion criteria, terminology, and levels of case documentation. In this context, one of ICCW's principal tasks has been to establish a standardized process for analysing, harmonizing, and integrating existing sources, supplemented by additional research and verification. This process aims to create a unified, reliable, and traceable institutional record of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war in Kosovo.

2.2 DATA SOURCES

The List prepared by the ICCW draws upon a broad range of sources, which, for methodological purposes, are classified into three principal categories:

- institutional sources;
- sources from local and international organizations;
- additional sources.

2.2.1 INSTITUTIONAL SOURCES

Institutional sources were used to verify identities, complete missing data, cross-reference information, and assess the circumstances of the documented cases. The institutional sources consulted during this process include:

- State registers and official records, including data from the Civil Registration Agency (CRA), the Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS), the Institute of Forensic Medicine (IFM), and other relevant institutions;
- Records of forcibly disappeared persons provided by the Government Commission on Missing Persons and other institutional mechanisms responsible for addressing cases of missing persons;
- Administrative and civil-status documentation, including birth certificates, death certificates, extracts from civil-status records, and other official documents used to verify identities and personal data;
- Documentation from justice institutions, including indictments, judgments, official correspondence, and other judicial materials relating to crimes committed during the war in Kosovo;
- Materials obtained from the ICCW Archive, municipal archives, and other public institutions that preserve documentation relevant to the period covered by the List;

The use of these sources enabled the cross-referencing of data from different institutions, the identification of discrepancies, and the completion of missing information. No single institutional source was considered sufficient or conclusive in itself. All information was evaluated against other available sources and supporting documentation, in accordance with ICCW's methodology.

2.2.2 SOURCES FROM LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

A significant component of the documentation process drew upon databases, lists, reports, and other materials compiled over the years by local and international organizations engaged in documenting human rights violations, missing persons, and the human consequences of the war in Kosovo.

Among the main sources of this category are materials provided by:

- Council for the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms (KMDLNU);
- Humanitarian Law Center (HLC);
- The International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP);
- other local and international organizations that have documented individual cases or consequences of the war in Kosovo;
- lists and documentary materials prepared by researchers, professionals, and individuals engaged in case documentation.

These sources were used to identify cases, cross-reference data, and address gaps in institutional records. The information they contained was critically analysed and compared with institutional documentation, supplementary sources, and the findings of research conducted by the ICCW. This approach facilitated the identification of discrepancies and potential duplicate records, thereby enhancing the accuracy of the data included in the List.

2.2.3 ADDITIONAL SOURCES

In addition to institutional records and materials from local and international organizations, the documentation process also drew upon supplementary sources, including:

- monographs and publications;
- scientific and professional publications;
- research reports;
- testimonies from family members and other persons with direct knowledge of the case;
- information obtained from municipal officials, village representatives, and other relevant community members;
- personal and family documentation;
- medial material;
- materials from local civil society organizations;
- bulletins, registers, and publications from the wartime and post-war periods
- memorial complexes, monuments, commemorative plaques, and other similar sources.

Supplementary sources were used to clarify the identity of the individuals concerned and the circumstances, date, and location of the relevant events, as well as to guide further research. Their evidentiary value was assessed according to the nature of the source, its proximity to the event, its verifiability, and its consistency with other available documentation.

2.3 PRINCIPLES OF SOURCE INTEGRATION

The process of integrating sources is based on four fundamental principles:

1. Complementarity of sources – No single source was considered sufficient in itself. Information from multiple sources was used in a complementary manner to complete missing or incomplete data and establish the most reliable evidentiary record possible..
2. Data comparability – Before integration, the data were structured and standardized using uniform fields and formats, thereby enabling the systematic comparison of records from different sources.
3. Source traceability – For each case, links to the relevant source or sources are retained, allowing the origin of the information and the history of updates to be traced at every stage of the process.
4. Integrity of information – The harmonization process was not intended to alter the factual content of the original sources. It was limited to the standardization, structuring, and interlinking of data, while discrepancies between sources were preserved and addressed through the verification process.

2.4 THE HARMONIZATION PROCESS

Given the volume, diversity, and differing structures of the sources, harmonization constituted one of the most complex stages in compiling the List. During the initial phase, the available sources were identified, reviewed, and organized to assess their content, data structure, level of completeness, and suitability for use in the documentation process. This assessment provided the basis for determining the appropriate methods of data integration and information cross-referencing.

Subsequently, the standardization of the main data fields was carried out, including:

- the name;
- surname;
- the name of the parent, where available;
- date of birth;
- place of birth;
- residence;
- the date of the incident;
- the place of the incident;
- the case category;
- the source or sources of information.

Following standardization, the records were systematically cross-referenced to identify potential duplicate entries, variations in names, inconsistencies in personal data, and discrepancies relating to the date, location, or classification of each case. Where information differed across sources, each case was reviewed by assessing the quality, relevance, and verifiability of the available evidence. Where discrepancies could not be resolved solely on the basis of existing documentation, supplementary research and field verification were conducted. This process resulted in an integrated and standardized List in which each case is linked to its relevant sources and verification history.

CHAPTER III

VERIFICATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

The process of compiling the List of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war in Kosova was conducted in accordance with the ICCW's methodology, as operationalized through the Methodological and Operational Guide for the Compilation and Verification of the List. The methodology is grounded in the principles of professional documentation, data standardization, methodological transparency, and quality control at every stage of the process. The approach applied did not involve the mechanical consolidation of existing lists; rather, it entailed the identification, cross-referencing, verification, and individual validation of each case. Each case was treated as a distinct documentation unit, for which relevant information from institutional, archival, documentary, and supplementary sources was reviewed to establish the most reliable and verifiable data available. The methodology was applied consistently to all cases, irrespective of ethnic affiliation, gender, civilian or military status, political beliefs, or any other affiliation. The process was guided by the principles of objectivity, impartiality, source-based documentation, respect for the dignity of the individuals documented, and the preservation of data integrity.

3.2 ASSESSMENT OF SOURCE RELIABILITY

Data verification was based on the systematic cross-referencing of institutional sources, administrative registers, archival and judicial records, materials produced by local and international organizations, scholarly and historical publications, locally sourced evidence, and documentation obtained through field research. The reliability of each source was assessed according to its origin, authenticity, proximity to the event, level of detail, verifiability, and consistency with other available sources. No source was regarded as conclusive solely because of its institutional origin or because the same information appeared in multiple records. Where discrepancies arose between two or more sources, decisions were not based on the numerical predominance of sources. Instead, each item of information was assessed individually, and methodological determinations were based on identifiable and traceable documentation. Where discrepancies could not be resolved through the analysis of existing documentation, field research was conducted, additional sources were consulted, or the case remained under review until sufficient information became available.

3.3 USE OF HARMONIZED DATA IN THE VERIFICATION PROCESS

The data harmonized through the process described in Chapter II served as the basis for the individual verification of cases. The preliminary standardization of formats, headings, and data fields enabled records from different sources to be cross-referenced and discrepancies requiring further examination to be identified. During the verification process, harmonized data were not automatically regarded as confirmed. For each case, the source documentation, identified data variants, and supplementary information were reviewed to determine the most reliable data available.

Where discrepancies between sources were identified, they were analysed and resolved in accordance with the reliability criteria established by the ICCW. Every correction or update made during the verification process was documented, while the original source data and previous variants were retained in the case history. This ensured that all methodological decisions remained traceable and subject to review.

3.4 VERIFICATION, REVERIFICATION, AND VALIDATION

The verification process was conducted in three interconnected phases: verification, re-verification, and validation. During the verification phase, the data relating to each case were cross-referenced with the relevant sources to confirm the individual's identity, case category, date and location of the event, and documented connection to the war in Kosova. At this stage, discrepancies were identified, missing information was completed, and matters requiring further examination were flagged. During the re-verification phase, the data and underlying methodological reasoning were reviewed by a second ICCW official. This level of quality control was intended to identify potential errors, assess the consistency of decisions, and ensure the uniform application of methodological criteria. Validation constituted the final stage of review, during which each case was assessed to determine whether it met the methodological criteria for inclusion in the List. In accordance with the principle of segregation of duties, data entry, verification, and validation were not performed by the same official. Only cases that passed all stages of quality control and met the ICCW's methodological criteria were included in the List.

3.5 IDENTIFICATION AND HANDLING OF DUPLICATE RECORDS

One of the most complex stages of the process involved identifying and managing records that potentially referred to the same individual. For this purpose, various combinations of identifying elements were cross-referenced, including the individual's first and last name, parent's name, date and place of birth, place of residence, date of killing, disappearance, or death, location of the incident, case category, and relevant sources. Similarity between one or more identifying elements was not automatically regarded as evidence of duplication. A determination was made only after all relevant data and supporting documentation had been thoroughly reviewed. Where two or more records were found to refer to the same individual, the data were consolidated into a single record, while the identified variants and their corresponding sources were retained as part of the case history. Where a sufficiently substantiated conclusion could not be reached, the case remained under review until additional documentation or information became available.

3.6 QUALITY CONTROL AND TRACEABILITY

Quality control was conducted throughout the entire process of compiling the List. For each case, links to the relevant sources were retained, all changes were documented, and the methodological reasoning underlying each correction, addition, or decision was recorded. The methodology did not permit the deletion of historical information. Previous versions of the data were preserved for transparency, audit, and subsequent verification purposes, thereby ensuring the full traceability of the process. This mechanism enables every change made to the List to be reconstructed and reviewed, thus safeguarding the integrity and reliability of the institutional records.

3.7 METHODOLOGICAL LIMITATIONS AND EXTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS

The List reflects the status of the documentation and the findings of the verification process at the time this report was prepared. Although a uniform methodology was applied, the availability, quality, and completeness of sources varied across cases. For a number of cases, the collection of supplementary documentation, verification of additional sources, and examination of unresolved discrepancies remain ongoing. The inclusion of an individual in the List indicates that, at the time of validation, the case met the ICCW's methodological criteria and was supported by sufficient and verifiable documentation. The absence of an individual from the List should not be interpreted as evidence that the person was not a victim of the war. Such absence may result from insufficient documentation, unresolved discrepancies, failure to meet the applicable methodological criteria, or the fact that the case remains under review. New information may lead to the supplementation or correction of data, the reclassification of cases, or the reassessment of previous decisions. Any such change will be subject to the same verification, re-verification, and validation procedures established by the ICCW's methodology. In subsequent phases of the institutional database's development, the methodology will be supplemented with more detailed criteria for additional analyses and classifications. This will include the methodological assessment of cases involving persons who lost their lives after the cessation of hostilities as a result of landmines, unexploded ordnance, and other explosive remnants of war. The ICCW does not claim that the List constitutes definitive evidence of every factual element relating to the documented cases. Rather, it represents the most thoroughly verified record that could be established on the basis of the documentation available and the methodology applied at the time of publication.

CHAPTER IV

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The human consequences of the war constitute one of the most significant dimensions of Kosova's recent history. An analysis of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war enables a more comprehensive understanding of the scale of human loss and provides a reliable foundation for examining the war's consequences. This chapter presents a general statistical overview of the cases documented in the ICCW List.

4.2 TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST

According to the verified data, the List comprises a total of 13,227 persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war in Kosova. Of these, 12,230 cases (92.5%) relate to the wartime period (1st of January 1998–20 of June 1999), while 997 cases (7.5%) relate to the post-war period (21st of June 1999–31st of December 2000), where a direct connection between the death or disappearance and the war in Kosova was documented. These figures are the outcome of the harmonization and verification process conducted in accordance with the ICCW's methodology.

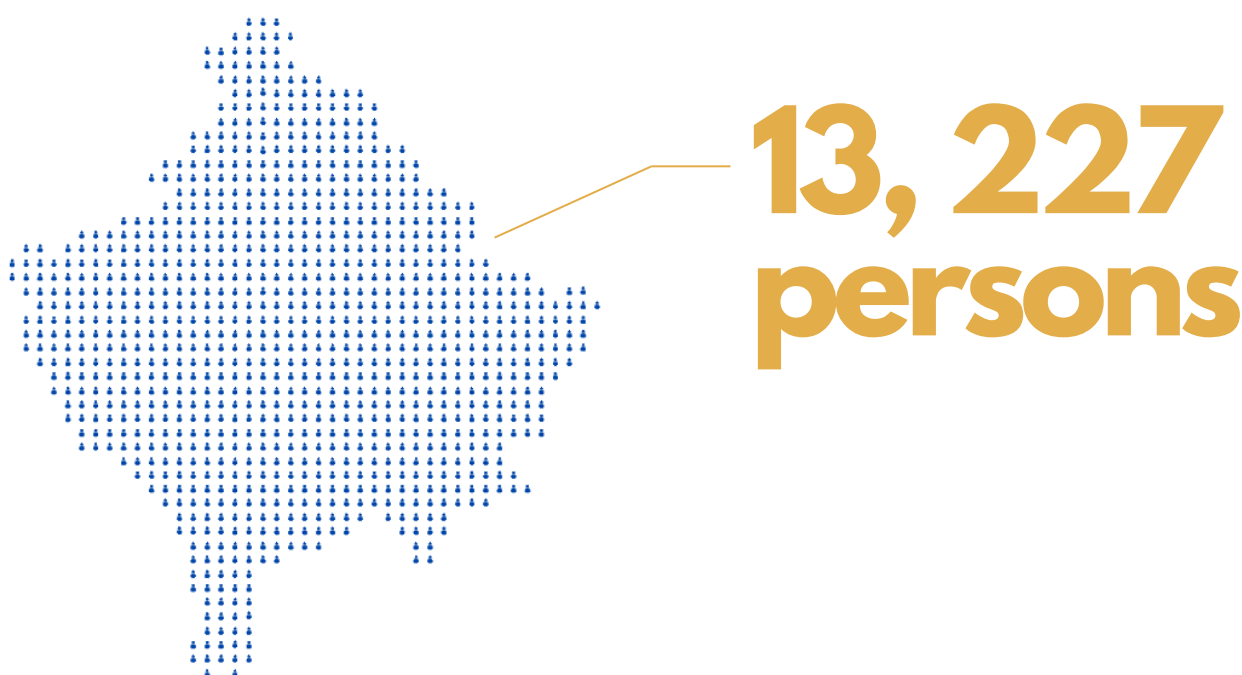


Figure 1. The total number of war casualties in Kosovo (periods: January 1, 1998 – June 20, 1999 and June 21, 1999 – December 31, 2000)

4.3 DISTRIBUTION BY CATEGORIES

For documentation purposes, the persons included in the List are classified into three categories: persons killed, persons forcibly disappeared, and persons who died as a result of the war. This classification was made in accordance with the ICCW methodology and enables cases to be presented and analyzed according to their nature. Figure 2 presents the distribution of persons included in the List across these categories. Of the 13,227 documented cases, 11,408 (86.2%) involve persons killed, 1,578 (11.9%) involve persons forcibly disappeared, and 241 (1.8%) involve persons who died as a result of the war. These data indicate that persons killed constitute the overwhelming majority of documented cases, while persons forcibly disappeared represent the second-largest category in terms of the number of cases.

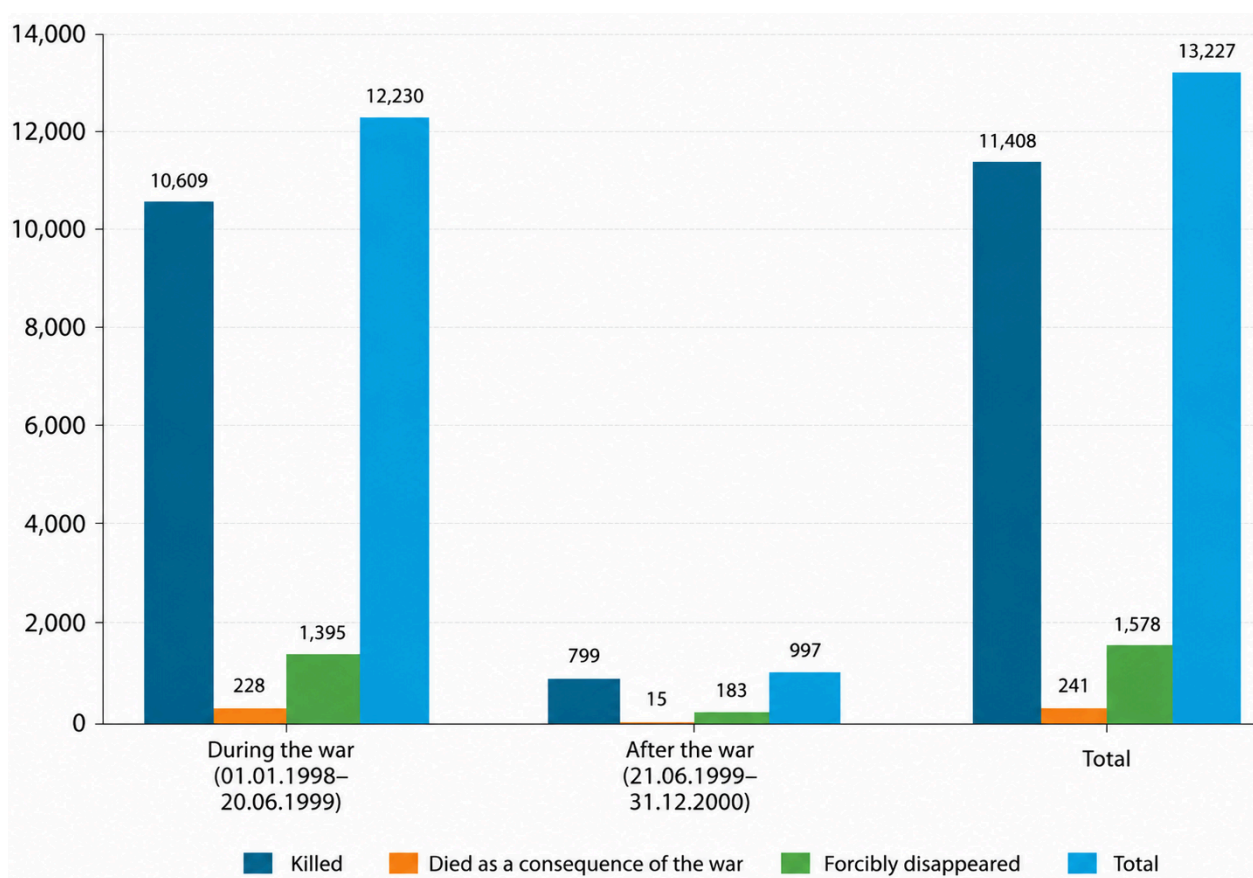


Figure 2. Victims by category (periods: January 1, 1998–June 20, 1999 and June 21, 1999–December 31, 2000)

4.4 PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST BY ETHNIC AFFILIATION

The distribution of persons included in the List by ethnic affiliation provides important indicators for analyzing the human consequences of the war. However, ethnic affiliation represents only one characteristic of the documented cases and, in itself, is not sufficient to interpret the overall structure of human losses. A comprehensive analysis must also take into account the status of the person (civilian or member of the armed forces), the circumstances of the event, and other methodological indicators.

Ethnic affiliation	Persons killed	Persons who died as a result of the war	Forcibly disappeared persons	During the war (01.01.1998 – 20.06.1999)	After the war (21.06.1999 – 31.12.2000)	Total
Albanians	9,575	209	1,053	10,518	319	10,837
Serbs	1,492	26	399	1,417	500	1,917
Roma	105	0	33	87	51	138
Bosniaks	71	4	15	43	47	90
Montenegrins	41	0	26	47	20	67
Ashkali	47	1	18	47	19	66
Egyptians	21	0	15	17	19	36
Other / unknown	17	0	11	23	5	28
Gorani	9	0	1	4	6	10
Turks	4	0	4	7	1	8
Hungarians	7	0	0	7	0	7
Macedonians	4	0	2	2	4	6
Bulgarians	5	0	0	3	2	5
Yugoslavs	4	0	0	3	1	4
Croats	3	1	0	3	1	4
Slovenes	3	0	1	2	2	4
Total	11,408	241	1,578	12,230	997	13,227

Table 1. Victims by ethnic affiliation (periods: January 1, 1998–June 20, 1999 and June 21, 1999–December 31, 2000)

Table 1 presents the distribution of the 13,227 persons included in the List by ethnic affiliation. Of the total number of documented cases, 10,837 (81.9%) are Albanians and 1,917 (14.5%) are Serbs, while the remaining cases relate to persons from other communities or persons whose ethnic affiliation is unknown.

At this stage, the ICCW has not yet completed the verification and standardization of the classification of persons by status (civilian or member of the armed forces). Therefore, an analysis based on this criterion will be published in subsequent phases of the documentation process. However, data published by organizations that have also documented the status of persons, such as the Humanitarian Law Center (HLC) and the Council for the Defence of Human Rights and Freedoms (CDHRF), indicate that analyzing human losses solely by ethnic affiliation does not fully reflect their overall structure. According to HLC data, more than 80% of Albanians recorded as killed are classified as civilian victims, while approximately 52.4% of Serbs recorded in the HLC database are classified as members of the armed forces or the police. These data do not constitute the official classification of the ICCW, but illustrate that the interpretation of human losses necessarily requires consideration of the status of the person and the specific circumstances of death, rather than ethnic affiliation alone.

The ICCW List does not include persons who lost their lives outside the territory of Kosovo or cases that have no factual and documented connection to the war in Kosovo, even if they appear in the records of other institutions or organizations. This methodological standard is applied consistently to all communities and ensures that the List includes only cases falling within the Institute's legal and territorial mandate. In subsequent phases of the documentation and verification process, the ICCW will publish its own analysis of the classification of persons by status, location of the incident, and circumstances of death, thereby enabling an even more comprehensive and methodologically robust presentation of the structure of human losses during the war in Kosovo.

CHAPTER V

DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The demographic analysis of persons included in the List complements the statistical overview of human losses by examining their distribution by gender and age groups. These indicators facilitate the identification of the most affected population groups and provide a more comprehensive understanding of the demographic and social consequences of the war in Kosovo.

5.2 PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST BY GENDER

The analysis of data by gender facilitates the identification of the groups most exposed to the direct consequences of the war and contributes to understanding the characteristics of the documented cases.

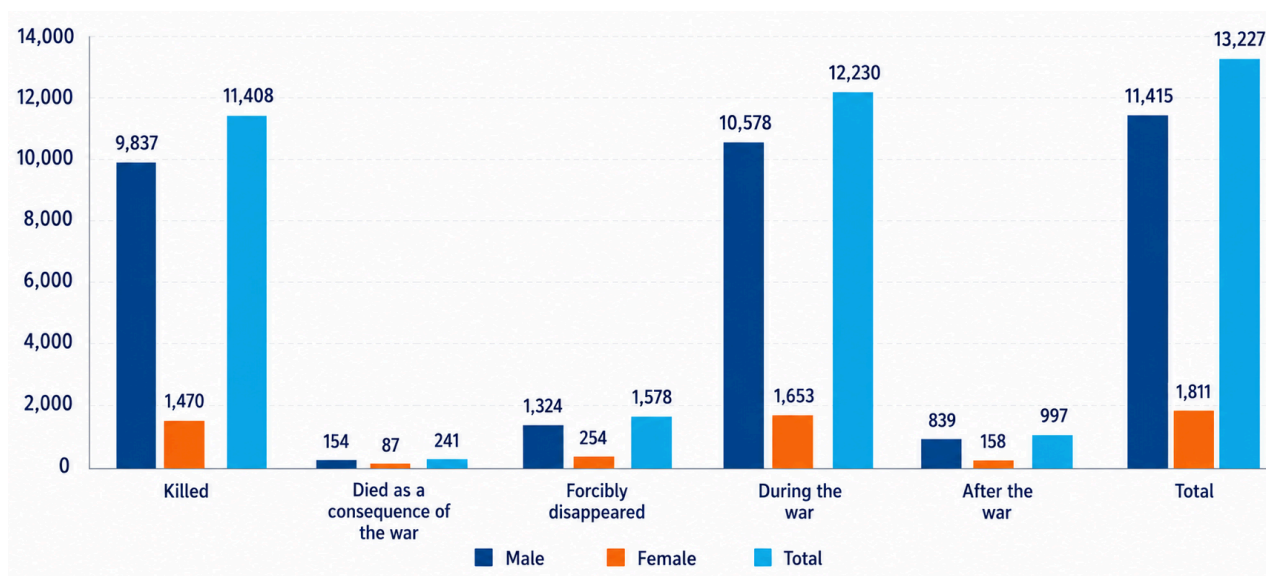


Figure 3. Victims by gender (periods: January 1, 1998–June 20, 1999, and June 21, 1999–December 31, 2000)

Figure 3 presents the distribution by gender of the persons included in the List. Of the 13,227 persons included in the List, 11,415 (86.3%) are male and 1,811 (13.7%) are female, while gender could not be determined for one case (0.01%) at this stage of the documentation process. This distribution indicates that human losses during the war disproportionately affected the male population, which constitutes the overwhelming majority of documented cases. However, the documentation of 1,811 women demonstrates that the consequences of the war were not limited to males but also affected the female population. The gender-based analysis should be interpreted in conjunction with other demographic and methodological indicators, particularly age, the status of the person, and the circumstances of the event, in order to provide a deeper understanding of the structure of human losses during the war in Kosovo.

5.3 PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST BY AGE GROUPS

This analysis presents the demographic structure of the persons included in the List and facilitates the identification of the age groups most affected by human losses during the war. Table 2 shows that human losses were primarily concentrated among the working-age population. The 31–50 age group represents the largest category, with 4,080 persons (30.8%), followed by the 18–30 age group, with 3,531 persons (26.7%). Together, these two age groups account for more than half of all persons included in the List (57.5%), indicating that the war disproportionately affected the working-age population. At the same time, the data show that the consequences of the war were not limited to the adult population. The List documents 1,241 children (9.4%) aged 17 or younger and 1,949 persons (14.7%) over the age of 65. These two categories represent the most vulnerable population groups, and their presence on the List demonstrates that the consequences of the war affected both children and older persons. The distribution by age group should be interpreted in conjunction with other demographic and methodological indicators, such as gender, the status of the person, and the circumstances of the event, to enable a deeper analysis of the structure of human losses during the war in Kosovo.

Age group	Persons killed	Persons who died as a result of the war	Forcibly disappeared persons	During the war	After the war	Total	%
				01.01.1998 – 20.06.1999	21.06.1999 – 31.12.2000		
0–17 years	1,047	94	100	1,176	65	1,241	9.4
18–30 years	3,156	40	335	3,325	206	3,531	26.7
31–50 years	3,541	34	505	3,772	308	4,080	30.8
51–65 years	2,036	28	347	2,184	227	2,411	18.2
Over 65 years	1,615	45	289	1,766	183	1,949	14.7
Age unknown	13	0	2	7	8	15	0.1
Total	11,408	241	1,578	12,230	997	13,227	100

Table 2. Victims by age group (January 1, 1998–June 20, 1999, and June 21, 1999–December 31, 2000)

For example, when the data are analyzed by age group and ethnic affiliation, substantial differences emerge in the number of children included in the List. A total of 1,241 cases were recorded in the 0–17 age group. Of these, 1,156 (93.2%) concern children of Albanian ethnic affiliation, while 42 cases (3.4%) concern children of Serbian ethnic affiliation. The number of cases involving children from other communities is considerably lower: 19 Roma children, 14 Ashkali children, five Egyptian children, and one child from each of the Croatian, Montenegrin, and Turkish communities. Two cases were classified as having another or unknown ethnic affiliation.

These data indicate that children of Albanian ethnic affiliation constitute the largest proportion of documented cases in this age group, while children from other communities are represented in considerably smaller numbers on the List. This disparity also reflects the disproportionate impact of the war on Albanian children. In absolute terms, the number of Albanian children included in the List is approximately 27 times higher than the number of Serbian children (1,156 compared with 42), while the difference is even greater in comparison with each of the other communities.

CHAPTER VI

GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST

6.1 INTRODUCTION

The geographic analysis presents the territorial distribution of persons included in the List and facilitates the identification of the regions and municipalities most affected by human losses during the war in Kosovo. The territorial distribution of cases reflects the intensity of documented events in different parts of the country and provides insight into the spatial dimension of the war.

6.2 PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST BY REGION

The regional analysis represents the first level of the territorial distribution of persons included in the List. The classification was carried out in accordance with the ICCW methodology, based on the municipality of birth, place of residence, or location of the event, depending on the data documented for each individual case. Table 3 shows that human losses were distributed across all regions of Kosovo, although with varying levels of intensity. The largest number of persons included in the List was recorded in the Gjakova Region, with 2,578 cases (19.5%), followed by the Mitrovica Region, with 2,543 cases (19.2%), the Prishtina Region, with 2,454 cases (18.6%), and the Peja Region, with 2,127 cases (16.1%). Together, these four regions account for more than 73% of all cases documented in the List. The Prizren Region (1,335 cases; 10.1%), the Ferizaj Region (668 cases; 5.0%), and the Gjilan Region (421 cases; 3.2%) have lower numbers of documented cases compared with the other regions. These differences reflect the territorial distribution of documented cases and are associated with the intensity of wartime events in different parts of Kosovo. However, they should not be interpreted separately from other factors, such as the dynamics of military operations, population movements, and the specific circumstances of each individual case.

Municipality	Persons killed	Persons who died as a result of the war	Forcibly disappeared persons	During the war	After the war	Total
				01.01.1998 – 20.06.1999	21.06.1999 – 31.12.2000	
Municipality of Pristina	2,225	44	185	2,283	171	2,454
Municipality of Mitrovica	2,245	88	210	2,438	105	2,543
Municipality of Peja	1,707	20	400	2,001	126	2,127
Municipality of Gjakova	2,230	27	321	2,468	110	2,578
Municipality of Prizren	1,063	15	257	1,228	107	1,335
Municipality of Ferizaj	582	18	68	600	68	668
Municipality of Gjilan	385	4	32	284	137	421
Unknown	971	25	105	928	173	1,101
Total	11,408	241	1,578	12,230	997	13,227

Table 3. Victims by region (periods: January 1, 1998–June 20, 1999, and June 21, 1999–December 31, 2000)

6.3 PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST BY MUNICIPALITY

The municipality-level analysis provides the most detailed account of the territorial distribution of persons included in the List and facilitates the identification of areas that suffered the greatest human losses during the war. Cases were classified primarily according to the municipality of birth, place of residence, or location of the event, depending on the data documented for each individual case. Where the municipality could not be determined on the basis of the available documentation, the case was classified as “Unknown,” while the appropriate country categories were used for persons born outside the territory of Kosovo.

6.4 THE MOST AFFECTED MUNICIPALITIES OF KOSOVO

This section presents the municipalities with the highest numbers of persons included in the List and provides an overview of the territorial concentration of human losses during the war. Figure 4 presents the ten municipalities with the highest numbers of persons included in the List. The data indicate that a substantial proportion of human losses was concentrated in a relatively small number of municipalities, which together account for more than 60% of all documented cases. This concentration reflects the intensity of wartime events in these areas, where extensive military operations, massacres, forced population displacement, and other events with severe human consequences were documented. The territorial distribution of cases indicates that the impact of the war was not uniform throughout Kosovo, but that substantial differences existed among municipalities. However, the number of documented persons associated with each municipality should not be interpreted as the sole indicator of the intensity of the war, as it is also influenced by other factors, such as the dynamics of military operations, population movements, the location of the event, and the extent to which cases were documented. The municipality-level analysis provides an important basis for more detailed research into the local dimension of human losses and will be supplemented in future ICCW publications by analyses based on the status of the person, the circumstances of the event, and other methodological indicators.

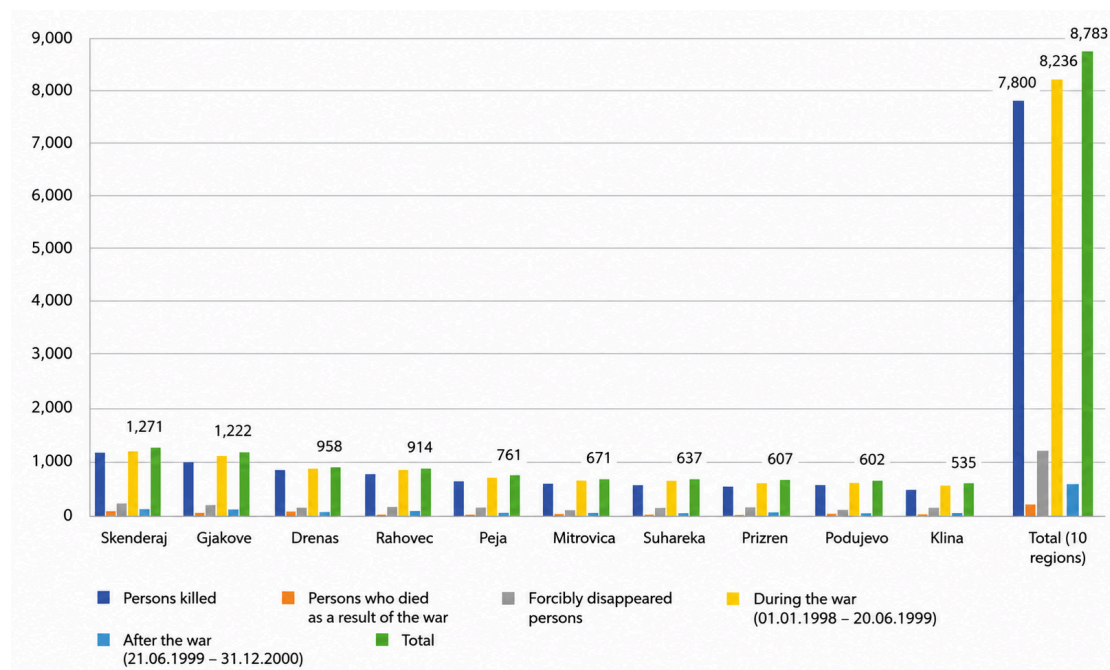


Figure 4. Municipalities with the highest number of victims (periods: January 1, 1998–June 20, 1999, and June 21, 1999–December 31, 2000)

CHAPTER VII

TEMPORAL ANALYSIS OF DOCUMENTED CASES

7.1 INTRODUCTION

The temporal analysis of persons included in the List presents the distribution of cases by period, year, and month of occurrence. This analysis facilitates the identification of the phases with the highest intensity of human losses and provides insight into the temporal dynamics of the war in Kosovo. Consideration of these indicators contributes to an understanding of the relationship between key wartime events and the distribution of documented cases.

7.2 PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST DURING THE WAR AND IN THE POST-WAR PERIOD

For analytical purposes, the Report distinguishes between the wartime period (January 1, 1998–June 20, 1999) and the post-war period (June 21, 1999–December 31, 2000). This distinction facilitates the analysis of the temporal distribution of persons killed, forcibly disappeared persons, and persons who died as a result of the war, as well as the identification of changes in the dynamics of human losses between the two periods (see Figure 1).

7.3 PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST BY YEAR

Table 4 presents the distribution of persons included in the List by year of occurrence and shows that human losses were almost entirely concentrated in 1998 and 1999. The highest number of cases was recorded in 1999, involving 11,005 persons (83.2%), while 2,098 cases (15.9%) were documented in 1998. In 2000, 124 cases (0.9%) were recorded and were associated with events from the post-war period.

Year	Persons killed	Persons who died as a result of the war	Forcibly disappeared persons	During the war	After the war	Total	%
				01.01.1998 – 20.06.1999	21.06.1999 – 31.12.2000		
1998	1,792	69	237	2,098	0	2,098	15.9
1999	9,506	170	1,329	10,132	873	11,005	83.2
2000	110	2	12	0	124	124	0.9
Total	11,408	241	1,578	12,230	997	13,227	100

Table 4. Victims by year (periods: January 1, 1998–June 20, 1999, and June 21, 1999–December 31, 2000)

The predominance of cases recorded in 1999 reflects the most intense phase of the war in Kosovo, during which the majority of killings, forcible disappearances, and other cases included in the List were documented. At the same time, the data indicate that the documentation process did not end with the formal conclusion of the war, since a certain number of cases were also recorded during the post-war period.

7.4 PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST BY MONTH

The analysis by month facilitates the identification of periods with the highest intensity of human losses during the war. The data presented in Table 5 show that the monthly distribution of cases was not uniform. The largest number of persons included in the List was documented in March, April, and May 1999. Together, these three months account for 9,398 cases, or approximately 71% of all cases documented in the List. April 1999 was the month with the highest number of cases (3,987), followed by March (2,585) and May (2,432). This concentration indicates that the highest intensity of human losses was recorded during the spring of 1999, a period that coincided with the intensification of military operations and some of the most serious events documented during the war. Compared with that period, substantially fewer cases were recorded during the remaining months of 1998, 1999, and 2000, reflecting changes in the intensity of the war during its different phases.

Month	1998	1999	2000
January	30	214	12
February	36	121	20
March	98	2,585	14
April	57	3,987	14
May	200	2,432	11
June	184	994	15
July	434	301	2
August	332	139	8
September	490	112	10
October	79	48	4
November	49	31	8
December	109	41	6
Total	2,098	11,005	124
Overall total	13,227		

Table 5. Victims by year and month (periods: January 1, 1998–June 20, 1999, and June 21, 1999–December 31, 2000)

7.5 PERIODS WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LIST

The temporal analysis indicates that human losses were not evenly distributed throughout the war but were concentrated in specific periods. The highest number of documented cases coincides with the most intense phase of the war in Kosovo, during the spring of 1999, when large-scale military operations were conducted in many parts of the country and some of the events with the most severe human consequences were documented. Within this period, April 26, 1999, was the day with the highest number of persons recorded in the ICCW Preliminary List, reflecting the concentration of a large number of events within a very short period. These findings indicate that the dynamics of human losses were closely linked to the course of the war and the intensity of documented events during specific periods of the war.

CHAPTER VIII

CILËSIA E TË DHËNAVE DHE ADMINISTRIMI I LISTËS PRELIMINARE

8.1 INTRODUCTION

The reliability of any list of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war depends not only on the number of documented cases, but also on the quality of the data, the methodology applied, and the procedures used to verify the information. For this reason, the ICCW has developed a standardized system for data collection, management, harmonization, and verification to ensure the accuracy, traceability, and transparency of each record. The Preliminary List was developed on a modern data management platform that enables the integration of numerous sources, the preservation of change histories, and the continuous updating of records. This approach ensures that every item of information is documented, verifiable, and supported by sources whose provenance can be established.

8.2 DATA STRUCTURE

The List of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war is based on a data structure that forms the foundation of the ICCW database. This structure organizes information on victims, documentary sources, categories of documented cases, the location and time of the event, the verification process, and other elements relevant to documenting each individual case. Such an organization enables the harmonization and comparison of different sources while preserving the traceability of information and the source of each record. At this stage, the List is structured to clearly distinguish original data from harmonized and verified data. This approach enables the preservation of original information, the documentation of every change made during the verification process, and the establishment of a basis for the continuous updating of records. In this way, the consistency, transparency, and reliability of the data are ensured in accordance with the ICCW methodology.

8.3 PRINCIPLES OF DATABASE MANAGEMENT

The process is based on five fundamental principles:

1. Traceability of information – Traceability of information was one of the fundamental principles underlying the compilation of the List of war victims in Kosovo. Every record included in the List is linked to the relevant documentary source or sources from which the information was obtained.
2. Verifiability – The List was compiled in accordance with the principle that every item of information included must be supported by documentation whose origin can be established and whose content can be verified. Accordingly, the data were cross-referenced and assessed against different documentary sources to ensure that the recorded information was as accurate and well supported by evidence as possible. Where discrepancies between sources were identified, additional verification and reassessment procedures were applied.
3. Consistency – Given the use of numerous and diverse sources, ensuring data consistency was an important aspect of compiling the List.

All information was harmonized and standardized in accordance with the methodology developed by the ICCW, using uniform formats for names, dates, places of residence, victim categories, and other identifying elements.

4. Transparency – The procedures used to harmonize sources, address discrepancies, remove duplicates, and classify cases were systematically documented. This ensures that the process is comprehensible, reproducible, and verifiable, thereby increasing the reliability of the List and the findings presented in this Report.
5. Capacity for updating and public participation – From its inception, the Database was designed as a dynamic system open to the continuous supplementation, updating, and correction of data relating to each case. Through the ICCW platform, interested parties, particularly family members of persons killed, forcibly disappeared persons, and persons who died as a result of the war, may submit documents, evidence, and additional information, as well as propose corrections to existing data when they are found to be inaccurate or incomplete. Every new item of information is subject to verification before being integrated into the Database. This approach ensures that the Database can be continuously supplemented and improved while providing documentation that is as comprehensive, accurate, and well supported by evidence as possible.

8.4 HARMONIZATION OF SOURCES

One of the key elements affecting the quality of the List is the integration of multiple sources.

The harmonization process identified:

- duplicates;
- discrepancies;
- data gaps;
- terminological differences.
-

This process improved the quality and reliability of the records.

8.5 LIMITATIONS AND UPDATING OF THE PRELIMINARY LIST

Although the ICCW List represents the most comprehensive institutional record developed to date on persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war in Kosovo, the ICCW considers the documentation of cases of this nature to be an ongoing process. International experience shows that new documents, testimonies, archival materials, and other sources continue to be identified even many years after wars have ended and may contribute to supplementing, correcting, or updating existing data. For this reason, the ICCW List should be regarded as a dynamic record that can be updated and that will continue to evolve in light of new information, the findings of additional research, and further verification procedures, while maintaining methodological standards, transparency, traceability, and data integrity at every stage. To ensure the effective management and continuous updating of this record, the ICCW has developed a dedicated electronic platform (<https://lista.ikkl.rks.gov.net/>), through which data on persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war are managed, verified, and updated.

The platform was developed to support the further development of the Database and facilitate the submission, review, and verification of documents, testimonies, and additional information that may be provided by institutions, organizations, researchers, families of victims, and members of the public. Each new item of information received through the platform is subject to verification and validation procedures in accordance with the ICCW methodology before being entered into the ICCW Database.

Furthermore, given the substantial volume of documentation accompanying each individual case, systematic investment in the ICCW's technological infrastructure is essential, including high-capacity servers for the secure storage of archival documentation and all supporting materials. This will enable each item of data in the Database to be linked to the relevant source documentation, case narrative, and change history, thereby ensuring traceability, data integrity, and long-term data preservation.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

9.1 STATISTICAL FINDINGS

The statistical analysis of the Preliminary List points to several key findings. First, the process of harmonizing and verifying sources enabled the establishment of the most comprehensive institutional record to date of persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war in Kosovo during the period from January 1, 1998, to December 31, 2000. Second, the systematic cross-referencing of sources demonstrated that the application of a standardized methodology enabled the identification of duplicate records, the resolution of discrepancies, and the supplementation of a substantial amount of incomplete data. This increased the reliability, consistency, and quality of the resulting record.

9.2 DEMOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

The demographic analysis indicates that human losses affected all categories of the population, although not to the same extent. Men constitute the majority of persons included in the List, while the working-age population (18–50 years) predominates across the age groups. However, the fact that a substantial number of children and persons over the age of 65 were documented demonstrates that the consequences of the war also affected the most vulnerable population groups. The analysis by ethnic affiliation indicates that the List includes persons from all communities that suffered human losses during the war, thereby providing an important basis for examining the demographic structure of human losses.

9.3 GEOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

The territorial analysis indicates that human losses were recorded in all regions of Kosovo, although with varying levels of intensity. A substantial proportion of cases is concentrated in a relatively small number of regions and municipalities, while the ten municipalities with the highest numbers of persons included in the List account for more than 60% of all documented cases. This distribution demonstrates that the human consequences of the war were not evenly distributed throughout Kosovo but were concentrated in areas where some of the most intense wartime events took place.

9.4 TEMPORAL FINDINGS

The temporal analysis indicates that human losses were concentrated primarily in 1999, with cases from that year accounting for more than four-fifths of all documented cases. In particular, March, April, and May 1999 represent the period with the highest intensity of human losses, with approximately 71% of all cases included in the List documented during those three months alone. These findings demonstrate that human losses were not evenly distributed throughout the war but were concentrated during its most intense phase.

9.5 KEY FINDINGS OF THE REPORT

The process of harmonizing, standardizing, and verifying data, conducted in accordance with the ICCW methodology, enabled the compilation of a List comprising 13,227 persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war during the period from January 1, 1998, to December 31, 2000. The List represents the most comprehensive institutional record established to date for documenting human losses during the war in Kosovo. However, in accordance with the ICCW methodology and international practice in documenting human losses, the Preliminary List remains a dynamic record that will continue to be supplemented and updated on the basis of new testimonies and information that undergo verification procedures.

CHAPTER X

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE LIST FOR COLLECTIVE MEMORY AND TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

10.1 COLLECTIVE MEMORY

One of the fundamental responsibilities of the ICCW is to document, preserve, and promote facts related to crimes committed during the war in Kosovo and their human consequences. In this context, the Preliminary List and the Database being developed on its basis constitute an institutional mechanism for documenting and preserving collective memory. Each person included in the List represents more than a statistical entry. Behind every documented case is a personal life story, a family, and a community affected by the war. Through the systematic identification, verification, and documentation of each case, the ICCW contributes to preserving the memory of these persons and establishing a record based on documented facts and verifiable sources. In addition to identification and statistical data, the Database is structured to progressively integrate archival documents, photographs, audiovisual materials, testimonies, and historical narratives related to each individual case. In this way, its aim is to develop from a statistical record into a documentary archive of human losses during the war in Kosovo. Such a mechanism undoubtedly contributes to the preservation of collective memory, supports education about the consequences of the war, and creates a factual basis for countering the denial, distortion, or relativization of crimes and the human consequences of the war.

10.2 RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

In accordance with the ICCW's legal mandate, the documentation of human losses is not limited to record management but also provides a foundation for scholarly research and public education. Data collected from various domestic and international sources have been harmonized and integrated into a unified reference system. This creates new opportunities for historical, political, legal, sociological, and demographic analyses, as well as research in the field of transitional justice. The ICCW Database is expected to serve as a reference source for researchers, universities, and academic institutions and to support the preparation of scholarly publications, exhibitions featuring educational materials, and public awareness initiatives. In this way, it contributes to the development of evidence-based knowledge about the human consequences of the war in Kosovo.

10.3 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE LIST FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO

The Preliminary List provides a verified evidence base that will support the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo in developing public policies, strategic documents, and analyses related to the legacy of the war. Data from the List may be used in the preparation of official reports, memorialization programs, educational initiatives, and policies relating to population groups affected by the war. The data also strengthen the institutional capacity of the Republic of Kosovo to present standardized and verified evidence in communications with international organizations and partners. One of the most significant outcomes of this process is the establishment of a unified institutional record of human losses during the war in Kosovo, which will serve as a reference point for public institutions and future documentation processes.

10.4 TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

The documentation of human losses constitutes an important component of transitional justice processes and efforts to address the past. In this regard, the ICCW Preliminary List strengthens the factual record concerning the human consequences of the war in Kosovo and establishes a standardized record that may be used in research, memorialization, and analysis. The ICCW mandate does not include determining criminal or individual responsibility for war crimes. Nevertheless, the systematic documentation of human losses contributes to the realization of the right to truth and supports broader justice processes by ensuring that the human consequences of the war are documented on the basis of verified facts. International experience shows that standardized records of human losses constitute an important element of the work of truth commissions, memorialization processes, scholarly research, and public policies related to the legacy of war. In this regard, the ICCW Database establishes a stable foundation for the continuous updating of data and the conduct of further analyses of the consequences of the war in Kosovo.

CONCLUSIONS

This Report presents the results of the process of harmonizing, verifying, and standardizing data on persons who were killed, forcibly disappeared, or died as a result of the war in Kosovo during the period from January 1, 1998, to December 31, 2000. Through the integration of numerous domestic and international sources and the application of a unified methodology, the ICCW compiled a Preliminary List comprising 13,227 persons, thereby establishing the most comprehensive institutional record developed to date for documenting human losses during the war in Kosovo. The value of this process lies not only in the number of documented cases. Data collected over the years by various institutions, organizations, and other sources have been harmonized into a unified system based on consistent methodological standards, documented verification procedures, and the principles of information traceability. This establishes a stable foundation for the documentation, analysis, and long-term management of records concerning human losses during the war. However, the ICCW does not regard this Preliminary List as the conclusion of the documentation process. International experience shows that new documents, testimonies, and sources continue to be identified many years after wars have ended and may contribute to supplementing, refining, or correcting existing records. Therefore, the Preliminary List should be understood as a dynamic record that will be continuously updated in accordance with the ICCW methodology and the verification standards applied in this process. In the next phases, the ICCW will continue to develop the Database by integrating new documentation, conducting additional verification procedures, and publishing specialized analyses, including classifications by civilian or uniformed status, demographic profiles, circumstances of events, and other methodological indicators.

At the same time, the Institute intends to extend the documentation process to the periods preceding the war, in accordance with its legal mandate to document crimes committed before, during, and after the war in Kosovo. Documenting human losses is a process that requires cooperation among public institutions, domestic and international organizations, the academic community, families of victims, and members of the public. Their contributions remain important for the further supplementation and verification of the record. In this spirit, the ICCW remains open to receiving new documents, testimonies, and information, which will be subject to the same verification and validation procedures applied during the compilation of this record. This Preliminary List provides the foundation for the development of the institutional Database on human losses during the war in Kosovo. In addition to its documentary function, it establishes a reliable reference base for the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo, researchers, civil society organizations, and international partners, thereby supporting the preservation of collective memory, the advancement of scholarly research, public education, and transitional justice processes. To support this process, the ICCW has developed a digital platform for managing and updating the Database. The platform will facilitate the submission and review of documents, testimonies, and additional information, as well as the submission of proposed corrections by family members, institutions, and other interested parties. Each new item of information will be subject to verification before being incorporated into the Database. The publication of the List marks an important milestone in the establishment of this standardized institutional record of human losses during the war in Kosovo. The ICCW remains committed to the further development of this record in accordance with its legal mandate, with the aim of ensuring that the documentation of crimes and the consequences of the war is based on verified facts and carried out in accordance with the applicable methodology and professional standards.

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