

# RECOGNIZING HOMELESSNESS IN MONTENEGRO

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# HOMELESSNESS IN SOCIALIST MONTENEGRO

- ▶ Building the country
- ▶ Fast industrialisation
- ▶ Urbanisation
- ▶ Social equality
- ▶ Mass housing
- ▶ Health care system
- ▶ No registration of homeless people

# RESEARCH ON HOMELESSNESS IN MONTENEGRO

- ▶ The first research on homelessness in Montenegro (NGO)
- ▶ Goals:
  - ▶ create a database on the homeless, determine the forms of homelessness in Montenegro, the distribution of the homeless by cities or regions, causes of homelessness, socio-demographic characteristics of homeless etc.
  - ▶ create a specific methodology for measuring and monitoring homelessness in Montenegro

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- ▶ initiate and support the debate about homelessness with scientific arguments and data
  - ▶ results of the project present to the Montenegrin public in order to become better acquainted with this social problem, its forms and causes, and for social institutions to have a clearer vision of solving or reducing the consequences of this problem.

# RESEARCH PHASES

- ▶ Collection of institutional data sources from the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Centers for Social Work, Red Crosses, NGOs, Homeless shelters and Soup kitchens.
- ▶ Perception on homelessness from the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Centers for Social Work, Red Crosses, NGOs, Homeless shelters and Soup kitchens.
- ▶ Mapping the homeless in Montenegro: survey and interviews

# THEORETICAL POINTS

- ▶ ETHOS typology of homelessness
- ▶ First three categories

	OPERATIONAL CATEGORY	LIVING SITUATION	GENERIC DEFINITION
ROOFLESS	1 People Living Rough	1.1 Public space or external space	Living in the streets or public spaces, without a shelter that can be defined as living quarters
	2 People in emergency accommodation	2.1 Night shelter	People with no usual place of residence who make use of overnight shelter, low threshold shelter
	3 People in accommodation for the homeless	3.1 Homeless hostel 3.2 Temporary accommodation 3.3 Transitional supported accommodation	Where the period of stay is intended to be short term



▶ Law on Social and Child Protection:

"a homeless person is a person who does not have a residential address, resides in public or other places that are not intended for housing and does not have the means to meet the need for housing"

# METHODOLOGY

- ▶ The Research had an exploratory character
- ▶ Perception of the problem of homelessness by institutions – Interviews
- ▶ Collection of institutional data
- ▶ Counting homeless - difficulties
- ▶ Counting according to the recommendation of the Red Cross, Social Work Centres, Soup kitchens.
- ▶ Survey
- ▶ Attitudes towards the homeless

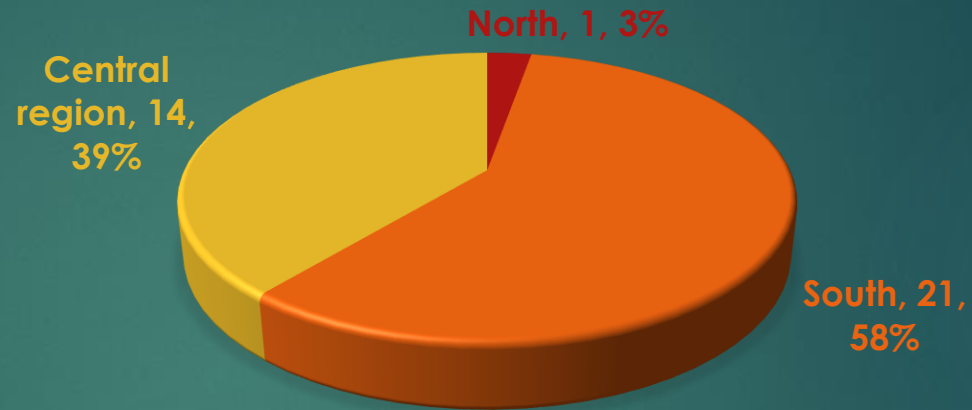


# HOMELESSNESS IN NUMBERS

According to Centers  
for Social Work 36 homeless

North	1
South	21
Central Region	14

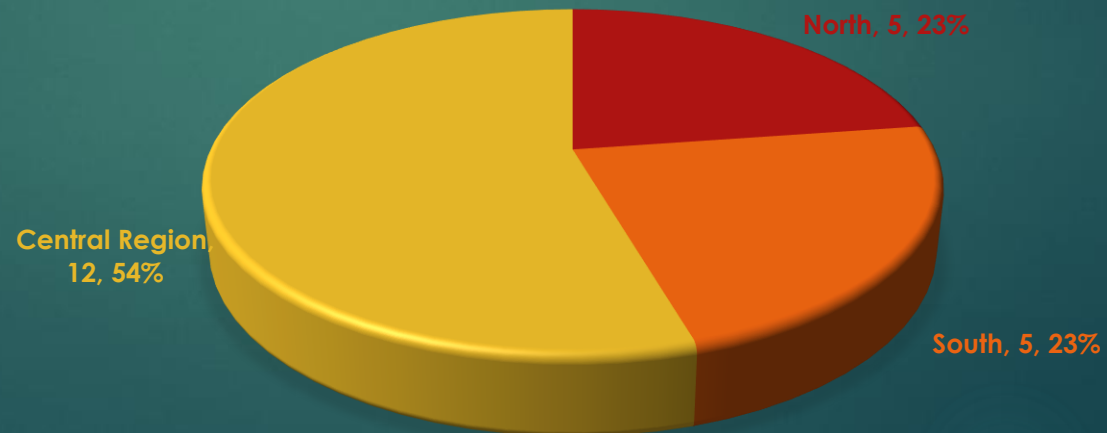
## HOMELESS BY REGIONS



According to Red Crosses and  
Soup Kitchens 34 homeless

North	5
South	17
Central Region	12

## HOMELESS BY REGIONS



# CHARACTERISTICS OF HOMELESS

- ▶ Gender: Men
- ▶ Age: people over 60
- ▶ Education: primary and secondary school
- ▶ Country of origin: Montenegro and Region (Bosnia and Hercegovina, Serbia)
- ▶ Montenegrin regions: South and Central region
- ▶ Health condition: under therapy
- ▶ Cause: alcohol, narcotics, job loss, gambling, family issues

# CAUSES OF SMALL HOMELESS NUMBERS

- ▶ Collective consciousness
- ▶ Prevention (Centres for Social Work, Red Crosses, Soup Kitchens)
- ▶ Support of the family
- ▶ Lack of data


# COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS

- ▶ Transitional society
- ▶ Collectivism represents a value orientation that implies a stronger social structure in which each individual has the right to expect the community to take care of him, while in return he shows full loyalty to that community.
- ▶ Very strong collectivism during 1989. 69,1%

SCALE OF COLLECTIVISM		
	Frequency	Percentage
Very strong collectivism	62	6.6
Strong collectivism	231	24.6
Moderate collectivism	323	34.4
Low collectivism	269	28.7
Very low collectivism	53	5.7
Total	938	100.0

# PREVENTION

- ▶ Centres for Social Work and their types of aid that represent a form of prevention:
- ▶ Material financial assistance, Allowance for other people's care and assistance, personal disability allowance, benefits for mothers with 3 or more children, allowances for a newborn child, help with funeral expenses and health care, placement in foster families, family accommodation for people who need some kind of accommodation (possibly homeless people), accommodation in various institutions of social and child protection, accommodation in the Children's Home, Accommodation in the Home for children with developmental disabilities, Accommodation in homes for the elderly

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- ▶ Help of Centers for Social Work is primarily aimed at children, young people, with behavioral problems, children, young people and women who suffer violence, adults and elderly people who are neglected, abused, single people, multi-member families, people without income
  - ▶ Red Crosses: care of the elderly, particularly who live alone, psycho-social and humanitarian help, help in food, clothes, hospital equipment,
  - ▶ Soup Kitchens: meals

# SUPPORT OF THE FAMILY

- Traditional values
- Bonds inside of the family (Data from Centres for Social Work)

# CONCLUSION

- ▶ Collective consciousness, prevention measures of some institutions, strong connection between family members are some of the main causes of the small number of homeless people