

## 1. Area and Population

The municipality of Ferizaj/Uroševac is located in southeastern Kosovo. It covers an area of approximately 345 km<sup>2</sup> and includes Ferizaj/Uroševac town and 43 villages. According to the municipal information officer, total population is 108,803.

### Ethnic composition

1. Kosovo Albanians: 104,180 residing in the town and all 43 villages.
2. Kosovo Ashkali: 3,916 residing in the town and 7 villages.
3. Kosovo Roma: 258 residing in the town.
4. Kosovo Gorani: 228 residing in the town.
5. Kosovo Bosniaks: 69 residing in the town.
6. Kosovo Serbs: 64 residing in the town and 4 villages.
7. Kosovo Egyptians: 50 residing in the town.
8. Kosovo Turks: 38 residing in the town (source: municipal return and community officer).

Prior to the 1999 conflict, number of Kosovo Serbs and Kosovo Roma living in the municipality was much higher. Despite some returns most remain displaced. There is no available data on their whereabouts.

## 2. Governing Structures and Political Overview

The total number of voters in Ferizaj/Uroševac municipality registered for the last municipal elections held in November 2009 was 88,306, including out-of-Kosovo voters. The voter turnout was 44.05 percent/38,292 voters (source: Central Elections Commission).

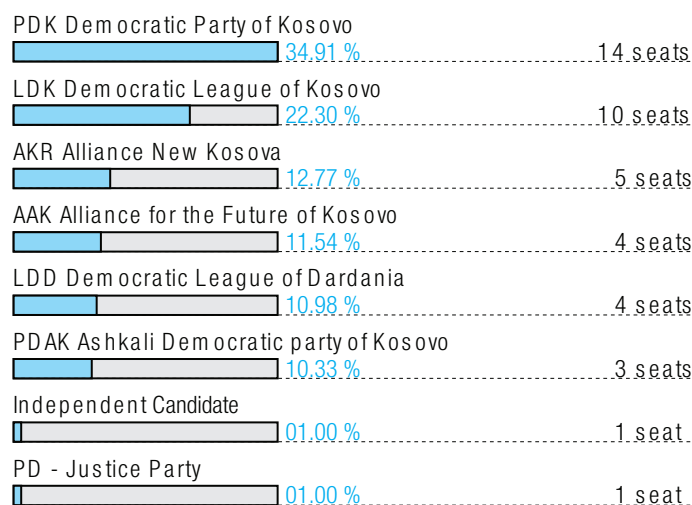
The election results were as shown to the right:

### a. Legislative

The municipal assembly has 41 seats distributed amongst eight (8) political entities. Thirty-nine (39) members are Kosovo Albanian, two (2) are Kosovo Ashkali, while 13 members are female. The municipal assembly chairperson is Agim Aliu (PDK).

According to the law on local self-government, municipality with more than ten (10) percent of residents belonging to communities not in majority in that municipality is required to appoint a deputy municipal assembly chairperson for communities. Municipal assembly deputy chairperson for communities in Ferizaj/Uroševac is Rexhep Bajrami (PDAK).

The OSCE regional centre Gjilan/Gnjilane covers 11 municipalities including Ferizaj/Uroševac and has field teams working with all of them.



### b. Executive

The municipality is headed by the mayor, Bajrush Xhemajli (PDK), and the deputy mayor, Besim Zymberi (PDK). It has ten (10) departments and department directors: administration and personnel (PDK); urbanism, property, cadastre, geodesy, environmental protection (PDK); planning development and reconstruction (PDK); education (PDK); economy, finance and budget (PDK); health and social welfare (PDK); agriculture and rural development (AKR); culture, youth and sport (AKR); public services and civil emergency (AKR);

and inspection (no party affiliation) (source: municipal website).

## 2. Judiciary

The municipal court in Ferizaj/Uroševac has seven (7) judges (all Kosovo Albanian, one female).

The minor offences court in Ferizaj/Uroševac has two (2) judges (both Kosovo Albanian, one female). Ferizaj/Uroševac municipality does not have a district court. Prishtinë/Priština district court covers the municipality (source: Ferizaj/Uroševac municipal court and minor offences court).

Additional information:

The Ferizaj/Uroševac municipal prosecutor's office has six (6) prosecutors (all Kosovo Albanian male).

## 3. Security Presence

The Kosovo police station in Ferizaj/Uroševac municipality has 138 police officers; 132 are Kosovo Albanian, six (6) are Kosovo Ashkali, while 25 are female.

Regional Kosovo police station is also situated in Ferizaj/Uroševac covering Kačanik/Kaçanik, Štrpce/Shtërpçë and Shtime/Štimlje municipalities. It employs 434 police officers; 384 are Kosovo Albanian, 42 are Kosovo Serb and eight (8) are Kosovo Ashkali, while 25 are female.

As for the international military presence, the United States and Greek KFOR are in charge of the area (source: Kosovo police).

## 4. Economy

The economy of the municipality of Ferizaj/Uroševac is mainly based on agriculture, construction and supply companies and small trade businesses. There are some 3,800 registered private businesses operating in the municipality. There is no reliable data on a number of employed in private sector in Ferizaj/Uroševac (source: municipal directorate of urban planning, cadastre property and environment).

## 5. Public Services

### a. Infrastructure

The overall status of infrastructure in the municipality of Ferizaj/Uroševac is assessed as good.

Most of the main roads connecting major villages with the urban centre are asphalted. Ferizaj/Uroševac town and 32 out of 43 villages are connected to water supply and sewage systems. Power supply is still a problem, especially in the villages (source: municipal development plan).

## b. Health

The primary health care system currently includes one (1) main municipal family health centre, three (3) health centers and 13 clinics. The health sector has 308 employees; 203 females and 105 males, including three (3) Kosovo Turk, one (1) Kosovo Roma, and one (1) Kosovo Gorani.

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

## c. Education

In Ferizaj/Uroševac municipality there are 37 primary schools with 21,646 pupils and 1,348 teachers; seven (7) secondary schools with 8,396 students and 461 teachers; and one (1) kindergarten with 246 children and 38 teachers (source: municipal directorate of education).

## 6. Religious and Cultural Sites

Ferizaj/Uroševac has 38 mosques, six (6) of which are in town. All have been renovated since the 1999 conflict. Out of 15 Serbian Orthodox churches nine (9) were totally destroyed while six (6) though damaged remain in use. There is one Catholic church in Ferizaj/Uroševac town centre (sources: local religious representatives).

## toknow

In Ferizaj/Uroševac there are:

41

seats in the municipal assembly distributed amongst 8 political entities.

143

police officers in the main police station.

9

judges and 6 prosecutors.

1847

teachers in 37 primary schools, 7 secondary schools and 1 kindergarten.