Country: Albania

Commitee: United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)

Topic: Refugee Crisis: Forcibly displaced and stateless people

Albania is a country in Southeastern Europe. It is located on the Adriatic and Ionian Sea within the Mediterranean Sea and shares land borders with Montenegro to the northwest, Kosovo to the northeast, North Macedonia to the east and Greece to the south. Tirana is its capital and largest city.İts land is 28,748 km2. It possesses significant diversity with the landscape ranging from the snow-capped mountains to the hot and sunny coast .Albania was neighbour of old Yugoslavia.Yugoslavia had divided into 8 counties after its collapse from 1990 and to 2008. In 2008, Kosovo gained its independence from so-called Federal Republic of Yugoslavia(FRY)*.* There was fierce war between Kosovo and FRY during 1998 and 1999. %95 of Kosovo has Albanian origin and they speak Albanian.

Albania have strong connections with Kosovo during history. They have been sharing same cultures and ancestors.It was more than mandatory for them to help refugees which were coming from Kosovo. During Kosovo war which was started by NATO against FRY and called “Humanitarian War”, 450.000 refugees fled to Albania from Kosovo. This crisis was exceptional at the time, because a movement of population this big in such a short period of time was unseen since World War II.Although it was not ready for that, Albania kept open its borders during the war to save it’s historical relatives. After a couple of months, Albania had established some communities and started to get help, raised funds, build camps to make Kosovars feel at home. On top of the refugees placed in camps, the Albanian population welcomed many of them in their homes, sharing space and food.

As a result, the war was stopped the NATO at 11 June 1999. The day before, an agreement was signed by countries ending the conflict. Afterward, the UNHCR report written about the refugee crisis stated that it was well managed, regarding the circumstances. In the peace treaty signed by the Nato and the FRY, it was asked that refugees could go back to their homes.Most of the refugees were able to go back to Kosovo during 1999, after the war ended.

Acoording to Albania and its citizens, the war was a shame for humanity. The powerful countries were late for taking actions because it was obivous that it was coming when the conflicts were started in 1990. When the conflict were started, they should take measures to prevent possible war like Albania did. It could have started with global excluding,economic sanctions or something like that. They should have supported to Kosovo with enough arms to protect their country. Also they must have started the military reaction earlier. So FRY would consider the possible results of the war. From now on, the whole World must act quick, no country stand alone against the World. All countries should respect to another countries territory, it doesn’t matter what they believe.