On October 28th three Women in Black activists and one activist from Tuzla went to visit the refugees in the park at the Faculty of Economics and behind the Main Bus Station at the construction site of Savamala neighborhood. Nihad from Tuzla and Goran and Tomislav from Belgrade bought food and juice at the market place for a family of refugees with whom they keep contact. First they went to the park but the family wasn’t there, and there were much less refugees in the park than before, around 20 of them.

Then they went to look for them at the place where Najib and his bothers from Afghanistan have made a little improvised house where they sleep at the construction site. Najib wasn’t replying to our messages so we oriented ourselves by the photos of the place which he sent us a few days before. We told another WiB activist Mirko to come there. Mirko found them behind the station while we were close to them but couldn’t go through the fences with signboards.
When we finally arrived we saw Najib and his brothers in a little house of 2 square meters, and there were some other refugees in the ruins of another small place next to it. There were around ten of them in total there, together with a child around 10 years old. The child was very happy to see us, while others were glad to see us as well. We gave them the food and juices, just what they asked us to get them in a text message, and we noticed that some of them don’t have shoes but are wearing slippers instead. Mirko brought them shoes and some clothes the following days.
Nadžib then invited us to have a sit in the little house they made and feel ourselves comfortable while he’s making us tea. They made the house by putting big stone blocks one next to another as well as chopped woods, while the roof was made from branches and carton covered with different material they could find nearby, looking for anything they could use. There was a carpet in the house where we sat, and inside was filled with their stuff and luggage, alongside a carpet for praying which they brought with them from Afghanistan.

Nihad told them all to make sure they call him up if they decide to go to Tuzla and that he will help them with food and accommodation anyway he can there before they head on to Sarajevo. He told them about the situation in Bosnia, where they can search for help and where they’re less likely to get help. They were enormously grateful to us for the food, and we thanked them for the tea. When we said goodbye to them we promised them we would keep in touch. We wished them good luck in Pashto language.
Report written by: Tomislav, WiB activist