







Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

MEMO is produced by the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities in partnership with the Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure in Scotland. It provides an overview of information of interest to minority ethnic communities in Scotland, including parliamentary Activity at Holyrood and Westminster, new publications, consultations, forthcoming conferences and news reports.

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Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month.

Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to <u>MEMO@scojec.org</u> and requests to be added to circulation to <u>mail@bemis.org.uk</u>

The UK Parliament has been in recess this week.

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

Asylum (Alternatives to Detention)

Christina McKelvie (S3O-7169): To ask the Scottish Government what progress there has been on the alternatives-to-detention pilot for asylum-seeking families.

Reply from Alex Neil: I am glad to say that the family return project was launched on 12 May. The first families are expected to enter the project in mid-June. The project will encourage refused asylum seekers to return home voluntarily and is a step towards ending the detention of children in Dungavel.

Christina McKelvie: Does the minister agree that Fatou Felicite Gaye and her United Kingdom-born four-year-old son, Arouna, would have been excellent candidates for such a pilot? I have been unable to confirm whether Fatou and Arouna were deported to the Ivory Coast at 8.30 this morning. Will he join me in deploring that situation?

Reply from Alex Neil: I can confirm that the Gaye family have now left the UK and that they did so at 8.30 this morning. I share the same concerns as Christina McKelvie about how that family, particularly the four-year-old child, have been dealt with. I underline the Scottish Government's opposition to the detention of children at Dungavel.

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-09/sor0528-02.htm#Col17988

Immigration and Asylum (continued) Press Releases

Applying under European law – make sure your application is complete http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/european-applications-june-09

Quality of immigration checks under the points-based system: UK Border Agency response

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/quality-of-pbs-checks-response

Council adopts the "EU Blue Card": more advantages for high-skilled foreign workers

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms data/docs/pressdata/en/misc/107989.pdf

New publications

Access to Health Care for Migrants, Ethnic Minorities, and Asylum Seekers in Europe

http://www.euro.centre.org/data/1243338315 6154.pdf

Vulnerable Migrant Workers: The Responsibility of Business http://www.eccr.org.uk/module-Downloads-prep hand out-lid-8.html

Refugee Week Programme

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/Programme of events

News

Nine out of 10 immigrants live in England

http://www.theherald.co.uk/politics/news/display.var.2510611.0.Nine_out_of_10_immigra_nts_live_in_England.php

How tolerant are Scots of refugees?

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2510590.0.how_tolerant_are_scots_of_refugees.php

MSP's plea for asylum raid family

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow and west/8068040.stm

MSP backs asylum seeker

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/other/display.var.2510591.0.MSP backs asylum seek er.php

Deported family sent back to UK from Africa

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2511357.0.deported family sent back to uk from africa.php

Minister to visit refugee at home

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2510655.0.minister_to_visit_refugee_at_home.php

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Plight of refugees revealed to writer Byrne

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2510803.0.plight_of_refugees_reveale_d_to_writer_byrne.php

Scourge of slavery

http://www.theherald.co.uk/features/editorial/display.var.2511336.0.Scourge_of_slavery.p

Government to face legal action by returned asylum-seeker

http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/government-to-face-legal-action-by-returned-asylumseeker-1693498.html

Britain sending refused Congo asylum seekers back to threat of torture

http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/may/27/drc-congo-deport-torture

EU adopts Blue Card scheme for skilled migrants

http://euobserver.com/22/28181

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Race Relations

New publications

More than one English Question

http://www.ippr.org.uk/publicationsandreports/publication.asp?id=667

Language and culture in a rediscovered Scotland

http://www.lwbooks.co.uk/books/archive/Breaking up Britain Williamson.pdf

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

Sectarianism

Bill Butler (S3W-23683): To ask the Scottish Executive, further to the answer to question S3W-18009 by Fergus Ewing on 5 December 2008, how many of the 33 projects awarded funding from the Race, Religion and Refugee Integration Fund have developed projects specifically aimed at tackling sectarianism since the award was made, broken down by organisation and title of the project.

Reply from Fergus Ewing: We are supporting a range of activities to tackle intra-Christian sectarianism including providing funding Sense Over Sectarianism with £412,500 over the 2008-11 period to deliver community-based anti-sectarian projects in the Glasgow and travel to work area, and Nil by Mouth with £118,294 over the 2009-11 period to take forward a project on sectarianism in the workplace. In addition we provided YouthLink Scotland with £22,000 to develop an anti-sectarian resource pack for youth workers and I launched this on 3 December 2008. Whilst a number of the 33 projects listed will contribute to tackling sectarianism, none is specifically or solely focused on doing so. http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/onescotland/366.1.223.html.

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pq=S3W-23683

Racism and Religious Hatred Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Bill Butler (S3W-23685): To ask the Scottish Executive, further to the answer to question S3W-16345 by Fergus Ewing on 16 October 2008, whether it has reached a decision on producing detailed annual reports on crime aggravated by religious prejudice.

Reply from Fergus Ewing: The Crown Office and Procurator Service publishes annual statistics to provide a snap-shot of charges which were aggravated by religiously motivated prejudice on its website. This information can be viewed at: http://www.copfs.gov.uk/About/Departmental-Overview/diversity/racist-crime/Analysus.

There are no plans to carry out further analysis at this time.

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pg=S3W-23685

Press Release

Data in Focus Report: Muslims

http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/eu-midis/eumidis muslims en.htm

New publications

Ethnic Profiling in the European Union: Pervasive, Ineffective, and Discriminatory http://www.justiceinitiative.org/db/resource2/fs/?file id=20721

European Network Against Racism Newsletter: What future for the EU? The Lisbon Treaty and the European Parliament elections

http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/pdf/ENARgy 05 2009 EN LowRes.pdf

European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey: Muslims
http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/EU-MIDIS MUSLIMS EN.pdf

News

Man who threatened to blow up mosque locked up

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2511398.0.man_who_threatened_to_blow_up_mosque_locked_up.php

Racist who threatened to bomb mosque denied bail

http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Racist-who-threatened-to-bomb.5318027.jp

Man jailed over beheading and bomb threats at Scots mosque

http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2009/05/29/man-jailed-over-beheading-and-bomb-threats-at-scots-mosque-86908-21398793/

Christians risk rejection and discrimination for their faith, a study claims

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/religion/5413311/Christians-risk-rejection-and-discrimination-for-their-faith-a-study-claims.html

Scots reject racism at the ballot box

http://www.stuc.org.uk/news/645/scots-reject-racism-at-the-ballot-box

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Other Westminster

New publication

House of Commons Justice Committee: Devolution: A Decade On

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmselect/cmjust/529/529i.pdf

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New Publications

Amnesty International Report 2009: The State of the World's Human Rights http://report2009.amnesty.org/sites/report2009.amnesty.org/files/documents/air09-en.pdf

Media4Diversity -Taking the pulse of diversity in the media http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=2748&langId=en

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator Boards, Governance and Leadership of the Third Sector: Scotland Study Report

http://www.oscr.org.uk/DocumentViewer.aspx?id=1ae9efdd-fd39-4d14-8829-1d18a652964b

Supplementary Report

http://www.oscr.org.uk/DocumentViewer.aspx?id=fc743b00-0758-440d-8626-017758b42e9f

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Other News

BNP boss pulls out of Palace trip

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk politics/8070466.stm

Commonwealth Games involvement urged for Muslims

http://scottishislamic.org/index.php?go=news&id=365

Nazi salutes and burning crosses ... now the BNP sets up Scottish youth camps http://www.sundayherald.com/news/heraldnews/display.var.2511515.0.nazi_salutes_and_burning_crosses_now_the_bnp_sets_up_scottish_youth_camps.php

Let's give the BNP publicity ... so we can all see what they really are http://www.sundayherald.com/oped/opinion/display.var.2511432.0.lets give the bnp publicity so we can all see what they really are.php

Just the sort of place the BNP loves

http://www.newstatesman.com/uk-politics/2009/05/bnp-stoke-local-city-party

Political class must do more to recognise English national identity in fight against the BNP

http://www.ippr.org.uk/pressreleases/?id=3509

Other News (continued)

Teacher sacked after parents complain about Muslim prayer lesson

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/5406154/Teacher-sacked-after-parents-complain-about-Muslim-prayer-lesson.html

MI5: leave young Muslims alone

http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/libertycentral/2009/may/26/mi5-terrorism-islam

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Bills in Progress ** New or updated this week

Holyrood

** Arbitration Bill

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/19-Arbitration/index.htm

Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee: Stage 1 evidence from the Scottish Government

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/eet/or-09/ee09-1602.htm#Col2122

Education (Additional Support for Learning) Bill

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/16-EdAddSup/index.htm

Bill as passed

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/16-EdAddSup/b16bs3-aspassed.pdf

Criminal Justice and Licensing Bill

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/24-CrimJustLc/index.htm

Offences (Aggravation by Prejudice) Bill

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/09-AggPrej/index.htm

Scottish Local Government (Elections) Bill

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/21-SLGelections/index.htm

Sexual Offences Bill

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/11-sexualOffences/index.htm

Bills in Progress Westminster

Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill

http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/borderscitizenshipandimmigration.html

Equality Bill

http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/equality.html

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Consultations

(closing date)

** new or updated this week

** closes this week!

Legislative Consent Motion to the Equality Bill (2 June 2009)

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/legConMem/LCM-2008-2009/pdf/EqualityBill-LCM.pdf

** closes this week!

Equality Bill: Assessing the impact of a multiple discrimination provision (5 June 2009)

http://www.equalities.gov.uk/pdf/090422%20Multiple%20Discrimination%20Discussion% 20Document%20Final%20Text.pdf

Working together to protect crowded places (10 July 2009)

http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/cons-2009-crowded-places/working-togethercrowded-places?view=Binary

and

Safer Places: a counter-terrorism supplement

http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/cons-2009-crowded-places/saferplaces?view=Binary

UK Consultation on the European Commission Proposal for an Equal Treatment Directive (28 July 2009)

http://www.equalities.gov.uk/international/eu directive.aspx

Oversight of the Immigration Advice Sector consultation (6 August 2009)

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/221878 /oversight of the immigration adv/oversight immigration advice/immigration advice c onsultation?view=Binary

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Events/Conferences/Training ** New or updated this week

** this week!

Equality and Human Rights Commission Funding Surgeries

1 June 2009 in Dundee (10.30-2.30)

For information contact Douglas Guest or Fiona McLeod scotland@equalityhumanrights.com

** this week!

Protecting Vulnerable Groups: Check to Protect

2 June 2009 in Edinburgh (9.30-1.30)

10 June 2009 in Glasgow (9.30-1.30)

16 June 2009 n Aberdeen (9.30-1.30)

17 June 2009 in Dundee (9.30-1.30)

24 June 2009 in Inverness (9.30-1.30)

25 June 2009 in Perth (9.30-1.30)

Scottish Government events to inform organisations about the new Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme. This new membership scheme for people who work with children and protected adults will replace current disclosure arrangements for people whose enhanced disclosure. For post requires an information http://www.protectingvulnerablegroups.com/ or contact Holyrood Events 0131 272 2136

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

** this week!

A Europe for Everyone?

2 June 2009 in Edinburgh (5.30-7.00)

European elections hustings organised by Poverty Alliance and Scottish Voluntary Sector European Policy Group in conjunction with SCVO. For information contact Fiona Talcott fiona.talcott@scvo.org.uk / 0131 556 3882.

** this week!

Representing Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children

5 June 2009 in Glasgow (1.00–5.00)

Glasgow Immigration Practitioners' Group/Scottish Refugee Council training for practitioners of asylum law in Scotland. This event, the first of an ongoing programme, is aimed at those who wish

to improve their knowledge of the case law, legal process and welfare provision for unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASCs). For more information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/Child_Asylum_Flyer or contact Sheila Coutts sheila.coutts@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799.

Introduction to Working with Asylum Seekers & Refugees

9 June 2009 in Glasgow

20 August 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to identify the issues and concerns participants have in relation to working with asylum seekers and refugees, provide information on legal, political, economic and historical factors in relation to people seeking asylum, share ideas for developing good practice, and to identify strategies and resources for work with refugees. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=73

** Refugee Week Scotland: Home is where the heart is

15-21 June 2009

What does Home mean to you? Is it about family and loved ones, the landscape, or the language? Does it represent a sense of security, of belonging, or of freedom? This year's programme is about welcoming all Scots, both old and new, and celebrating this wonderful wee country that we call Home - an opportunity for all of us – no matter what our backgrounds – to embrace both the things we have in common and those that set us apart. For information see www.refugeeweek.org.uk/scotland and http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/Programme_of_events

** Ethnic Minority Women and Politics

24 June 2009 in Glasgow (10.30 – 1.30)

BEMIS and Fawcett Society event to bring politics directly to disengaged ethnic minority women in Scotland in order to get their voices heard and engage ethnic minority women in politics. For information contact Tanveer Parnez Tanveer.parnez@bemis.org.uk or Ashay Ghai Ashay.ghai@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047

New Scrutiny Bodies 2011

26 June 2009 in Glasgow (9.30-2.00)

(Applications must be received by 5 June)

Scottish Government Conference for equality groups and people who use services on how health, care and social work services will be inspected from April 2011. For information see http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/Scrutiny/PublicEvent

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Hate crime and community safety (event for Muslim Women)

1 July 2009 in Falkirk (10.00-1.30)

Event organised by AMINA women's resource centre, and Central Police with speakers from the Crown Office, Police, Victim Support, and AMINA, and including round table discussions on issues affecting Muslim Women in relation to policing. For information contact Samina or Gabrielle 0141 585 8026 / info@mwrc.org.uk or Fiach 01786826012 / fiach.obroin-molloy@centralscotland.pnn.police.uk

UKBA (formerly NASS) Asylum Support - The Essentials

3 September 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course covering the asylum process and the legal framework, support arrangements available to asylum seekers from the beginning to the end of the asylum process, and entitlements for refugees and unaccompanied or separated asylum-seeking children. For information contact SRC 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=60

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Useful Links

Scottish Parliament http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/home.htm

Scottish Government http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Home

Westminster Parliament http://www.parliament.uk/

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

http://www.direct.gov.uk/DI1/Directories/AToZOfCentralGovernment/fs/en?CONTENT_ID =10013528&chk=8b2gQw

European Parliament http://www.europarl.eu.int/parliament/public.do?language=en

One Scotland Many Cultures http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/

Scottish Refugee Council www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Scottish Inter Faith Council http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org/

Equality and Human Rights Commission

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/Pages/default.aspx

Scotland Helpline 0845 604 5510

ACAS <u>www.acas.org.uk</u>

SCVO http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Home/Home.aspx

Volunteer Development Scotland <u>www.vds.org.uk</u>

Social Economy Scotland http://www.socialeconomyscotland.info/content/index.asp

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) http://www.oscr.org.uk/Index.stm

Useful Links (continued)

Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS) http://www.crbs.org.uk/

Disclosure Scotland http://www.disclosurescotland.co.uk/

BBC News24 http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/default.stm

BBC Parliament online

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc_parliament/default.stm

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The **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC)** is the representative body of all the Jewish communities in Scotland. It advances public understanding about the Jewish religion, culture and community, and also works in partnership with other organisations to promote good relations and understanding among community groups and to promote equality. (Scottish Charity SC029438) http://www.scojec.org/



BEMIS (the Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure in Scotland) is the umbrella body for ethnic minority organisations in Scotland. It aims to strengthen the capacity of the ethnic minority voluntary sector; raise the profile and coordinate the voice of this sector; and take a lead on policy issues to ensure that issues of concern are raised with government and other relevant bodies. http://www.bemis.org.uk/index.html



The **Scottish Government** is committed to promoting equality of opportunity and social justice for all those who live in Scotland. **One Scotland** is the Scottish Government campaign designed to tackle racism. It aims to raise awareness of racist attitudes, highlight its negative impact and recognise the valuable contributions that other cultures have made to our society – and make Scotland no place for racism.

http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/