

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with **BEMIS - empowering Scotland's ethnic and cultural minority communities**. 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 MEMO@scojec.org and requests to be added to circulation to mail@bemis.org.uk

The new UK parliamentary session will begin on 18 May with the swearing-in of new MPs, and the State Opening of Parliament will take place on 25 May.

UK Government Departments are subject to restrictions during the pre-election period, and do not generally issue press releases or new publications during this time.

Immigration and Asylum

Press Releases

MEPs call for EU money for Member States willing to host refugees

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/019-72197-096-04-15-902-20100406IPR72169-06-04-2010-2010-false/default_en.htm

Environment, extreme poverty causing refugee problems

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/public/story_page/022-73462-116-04-18-902-20100426STO73424-2010-26-04-2010/default_en.htm

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

New publications

What Works With Integrating New Migrants?

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/publications/pdfs/WhatWorksWithIntegratingNewMigrants-2010.pdf>

Handbook on Integration for policy-makers and practitioners

http://www.migpolgroup.com/public/docs/173%20Integration_Handbook_III_15%2004%2010_EN.pdf

EU support for integration: what about beneficiaries of international protection?

A User's Guide to EU Standards, Funds and Cooperation

http://www.migpolgroup.com/public/docs/175.EU_support_for_integration_beneficiariesofInternationalProtection_UsersGuidetoEU-MPG-UNHCR.pdf

Separated, asylum-seeking children in European Union Member States

http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/SEPAC-SUMMARY-REPORT-FINAL-CONFERENCE-EDITION_en.pdf

News

Agency refuses to reply to MSP's letter about an asylum seeker

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/1699901>

BNP call for end to immigration from Muslim nations

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/election_2010/8639097.stm

Cap on immigration wouldn't be racist, just common sense

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/politics/Sean-Clerkin-Cap-on-immigration.6250961.jp>

Refugee charity attacks Clegg on illegal immigrant amnesty

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1268641/Refugee-charity-attacks-Nick-Clegg-illegal-immigrant-amnesty.html>

UK home to 1m illegal immigrants

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article7107598.ece>

Scotland's migrant problem is that we have too few

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/article7114115.ece>

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Race Relations

Press Release

Ban issues call for religious leaders to foster dialogue between cultures

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=34497&Cr=Religion&Cr1>

Race Relations (continued)

News

Leading Islamic scholar urges Muslims to adopt tolerance to other faiths and views

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/leading-islamic-scholar-urges-muslims-to-adopt-tolerance-to-other-faiths-and-views-1.1022904>

The divisive law of Lord Justice Laws

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/columnists/christopherbooker/7664681/The-divisive-law-of-Lord-Justice-Laws.html>

Gary McFarlane: judge's assault on 'irrational' religious freedom claims in sex therapist case

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/religion/7652358/Gary-McFarlane-judges-assault-on-irrational-religious-freedom-claims-in-sex-therapist-case.html>

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Equality

News

Sikh turbans banned from armed police operations

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8639432.stm>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

New publications

Racist Incidents Recorded by the Police in Scotland, 2004-05 to 2008-09

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/310580/0097992.pdf>

Lone Mothers of Mixed Racial and Ethnic Children: Then and Now

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/publications/pdfs/LoneMothers-2010.pdf>

News

Aberdeen 'is worst city for racism'

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/Aberdeen-39is-worst-city-for.6257711.jp>

Rise in number of race attack victims

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime-courts/rise-in-number-of-race-attack-victims-1.1023573>

Boy, nine, put in isolation for calling classmate 'chocolate'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/7628753/Boy-nine-put-in-isolation-for-calling-classmate-chocolate.html>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Teenager convicted of ultra rightwing terror plot

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/apr/30/teenager-rightwing-nazi-terror-plot>

English Defence League protest leads to 12 arrests

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/beds/bucks/herts/8655895.stm>

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Other Holyrood

Petition

Public Petitions Committee consideration of PE1321:Gypsy Traveller Sites (PE1321)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/petitions/or-10/pu10-0602.htm#Col2569>

e-Petition

Disadvantaged Scottish Gypsy Travellers and members of the settled community

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to investigate the inequalities and discrimination faced by Scottish Gypsy Travellers and other members of the settled community residing in mobile homes in terms of assessing council tax liability and water and water and sewerage charges.

http://epetitions.scottish.parliament.uk/view_backgroundinfo.asp?PetitionID=386

New publication

Progress update on PVG Scheme Implementation

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/1141/0097936.pdf>

News

Parliament sets 2011 census date

<http://breakingnews.heraldscotland.com/breaking-news/?mode=article&site=hs&id=N0076361272494998175A>

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Other Westminster

New publications

2008-09 Citizenship Survey: Empowered Communities Topic Report

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/1547220.pdf>

2008-09 Citizenship Survey: Volunteering and Charitable Giving Topic Report

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/1547056.pdf>

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General Election

New publications

MEMO+ 2010 General Election: The Parties and their Policies

http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2010/10iv_general_election_2.pdf

MEMO+ Voting in the 2010 General Election

http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2010/10iv_general_election_1.pdf

Exploring the Roots of BNP Support

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=/ecomm/files/Exploring%20the%20Roots%20of%20BNP%20Support.pdf&a=skip>

News

General Election 2010: Strike will force voters to walk past picket lines on poll day

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/General-Election-2010-Strike-will.6266451.jp>

General Election 2010: Scots voters in call for 'new politics'

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/news/General-Election-2010-Scots-voters.6267240.jp>

General Election 2010: Immigration 'a core voter issue'

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/politics/General-Election-2010-Immigration-39a.6260800.jp>

Hideously diverse Britain: Politicians 'get down with the ethnics'

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/apr/30/politicians-get-down-ethnics>

Labour takes black support for granted

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/apr/29/labour-black-vote-general-election>

Equality rally reveals whiteness of general election

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2010/apr/28/equality-rally-reveals-whiteness-election>

BNP would offer non-white Britons £50,000 to leave UK, says Nick Griffin

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2010/apr/29/bnp-non-white-britons-resettlement-grants>

BNP manifesto seeks more than votes

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/apr/27/bnp-manifesto-launch-nick-griffin>

How exciting! I've never met proper racists before

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/deborah-ross-how-exciting-ive-never-met-proper-racists-before-1958673.html>

Griffin unable to tell if radio caller was British

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/griffin-unable-to-tell-if-radio-caller-was-british-1959308.html>

Respect, Religion, Race and the battle for Tower Hamlets

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/respect-religion-race-and-the-battle-for-tower-hamlets-1956154.html>

Does the "Jewish vote" exist?

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/faith/article7113081.ece>

General Election

News (continued)

There is no Christian vote

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2010/apr/26/religion-election-voting-blocs>

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Other News

Dundee first university in UK to offer Islamic course in financing

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/Dundee-first--university.6260822.jp>

Belgian lawmakers pass burka ban

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/8652861.stm>

British Muslims on safari 'stopped by MI5'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/british-muslims-on-safari-stopped-by-mi5-1959610.html>

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Bills in Progress ** New or updated this week

Holyrood

**** Draft Census Order**

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/ssi2010/draft/pdf/sdsi_9780111008379_en.pdf

Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee Report

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/eet/reports-10/eer10-05.htm>

End of Life Assistance Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/38-EndLifeAssist/index.htm>

**** Public Services Reform Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/26-PubSerRef/index.htm>

The Bill received Royal Assent on 28 April

**** Scottish Parliamentary Commissions and Commissioners etc. Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/39-SPCC/index.htm>

proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/39-SPCC/b39s3-stage2-ml.pdf>

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Consultations (closing date)

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Self-directed support: A National Strategy for Scotland (7 May 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/301424/0094007.pdf>

Call for Evidence on the End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill (12 May 2010)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/endLifeAsstBill/currentInquiries.htm>

2011 Census Statistical Outputs (14 May 2010)

<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/census/censushm2011/preparations/consultation-and-research/formal-consultations/spring-10-consultation.html>

Refusing entry or stay to NHS debtors (28 May 2010)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/nhs-debtors/>

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Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities advertised in MEMO+ Recruitment

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Funding Opportunities

Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland, one of Scotland's leading charitable organisations, has announced the reopening of its grant-making programme and is inviting charities to apply for funding from the £2 million available for 2010. This year's main grant programme will be named 'The Henry Duncan Awards' in honour of the Reverend Henry Duncan who founded the first Trustee Savings Bank – which ultimately led to the establishment of the Foundation – 200 years ago this year.

There will be three application rounds in 2010 closing on 24 May, 19 July, and 13 September.

Henry Duncan Awards

For information see <http://www.ltsbfoundationforscotland.org.uk/index.asp?tm=31>

Capacity Building Grants

For information see <http://www.ltsbfoundationforscotland.org.uk/index.asp?tm=27>

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Events/Conferences/Training

** New or updated this week

**** this week!**

UKBA Asylum Support - The Essentials

7 May 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the support arrangements available to asylum seekers from the beginning to the end of the asylum process. For information contact Jamie Spurway jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799 or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=83>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Working with Interpreters

21 May 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with non-English speaking service users, including asylum seekers and refugees, who need a comprehensive understanding of how to work with interpreters. For information contact Jamie Spurway jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799 or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=80>

The Housing Rights of Refugees

25 May 2010 in Glasgow

Guest speaker: Mark Willis, Welfare Rights Worker, Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland

Scottish Refugee Council course for people working with refugees who need a comprehensive knowledge of their rights to housing in Scotland. It is particularly relevant to those assisting refugees to access homelessness and housing services and to those assisting refugees to apply for benefits. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=66>

An Introduction to Working with Asylum Seekers & Refugees

8 June 2010 in Glasgow

22 July 2010

Scottish Refugee Council course is for people working with asylum seekers and refugees who need a comprehensive understanding of the core issues affecting those seeking sanctuary in Scotland. It is particularly relevant to people working in social work, housing, welfare, education, employment, health, community development or the justice system. For information contact Jamie Spurway jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799 or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=82>

Third Sector Research Conference

15 October 2010 in Edinburgh

For information contact Helen Swatton 01412258019 / helen.swatton@scvo.org

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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

Useful Links (continued)

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

Equality and Human Rights Commission <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/>
Scotland Helpline 0845 604 5510

Scottish Human Rights Commission <http://scottishhumanrights.com/>

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

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

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

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 is the Scottish national Ethnic Minorities led umbrella body, supporting, empowering, and building the capacity of minority third sector community organisations. As a strategic partner with Government, it is proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland, and helps develop and progress multicultural Scotland, active citizenship, democracy, and Human Rights Education at the Scottish, UK, and European levels. <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/>