

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, and that the Scottish Parliament website has recently been redesigned, so that links published in previous issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on the Scottish Parliament website, copy the details from MEMO into the search facility at <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/help/searchadvanced.aspx>.

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

The Scottish Parliament and House of Commons are now in recess until 2 September, and the House of Lords will be in recess from 30 July to 8 October. During the summer MEMO will be issued fortnightly on 26 August, and 9 September.

Immigration and Asylum

News

Future migrant adverts considered

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/future-migrant-adverts-considered.21858802>

'Go home' vans: Refugee group withdraws legal threat

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-23669780>

Home Office backs down over 'go home' vans after legal complaint

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/aug/12/home-office-backs-down-go-home-vans>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Labour's Chris Bryant in foreign workers claim row

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-23662668>

'Tesco wants cheaper EU workers over UK staff'

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/tesco-wants-cheaper-eu-workers-over-uk-staff-1-3040738>

Chris Bryant in foreign workers climbdown

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/chris-bryant-in-foreign-workers-climbdown-1.119794>

Labour amends foreign workers speech

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-23662668>

Bryant in climbdown over speech on foreign workers

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/bryant-in-climbdown-over-speech-on-foreign-workers.21850727>

Chris Bryant backs down on 'foreign workers' claim

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/chris-bryant-backs-down-on-foreign-workers-claim-1-3041390>

Romanians and Bulgarians working in UK up 26%

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-23707274>

Challenging hysteria over Romanian and Bulgarian immigration statistics

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/aug/16/romania-bulgaria-immigration-statistics-hysteria>

Romanian and Bulgarian workers in UK increase by 26%

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/aug/15/romanian-bulgarian-workers-uk-increase>

Number of Romanians and Bulgarians working in UK jumps by over 25% in three months

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/number-of-romanians-and-bulgarians-working-in-uk-jumps-by-over-25-in-three-months-8762696.html>

Europe's treatment of asylum seekers is driven by fear of the unfortunate

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/aug/12/europe-treatment-asylum-seekers-inhumane>

Public mood hardens over migrant workers

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/public-mood-hardens-over-migrant-workers-8772739.html>

Asylum seeker awarded wrongful detention compensation

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-23782329>

Landlords reject plans for checks on migrants

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3851701.ece>

Theresa May pledges modern-day slavery crackdown

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-23831304>

Theresa May plans anti-slavery law to fight traffickers

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article1305022.ece

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

There Is More to UK Immigration Than Just Romanians and Bulgarians

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/oana-romocea/uk-immigration-romania-bulgaria_b_3781684.html?utm_hp_ref=uk

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Equality

News

'The glass ceiling is incredibly low for Muslim women'

<http://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/the-womens-blog-with-jane-martinson/2013/aug/13/glass-ceiling-muslim-women-uk>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Press Releases

Afrophobia past and present: Still no good time for being Black in Europe

<http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/2013-08-23%20new%20version%20Afrophobia%20Past%20and%20Present.pdf>

News

Figures show 1,274 racist incidents in Scottish schools

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-23739952>

Scottish schools report 1,300 racist incidents

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/scotland/article1301952.ece

'Persecuted' Christians in Britain need to 'grow up'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/10244716/Persecuted-British-Christians-need-to-grow-up-says-former-Archbishop-Rowan-Williams.html>

Christians in America and Britain who claim they are persecuted should "grow up", says former Archbishop Rowan Williams

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/christians-in-america-and-britain-who-claim-they-are-persecuted-should-grow-up-says-former-archbishop-rowan-williams-8770528.html>

Black people twice as likely to be charged with drugs possession – report

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/aug/21/ethnic-minorities-likely-charged-drug-possession>

Hundreds oppose SDL march amid Edinburgh Festival

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/hundreds-oppose-sdl-march-amid-edinburgh-festival-1-3051296>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Hundreds of anti-fascism campaigners see off Scottish Defence League in Edinburgh counter-protest

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/hundreds-of-anti-fascism-campaigners-see-off-scottish-defence-league-in-edinburgh-cou.1376755790>

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Other Holyrood

Parliamentary Questions

Female Genital Mutilation

Jenny Marra: To ask the Scottish Government what its strategy is for tackling female genital mutilation. (S4W-16502)

Reply from Michael Matheson: Female genital mutilation (FGM) is addressed under the violence against women policy area and will be included in the violence against women strategy currently being developed. The FGM strand of this strategy will focus on prevention through awareness raising, supporting victims, empowerment of women and girls, community engagement, multi-agency action and enforcement.

Appropriate action plans for FGM prevention, pathways for safeguarding children, protocols for referral and sharing of information will be strengthened in the new strategy and reviewed regularly.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-16502&ResultsPerPage=10>

Jenny Marra: To ask the Scottish Government how it encourages the police to identify that female genital mutilation has taken place. (S4W-16503)

Reply from Michael Matheson: The Scottish Government is represented on Police Scotland's Honour Based Violence Working Group which co-ordinates work on female genital mutilation (FGM) in addition to other forms of honour based violence. Officials work closely with the police to provide advice and share information and participate in the development of documents such as the Police Scotland action plan and fact sheet on FGM.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-16503&ResultsPerPage=10>

Jenny Marra: To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had since July 2012 with (a) the police, (b) the NHS, (c) COSLA, (d) the Home Office, (e) social work departments and (f) support organisations regarding female genital mutilation. (S4W-16504)

Reply from Michael Matheson: The Scottish Government has engaged on an ongoing basis since July 2012 with organisations, individuals and groups of people from the communities affected by female genital mutilation (FGM), to raise awareness of the harm caused by FGM, along with awareness about the law and the government's position. The Scottish Government works closely with police, voluntary organisations, health professionals, social services and education departments, to share good practice and promote awareness across Scotland for the prevention of FGM, officials also liaise with Westminster colleagues on a regular basis.

Officials are members of Police Scotland's Honour Based Violence Working

Other Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Group and the Scottish Government promotes collaborative working with minority ethnic women's organisations such as Saheliya, Dignity Alert Research Forum and Shakti Women's Aid as well as voluntary and community groups and encourages links with relevant statutory bodies such as the police, health, social services and education to ensure that issues around FGM remain in focus.

The Scottish Government submitted written evidence to the House of Commons International Development Committee's inquiry into violence against women and girls with regards to the Scottish Government's position on FGM in Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-16504&ResultsPerPage=10>

Jenny Marra: To ask the Scottish Government how much funding it is allocating in 2012-13 to tackle female genital mutilation. (S4W-16505)

Reply from Michael Matheson: In 2012, Saheliya was allocated £225,390 from the Violence Against Women Fund to tackle female genital mutilation (FGM) over the period 2012-15, and will receive a further £137,000 from the Third Sector Early Intervention Fund during 2013-15 for work with minority ethnic young women, including FGM.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-16505&ResultsPerPage=10>

Jenny Marra: To ask the Scottish Government how many (a) women and (b) girls in Scotland are estimated to (i) have experienced or (ii) be at risk of genital mutilation. (S4W-16506)

Reply from Michael Matheson: It has been estimated that 3,000 women and girls are at risk in Scotland. This figure for Scotland is a pro rata projection based on research by FORWARD in England and Wales in 2007. According to the 2001 Census data, there were 2,946 women between the ages of 0 to 49 living in Scotland and born in one of the 29 countries in which female genital mutilation (FGM) is reported to be a traditional practice.

We are currently considering data that might help us more accurately estimate the prevalence of FGM in Scotland. The numbers from the 2011 Census (when available later this year) are likely to be significantly higher, as is demonstrated by the increase over time in numbers of births registered in Scotland to mothers who were born in one of these countries (from 120 births in 2001 to 656 births in 2011).

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-16506&ResultsPerPage=10>

Jenny Marra: To ask the Scottish Government what guidance is available to the (a) police and (b) NHS to (i) identify and (ii) help women and girls who have experienced genital mutilation. (S4W-16508)

Reply from Michael Matheson: The guidance available for police officers includes the Honour Based Violence, Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation Standard Operating Procedures document which provides officers with the necessary understanding and skills to deal appropriately and consistently with hepatitis B virus incidents including female genital mutilation. They also receive regular training and a fact sheet has been prepared for Police Scotland's intranet. NHS guidance available for health workers includes: NHS Scotland - Perineal Repair after Childbirth 2008, a procedure and standards tool to support practice development; The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists has guidelines available on Female Genital Mutilation and Its Management and the

Other Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Royal College of Nursing – Female Genital Mutilation – Education Resource for nursing and midwifery staff.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-16508&ResultsPerPage=10>

Jenny Marra: To ask the Scottish Government what action is taken by the (a) police and (b) NHS when a woman or girl is identified as having experienced genital mutilation. (S4W-16509)

Reply from Michael Matheson: If an incident of female genital mutilation (FGM) is reported, the police will carry out a thorough investigation and report the case to the Procurator Fiscal for the appropriate action.

Midwives, along with other health professionals such as doctors, nurses and health visitors, can play a crucial role in eradicating FGM because women from practicing communities are likely to use health services during pregnancy or for other health reasons. If women are identified as being victims of FGM, the NHS in Scotland offers all available assistance to ensure positive health outcomes for the women affected.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-16509&ResultsPerPage=10>

Jenny Marra: To ask the Scottish Government what (a) positions and (b) specific units there are in the (i) police and (ii) NHS to help prevent female genital mutilation. (S4W-16510)

Reply from Michael Matheson: Police Scotland has a dedicated officer who will coordinate all actions against female genital mutilation (FGM) nationally. FGM is addressed by the Honour Based Violence Working Group chaired by a Detective Chief Superintendent. Victims of FGM can access NHS services such as the genital anomaly surgical service and the specialist midwife for asylum seekers and refugees provided by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-16510&ResultsPerPage=10>

Jenny Marra: To ask the Scottish Government how it raises awareness about female genital mutilation in communities where it is considered that the practice is likely to occur. (S4W-16511)

Reply from Michael Matheson: A number of methods are used to raise awareness and encourage the reporting of female genital mutilation (FGM) including engaging with individuals and minority ethnic women's organisations such as Dignity Alert Research Forum, Saheliya and Shakti Women's Aid which provide services to women who come from communities affected by FGM.

The Scottish Government awarded Saheliya £225,000 from the Violence Against Women Fund for the period 2012–15 to support and empower women from communities affected by FGM in order to increase their confidence to reject the practice. The government also works in partnership with other voluntary organisations, social services, education departments and the police to support victims and engage with communities for the prevention of FGM.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-16511&ResultsPerPage=10>

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New Publications

The New Muslims

http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/publications/Runnymede_The_New_Muslims_Perspective.pdf

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Other News

UK minorities keenest on technology, study finds

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/uk-minorities-keenest-on-technology-study-finds-1-3054717>

Islam's ability to empower is a magnet to black British youths

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/aug/19/islam-empower-magnet-black-british-youths>

Stop playing political football with black and ethnic minorities

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/the-northerner/2013/aug/23/black-ethnic-minorities-politics>

Judge refuses to let Muslim defendant wear burqa in court

<http://www.theguardian.com/law/2013/aug/23/judge-refuses-muslim-to-wear-burqa-court>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Holyrood

Children and Young People Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/62233.aspx>

Criminal Justice Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/65155.aspx>

Marriage and Civil Partnership Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/64983.aspx>

Scottish Independence Referendum Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/61076.aspx>

Scottish Independence Referendum (Franchise) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/60464.aspx>

Victims and Witnesses Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/59133.aspx>

Bills in Progress Westminster

Asylum Seekers (Return to Nearest Safe Country) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/asylumseekersreturntonearestsafecountry.html>

Charitable Status for Religious Institutions Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/charitablestatusforreligiousinstitutions.html>

Collection of Nationality Data Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/collectionofnationalitydata.html>

Face Coverings (Prohibition) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/facecoveringsprohibition.html>

Illegal Immigrants (Criminal Sanctions) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/illegalimmigrantscriminalsanctions.html>

Immigration Act 1971 (Amendment) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/immigrationact1971amendment.html>

Lobbyists (Registration of Code of Conduct) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/lobbyistsregistrationofcodeofconduct.html>

Romanian and Bulgarian Accession (Labour Restriction) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/romanianandbulgarianaccessionlabourrestriction.html>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Migrant access to health services in the UK (closing date 28 August 2013)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/policyandlaw/consultations/34-healthcare/>

**** closes this week!**

Criminal Justice Bill (closing date 30 August 2013)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/65418.aspx>

**** closes this week!**

Implementation of the Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011: Expedited "not staying registration" Procedure (closing date 30 August 2013)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00427673.pdf>

**** closes next week!**

Inquiry into proposals for an independent fiscal body (closing date 6 September 2013)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/gettinginvolved/65292.aspx>

Counter-terrorism (closing date 30 September 2013)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news/130723-counter-terrorism-new-inquiry/>

Consultations (continued)

Inquiry on Race and Higher Education (closing date 31 October 2013)

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/news/492/272/APPG-Inquiry-on-Race-and-Higher-Education.html>

Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) (closing date 4 November 2013)

Draft SORP

<http://www.charitycorp.org/media/513587/charity-sorp-exposure-draft.pdf>

Consultation document

<http://www.charitycorp.org/media/513666/charity-sorp-invitation-to-comment.pdf>

Tried and Trusted? The Role of NGOs in Asylum Seeker and Irregular Migrant Voluntary Return (no closing date given)

<https://www.isurvey.soton.ac.uk/7654>

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Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

More Tea, Imam?

26 August 2013 in Edinburgh (6.00 – 7.30)

Interfaith Scotland dialogue to discuss obstacles in interfaith work, how school and home education affects dialogue between believers, and, in the light of greater secularisation of the state and society, to what extent interfaith activities support religious life and spirituality. For information see <http://www.justjust.org/#!/more-tea-imam/cpoe>

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

3 October 2013 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

8 November 2013 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council training to identify fundamental issues facing asylum seekers and refugees today, and highlighting current legislation and entitlements. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/burro73> or contact 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Working with interpreters

22 October 2013 in Glasgow (9.15 – 1.00)

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. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/9fs8ae5> or contact 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Mental Health and Ethnicity

30 October 2013 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

West of Scotland Health and Ethnicity Conference to present an evidence based approach to influence the development of a healthier minority ethnic community in Scotland. Deadline for submissions: 31 July 2013. For information contact Sidra Shirjeel sidra.shirjeel@cc3.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/bmvj354>

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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.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/>

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/>

Equality Advisory Support Service <http://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com>

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

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

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 Charitable Incorporated Organisation 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/>

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