

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 and UK Parliament and Government websites been redesigned, so that links published in back issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on these websites, copy details from MEMO into the relevant search facility.

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Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Questions

Mediterranean Refugee Crisis (Representations to United Kingdom Government)

Margaret McCulloch: To ask the Scottish Government what representation it has made to the UK Government regarding the Mediterranean refugee crisis. (S4O-04462)

Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Europe and External Affairs (Fiona Hyslop): As I said in my reply to Alison Johnstone on 21 April, the Scottish Government has consistently raised concerns about migrants risking their lives to cross the Mediterranean and reach the European Union, and will continue to use every opportunity to press for action on what is a humanitarian emergency.

On 20 May, following the UK general election, I wrote again to Mr Brokenshire as I had promised, expressing the views of this Parliament, as stated in our debate of 6 May. I have not yet received a response. The First Minister also raised the issue when she met David Cameron, and I understand that Scottish Government officials have had early discussions with Home Office officials in relation to UK

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

Government views on refugee resettlement.

My colleague Humza Yousaf, the Minister for Europe and International Development, reiterated on Monday the Scottish Government's position on the issue, and called on the UK Government to participate in EU proposals on refugee relocation and to take a proportionate share of the people who are fleeing conflict and persecution.

Margaret McCulloch: I thank the cabinet secretary for that lengthy reply. I think that she might have answered all my questions, but I will carry on anyway in case I miss out anything. I accept that funding for the EU's operation trident has trebled, but there are still huge concerns about reports that almost 2,000 refugees and migrants have died crossing the Mediterranean this year. What can the Scottish Government do not only directly—the cabinet secretary referred to that—but indirectly to make the UK Government and other Governments strengthen their commitment to dealing with the on-going tragedy on Europe's doorstep?

Reply from Fiona Hyslop: To supplement my initial answer, I can refer to a number of things in terms of influencing other Governments. For example, in her recent speech in Brussels, the First Minister referred in particular to the migrants issue, and I know that the Italian Government is very appreciative of my and the Parliament's continuing interest in the issue. In practical terms, there are also the UK's responsibilities in terms of relocation and resettlement.

It was helpful to have a debate in Parliament on the issue so that we could indicate to the UK Government our collective desire not only for the immediate humanitarian issue to be addressed—I think that that is the point of Margaret McCulloch's question—but for the longer-term issues to be addressed, too. The member's question is not the only question on a humanitarian issue that has been asked in today's questions; I thank for her for asking it.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10020&i=91969&c=1839490#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Motions

S4M-13517 Christina McKelvie: London Students Help Migrant Rescue Mission in the Mediterranean—That the Parliament congratulates the students from Middlesex and Kingston universities in London who, since May 2015, have been supporting the Migrant Offshore Aid Station and Médecins Sans Frontières in their efforts to rescue migrants at sea; notes that they have joined an international team of students from the UK, Botswana, Lithuania, Norway, South Africa, Spain and USA, which has been funded by the EU's Erasmus+ programme; understands that the students, who are from the schools of law and media and performing arts at Middlesex and Kingston's science, engineering and computing faculty, recently participated in the rescue of up to 5,000 migrants by mapping the rescue efforts, handling logistics, translating information and filming people's stories; notes that they have also been on official visits to Malta and Sicily, including the Sicilian island of Lampedusa; understands that, in an address to Middlesex University, the UN special rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, Professor François Crépeau, argued that, in order to protect the rights of migrants, including refugees from Syria, Eritrea and Somalia, the real challenge facing Europe is not stopping, but rather managing, the flow of migrants, and congratulates the students on their initiative.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-13517&ResultsPerPage=10>

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Motions (continued)

S4M-13515 Christina McKelvie: Solidarity and Protection in Europe for Migrants in the Mediterranean—That the Parliament stands in solidarity and common humanity with the women, men and children displaced from their home countries in the current forced displacement and refugee crisis, the biggest in living memory, affecting over 50 million; is proud of Scotland's annual Refugee Festival, which celebrates the contribution of refugees to life in Scotland, and includes the parliamentary reception on 16 June 2015 and culminates on World Refugee Day on 20 June; warmly recognises the support of the people and charitable organisations in Lanarkshire, Scotland and the rest of the UK for refugees over the years, such as Belgian refugees in the First World War, the Jewish children of the Kindertransport before the Second World War, Chilean refugees fleeing Pinochet's regime in the 1970s, Kosovans and Bosnians in the 1990s, to those forcefully displaced from their homes around the world today; appreciates that many have no choice other than a decision between certain death at home or a probable death in the Mediterranean at the hands of unscrupulous smugglers; notes the view that the refugee displacement crisis today, as seen in Syria, Eritrea, Libya and in many other countries demands unprecedented protection to be offered by Scotland, the UK and the rest of the EU, and notes calls for the Prime Minister, at the meeting of the European Council to go beyond support for important search and rescue operations to participate fully in coordinated EU solutions to the crisis including safe and legal routes to protection, relocation in Europe, resettlement and family reunion, and the view that the people of the UK could be proud of their governments for protecting refugees in a way that recognises the tragic scale of the displacement of which the Mediterranean deaths are but a chilling symptom.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-13515&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Debate

Refugee Situation in the Mediterranean

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm150616/debtext/150616-0004.htm#1506166900002>

EU: Asylum Seekers

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/150618-gc0001.htm#15061883000353>

UK Parliament Questions

Health Services: Foreign Nationals

Lord Touhig [HL267] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to change the rules governing migrants' access to healthcare.

Reply from Lord Prior of Brampton: The Department updated the Charging Regulations on 6 April 2015 to improve the identification and recharging of European Economic Area and non-EEA patients. We will continue to consider whether any additional changes should be made to the charging rules, and communicate as required.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-06-04/HL267/>

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Visas

Frank Field [2395] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many permanent residence cards were issued to non-EEA nationals who were (a) family or (b) extended family members of EEA nationals living in the UK in each of the last three years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The available information is given in the table below: Permanent Residence cards granted to Non-EEA dependant relatives of EEA nationals resident in the United Kingdom after 5 years living in the UK.

Year Number of grants

2012 6,703

2013 7,951

2014 9,962

Source: Immigration Statistics table ee_02

Grants: The issue of documentation under the Immigration (EEA) Regulations 2006

The latest Home Office immigration statistics, on decisions in Residence Document applications by nationality, are published in Immigration Statistics January to March 2015, table ee_02 (European Economic Area tables), which is available from the Department's website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-06-15/2395/>

Visas

Frank Field [2396] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many UK residence cards were issued to non-EEA nationals who were (a) family or (b) extended family members of EEA nationals living in the UK in each of the last three years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The available information is given in the table below: Residence cards granted to Non-EEA dependant relatives of EEA nationals resident in the United Kingdom

Year Number of grants

2012 17,274

2013 22,571

2014 26,625

Source: Immigration Statistics table ee_02

Grants: The issue of documentation under the Immigration (EEA) Regulations 2006

The latest Home Office immigration statistics, on decisions in Residence Document applications by nationality, are published in Immigration Statistics January to March 2015, table ee_02 (European Economic Area tables), which is available from the Department's website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-06-15/2396/>

Illegal Immigrants

Laurence Robertson [1479] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to end the practice of illegal migration in small boats; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The UK is playing its full part in dealing with the immediate situation in the Mediterranean, to prevent further loss of life at sea. The

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Prime Minister offered UK operational assets to support efforts, coordinated by Italy and Frontex's Operation Triton.

However, we need to break the link between getting on a boat and achieving residence in Europe. That is why the UK is also playing a leading role in pushing for comprehensive, long-term action through the EU and the UN to tackle the causes of illegal immigration and the organised trafficking gangs behind it, as well as increasing support and protection for those who need it in North and East Africa.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-06-08/1479/>

Illegal Immigrants

David Hanson [1935] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people were prosecuted for trafficking and immigration offences following Border Force action in each period for which records exist in each year from 2010 to June 2015; and how many such prosecutions were successful.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Immigration Enforcement undertook the following prosecutions (see table below) for trafficking and immigration offences following border action. It is not possible to differentiate between offence type.

	Prosecuted	Successfully Prosecuted
April 2014 – March 2015	199	116
April 2015 – 31 May 2015	10	Prosecutions are ongoing

Prior to April 2014, the Home Office did not record this data in a reportable format. In order to extract this data each individual case would need to be interrogated and would incur disproportionate cost.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-06-10/1935/>

Refugees: Syria

Greg Mulholland [1374] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Syrian refugees have been relocated in the UK under the Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme; and what estimate she has made of the number of such refugees who will be relocated under that scheme by 31 December 2015.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Between the first arrivals in March 2014 and 30 March 2015 (the most recent published data), 187 people were relocated to the UK under the Vulnerable Persons Relocation (VPR) scheme. The scheme is based on need, rather than designed to meet set arrival projections. However, we will continue to bring groups here on a regular basis. We have said we expect the scheme to help several hundred people over three years, and we remain on track to achieve that. In addition, over 4,200 Syrians have been granted asylum or other forms of leave in the UK under our normal asylum rules since the Syrian crisis began in 2011.

We continue to work closely with the UNHCR to identify the most vulnerable people displaced by the conflict, prioritising women and children at risk, people in severe need of medical care and survivors of torture and violence. The VPR scheme runs in parallel with the UNHCR's own Syrian humanitarian admission programme. This is because the Government believes the UK can add most value through a complementary scheme, focusing on helping the most vulnerable refugees who cannot be supported effectively in the region rather than a quota.

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

With millions of people in need, we strongly believe that the UK can have the greatest impact by continuing to prioritise significant aid; we have donated £800 million, making the UK the second largest bi-lateral donor after the USA and helping to provide vital support to hundreds of thousands of people across the region. The Syrian conflict is a crisis of international proportions and we continue to play our full part in discussions with international partners.

The UNHCR is best placed to provide information on the number of Syrians resettled by other states to date. The UNHCR website also provides a list of international resettlement pledges.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-06-08/1374/>

Mediterranean Sea: Refugees

The following two questions both received the same answer

Jim Cunningham [2493] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many migrants who have crossed the Mediterranean her Department plans to allow to resettle in the UK.

Jim Cunningham [2494] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if her Department will increase the number of resettlement places offered to migrants who have crossed the Mediterranean.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Government has no plans to relocate to the UK any migrants who have entered another EU country illegally. Our position on EU proposals for compulsory relocation of asylum seekers is clear: it is the wrong response and would simply move the problem around Europe rather than dealing with it at source.

We are increasing our support and protection for those who need it. The UK Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation scheme (VPR) was launched in January 2014, to provide protection – including torture survivors and women and children at risk - who cannot be supported effectively in their region of origin. 187 have been resettled in the UK in just over a year and more arrive each month in the UK. And we have granted asylum to over 4000 Syrians since the start of the humanitarian crisis there. The UK has already settled over 6000 refugees over the past 10 years in direct cooperation with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees under the Gateway programme. We are of course one of five EU countries that takes in 75% of all asylum seekers coming to Europe.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-06-15/2493/>

Asylum

Lord Paddick [HL351] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Lord Bates on 8 June (HL Deb, col 671), whether the Dublin Regulation would still apply to the United Kingdom if it were no longer a member of the European Union.

Reply from Lord Bates: The Prime Minister is focused on success: he believes he can and will succeed in reforming and renegotiating our relationship with the EU and is campaigning to keep the UK in the EU on that basis.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-06-09/HL351/>

Asylum: Finance

Paul Flynn [1619] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum seekers have received financial support in each local authority area in England and Wales in 2015.

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Reply from James Brokenshire: Support may be provided under section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 to asylum seekers who would otherwise be destitute until their asylum claim is determined. Section 95 support can be provided as both accommodation and subsistence, or accommodation or subsistence only.

The following table shows the number of asylum seekers in receipt of Section 95 support in each local authority in England and Wales as at the end of March 2015. The data include dependants in receipt of support but excludes unaccompanied asylum seeking children supported by Local Authorities.

The numbers of asylum seekers in receipt of section 95 support, broken down by Local Authority, are published on a quarterly basis by the Home Office in Table as_16_q of the Immigration Statistics release. The latest publication (Immigration statistics, January to March 2015) is available on the Gov.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/series/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>.

To read the table see

[http://qna.files.parliament.uk/qna-attachments/349364/original/PQ%201619%20Table%20\(1\).xlsx](http://qna.files.parliament.uk/qna-attachments/349364/original/PQ%201619%20Table%20(1).xlsx)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-06-09/1619/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Baroness Kinnock of Holyhead [HL341] To ask Her Majesty's Government what consideration they are giving to ending detention of child immigrants and to replacing it with an alternative.

Reply from Lord Bates: We ended the routine detention of families with children in 2010 following the introduction of the Family Returns Process, key elements of which were enshrined in the Immigration Act 2014. As part of that process, families with children who have failed to take up the opportunities to leave the UK voluntarily may, as a last resort, be detained very briefly to support their ensured return in dedicated accommodation, supported by appropriate professionals. In addition, it remains necessary on occasion to detain families with children at the border for short periods of time while enquiries are made to decide whether they can be admitted to the country, or until the next available return flight if they are refused entry.

It is already the case that unaccompanied children may be detained only in a limited number of very exceptional circumstances. This includes at the border, where they may be detained very briefly for their care and safety pending alternative care arrangements being made for them, for example, collection by relatives or friends or local authority children's services.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-06-08/HL341/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Kirsten Oswald (130) Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre – That this House notes the work of and problems in Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre, and especially the poor treatment of women detainees by Serco; is concerned that despite this, Serco's contract has been renewed; calls on the Home Secretary to reassess the entire detention process so that radical changes to the current system can be made; and

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Motion (continued)

urges her to seek alternative solutions to end the practice of detention before deportation.
<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2015-16/130>

Press Releases

Cross-sector call for return of post study work visa

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Cross-sector-call-for-return-of-post-study-work-visa-19f8.aspx>

World Refugee Day 2015: Statement from Justine Greening

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-refugee-day-2015-statement-from-justine-greening>

Human Rights Council holds interactive dialogue with Special Rapporteurs on the rights of migrants and on minority issues

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16080&LangID=E>

Human Rights Council holds enhanced interactive dialogue on the human rights of migrants

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16079&LangID=E>

Migrants need protection, not push-backs

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/Migrantsneedprotection.aspx>

Commission dedicates more funding to Roma integration

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5205_en.htm?locale=en

UN warns of 'record high' 60 million refugees amid expanding global conflicts

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51185#.VYLk8xOqqko>

Joint Statement ahead of World Refugee Day

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-15-5229_en.htm?locale=en

Questions and answers on how the European Commission helps refugees

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-15-5230_en.htm?locale=en

OSCE human rights chief calls for humane treatment of refugees

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/165141>

Help ease refugee suffering through legal entry to Europe

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2015/help-ease-refugee-suffering-through-legal-entry-europe>

Statement by the Council of Europe Anti-Racism Commission on the current humanitarian crisis in the Mediterranean

http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/Library/PressReleases/195-19_06_2015_StatemenMediterranee_en.asp

Immigration and Asylum (continued) **New Publications**

Banking on mobility over a generation: follow-up to the regional study on the management of the external borders of the European Union and its impact on the human rights of migrants

http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session29/Documents/A_HRC_29_36_ENG.doc

The Global Refugee Crisis: a conspiracy of neglect

<http://static.guim.co.uk/ni/1434356535972/The-Global-Refugee-Crisis-a.pdf>

News

Yousaf praises visa plan backing

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/yousaf-praises-visa-plan-backing.129047223>

Refugee boxer dedicates fight to Britain

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-33127361>

Asylum seekers to get free primary healthcare in Northern Ireland

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-33144119>

Refugee crisis reaching Britain's borders - May

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/refugee-crisis-reaching-britain-s-borders-may-1-3804212>

Release 'critical' reports into privately run immigration centres, ICO orders

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jun/15/immigration-detention-centres-harmondsworth-colnbrook-ico-reports>

Dossier calling for Yarl's Wood closure chronicles decade of abuse complaints

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jun/15/yarls-wood-report-calling-for-closure-decade-abuse-complaints>

Fifty years of immigration mapped: How Blair's decision to open the borders to Eastern Europe changed the face of Britain

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3129592/From-Windrush-Warsaw-Blair-s-decision-open-borders-Eastern-Europe-changed-face-immigration.html>

Tragedy brings home plight of migrants

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/leaders-tragedy-brings-home-plight-of-migrants-1-3807643>

Britain will take hundreds more Syrian refugees, David Cameron says

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/david-cameron/11686308/Britain-will-take-hundreds-more-Syrian-refugees-David-Cameron-says.html>

David Cameron says Britain will accept just 'a few hundred' more Syrian refugees despite 4 million displaced by the war

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-cameron-says-britain-will-accept-just-a-few-hundred-more-syrian-refugees-despite-4-million-looking-for-new-home-10332104.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

'A few hundred more' Syrian refugees fleeing ISIS to be granted asylum in Britain, Cameron announces

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3131432/A-Syrian-refugees-fleeing-ISIS-granted-asylum-Britain-Cameron-announces.html>

Refugee Week: The Huguenots count among the most successful of Britain's immigrants

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/refugee-week-the-huguenots-count-among-the-most-successful-of-britains-immigrants-10330066.html?origin=internalSearch>

World Refugee Day: 5 charts that show the global refugee crisis is worse than ever

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/world-refugee-day-5-charts-that-show-the-global-refugee-crisis-is-worse-than-ever-10333831.html>

Schooled in UK but denied student loan: 'it's heartbreaking to be cheated of this'

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jun/21/supreme-court-challenge-student-loan-rules-immigrants>

Refugee Festival Scotland media awards winners announced

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/2743_refugee_festival_scotland_media_awards_winners_announced

Storytelling duo help school pupils understand refugee experiences

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/blogs/2740_storytelling_duo_help_school_pupils_understand_refugee_experiences

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Community Relations

News

Nationwide events to celebrate multicultural Scotland

<http://bemis.org.uk/project/year-of-food-and-drink/>

The Somalis who mark Ramadan - in a synagogue

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jun/17/the-somalis-who-mark-ramadan-in-a-synagogue>

David Cameron warns of 'quietly condoning' Islamic State

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/pm-warns-of-quietly-condoning-is.129547584>

Mr Cameron's finger pointing at Muslim communities is little help in countering radicalism

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/comment/herald-view/mr-camerons-finger-pointing-at-muslim-communities-is-little-help-in-counter-r.129542013>

David Cameron: Some Muslim communities 'quietly condone' extremist ideology – instead of confronting it

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-cameron-some-muslim-communities-quietly-condone-extremist-ideology-instead-of-confronting-it-10330054.html?origin=internalSearch>

Community Relations

News (continued)

Baroness Warsi tells David Cameron to stop demonising Muslims after Isis comments

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/baroness-warsi-tells-david-cameron-to-stop-demonising-muslims-after-isis-comments-10333647.html?origin=internalSearch>

Collective punishment: David Cameron's remarks about Muslims condoning Isis's horrors will antagonise those whose support he needs

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/editorials/collective-punishment-david-camerons-remarks-about-muslims-condoning-isis-horrors-will-antagonise-those-whose-support-he-needs-10332968.html>

Sorry David Cameron, but how exactly do you know that Muslims are 'quietly condoning' Isis?

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/sorry-david-cameron-but-how-exactly-do-you-know-that-muslims-are-quietly-condoning-isis-10332570.html>

PM to urge Muslims and ISPs: stop giving credence to extremist ideology

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2015/jun/19/pm-to-urge-muslims-and-isps-stop-giving-credence-to-extremist-ideology>

Warsi: Cameron wrong to target British Muslims over radicalisation

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2015/jun/19/warsi-cameron-wrong-to-blame-british-muslim-complicity-for-radicalisation>

Lady Warsi: ministers fuelling Muslim radicalisation

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2015/jun/16/lady-warsi-ministers-fuelling-muslim-radicalisation>

Remember, prime minister: British Muslims hate Isis too

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/jun/19/prime-minister-british-muslims-isis>

Muslim Council of Britain says government hampering anti-Isis efforts

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jun/16/muslim-council-of-britain-says-government-hampering-anti-isis-efforts>

'Even if your home town is Dewsbury, you can be British and Muslim at the same time'

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jun/21/muslim-dewsbury-islam-extremists>

David Cameron, inadvertent PR man for Islamic extremists

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/jun/19/david-cameron-islamic-extremists-british-muslims>

Muslims must do more to repel Isis, says Cameron

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11685151/david-cameron-muslims-must-repel-isis.html>

David Cameron has started a courageous dialogue about faith and society

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11684975/David-Cameron-has-started-a-courageous-dialogue-about-faith-and-society.html>

Muslim group back David Cameron's attack on those who 'quietly condone' Isis

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11686185/Muslim-group-back-David-Camerons-attack-on-those-who-quietly-condone-Isis.html>

Community Relations

News (continued)

David Cameron 'wrong and counter-productive', says Muslim Council of Britain

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11687455/david-cameron-wrong-isil-muslim-council.html>

We must tackle 'generational challenge' of radicalisation, warns Baroness Warsi

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11677405/We-must-tackle-generational-challenge-of-radicalisation-warns-Baroness-Warsi.html>

Muslims 'must stop blaming others for how young are radicalised'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11680145/Muslims-must-stop-blaming-others-for-how-young-are-radicalised.html>

Muslims most associated with terrorism, poll reveals

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/11677409/Muslims-most-associated-with-terrorism-poll-reveals.html>

Cameron tells Muslims: take responsibility for radicalisation

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4474161.ece>

UK Muslims helping jihadis, says Cameron: Communities must stop 'quietly condoning' barbaric ISIS, PM warns in blunt speech

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3130540/David-Cameron-says-communities-stop-quietly-condoning-ISIS-blunt-speech.html>

Don't alienate us over terror, Tory Muslim tells Cameron after he urges communities to speak out

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3132209/Don-t-alienate-terror-Tory-Muslim-tells-Cameron-urges-communities-speak-out.html>

I don't hear white people apologising for the South Carolina killings: Labour MP slams Cameron over claim Muslims 'quietly condone' terror

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3131689/I-don-t-hear-WHITE-people-apologising-South-Carolina-killings-Labour-MP-slams-Cameron-claim-Muslims-quietly-condone-terror.html>

We must prise British Muslims out of their 'digital ghettos': Former extremist calls for end to separation between different faiths

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-3133043/We-prise-British-Muslims-digital-ghettos-says-former-extremist-Maajid-Nawaz.html>

Confront Terrorism Together By Truly Breaking the Cycle of Blame

<http://www.mcb.org.uk/confront-terrorism-together-by-truly-breaking-the-cycle-of-blame-19-06-15/>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Ministerial Statement

**Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012
The Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs (Paul Wheelhouse): ...**

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination Scottish Parliament Ministerial Statement (continued)

Although the act is a high-profile and important piece of legislation, it is by no means the only measure that the Government has deployed to tackle offensive behaviour and crimes that are associated with different forms of hatred. However, I hope to set out why I believe that the act is a tool that should remain available to the police and the courts. I will also set out where I believe there is scope for improving the implementation and operation of the act. I am keen to work with all partners to do that.

The basis for moving forward is the evaluation's recommendations and suggested improvements in how the act is applied and used. However, I am keen to supplement that by hearing from those who have an interest in the legislation, who want to respond to the recommendations and who have ideas for improving operation of the act. Our on-going aim is to learn from the evidence and improve implementation. ...

I whole-heartedly welcome the decline in offences under the act. That decline reflects opinion that we have observed through other work that we have been doing, in particular in relation to tackling sectarianism: the public tell us time and again that they are tired of the worn-out rhetoric of bigotry, which has no place in modern Scotland.

The act has some harsh critics. Since taking on responsibility for my portfolio, I have been keen to understand the basis for that opposition and to consider how legitimate concerns can be addressed in order to improve implementation and operation of the act.

The act was not created in a vacuum; it resulted from circumstances that simply could not be tolerated and which needed a strong policy response. Members may recall that during the 2010-11 football season we saw an unacceptable level of sectarianism on Facebook, on internet forums, in blogs and on other social media, and that we saw a number of high-profile figures being targeted with parcel bombs and death threats, alongside increased patterns of violence and disorder at some football matches. When Parliament legislates, it chooses to communicate important messages. In response to those events, the act stated that bigotry, prejudice and the celebration of loss of life and of terrorist activity are unacceptable. ...

We have never promoted the view that societal problems can be eradicated through legislation alone; they are complex problems that can be addressed only through a range of activities. That is why the act is part of our broader work to tackle abusive behaviour and why it has never been intended as a single fix. However, I recognise that there are areas in which improvements could be made. ...

The Lord Advocate will be updating his guidelines on the act to ensure that prosecutors are aware of the diversionary programme and are able to use it in all suitable cases. He will also be highlighting precedents that have been established through case law in order to clarify interpretation of the act and to achieve a more consistent approach to its application. ...

Tackling all forms of abusive behaviour, including abusive behaviour in and associated with football, is a Government priority. It is central to building an inclusive Scotland where all can live and raise their families in peace without fear of threats, abuse or prejudice. The act remains an important tool for helping us to achieve that goal. ...

To read the full statement and subsequent question and answer session see

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10018&i=91952#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Motion

S4M-13507 John Mason: Offensive Behaviour Report—That the Parliament notes the recent report by researchers from the University of Stirling and ScotCen Social Research on the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012; understands that there were 193 charges in 2014-15 and that the researchers

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Motion (continued)

discovered that 58 of the charges were raised against individuals affiliated with Rangers, 30 with Aberdeen and 19 with Celtic; further understands that 42 (84%) of the charges deemed to be religious in nature included behaviour that was derogatory toward Roman Catholics; considers that this legislation has emphasised that offensive behaviour at football is not acceptable; believes that sectarianism has no place in Scottish society, and remains committed to using all means available to tackle sectarianism, anti-Catholicism and anti-Irish racism.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-13507&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Questions

Young People: Racial Discrimination

David Simpson [1991] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps her Department is taking to prevent young people in schools and colleges from developing racist mindsets.

Reply from Edward Timpson: All schools are subject to the Equality Act 2010, and are required to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. This includes challenging prejudices or statements which counter British values. All state-funded schools are required to promote community cohesion, and the national curriculum for citizenship supports teachers to inform pupils about the diverse range of identities in the United Kingdom, and the importance of respecting others.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-06-10/1991/>

Racial Violence

David Simpson [1983] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department has taken to prevent racist attacks on people with young families.

Reply from Karen Bradley: The Government takes all forms of hate crime very seriously and deplores all racially motivated attacks. Crime that is motivated by hostility or hatred towards the victim is particularly corrosive and can have devastating consequences for victims and their families.

In 2012, we published a hate crime action plan and a total of 23 actions were dedicated to preventing hate crime. This includes work to tackle racist material on the internet, development of targeted materials to promote community cohesion and reduce racist attacks, and supporting working groups on anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim hatred to tackle negative attitudes towards those groups within communities.

Our comprehensive new Counter-Extremism strategy, which will set out a range of measures to identify and defeat extremism in all of its forms, including racial hate crime, will be published in the summer.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-06-10/1983/>

Religiously Aggravated Offences

Greg Mulholland [1569] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when she plans to bring forward legislative proposals for police forces in England and Wales to record anti-Muslim hate crime.

Reply from Mike Penning: The Government takes all forms of hate crime very

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

seriously. We deplore all religious and racially motivated attacks and we are committed to ensuring that the police respond appropriately when they occur. Since 2012 the police have recorded all hate crimes as part of their Annual Data Requirement. The crimes are recorded by motivation – by race, religion, sexual orientation, transgender identity and disability.

We are currently looking at how we can break this data down further. Our comprehensive new Counter- Extremism strategy, which will set out a range of measures to identify and defeat extremism in all of its forms, will be published in the summer.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-06-09/1569/>

Press Releases

Tackling hate crime in Scotland

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Tackling-hate-crime-in-Scotland-1a33.aspx>

New report reveals a rise in anti-Muslim hostility in Britain following acts of terrorism around the world

http://www.tees.ac.uk/sections/news/pressreleases_story.cfm?story_id=4967&this_issue_title=June%202015&this_issue=265

New Publications

Tell MAMA Reporting 2014/2015: Annual Monitoring, Cumulative Extremism, and Policy Implications

http://www.tees.ac.uk/docs/DocRepo/Research/Tell_Mama3.pdf

Comprehensive study of the human rights situation of Roma worldwide, with a particular focus on the phenomenon of anti-Gypsyism

http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session29/Documents/A_HRC_29_24_E.doc

News

Hate crimes against Muslims in Britain spike after 'jihadi' attacks, study finds

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2015/jun/17/hate-crimes-against-muslims-britain-spike-jihadi-attacks-study>

Hate crimes against British Muslims spike after major terrorist attacks

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/hate-crimes-against-british-muslims-spike-after-major-terrorist-attacks-10327647.html?origin=internalSearch>

Anti-sectarian football song laws to remain

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/anti-sectarian-football-song-laws-to-remain-1-3803998>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

Renewed calls to repeal sectarianism at football law rebuffed by SNP

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/scottish-politics/renewed-calls-to-repeal-sectarianism-at-football-law-rebuffed-by-snp.129171409>

Controversial sectarianism laws to remain in place despite repeated calls to scrap policy

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/controversial-sectarianism-laws-remain-place-5894712>

Man sentenced over MSP Humza Yousaf 'racist abuse'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-33147598>

Racist thug who told Humza Yousaf 'You're not from my country' is spared jail

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/racist-thug-who-told-humza-5892772>

Oxford University students call for greater 'racial sensitivity' at the institution and say it must be 'decolonised'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/student/news/oxford-university-students-call-for-greater-racial-sensitivity-at-the-institution-and-say-it-must-be-decolonised-10332118.html?origin=internalSearch>

Key adviser: We were wrong to call Met racist

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/article1571645.ece

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Scottish Devolution

UK Parliament Debate

Devolution: Wales and Scotland

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/150618-gc0002.htm#15061887000148>

Press Release

More powers for Scotland

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/More-powers-for-Scotland-19f6.aspx>

News

Scottish devolution: SNP sends more powers letter to UK minister

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-33126122>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Releases

'Creating a fairer Scotland'

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/-Creating-a-fairer-Scotland-1a45.aspx>

Scottish Government extends funding for organ donor project

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scottish-Government-extends-funding-for-organ-donor-project-19fb.aspx>

First Minister's Ramadan message

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/first-ministers-ramadan-message/>

The Tinkers' Heart declared a monument of national importance

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/90746.aspx>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Press Releases

Ramadan 2015: David Cameron's message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ramadan-2015-david-camerons-message>

Ramadan message from Greg Clark

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ramadan-message-from-greg-clark>

Ramadan: safer giving

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ramadan-safer-giving>

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New Publications

Good practices and major challenges in preventing and eliminating female genital mutilation

http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session29/Documents/A_HRC_29_20_ENG.DOCX

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Other News

Hospitals urge Muslims to donate organs

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-33155326>

Tinker's Heart declared national monument

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/tinker-s-heart-declared-national-monument-1-3807347>

Other News (continued)

Tinker's Heart campaign pays off with official recognition

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/tinkers-heart-campaign-pays-off-with-official-recognition.129544957>

Gypsy caravans in England increase by a third in 10 years

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/11676045/Gypsy-caravans-in-England-increase-by-a-third-in-10-years.html>

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

**** Community Empowerment Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/77926.aspx>

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee consideration after Stage 2

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10019&i=91949#ScotParlOR>

Stage 3 consideration of amendments, full Parliament

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10020&i=91980#ScotParlOR>

Stage 3 Debate

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10020&i=91981#ScotParlOR>

Bill Passed

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10020&i=91984&c=1839916#ScotParlOR>

Text of the Bill as passed

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Community%20Empowerment%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b52bs4-aspassed.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Community%20Empowerment%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b52bs4-aspassed.pdf)

Community Justice Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/88702.aspx>

Criminal Justice Bill

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

**** Education Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/87330.aspx>

Stage 1 evidence session, Education and Culture Committee

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10023&i=92006#ScotParlOR>

Bills in Progress Scottish Parliament (continued)

**** Human Trafficking and Exploitation Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/84356.aspx>

Stage 2 consideration of amendments, Justice Committee

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10021&i=91962#ScotParlOR>

Transplantation (Authorisation of Removal of Organs etc.) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/89893.aspx>

Bills in Progress UK Parliament

**** Scotland Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2015-16/scotland.html>

Committee Stage, House of Commons

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm150615/debtext/150615-0001.htm#1506151600001>

Proposed amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2015-2016/0003/amend/psc031606a.1-7.html>

Scottish Parliament Legislative Consent Memorandum

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/LegislativeConsentMemoranda/ScotlandBillLCM1.pdf>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Race, ethnicity and employment (closing date 1 July 2015)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/89097.aspx>

Proposals for a Lobbying Transparency Bill (closing date 24 July 2015)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00477580.pdf>

Community Justice Bill (closing date 12 August 2015)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/89658.aspx>

EU Blue Card: recruitment of highly qualified third-country nationals (closing date 21 August 2015)

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-is-new/public-consultation/2015/consulting_0029_en.htm

Further extension of coverage of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 to more organisations (closing date 4 September 2015)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00479060.pdf>

**** Creating A Fairer Scotland: What Matters To You?** (no closing date given)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00479666.pdf>

Consultations (continued)

Understanding and Perception of Risk in the Charity Sector (no closing date given)
<https://stirling.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/understanding-and-perception-of-risk-in-the-charity-sector>

Impact on Children of the Family Migration Rules (no closing date given)
<https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=143229967772>

What's Changed about Being Jewish in Scotland? (no closing date given)
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JewishinScotland2015>

Discrimination in Football Survey (no closing date given)
http://efemico.eu/main_files/FARacismSurvey/FARacismSurvey.html

Experiences of Race and Religion-Related Hate Speech in the UK (no closing date given)
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HR7RBZ3>

Advancing Migrant Access to health Services in Europe (no closing date given)
<http://www.amase.eu/wp/be-part-of-amase/>

Inquiry into the recruitment and appointment practices on company boards
(no closing date given)
<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legal-and-policy/our-legal-work/inquiries-and-assessments/inquiry-recruitment-and-appointment-practices-company-boards>

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Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

**** Multicultural Scotland: Year of Food and Drink Scotland 2015, and Scotland's Winter Festivals – small grants programme**

BEMIS Scotland in conjunction with the Scottish Government have been tasked with developing a series of events between June and January 2016 which will celebrate the rich cultural diversity of Scotland utilising the key cultural characteristics of diverse communities. The small grants programme will enable community groups to develop and host localised Multicultural Celebrations under the 'Year of Food and Drink 2015 and Winter Festivals' banner and showcase this important dynamic of Scotland's identity and evolving heritage. For information see <http://bemis.org.uk/project/year-of-food-and-drink/>

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Clore Social Fellowship Programme

Closing date for applications 25 June 2015

12 month full time or 24 month part time programme including, amongst other things, residential courses, coaching and mentoring, and a practice-based research project. General fellowships and specialist fellowships in migrant communities, gender equality, youth work, older people, and other areas. For information see

<http://cloresocialleadership.org.uk/Fellowship-Programme>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

BEMIS AGM

2 July 2015 in Glasgow (6.00)

For information contact Sue Barnes 0141 548 8047 / sue.barnes@bemis.org.uk

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Useful Links

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

Scottish Government <http://www.gov.scot/>

UK Parliament <http://www.parliament.uk/>

GovUK (links to UK Government Departments) <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations>

European Parliament <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/>

One Scotland <http://onescotland.org/>

Scottish Refugee Council <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk>

Interfaith Scotland <http://www.interfaithscotland.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/>

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) www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services

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

BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/>

BBC Democracy Live 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/>



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://onescotland.org/>

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