

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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The UK Parliament will be in recess from 18 September until 12 October. Due to the Jewish festivals of Rosh HaShanah, Yom Kippur, and Succot, the next three issues of MEMO will be circulated midweek on 17 September, 24 September, and 8 October.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Questions

First Minister's Questions: Refugees

Kezia Dugdale: To ask the First Minister what engagements she has planned for the rest of the day. (S4F-02907)

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): Later today, and ahead of a summit of humanitarian and civic organisations that I will host in Edinburgh tomorrow, I will write to David Cameron to again urge that the United Kingdom plays its full part in helping refugees in desperate need. I also have engagements to take forward the Government's programme for Scotland.

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

Kezia Dugdale: This week, we have seen pictures of women in the sea desperately trying to keep their babies afloat, fellow human beings left to suffocate in the backs of lorries because of evil traffickers, and refugees perilously packed on to boats unfit for the tides ahead. This morning, almost every paper in the land carried a picture of a boy who was washed on to the shore.

We have a Prime Minister who says that showing more compassion and taking in more refugees is not the answer. The First Minister has said that Scotland is ready and willing to do more than our share. Will she therefore convene an urgent meeting with Scotland's council leaders, party leaders and people in the Parliament and other relevant Government agencies so that Scotland can speak with one voice and match our compassion with the action that we are all willing to take?

Reply from the First Minister: I have already taken the step of convening a summit tomorrow, to which I have invited humanitarian organisations, including the Scottish Refugee Council, leaders of councils and civic organisations and, indeed, our churches. I extend an invitation to the Opposition party leaders to attend that summit, as well.

As First Minister of Scotland, I pledge that I will ensure that Scotland does everything possible to help the refugee crisis. I will be far from the only person who was reduced to tears last night at the picture of a little boy washed up on a beach. That wee boy has touched our hearts, but his is not an isolated tragedy. He and thousands like him whose lives are at risk are not somebody else's responsibility; they are the responsibility of all of us. So yes, I am very angry at the walk-on-by-on-the-other-side approach of the UK Government. I implore David Cameron to change his position today, and I pledge as First Minister of this country that we will stand ready to help to offer sanctuary to refugees who need our help.

Kezia Dugdale: I assure the First Minister that the Labour Party stands with her in doing everything that we can to tackle the humanitarian crisis.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10061&i=92943&c=1855696#ScotParlOR>

Refugees

Roderick Campbell: To ask the First Minister what assistance the Scottish Government can provide to the United Kingdom Government in relation to the refugee crisis. (S4F-02922)

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): First, I welcome Rod Campbell's clear description of what we are witnessing as a "refugee crisis". People fleeing Syria are not economic migrants; they are seeking refuge and asylum, and above all else they are human beings.

We have repeatedly made clear to the UK Government our determination that Scotland plays a full part in efforts to offer sanctuary to those in desperate need. The UK Government's refusal to take part in the EU's collective efforts on relocation and resettlement is, in my view, utterly shameful.

As I have said, tomorrow I will host a summit of humanitarian and civic organisations—I have already extended the invitation to Opposition leaders—to look at what Scotland can do to support refugees who are seeking safety. It is my intention that we then put forward to the UK Government specific proposals on what Scotland can do and wants to do.

As First Minister I repeat that I am determined that Scotland plays its full part but, for us to take refugees as I want us to do, the UK Government first has to agree to take its fair share, and I call on David Cameron to do so.

Roderick Campbell: I welcome those comments and indeed the First Minister's earlier

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

comments. Does she agree that fortress Britannia is the very opposite of what is required here and that what is needed is a pan-European approach? Does she also agree that we in Scotland could perhaps learn from the example of one of the smaller countries in Europe and the people in that country—Iceland?

Reply from the First Minister: I think that we could learn from many other European countries—such as Iceland, Sweden and Germany—that are, to be frank, taking a lead on moral grounds. I believe that, if there is to be a proper response to this refugee crisis, it takes the European Union and all its member states to come together to find that solution.

I also think that there is something else that David Cameron and the UK Government must stop doing. They must stop using their party's stance on immigration to get in the way of a human response to a humanitarian crisis.

David Cameron and I do not always see eye to eye on immigration, but this is not about immigration; it is about refuge and asylum, and we must respond as human beings. We simply cannot walk by on the other side; otherwise, that little boy, who we were all so touched by last night, will just become one of many, many more. We cannot and must not have that on our consciences.

Patricia Ferguson: I thank the First Minister for her comments concerning the appalling situation facing those of our fellow human beings seeking refuge in Europe.

This week, German Chancellor Angela Merkel did not just welcome people to her country; she also stood in front of a group of right-wing protesters and told them that they were wrong. She said that there is in her country

“no tolerance towards those who question the dignity of other people.”

Those are in my view the actions of a leader. Does the First Minister agree that it is time that David Cameron demonstrated similar leadership and compassion, instead of continuing to turn his back on what are the most desperate people on the planet?

Reply from the First Minister: Yes I do and I echo 100 per cent the comments of Angela Merkel, which Patricia Ferguson has just read out.

The first thing that David Cameron has to do is show some compassion, because when I watched him on the television last night I did not see any of that. Let us start with compassion and then let us join it with leadership. If we show both of those things, we can demonstrate that the proud traditions that Britain has in welcoming refugees have not died in the depths of a Tory debate about immigration; they are alive and well. This is a welcoming country and will not turn its back on people who need us.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10061&i=92948#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Motions

S4M-14135 Sandra White: Scotland Supporting Refugees—That the Parliament recognises the formation of Scotland Supporting Refugees; believes that the establishment of this reflects the sentiments of Scotland's people toward those who are crossing the Mediterranean in sheer desperation; understands that thousands, including many women and children, have lost their lives while attempting to escape violence in their home country and start a new life in Europe; believes that, despite this loss of life, the UK Government remains unwilling to welcome any more people from Syria or other war-torn nations; understands that, in comparison to many neighbouring countries, the UK has only welcomed a fraction of refugees and could do far more; welcomes the First Minister's announcement regarding the facilitation of a roundtable discussion with many organisations, including the Scottish Refugee Council, to discuss what further action the

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Motions (continued)

Scottish Government, along with humanitarian and civic organisations across the country, can take, and commends Scotland Supporting Refugees in its efforts to raise awareness about the crisis and in its campaigning for action and raising funds to support humanitarian relief.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14135&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-14081 James Dornan: Taking Action to Protect Asylum Seekers and Refugees Across Europe –

That the Parliament recognises the work of charities and organisations across Scotland, including the Greater Pollok Integration Network and Glasgow the Caring City based in the Glasgow Cathcart constituency that have supported asylum seekers and refugees in Glasgow for many years; notes the continuing forced displacement and refugee crisis with people seeking asylum or refuge from places including Syria, Libya and Eritrea arriving daily in Europe; appreciates that the numbers of people reaching Europe is dwarfed by people seeking refuge in neighbouring countries including Jordan; notes the deaths of at least 70 asylum seekers in the back of a truck close to the Austrian border; notes the comments of the Austrian interior minister, Johanna Mikl-Leitner, who said that "the tragedy again underlined the urgent need for common EU policies to protect migrants and to combat people traffickers"; considers the European response to date to have been lacklustre and the position of the UK Government to continue to stand on the sidelines to be senseless and untenable; believes it imperative that countries across Europe come together and put in place a European strategy to deal with the crisis both with people coming via the Mediterranean and those waiting in Calais; notes recent comments by Angela Merkel and Francois Hollande looking to discuss such a strategy at the next meeting of the European Commission in October 2015, and further notes calls on the UK Government to join them in opting-in to the EU resettlement programme and taking other positive steps to assist across the continent and to stop playing politics with the lives of so many people seeking refuge from unimaginable hardship in their home countries.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14081>

Press Releases

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator: Giving to refugees

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/hot-topics/giving-to-refugees>

Give safely to refugee appeals: advice from the charity regulator

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/give-safely-to-refugee-appeals-advice-from-the-charity-regulator>

Initial £1 million to support humanitarian taskforce

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Initial-1-million-to-support-humanitarian-taskforce-1ca6.aspx>

First Minister's speech to the Humanitarian Summit

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/Speeches-Briefings/First-Minister-Humanitarian-Summit-1ca4.aspx>

Scotland responds to humanitarian crisis

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scotland-responds-to-humanitarian-crisis-1ca3.aspx>

Immigration and Asylum Press Releases (continued)

First Minister to host humanitarian summit

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/First-Minister-to-host-humanitarian-summit-1c9b.aspx>

Government to host special roundtable on migrant worker rights

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Government-to-host-special-roundtable-on-migrant-worker-rights-1c3e.aspx>

Commission welcomes Scottish Government approach to migrant workers' rights

<http://scottishhumanrights.com/news/latestnews/migrantworkers>

Syria refugees: UK government response

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/syria-refugees-uk-government-response>

EU must show “collective compassion” in response to refugee crisis

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/EU-must-show-collective-compassion-in-response-to-refugee-crisis-1ca7.aspx>

Migration Advisory Committee: Tier 2 salary thresholds

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/453368/MAC_press_release.pdf

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights steps up migration work in response to ongoing tragedies

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/press-release/2015/fra-steps-migration-work-response-ongoing-tragedies>

European Commission in Calais: Advancing on a European approach to migration

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5555_en.htm?locale=en

Europe can do more to protect refugees

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/europe-can-do-more-to-protect-refugees>

OSCE human rights chief calls for human rights-based, co-operative response to Europe’s migration crisis

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/179406>

Unlawful detention of Tunisian migrants in degrading conditions on the island of Lampedusa in Italy pending collective expulsion

<http://tinyurl.com/pnfbxcr>

ECHR Lampedusa judgment underlines migrants have the same fundamental rights as everyone else

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/migration-crisis-poses-serious-threat-to-the-respect-for-human-rights>

Earlier treatment would cut spending on migrant healthcare in the EU: FRA study

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2015/earlier-treatment-would-cut-spending-migrant-healthcare-eu-fra-study>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

New Publications

User Guide to Home Office Immigration Statistics

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/455513/user-guide-immigration-statistics.pdf

Immigration statistics, April to June 2015

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-april-to-june-2015>

Immigration Enforcement data: August 2015

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/456915/immigration_enforcement_transparency_data_q2_2015_v1.ods

Migration Statistics Quarterly Report, August 2015

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/migration1/migration-statistics-quarterly-report/august-2015/index.html>

Cost of exclusion from healthcare – The case of migrants in an irregular situation

http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2015-cost-healthcare-summary_en.pdf

Round numbers and records: What do headline statistics tell us about migration?

<http://www.migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk/commentary/round-numbers-and-records-what-do-headline-statistics-tell-us-about-migration>

News

Scottish Parliament and Government

Refugee crisis: £1m set aside for Scottish response

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-34164632>

£1 million boost for refugee crisis response from Scottish Government

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/1-million-boost-for-refugee-crisis-response-from-scottish-government-1.898580>

Nicola Sturgeon “happy” to give refugees a home

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/nicola-sturgeon-happy-to-give-refugees-a-home-1-3879126>

Nicola Sturgeon pledges to help arriving refugees

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/nicola-sturgeon-pledges-to-help-arriving-refugees-1-3878962>

Sturgeon: I would be happy to have a Syrian refugee stay in my home

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13648917.Sturgeon_I_would_be_happy_to_have_a_Syrian_refugee_stay_in_my_home/

Nicola Sturgeon: Scotland ready to take in refugees

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/nicola-sturgeon-scotland-ready-to-take-in-refugees-1-3877862>

Nicola Sturgeon: UN must do more to help refugees

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13646973.Nicola_Sturgeon_UN_must_do_more_to_help_refugees/

Immigration and Asylum News: Scottish Parliament and Government (continued)

Crisis can be solved says Sturgeon as Cameron agrees UK to take "thousands" more refugees

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13648093.Crisis_can_be_solved_says_Sturgeon_as_Cameron_agrees_UK_to_take_quot_thousands_quot_more_refugees/

Nicola Sturgeon makes refugee plea to David Cameron

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-34146653>

Nicola Sturgeon calls on David Cameron to accept more refugees

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/11843260/Nicola-Sturgeon-calls-on-David-Cameron-to-accept-more-refugees.html>

Nicola Sturgeon speaks of her tears for Syrian migrant boy washed up on beach

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-34140195>

Nicola Sturgeon: Scotland to take in 1000 refugees

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/nicola-sturgeon-scotland-to-take-in-1000-refugees-1-3876773>

Scotland must give sanctuary to at least 1000 refugees: Sturgeon

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13645479.Scotland_must_give_sanctuary_to_at_least_1000_refugees_Sturgeon/

We will take 1,000 refugees as a starting point, says Sturgeon

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4548457.ece>

Nicola Sturgeon writes: 'I am very angry – and deeply saddened - at David Cameron's walk on by approach'

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/nicola-sturgeon-writes-i-am-6377331>

Nicola Sturgeon to lead refugee crisis talks

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/nicola-sturgeon-to-lead-refugee-crisis-talks-1.898220>

Nicola Sturgeon: David Cameron's 'walk on by on the other side' response to Syrian refugee crisis has reduced me to tears

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/nicola-sturgeon-david-camerons-walk-on-by-on-the-other-side-response-to-syrian-refugee-crisis-has-reduced-me-to-tears-10485169.html>

Alex Salmond says David Cameron is 'shaming humanity' over migration crisis

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13642049.Alex_Salmond_says_David_Cameron_is_shaming_humanity_over_migration_crisis/

SNP: Theresa May's EU migrant crackdown 'putting ambition before the economy'

http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/political_news/13635573.SNP_Theresa_May_s_EU_migrant_crackdown_putting_ambition_before_the_economy/

Scotland 'should take around 1,000 migrants to help ease humanitarian crisis'

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/13639610.Scotland_should_take_around_1_000_migrants_to_help_ease_humanitarian_crisis/

SNP plans Commons refugee debate

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-34157266>

Immigration and Asylum

News: Scottish Parliament and Government (continued)

Scotland tells Tory Government #WeHaveRoom and reaches out to war refugees to offer them safe haven

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/scotland-tells-tory-government-wehaveroom-6378515>

SNP table Westminster debate over refugee crisis

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/snp-table-westminster-debate-over-refugee-crisis-1-3878652>

SNP plans Westminster debate on refugee crisis

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/snp-plans-westminster-debate-on-refugee-crisis-1.898462>

SNP to attack Cameron over UK response to refugee crisis

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13648747.SNP_to_attack_Cameron_over_UK_response_to_refugee_crisis/

News: UK Parliament and Government

Migrant crisis: UK must do even more to help refugees - George Osborne

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-34167271>

George Osborne calls for 'rethink' of aid budget

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/george-osborne-calls-for-rethink-of-aid-budget-1-3879108>

Refugee crisis: UK foreign aid budget to be spent housing people in Britain, George Osborne says

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/refugee-crisis-uk-foreign-aid-budget-to-be-spent-housing-people-in-britain-george-osborne-says-10488561.html>

Osborne reveals Britain's foreign aid budget will be diverted to help councils resettle refugees in the UK

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/11847202/Osborne-reveals-Britains-foreign-aid-budget-will-be-diverted-to-help-councils-resettle-refugees-in-the-UK.html>

UK to use foreign aid money to pay for housing Syrian refugees

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-3224122/UK-use-foreign-aid-money-pay-housing-Syrian-refugees.html>

David Cameron says UK will take "thousands more" refugees

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13646478.David_Cameron_says_UK_will_take_thousands_more_refugees/

David Cameron says UK will take thousands more Syrian refugees

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/04/david-cameron-syrian-refugees-uk-will-take-thousands-more>

Britain will take 15,000 refugees

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/article1603561.ece

Cameron opens door to thousands more refugees

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4547139.ece>

Immigration and Asylum News: UK Parliament and Government (continued)

Cameron confirms Britain will act with its 'head and its heart' and accept thousands of refugees

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/11843588/Cameron-confirms-Britain-will-act-with-its-head-and-its-heart-and-accept-thousands-of-refugees.html>

David Cameron bows to public opinion with pledge to take 'thousands' of extra refugees - but is the promise a diversion?

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-cameron-bows-to-public-opinion-with-pledge-to-take-thousands-of-extra-refugees--but-is-the-promise-a-diversion-10487516.html>

Migrant crisis: PM says UK will fulfil moral responsibilities

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-34135870>

David Cameron says UK will fulfil moral responsibility over migration crisis

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/sep/03/david-cameron-says-uk-will-fulfil-moral-responsibility-over-migration-crisis>

Migrant crisis: Britain set to accept more refugees

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-34148913>

UK government signals rethink on admitting refugees

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/uk-government-signals-rethink-on-admitting-refugees-1-3877013>

David Cameron says UK will take 'thousands more' Syria border camp refugees

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/uk/david-cameron-says-uk-will-take-thousands-more-syria-border-camp-refugees-1.898318>

'Britain will act with our head and our heart': As Cameron offers help to Syrians, the UN says the UK will take 4,000 refugees

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3222108/Britain-accept-thousands-Syrians-living-refugee-camps-NOT-open-door-migrants-reached-Europe.html>

'We will take thousands of people': Cameron vows to review asylum policy after claims his policy was 'shaming the country'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3220724/Tories-break-cover-demand-Cameron-offer-sanctuary-desperate-refugees-European-leaders-struggle-contain-crisis.html>

Refugee crisis: Prime Minister under renewed pressure after photo 'shame'

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/uk/refugee-crisis-prime-minister-under-renewed-pressure-after-photo-shame-1.898096>

Britain should not take more Middle East refugees, says David Cameron

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/02/david-cameron-migration-crisis-will-not-be-solved-by-uk-taking-in-more-refugees>

Cameron must help refugees and bin the economic migrant label

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/03/david-cameron-help-refugees-must-stop-calling-them-economic-migrants>

Cameron defies Tory calls to accept more refugees

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4545969.ece>

Immigration and Asylum News: UK Parliament and Government (continued)

Migration crisis: pressure mounts on Cameron over refugees

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/sep/03/migration-crisis-pressure-mounts-on-david-cameron-to-relent-on-taking-more-refugees>

David Cameron refuses to budge on accepting refugees but PM won't shirk 'moral responsibilities'

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/david-cameron-refuses-budge-accepting-6376664>

David Cameron says Britain cannot take 'more and more' refugees

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-cameron-says-britain-cant-take-more-and-more-refugees-10482955.html>

David Cameron: Britain should not take more refugees

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/11839283/David-Cameron-Britain-should-not-take-more-refugees.html>

David Cameron insists he 'cares' about refugees as criticism grows over handling of crisis

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/nicola-sturgeon/11841808/David-Cameron-insists-he-cares-about-refugees-amid-criticism-from-Tories.html>

Cameron: Letting more refugees in won't end crisis

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/cameron-letting-more-refugees-in-won-t-end-crisis-1-3876159>

British aid to refugees smashes through £1billion as Cameron boasts UK is spending more than any EU country

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3222250/How-Britain-given-aid-refugees-Germany-Netherlands-France-Italy-Hungary-Austria-Poland-COMBINED.html>

Yvette Cooper says every British city should accept refugees

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-34114304>

Yvette Cooper condemns Theresa May's 'cowardly' asylum policy and calls for Britain to open its doors to Syrian refugees

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/yvette-cooper-condemns-theresa-mays-cowardly-asylum-policy-and-calls-for-britain-to-open-its-doors-to-syrian-refugees-10481542.html>

Britain should take 10,000 refugees, says Yvette Cooper

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4544964.ece>

Britain should take 10,000 Syrian refugees to ease biggest migration crisis since WW2 says Yvette Cooper

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/britain-should-take-10000-syrian-6361519>

Yvette Cooper brands UK migrant policy 'immoral'

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/yvette-cooper-brands-uk-migrant-policy-immoral-1-3875056>

Yvette Cooper: UK should take in 10,000 Middle East refugees

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/01/yvette-cooper-uk-should-take-in-10000-refugees>

Immigration and Asylum News: UK Parliament and Government (continued)

Yvette Cooper's refugees quota would require 10-fold rise in UK intake

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/01/yvette-coopers-refugees-quota-require-10-fold-rise-uk-intake>

Yvette Cooper claims people are already offering their homes to refugees after she called on every council in the country to take 10 families each

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3218241/Ten-refugee-families-town-Britain-Yvette-Cooper-calls-cowardly-Cameron-accept-10-000-fleeing-Syrians.html>

David Blunkett: UK should take 25,000 refugees in six months

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-34144812>

Refugee crisis: David Blunkett says Britain should take up to 25,000 refugees over the next six months

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/refugee-crisis-david-blunkett-says-britain-should-take-in-up-to-25000-refugees-over-the-next-six-months-10485722.html>

Douglas Carswell: Immigration is merely another issue that the government has no control over

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/11828150/Immigration-is-merely-another-issue-that-the-government-has-no-control-over.html>

Britain is now 'a borderless country', says Nigel Farage

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http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article1600186.ece

Tories accused of repeating immigration pledges to distract from new figures
http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/13625809.Tories_accused_of_repeating_immigration_on_pledges_to_distract_from_new_figures/

Immigration and Asylum

News: Other issues relating to Immigration and Asylum (continued)

Afghan asylum seekers saved from deportation after last-ditch legal battle

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/aug/26/afghan-asylum-seekers-saved-deportation-legal-battle>

Government accused of closing door on Eritrean refugees in attempt to hit immigration target

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/government-accused-of-closing-door-on-eritrean-refugees-in-attempt-to-hit-immigration-target-10475526.html>

Flying illegal migrants home will cost the taxpayer £500m

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4539204.ece>

Firms to face closure over illegal staff

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4537334.ece>

Firms using illegal migrant labour face 48-hour closures

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/aug/25/firms-using-illegal-migrant-labour-face-48-hour-closures>

Yarl's Wood is symptomatic of Britain's paranoia about migrants

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/aug/14/yarls-wood-detention-women-asylum-seekers-demos>

Church backs action against human trafficking

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/recent/church_backs_action_against_human_trafficking_campaign

Immigration Bill: Illegal workers 'may face six months' jail'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-34047686>

Kids Company refuses to open migrant files

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4536072.ece>

Hereford couple married for 45 years separated by visa row

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-hereford-worcester-34021865>

Sudanese immigrant's Scottish culture shock inspired happy ending of her book

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/real-life/sudanese-immigrants-scottish-culture-shock-6382185>

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Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motion

Motion S4M-14044 John Mason: Example of Christian Unity – That the Parliament notes the serious fire damage to St Patrick's Catholic Church in Old Kilpatrick and what it sees as the speedy response of the Old Kilpatrick Bowling Church of Scotland in offering its building for the displaced congregation to worship in; understands that, traditionally, there have been strained relations between different Christian denominations in the west

Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motion (continued)

of the country but notes positively the comments of the Rev John Harris in stating that, "I've always said that church unity is not an optional interest, it is a gospel imperative. If you look at all the wars and the way religion is getting blamed today, church unity is an essential. We have no message for the world if we continue to stay divided" and those of Father William McGinley who said, "I am overwhelmed with the love and the fraternal aspect of the ecumenism involved, and so are all the parishioners"; believes that all of the main Christian denominations agree on 90% of their teaching, and hopes that this example of Christian unity in Old Kilpatrick will be seen as an excellent example to be followed by Christians throughout Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14044>

New Publication

British Muslims in Numbers: Educational qualifications

<http://www.mcb.org.uk/muslimstatistics/briefings/briefing4/>

News

Report: Most Scots positive about Christianity

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13635888.Report_Most_Scots_positive_about_Christianity/

Multicultural Edinburgh school records song with 25 language

<http://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/education/multicultural-edinburgh-school-records-song-with-25-languages-1-3874814>

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Equality

Press Release

Most Ethnic Groups Report Better Health than 'White: Scottish'

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Most-Ethnic-Groups-Report-Better-Health-than-White-Scottish-1c62.aspx>

New Publications

'Which ethnic groups have the poorest health?'

<http://gov.scot/Publications/2015/08/7995>

Thinking outside the box: Supporting the television broadcasting industry to increase diversity

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/publication_pdf/ofcom%20brochure%20visual%207f%20Final%20proof.pdf

Equality (continued) News

UN launches investigation into 'grave' violations of disabled people's human rights over welfare reforms

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13635161.UN_launches_investigation_into_grave_violations_of_disabled_people_s_human_rights_over_welfare_reforms/

Race equality charity faces closure

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/race-equality-charity-faces-closure>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Questions

Prejudice towards People with Faith

Dave Thompson: To ask the Scottish Government whether it considers that enough is being done to tackle prejudice towards people with faith. (S4O-04529)

Reply from the Minister for Local Government and Community Empowerment (Marco Biagi): The Scottish Government is clear that there is no place in Scotland for any form of religious prejudice. Statistics that were published in June 2015 showed that the number of religiously aggravated crimes is at its lowest level since 2004-05, but we are not complacent. Even one incident is too many.

The First Minister is hosting an interfaith summit this month, which will raise the profile of interfaith activity and recognise the importance of dialogue and building relationships between communities. The Scottish Government has provided funding of more than £3.1 million to organisations working towards race and religious equality for 2015-16. That includes £145,000 to Interfaith Scotland, which works across Scotland to develop and support interfaith relations and assist faith communities in engaging with civic Scotland.

Dave Thompson: I am very pleased to hear that the interfaith summit is going to take place this month. That is a very positive development. Can the minister tell me whether the summit will deal with religious freedom in its broadest sense and whether he is supportive of my proposal for a cross-party group in the Parliament on religious freedom or faith?

Reply from Marco Biagi: The agenda for the interfaith summit has been set in partnership with the participants. Religious freedom is not on the agenda per se, but it is certainly implicit in the subject matter that the summit will be dealing with. The Presiding Officer will want me to be clear that cross-party groups are creatures of Parliament, not Government. However, ministers are always keen to work constructively with CPGs and we are always supportive of any efforts to highlight the important positive role that faith and belief can play in public life.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10057&i=92869#ScotParIOR>

New Publication

Infographic on Racially Aggravated Harassment Offences Collected by BTP

http://tellmamauk.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/BTP-Infographic_mini.jpeg

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination (continued) News

Humza Yousaf: We must all stand up to bigots

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/opinion/13621723.Humza_Yousaf_We_must_all_stand_up_to_bigots/

Call for National Advisory Group Members for Tell MAMA

<http://tellmamauk.org/call-for-national-advisory-group-members-for-tell-mama/>

'Satanic Islam' Belfast preacher says he will go to jail to protect free speech

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/sep/03/satanic-islam-belfast-preacher-james-mcconnell-says-will-go-jail-protect-free-speech>

Racist abuse on rise in football as Lord Ouseley hits out at David Cameron

<http://www.theguardian.com/football/2015/sep/03/racist-discrimination-on-rise-in-football-complaints-kick-it-out>

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Scottish Independence Referendum

Scottish Parliament Questions

Independence Referendum: Cost

Mark McDonald: To ask the Scottish Government what the cost was of the referendum on independence. (S4W-27304)

Reply from John Swinney: The cost of running the Scottish independence referendum which took place on 18 September 2014 was £15.8 million. A breakdown of this total cost is set out in the following table:

	Financial Memorandum (£,000)	Actual outturn (£,000)
Chief Counting Officer	330	510
Counting officers	8,317	10,888
Electoral registration officers	333	1,042
Royal Mail	2,383	1,568
Electoral Commission	2,350	1,826
Miscellaneous	–	7
Total	13,713	15,841

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-27304&ResultsPerPage=10>

Independence Referendum: Cost

Mark McDonald: To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide a breakdown of counting officers' costs for running the poll at the referendum on independence. (S4W-27305)

Reply from John Swinney: The agreed claims from counting officers, including the counting officers' services, incurred in running the poll in individual local government areas were as follows:

Local government area	Total agree claim (£)
Aberdeen City	495,002

Scottish Independence Referendum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

Aberdeenshire	572,679
Angus	245,781
Argyll and Bute	270,223
Clackmannanshire	113,699
Dumfries and Galloway	368,565
Dundee City	250,437
East Ayrshire	258,159
East Dunbartonshire	161,335
East Lothian	178,471
East Renfrewshire	180,660
Edinburgh (City of)	1,172,806
Eilean Siar	74,039
Falkirk	288,521
Fife	604,833
Glasgow City	1,072,921
Highland	507,755
Inverclyde	164,486
Midlothian	133,832
Moray	180,544
North Ayrshire	285,951
North Lanarkshire	789,143
Orkney Islands	52,606
Perth and Kinross	293,517
Renfrewshire	383,499
Scottish Borders	272,078
Shetland Islands	53,140
South Ayrshire	258,653
South Lanarkshire	592,938
Stirling	153,376
West Dunbartonshire	159,698
West Lothian	299,211
Total	10,888,558

The total revised maximum recoverable amount of £10,888,558 is £1,919,908 more than the total maximum recoverable amount for counting officers set out in the Scottish Independence Referendum (Chief Counting Officer and Counting Officer Charges and Expenses) Order 2014.

This additional expenditure was due to the very high turnout at the referendum. In

Scottish Independence Referendum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

anticipation of a high turnout, the chief counting officer provided guidance to counting officers on issues such as printing additional ballot papers, to ensure that replacement ballot papers were available to cover for any damaged or misprinted ballot papers, and limiting the number of electors attending individual polling stations, to avoid queues. In addition, additional staff were employed at count centres in order to ensure a prompt result. These, and other similar sensible contingency measures, added to counting officers' costs but ensured that the poll ran smoothly on the day.

In addition to the above, the total claim by the chief counting officer for her costs of administering the referendum, including the chief counting officer's services, was £509,880. This is £159,880 more than the amount set out in article 3 of the Scottish Independence Referendum (Chief Counting Officer and Counting Officer Charges and Expenses) Order 2014. This increase mainly reflects the chief counting officer's costs associated with the running of the international event to declare the referendum result which took place at Ingliston on the night of 18 to 19 September 2014.

Scottish Ministers will bring forward an order revising the chief counting officers' and individual counting officers' maximum recoverable amounts in line with the above figures in due course.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-27305&ResultsPerPage=10>

Press Release

Independence referendum costs published

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Independence-referendum-costs-published-1c9f.aspx>

News

Scottish independence referendum cost public £15.8m

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/scottish-independence-referendum-cost-public-15-8m-1-3878042>

Holding independence referendum cost £15.8 million — £2.1 million more than estimated

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/holding-independence-referendum-cost-15-8-million-2-1-million-more-than-estimated-1.898390>

Independence referendum costs revealed: Historic vote cost Scots taxpayers £15.8m

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/independence-referendum-costs-revealed-historic-6382742>

Scottish independence referendum cost £2m more than expected

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/sep/04/scottish-independence-referendum-cost-more-than-expected>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Parliamentary Motion

S4M-14142 Joan McAlpine: UN International Day of Charity—That the Parliament welcomes the UN International Day of Charity on 5 September 2015, which it considers is an important opportunity to pay tribute to the vital work done by charities and voluntary organisations in Scotland and across the world; further considers that, with the continuing impact of austerity at home and humanitarian crises across the world, the importance of charities in supporting vulnerable people has never been higher, and urges people in communities across Scotland to do what they can to support the work of local, national and international charities in supporting those in need.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14142&ResultsPerPage=10>

Press Releases

Programme For Government 2015/16

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/Speeches-Briefings/Programme-for-Government-2015-16-1c80.aspx>
<https://firstminister.gov.scot/programme-for-government-2015-16/>

A stronger Scotland

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/A-stronger-Scotland-1c7c.aspx>
<https://firstminister.gov.scot/nicola-sturgeon-a-stronger-scotland/>

Life in Scotland in 2014

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Life-in-Scotland-in-2014-1c57.aspx>

Justice Secretary Statement On Policing

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/Speeches-Briefings/Justice-Secretary-Statement-on-Policing-1c94.aspx>

Commitment to enhance policing in Scotland

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Commitment-to-enhance-policing-in-Scotland-1c97.aspx>

Andrew Flanagan appointed as Chair of the Scottish Police Authority

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Andrew-Flanagan-appointed-as-Chair-of-the-Scottish-Police-Authority-1c95.aspx>

Chief Constable resignation

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Chief-Constable-resignation-1c63.aspx>

New measures to support victims and witnesses

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/New-measures-to-support-victims-and-witnesses-1ca2.aspx>

New Publications

A Stronger Scotland: The Government's Programme for Scotland 2015-16

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00484439.pdf>

Scotland's People Annual Report: Results from 2014 Scottish Household Survey

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00484186.pdf>

Other Scottish Parliament and Government (continued) News

At-a-glance: Scottish legislative programme 2015-16

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-34120261>

Sturgeon sets out stall

http://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/13639613.Herald_View_Sturgeon_sets_out_stall/

Programme for Government: First Minister puts education at centre of plans

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/programme-for-government-first-minister-puts-education-at-centre-of-plans-1.897778>

Sturgeon sets out plan for future

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13638966.Sturgeon_sets_out_plan_for_future/

Plans for Scottish government budget delayed

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-34098769>

Former SNP leader Alex Salmond "prefers people of faith"

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/recent/former_snp_leader_a_lex_salmond_prefers_people_of_faith

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Other News

Promoting and protecting human rights in Scotland, Scottish Parliament Elections 2016

<http://scottishhumanrights.com/application/resources/documents/DesiredmanifestocommitmentsSept1.docx>

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

**** Community Justice Bill**

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

Justice Committee: Stage 1 evidence session

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10055&i=92841#ScotParIOR>

**** Criminal Justice Bill**

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

Proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/91824.aspx>

and

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/91870.aspx>

Education Bill

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

Bills in Progress Scottish Parliament (continued)

Human Trafficking and Exploitation Bill

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

Transplantation (Authorisation of Removal of Organs etc.) Bill

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

Bills in Progress UK Parliament

Child Victims of Human Trafficking (Central Government Responsibility) Bill

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

Illegal Immigrants (Criminal Sanctions) Bill

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

Scotland Bill

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

UK Borders Control Bill

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

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

****closes this week!**

Reforming support for failed asylum seekers and other illegal migrants (closing date 9 September 2015)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/451088/Reforming_support_for_failed_asylum_seekers_and_other_illegal_migrants_-_Consultation_Document.pdf

****closes this week!**

Immigration: skill shortages (closing date 10 September 2015)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/immigration-skill-shortages/>

Prescription and Title to Moveable Property (Scotland) Bill (closing date 23 September 2015)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00480843.pdf>

Review of Tier 2 [of the points-based immigration system] (closing date 25 September 2015)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/441429/Call_for_Evidence_Review_of_Tier_2.pdf

Testimonies on the impact that the EU has had on the lives of people in Scotland (closing date 30 September 2015)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/gettinginvolved/91225.aspx>

Consultations (continued)

EU Blue Card: recruitment of highly qualified third-country nationals (closing date extended to 30 September 2015)

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

Veterinary Surgeons: language control for EU migrants (closing date 30 September 2015)

https://consult.defra.gov.uk/animal-health-and-welfare/vet_language_controls

Consultation on the draft statutory multi-agency practice guidance on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in England and Wales (closing date 30 September 2015)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-the-draft-statutory-multi-agency-practice-guidance-on-female-genital-mutilation-fgm>

The Union and Devolution (closing date 2 October 2015)

<http://www.parliament.uk/documents/lords-committees/constitution/union-and-devolution/The%20Union%20and%20Devolution%20Call%20for%20Evidence.pdf>

****Countering Extremism** (closing date 8 Oct)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2015/150827-new-inquiry-countering-extremism/>

****Mediterranean migration inquiry** (closing date 21 October 2015)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/mediterranean-migration/>

Smart Borders Package (closing date 29 October 2015)

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-is-new/news/news/2015/20150729_01_en.htm

Hate Crime Reporting in Scotland (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/amina-hatecrime>

Experiences and opinions about having been a volunteer (no closing date given)

<http://survey.bupnet.de/index.php/survey/index/sid/738838/newtest/Y/lang/en>

Experience and practice about working with young volunteers (no closing date given)

<http://survey.bupnet.de/index.php/survey/index/sid/454824/newtest/Y/lang/en>

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

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

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>

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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Job Opportunities

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

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Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Fairer Scotland Engagement Fund

Deadline for applications: 12 October 2015

Voluntary Action Fund grants to help small voluntary organisations and community groups in Scotland with income under £25,000 to run an event or engagement activity to gather views on how we can create a Fairer Scotland. Grants of up to £300 (or exceptionally up to £500 for a larger event) are available to support an event or engagement activity with a group of five or more people to discuss how we can create a Scotland where people are healthier, happier and treated with respect, and where opportunities, wealth and power are spread more equally.

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/fairer-scotland-engagement-fund>

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Diversity Week Fife

7-13 September 2015

A week of events to celebrate the vibrancy and diversity of life in Fife. For information see

http://www.fifevoluntaryaction.org.uk/fife_centre_for_equalities.asp

**** this week!**

African Women Against FGM

12 September 2015 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 4.30)

KWISA seminar to discuss the reasons why FGM persists in spite of increased awareness of its harmful effects and existence of legal measures in many countries. For information see

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/african-women-against-fgm-sept-2015-tickets-18055096279>

**** next week!**

Citizenship and Identity in the UK 2015 and beyond

14 September 2015 in Glasgow (9.00 – 4.00)

BEMIS conference to provide an opportunity for civic society and political representatives to consider the implications of 2014/15/16, and how these years will help shape the UK and its diverse Communities, Governments, Parliaments, Assemblies and Institutions in the years to come. For information contact events@bemis.org.uk

**** next week!**

Parent Council Training: Equalities and Engagement

15 September 2015 in Edinburgh (12.30 – 2.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshop to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see

<http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/event/parent-council-training-equalities-and-engagement-2/> or contact Marion marion.fairweather@bemis.org.uk /

0141 548 8047

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** applications close next week!**

Action Learning for Community Organisations Supporting Ethnic Minority Parents with School Matters

Deadline for applications 15 September 2015

Experiences and challenges: 22 September 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.30)

The new Scottish school system: 6 October 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.30)

Parental involvement: 20 October 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.30)

Children's rights in Scotland: 3 November 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.30)

Gathered Together training for community organisation working with Ethnic Minority families to develop their skills and knowledge to better support families. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/pjnmfer> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk

Supporting Youth-Led Research: Training for Youth Workers

18 September 2015 in Edinburgh

23 September 2015 in Glasgow

30 September 2015 in Dundee

YouthLink Scotland training for youth workers who would like to know more about supporting young people to undertake research into issues that affect them and their communities. For information see <https://www.actiononsectarianism.info/supporting-youth-led-research-training-for-youth-workers-2> or contact Amy Goulding 0131 313 2488

**** Fairer Scotland**

29 September 2015 in Kilmarnock (5.30 – 9.00)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-kilmarnock-tickets-18167729167>

7 October 2015 in Inverness (1.30 – 5.00)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-inverness-tickets-18178512420>

14 October 2015 in Midlothian (5.30 – 9.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-midlothian-tickets-18178524456>

20 October 2015 in Dumfries (1.30 – 5.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-dumfries-tickets-18178531477>

29 October 2015 in Stornoway (1.30 – 5.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-stornoway-tickets-18178557555>

5 November 2015 in Dundee (5.30 – 9.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-dundee-tickets-18178566582>

10 November 2015 in Inverclyde (5.30 – 9.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-inverclyde-tickets-18178573603>

17 November 2015 in Glasgow (5.30 – 9.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-glasgow-tickets-18178575609>

Voluntary Action Fund events to hear, discuss, prioritise, and take action on ideas to create a Fairer Scotland, and make people's lives better. This is your chance to think about and prioritise ideas that will help make Scotland a fairer place to live and make a real impact on Scotland's future. For information see the relevant weblink above.

Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Primary School Information

30 September 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

1 October 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** Employment and Equality Rights**

5 October 2015 in Glasgow (10.00 – 3.00)

Scottish Employment Rights Network and Equality and Human Rights Commission Conference and Practical Workshops on Discrimination Claims to increase awareness of how best to protect employment and equality rights from first complaint, lodging an Employment Tribunal claim and preparing cases for tribunal. For information see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/15x_sern.pdf or contact Kyle Mulholland equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com / 0141 228 5925.

Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Secondary School Information

7 October 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

8 October 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Parental Involvement and Engagement

21 October 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

22 October 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Post 16 Education and Choices

28 October 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

29 October 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Mother tongue – at home and school

4 November 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

5 November 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

Organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day

6 November 2015 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust workshop for people interested in organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January 2016. For information contact 020 7785 7029 / enquiries@hmd.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/qhxseuu>

Organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day: young people

7 November 2015 in Glasgow (12.00 – 3.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust Youth Champions workshop for people aged 14 to 24 who are interested in organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January 2016. For information contact 020 7785 7029 / enquiries@hmd.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/pm3hq9b>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Children's Rights in Scotland

11 November 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

12 November 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

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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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