











Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

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

The UK Parliament is in recess until 12 October

Immigration and Asylum

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Migrant Workers: Bulgarians and Romanians

Lord Laird [HL5092]: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many applications for accession worker cards, registration certificates, sector-based schemes and seasonal agricultural workers schemes have been approved for (a) Bulgarians, and (b) Romanians, including family members, since those countries' accessions to the European Union.

Reply from Lord West of Spithead: Information relating to the number of accession worker cards issued to Romanian and Bulgarian nationals since their accession to the European Union is published in the Bulgarian and Romanian accession statistics, which are published quarterly and are available in the Libraries of the House. Sector-based scheme (SBS) and seasonal agricultural workers scheme (SAWS) details are also on the annex of this document. Registration certificates are not issued to Bulgarian and Romanian nationals. Information on the number of family members who have entered in the UK is not available centrally and could only be obtained at disproportionate costs.

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld/ldtoday/writtens/28092009.htm#hdg-MigrantWorkersBulgariansandRomanians

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Visas

Lord Dholakia [HL5181]: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will review Tier four of the Points Based System for visas in order to address the refusal rates for students from China, India and the United States.

Reply from Lord West of Spithead: It is vital that we strike the right balance between welcoming genuine international students to the UK and denying entry to bogus applicants who wish to abuse the system.

The UK Border Agency has been working closely with student representative bodies in China, India and the United States, as well as educational institutions in the UK, to ensure we achieve this.

We keep implementation of tier four under review and have made operational enhancements in response to feedback.

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld/ldtoday/writtens/28092009.htm#hdg-Visas

Press Releases

Two new policy announcements for Tier 4 of the points-based system

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2009/september/pbs-t4-extending-tying?area=allNews

Changes to the Immigration Rules

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2009/september/changes-to-the-immigration-rules?area=allNews

Changes to Tiers 1, 2 and 5 guidance notes and application forms

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2009/october/changes-tier-1-2-5-guide-forms?area=allNews

Sponsorship management system launches for Tier 4 sponsors in three days http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/t4-phase3-countdown?area=allNews

John Denham announces projects to protect migrants being exploited in the work place

http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1346642

Scottish Refugee Council and Poverty Alliance challenge Scots to live on a fiver a day to highlight 'unacceptable' cuts to asylum support

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/Asylum benefit cuts

Asylum systems in some countries ineffective, warns senior UN refugee official http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=32383&Cr=asylum&Cr1=

EU's biometric database continues to ensure effective management of the Common European Asylum System

http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/09/1357&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

Immigration and Asylum (continued) New publications

Tier 4 questions and answers for students

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/studying/t4-ganda-students

Tier 4 questions and answers for sponsors

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/employersandsponsors/pointsbasedsystem/t4-qanda-sponsors

News

Family's hope of return to Scotland now dashed

http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2009/09/28/newsstory13858108t0.asp

Judges free 82 held at Calais camp

http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Judges-free-82-held-at.5685430.jp

First Minister says UK immigrations laws and "crazy" Westminster policies do not reflect Scotland's values

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/politics/first-minister-says-uk-immigrations-laws-and-crazy-westminster-policies-do-not-reflect-scotland-s-values-1.923126

Alex Salmond: Britain's immigration rules do not reflect 'values of Scotland' http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics-news/2009/09/30/alex-salmond-britain-s-immigration-rules-do-not-reflect-values-of-scotland-86908-21712352/

Visa snarl-up leaves thousands of Pakistani students barred from UK http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/oct/04/visa-pakistan-uk-students-university

Benefits for asylum seekers cut to £5 a day as government abolish higher rate http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2009/oct/04/asylum-seeker-benefits-cut-refugees

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Race Relations

Press Releases

DFID launches community link survey

http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/News-Stories/2009/DFID-launches-community-link-survey/

Eid on the Square

http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/News-Stories/2009/Eid-on-the-Square/

PM supports Black History Month

http://www.number10.gov.uk/Page20821

Race Relations (continued) New publications

2007-08 Citizenship Survey: Empowered Communities Topic Report http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/1345295.pdf

Belonging: Message to Policy Makers

http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/publications/pdfs/BelongingPolicyReport-2009.pdf

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Equality

New publication

Department for Communities and Local Government: Addendum to the Race Equality Scheme 2005-2008

http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/corporate/pdf/1349983.pdf

News

Black power list published

http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/black-power-list-published-1794598.html

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Motions

S3M-04963 Bob Doris (Glasgow) (Scottish National Party): United Against Racism— That the Parliament expresses deep concern at the activities of the group calling itself the English Defence League, which was recently involved in a demonstration outside the Harrow Central Mosque in London; notes the stated intention of this group to demonstrate in Glasgow in November; applauds the efforts of Manchester City Council in its attempts to halt the group from repeating such scenes in Manchester and offers to support any similar action by Glasgow City Council, Strathclyde Police and local community groups in minimising the chances of such an unedifying disturbance going ahead in Glasgow; affirms that protesters of all opposing persuasions are encouraged to make their voices heard in Scotland's democracy, and distinguishes clearly between legitimate causes and trouble-making gangs whose sole pursuit is to intimidate and cause hurt.

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/business/motions/Default.aspx?motionid=17467

Press Release

Ed Balls announces a review into current provisions against promoting racism in schools (England and Wales only)

http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn id=2009 0172

Racism and Religious Hatred (continued) News

Straw joins debate alongside BNP

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk politics/8277399.stm

Anger as Question Time plans BNP debate

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/anger-as-question-time-plans-bnp-debate-1.922607

Hunt for poison-pen writer behind racist hate-mail campaign

http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Hunt-for-poisonpen-writer-behind.5685648.jp

Detectives hunt hate-mail letter writer

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime-courts/detectives-hunt-hate-mail-letter-writer-1.922906

Officer wins turban row tribunal

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/manchester/8285952.stm

£10,000 for PC ordered to remove turban

http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/pound10000-for-pc-ordered-to-remove-turban-1796652.html

Sectarian parades set to be reduced in number

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/sectarian-parades-set-to-be-reduced-in-number-1.923504

Bid to curb costly marches

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2531478.0.bid_to_curb_costly_marches.php

Strictly star sorry for race slur

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8289641.stm

Racist chants warning for ICT fans

http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/1423887

Red Clydesider accused of racism

http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/latestnews/Red-Clydesider-accused-of-racism.5701794.jp

Hero Shinwell 'incited racist Clydeside mob'

http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/latestnews/Hero-Shinwell--39incited-racist.5701788.jp

Teaching ban for BNP members to be examined

http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/teaching-ban-for-bnp-members-to-be-examined-1795734.html

Labour fight back against British National Party 'poison'

http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/labour-fight-back-against-british-national-party-poison-1795454.html

Racism and Religious Hatred News (continued)

'Exemplary' teacher faces ban after carrying pupil from class for racist joke http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/6259187/Exemplary-teacher-faces-ban-after-carrying-pupil-from-class-for-racist-joke.html

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Other Holyrood

New publication

Statistical Bulletin Crime and Justice Series: Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2008-09 http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/286378/0087196.pdf

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New Publication

Human Rights Education in the School Systems of Europe, Central Asia and North America: A Compendium of Good Practice

http://www.osce.org/publications/odihr/2009/10/40041_1361_en.pdf

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Other News

Marches 'straining' police budget

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow and west/8278361.stm

Fife has most traveller households

http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2009/10/03/newsstory13887418t0.asp

Muslim women boxers to wear hijab at 2012 Olympics

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/politics/article6860256.ece

Head of St Paul's, Dr Martin Stephen, attacks 'divisive' faith schools

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/faith/article6856640.ece

Muslim groups hit out over 'funding with security strings attached'

http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2009/oct/04/muslim-groups-community-funding-security

A new practical guide to human rights education

http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/HRsEducationBook.aspx

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Bills in Progress ** New or updated this week

Holyrood

**Arbitration Bill

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

proposed amendments

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-09/bb-09-29g.htm

Criminal Justice and Licensing Bill

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

** Public Services Reform Bill

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

Education, Lifelong Learning and Culture Committee: Stage 1 evidence from the Minister for Culture, External Affairs and the Constitution, Creative Scotland, and various Scottish Government departments

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/ellc/or-09/ed09-2502.htm#Col2715

Health and Sport Committee: Stage 1 evidence from the Minister for Public Health and Sport and various Scottish government departments

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/hs/or-09/he09-2402.htm#Col2202

Finance Committee: Stage 1 evidence from Professor Lorne Crerar, the Complaints System Action Group, COSLA, the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman, SCVO, and Consumer Focus Scotland

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/finance/or-09/fi09-2202.htm#Col1542

Bills in Progress Westminster

Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill

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

Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill

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

Equality Bill

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

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Consultations (closing date)

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** new or updated this week

Scottish Refugee Council Strategic Plan (online survey, no closing date given) https://eazymultimedia.net/EazySurvey/Questionaire/EazyQuestionaire3_home.aspx?proje5EE31727-0F6C-4EDD-9E7E-E7A75DDCFF9A

Runnymede Trust: Online Survey on Financial Inclusion and Ethnicity

(online survey, no closing date given)

http://www.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?CEEA869BC7889C9C

Consultations (continued)

Reform of the House of Commons (12 October 2009)

http://news.parliament.uk/2009/09/committee-to-look-at-reform-of-the-commons/

Earning the right to stay: A new points test for citizenship (26 October)

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/221878/earning-the-right-to-stay/earning-the-right-to-stay/earned-citizenship-consultation?view=Binary

Charging for immigration and visa applications (1 December 2009)

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/221878/charging09/

A Road Less Travelled - A Draft Gypsy Traveller Strategy (Welsh Assembly Government, 5 January 2010)

http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/housingcommunity/gypsytravellers/?lang=en

** Consultation on Public Sector Equality Duty Specific Duties (15 January 2010) http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/286361/0087195.pdf

UK Border Agency Equality Scheme (15 January 2010)

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/Stakeholderquestionnaire.pdf

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Job Opportunities

Click here to find out about job opportunities advertised in MEMO+ Recruitment

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Funding Opportunities

European integration fund call for proposals 2009

Closing date for applications: 13 November 2009

The European Integration Fund is aimed at newly-arrived migrants (that is migrants who have arrived within the last five years) who are not asylum seekers, refugees, European Union (EU) or European Economic Area (EEA) nationals (otherwise known as third country nationals) and who have not come to the United Kingdom in a short-term visa category such as students. There are four categories for proposals:

- Provision of English for Speakers of other Languages
- Civic orientation, development of a volunteering program
- Policy development in the area of building intercultural competence
- Research project

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/eif-call-for-proposals-2009?area=allNews

Funding Opportunities (continued)

BT Community Connections

Closing date for postal applications: 5 January 2010 Closing date for online applications: 7 January 2010

Award scheme which enables community and charitable organisations to get online and make use of information and communications technology.

http://www.btcommunityconnections.com/

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

** this week!

Human Rights and Racial Discrimination: A way forward in Scotland

5 October 2009 in Glasgow (12.30 – 4.30)

13 October 2009 in Inverness (12.30 – 4.30)

Glasgow Anti-Racist Alliance seminars to discuss and reflect on recent human rights developments and to seize opportunities to influence the human rights agenda at the UN on race discrimination. For information contact Lyndsay Theobald 0141 418 6530 / lyndsay@gara.org.uk

** this week!

Prof James Hathaway: The Law of Refugee Status

5 October 2009 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.30)

A one day seminar on the law of refugee status from the world expert on the subject, Professor Hathaway of the University of Melbourne. For information contact Sheila Coutts at sheila.coutts@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799 or see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/noticeboard/Professor Hathaway

** this week!

Introduction to Working with Asylum Seekers & Refugees

8 October 2009 in Glasgow

8 December 2009 in Glasgow

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

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

FARE Action Week against Racism and Discrimination in European Football 15-27 October 2009

For the 10th successive season the Football Against Racism in Europe (FARE) network is coordinating action in and around football stadiums across Europe, and large sections of the European football family in 40 countries will stand united against racism and discrimination. For information see

http://www.farenet.org/default.asp?intPageID=7&intArticleID=1970

Islam and Violence Against Women

19 October in Edinburgh (10.00 – 4.00)

Amina seminar to outline where Islam as a faith stands on the issue of violence against women and highlight some of the misconceptions surrounding issues including domestic abuse, rape, forced marriage, FGM and honour killing. For information contact Tabassum Sarfraz 0141 585 8026 / info@mwrc.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

** Are you looking for new Board members?

21 October 2009 in Edinburgh.

22 October 2009 in Glasgow

26 October 2009 in Dundee

28 October 2009 in Aberdeen

29 October 2009 in Inverness

The SCVO Business on Board programme is a free brokerage service that can put organisations in touch with experienced business people interested in joining their Board. For more information contact Shamin Akhtar businessonboard@scvo.org.uk / 0131 474 6154

Article 8 case law and practice

22 October 2009 in Glasgow (2.00 – 5.15)

ILPA Seminar to update practitioners' working knowledge on Article 8 since the four landmark cases from the House of Lords now over 12 months ago, and offer practical advice on the approach in individual appeals. For information see

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/noticeboard/IPLA Seminar Sep

Asylum in Scotland: The Year Ahead

23 October 2009 in Glasgow (9.00 – 4.40)

Scottish Refugee Council conference to consider developments in the asylum and immigration system and the implications of the General Election. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/Conference09 or contact Graeme Corbett graeme.corbett@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/ / 0141 223 7930

Scottish Third Sector Research Conference

26 October 2009 in Edinburgh (9.45 – 5.00)

Conference organised by SCVO in conjunction with the Centre for Public Services Research, Edinburgh University Business School to connect researchers, policy-makers and practitioners to ensure Scotland's Voluntary Sector has the latest knowledge and research at its fingertips. For information contact Ian Lees ian.lees@scvo.org.uk

To find out how to submit a paper for the conference see

http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Information/ViewInformation.aspx?al=t&page=&all=&from=DSR&Info=1946&TCID=30&PageName=Impact

** Religion in Scottish Schools

28 October 2009 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.00)

Govan Law Centre seminar to outline the law relating to religion in Scottish schools, discuss how laws banning discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief affect schools in Scotland, and debate the issue of denominational education and faith schools. For information contact see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/09x govan law centre.pdf

Equalities: from vertical to horizontal

29 October 2009 in Glasgow (9.45 – 3.30)

Voluntary Action Fund workshop for organisations striving to work across equality strands. For information contact Rhona Morris rhona.morris@voluntaryactionfund.org.uk / 01383 620780.

Judge a Book by its Cover? Not me!

4 November 2009 in Inverness (10.00 – 12.00)

11 March 2010 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 12.00)

SCVO seminar to discover more about the process of stereotyping, and how misinformed judgements may lead to prejudice and discrimination. For information contact Jane Baillie jane.baillie@scvo.org.uk / 0131 474 8019

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

An Introduction to the Needs and Experiences of Refugee Women

12 November 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for people working with asylum seekers and refugees who need a comprehensive understanding of the core issues affecting women seeking sanctuary in Scotland. For information contact 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Participation and Influence with New Communities

18 November 2009 in Glasgow

Voluntary Action Fund workshop for organisations working with refugees, asylum seekers and/or migrant communities, and those who have an interest in community participation and partnerships. The workshop will explore what we know of the barriers to involvement in community planning and civic participation by people in Scotland's new communities. For information contact Rhona Morris 01383 620780 / rhona.morris@voluntaryactionfund.org.uk

The Next 20 Years: The Challenge for Social Welfare, Debt, Housing and Asylum Law 18 November 2009 in Glasgow (11.30 – 5.30)

Legal Services Agency conference including presentations on mental health, landlord and tenant, mortgage arrears, asylum and trafficking, debt, health and safety at work, poverty, climate change, human rights and management issues. For information see http://www.lsa.org.uk/thenext20yearsthechallenge.aspx

Scottish Charity Accounts and Reporting to OSCR

30 November 2009 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 4.30)

SCVO seminar to look at what OSCR expects from charities in terms of compliance. For information contact Jane Baillie 0131 474 8019 / jane.baillie@scvo.org.uk

Introduction to Professional Practice in Race Equality

Course starting 3 February 2010 in Paisley (Wed evenings 6.15 – 9.00pm)

Course jointly organised by the University of the West of Scotland, and West of Scotland Race Equality Council to develop a critical understanding of the concepts 'race', racism and ethnicity, develop a working knowledge of the content and impact of the 1976 Race Relations Act and Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000, identify key elements of best practice towards race equality in employment and service delivery, and analyse and evaluate current progress and challenges in managing change towards race equality in his/her own workplace. For information see

http://www.wsrec.co.uk/newsite/images/PaisleyUni/new%20ippire%20leaflet%20print%2020 09-10.pdf or contact Duncan Sim <u>duncan.sim@uws.ac.uk</u>, or WSREC 0141 337 6626

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Useful Links

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

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

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

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

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

Useful Links (continued)

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

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

Scottish Refugee Council www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

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

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

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

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

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

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

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

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

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

BBC Parliament online

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

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

BEMIS is the Scottish national Ethnic Minorities led umbrella body, supporting the development of the Ethnic Minority Third Sector and communities. BEMIS aims: To empower and build the capacity of minority formal and informal community organisations; As a strategic partner with Government, to be proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland; and To help develop and progress multicultural Scotland, active citizenship, democracy, and Human Rights Education at the Scottish, UK and European levels. http://www.bemis.org.uk/index.html



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

http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/

