

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with **BEMIS**.*

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.

Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Race Relations](#)

[Racism and Religious Hatred](#)

[Other Holyrood](#)

[Other Westminster](#)

[New Publications](#)

[Other News](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

[Funding Opportunities](#)

[Events/Conferences/Training](#)

[Useful Links](#)

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 Scottish Parliament returns from recess this week, and the UK Parliament will return on 6 October.

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

John Park (S3M-2414): Migrant Workers In Scotland—That the Parliament notes with concern recent newspaper reports highlighting the plight of many migrant workers involved in Scotland's soft fruit industry; further notes a report by Amnesty International suggesting evidence of human trafficking into Scotland for domestic and agricultural labour; understands that many farmers in the fruit and vegetable sectors are reliant on migrant labour but expresses concern that many migrant workers have to endure squalid living and working conditions; recognises that Scottish produce can be among the best in the world but worries that this reputation for excellence could be tainted by the exploitative practices of a minority of employers; welcomes investigations by the Gangmasters Licensing Authority and other bodies into rogue employers; believes that there should be greater public emphasis placed by representative bodies on the high employment standards the majority of fruit and vegetable producers adhere to and hopes

Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Motion (continued)

that this will restore public confidence in the industry; applauds the work undertaken by trade unions to promote migrant workers' rights, and hopes that the industry, supermarkets and others involved in the sector will work more closely with trade unions to protect vulnerable workers.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-08/bb-08-25f.htm>

Press Releases

Identity cards for foreign nationals

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/identitycardsforforeignnationals>

European fund for the integration of third country nationals (EIF) 2007

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/europeanfundthirdcountrynational>

Migration from Eastern Europe falls to new low

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/migrationfromeasterneuropefalls>

Hi-tech electronic borders strengthen Britain's security

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/hitechelectricborders>

New publications

From Principles to Practive: Migration Policy Group Activities Report 2007

http://www.migpolgroup.com/multiattachments/4128/DocumentName/MPG_AR2008-finalWEB.pdf

Reinforcing the Surveillance of EU Borders The Future Development of FRONTEX and EUROSUR

http://shop.ceps.be/downfree.php?item_id=1693

Asylum in Britain: A question of conscience

http://www.ctbi.org.uk/pdf_view.php?id=158

Asylum Statistics United Kingdom 2007

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/hosb1108.pdf>

Control Of Immigration: Quarterly Statistical Summary, United Kingdom

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/coiq208.pdf>

Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom 2007

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/hosb1008.pdf>

Immigration and Asylum

New publications (continued)

EU migration policy: is it fair?

http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/pdf/ENARqy_08_2008_version_EN_final.pdf

Bad for the neighbourhood?

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/newsandcomment/speakerscorner/Pages/Badfortheneighbourhood.aspx#comments>

Soldiers, Migrants and Citizens: the Nepalese in Britain

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/publications/pdfs/TheNepaleseInBritain-2008.pdf>

News

Move to halt migrant worker exploitation

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Move-to-halt-migrant-worker.4406428.jp>

Migrant children 'held too long'

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7575483.stm>

Immigrant removal centre criticised

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latest-national-news/Immigrant-removal-centre-criticised.4417460.jp>

Call for steps to protect migrants' living conditions

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2008/08/22/newsstory11848637t0.asp>

Eastern European migrant worker numbers hit four-year low

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Eastern-European-migrant-worker-numbers.4417268.jp>

Number of migrants coming to Britain falls

http://www.theherald.co.uk/politics/news/display.var.2430972.0.Number_of_migrants_coming_to_Britain_falls.php

Homesick for Poland: Migrants' dreams in tatters

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/homesick-for-poland-migrants-dreams-in-tatters-907219.html>

Local skills urged as migrants quit

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2008/08/26/newsstory11868051t0.asp>

A place to make a living – but not to live

http://www.theherald.co.uk/features/otherfeatures/display.var.2432797.0.A_place_to_make_a_living_but_not_to_live.php

Migrants 'should be retained'

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latest-national-news/Migrants-39should-be-retained39.4424914.jp>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Asylum-seeker's deportation defiance

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/asylumseekers-deportation-defiance-907218.html>

City asylum seeker film scoops global award

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latestnews/City-asylum-seeker-film-scoops.4443003.jp>

Revealed: the 4000 migrant children in our schools who can't speak English

http://www.sundayherald.com/news/heraldnews/display.var.2436877.0.revealed_the_4000_migrant_children_in_our_schools_who_cant_speak_english.php

Sham marriages shame our judges

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/opinion/main.jhtml?xml=/opinion/2008/08/31/do3107.xml>

Get yourself a proper job

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2008/aug/31/careerseducation.immigrationandpublicservices>

The time has come to say Britain is full

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2008/aug/31/immigration.population>

Centre 'unacceptable' for women

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/sussex/7583666.stm>

UK employers should make the most of diversity dividend, says ippr

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/pressreleases/?id=3234>

Population: size isn't everything

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/articles/?id=3239>

[TOP](#)

Race Relations

Press Release

£4.5 million for positive youth activities and to improve community relations

http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2008_0176

News

7/7 survivor walks and talks for hope

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7566789.stm>

Race Relations

News (continued)

Survivor who lost legs in bombing walks 250 miles for unity

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2427394.0.Survivor_who_lost_legs_in_bombing_walks_250_miles_for_unity.php

Changing attitudes: Scotland's new multicultural mindset

http://www.theherald.co.uk/features/otherfeatures/display.var.2428105.0.Changing_attitudes_Scotlands_new_multicultural_mindset.php

Angus to celebrate its cultural diversity in grand style

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/804130>

Call for study of Islam and Moslems

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/805976>

Biggest Mela in city history prepares for grand finale

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latestnews/Biggest-Mela-in-city-history.4434643.jp>

Preachers of separatism at work inside Britain's mosques

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/2653266/Preachers-of-separatism-at-work-inside-Britains-mosques.html>

[TOP](#)

Racism and Religious Hatred

New publication

Antisemitic Discourse in Britain in 2007

http://www.thecst.org.uk/docs/Antisemitic%20Discourse%20Report%202007_web.pdf

News

Pope urges fight against racism

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/7567175.stm>

Tarique Ghaffur in race bias case against Sir Ian Blair

<http://business.timesonline.co.uk/tol/business/law/article4553197.ece>

Chief reveals race case against Met

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latest-national-news/Chief-reveals-race-case-against.4434073.jp>

Race row police told to 'shut up'

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/london/7586453.stm>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

I am victim of race bias, says Scotland Yard's No 3

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/i-am-victim--of.4439168.jp>

Vexatious cases

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/aug/18/equality.law?gusrc=rss&feed=society>

Racism concerns over legal watchdog

<http://www.thisislondon.co.uk/standard/article-23532346-details/Racism+concerns+over+legal+watchdog/article.do>

As racism fades into my memory, it begins yet again for others

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/aug/24/race>

Force denies discrimination claims

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latest-national-news/Force-denies-discrimination-claims.4438117.jp>

Ex-mayor rejects Met race claim

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/london/7589568.stm>

Met race-row officer 'fears for his safety'

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article4641293.ece>

Sir Ian of the Yard gets mugged by his PC brigade

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/columnists/rod_liddle/article4641038.ece

Met police 'bombard top officer with death threats'

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2008/aug/31/police.race>

Complaints from black and ethnic staff pose question for council

http://www.theherald.co.uk/politics/news/display.var.2432943.0.Complaints_from_black_and_ethnic_staff_pose_question_for_council.php

Police probe 'racist killing'

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latest-national-news/Police-probe-39racist-killing39.4424399.jp>

Arab warning after 'racist death'

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/sussex/7586574.stm>

[TOP](#)

Other Holyrood

Parliamentary Motion

Bashir Ahmad (S3M-2417):Plight of the Roma Community—That the Parliament expresses its concern at the issues facing the Roma people in Scotland; welcomes the publication of Oxfam's recent *Report on the Situation of the Roma Community in Govanhill, Glasgow*; deplores the reality that many Roma people live in poverty and poor housing; finds it further deplorable that many are open to exploitation from gangmasters; recognises the problems in current legislation caused by the "no recourse to public funds" principle; asks the various stakeholders to consider the recommendations of the report, and calls on all levels of government in Holyrood, London and Brussels, as well as Scotland's local authorities, to improve support for the Roma community.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-08/bb-08-25f.htm>

News

Scott elected new Lib Dem leader

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/7581344.stm>

LibDems' new chief to put party 'on the road'

http://www.theherald.co.uk/politics/news/display.var.2433665.0.LibDems_new_chief_to_put_party_on_the_road.php

[TOP](#)

Other Westminster

Press Release

Remembering the slave trade, its abolition and its legacy

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/941359>

[TOP](#)

New Publications

Electoral administration in Scotland

http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/62184/EA-Report-Scotland-2008-08-20-CYMK-Embargoed-Final-web.pdf

Electoral administration in the United Kingdom

http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/62185/EA-report-UK-2008-08-20-CYMK-Embargoed-final-web.pdf

New Publications (continued)

Population by Country of Birth and Nationality, 2004-2007

<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/publications-and-data/population-estimates/population-by-country-of-birth-and-nationality-2004-2007.html>

[TOP](#)

Other News

No arrests as human trafficking rates soar in Scotland

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2428228.0.No_arrests_as_human_trafficking_rates_soar_in_Scotland.php

Human trafficking

http://www.theherald.co.uk/features/editorial/display.var.2428153.0.Human_trafficking.php

Firebomb attack on mosque

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latestnews/Firebomb-attack-on-mosque.4403726.jp>

Black youths 'being left to die'

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7580207.stm>

Politicians 'are leaving black youths to die', says adviser

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latestnews/Politicians-39are-leaving-black-youths.4423241.jp>

All pupils to learn about slavery

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/7582004.stm>

UK election laws 'under strain'

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/7582671.stm

Call to appoint elections supremo

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/7582313.stm>

Faith schools work. Until you take the faith away

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/melanie-mcdonagh-faith-schools-work-until-you-take-the-faith-away-913887.html>

Translating feminism into Islam

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/aug/28/islam.gender?gusrc=rss&feed=worldnews>

[TOP](#)

Bills in Progress

** New or updated this week

Holyrood

Health Boards (Membership and Elections) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/13-HealthBoards/index.htm>

Judiciary and Courts Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/06-JudiciaryCourts/index.htm>

Offences (Aggravation by Prejudice) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/09-AggPrej/index.htm>

Sexual Offences Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/11-sexualOffences/index.htm>

Bills in Progress

Westminster

Counter-Terrorism Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2007-08/counterterrorism.html>

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2007-08/humanfertilisationandembryology.html>

[TOP](#)

Consultations (closing date)

** New or updated this week

** *closes this week!*

UK Border Agency international group customer survey (5 September 2008)

<http://www.ukvisas.gov.uk/en/aboutus/customersurvey>

The Duty to Promote Community Cohesion in Schools Survey 2008 (short online questionnaire – no closing date specified)

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=DuLrl_2bXuA9e2GClqeKbcwA_3d_3d

Inquiry into the Scottish Parliament public petitions process (26 September 2008)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/petitions/inquiries/petitionsProcess/Inquiryintothepublicpetitionsprocess.htm>

Election Day: Weekend Voting (26 September 2008)

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/docs/cp1308.pdf>

Forced Marriage Statutory Guidance (15 October 2008)

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/resources/en/pdf/forcedmarriage-consultation>

Consultations (continued)

**** Immigration appeals: Fair decisions, faster justice** (16 October 2008)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/immigrationappeals/immigrationappealsconsultation?view=Binary>

Strengthening the Common Travel Area (16 October 2008)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/strengtheningthecommontravelarea/travelareaconsultation?view=Binary>

No one written off: reforming welfare to reward responsibility (22 October 2008)

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/welfarereform/noonewrittenoff/noonewrittenoff-complete.pdf>

Religious and Moral Education (November 2008)

http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/Images/religious_and_moral_education_outcomes_codes_tcm4-482454.pdf

Online questionnaire

<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/curriculumforexcellence/linesurveys/religiousandmoraleducation.asp>

Religious Education in Roman Catholic Schools (November 2008)

http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/Images/religious_education_roman_catholic_outcomes_codes_tcm4-486155.pdf

Online questionnaire

<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/curriculumforexcellence/linesurveys/religiouseducationinroman Catholicschools.asp>

[TOP](#)

Job Opportunities

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

[TOP](#)

Funding Opportunities

**** Community Chest**

Community Chest is a small grant programme providing grants of up to £1,000 designed to help small community groups in Scotland fund their activities. This could include making a contribution towards the running costs of the group, holding an event or helping to buy an essential piece of equipment. Applications can be made throughout the year, and will be assessed within 4-6 weeks. For information see

http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/assets/Community_Chest_Application_Pack_PDF.pdf

Funding Opportunities (continued)

Volunteering Scotland Grant Scheme

Deadline for applications: 30 September 2008

The Volunteering Scotland Grant Scheme can provide grants for up to three years for projects that attract harder to reach volunteers to enable organisations to develop and sustain high quality volunteering opportunities for people who need more support to get involved, and enrich their services with an extra resource of volunteers. Substantial grants for one or two years are available, as well as one-off small grants of £5,000 to smaller organisations. For information and application form see

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/grant-schemes/vsgs>

[TOP](#)

Events/Conferences/Training

** New or updated this week

**** applications close this week!**

InterAction Community Development Project

November 2008 – April 2009 (four residential modules, each three days long, including an International Networking Event in Egypt)

The deadline for applications is 5 September 2008

British Council Scotland are looking for 25 people based in Scotland who have a passion for community development to take part in InterAction; a transformational leadership programme for participants from Scotland, Jordan and Egypt. The InterAction programme focuses on community development - particularly in relation to youth, social inclusion and positive social change. One of the strengths of InterAction is that participants come from diverse backgrounds, both culturally and professionally. We aspire to attract applications from many sectors such as education, the voluntary sector and local government. For information see <http://www.britishcouncil.org/scotland-enevs-interaction-august-2008>

**** this week!**

Attitudes to Learning within the BME Communities

9 September 2008 in Glasgow (10.00 – 3.30)

Conference and launch of new research organised by BEMIS and Learn Direct. For information contact Tanveer Parnez 0141 548 8047 / tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk or Pat Crook 0141 285 6047 / patriciac@learndirectscotland.org.uk

OSCR Meet the Regulator Roadshow

[23 September 2008 in Edinburgh](#) (9.15 – 1.30)

[1 October 2008 in Edinburgh](#) (9.15 – 2.00)

[2 October 2008 in Kelso](#) (9.15 – 1.30)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training events aimed at charity trustees and administrators of smaller charities with an income less than £100,000. For information contact the OSCR communications@oscr.org.uk or follow above weblinks.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Sharing Experience – Sharing Concern

2 October 2008 in Perth (10.00 – 3.00)

National Commission for Pastoral and Social Care conference for faith communities on the theme of raising awareness on domestic abuse. For information contact 0141 847 6137 / nacosoca.admin@btconnect.com or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/08vii_national_commission.doc

Volunteer Recruitment Fair

2 October 2008 in Edinburgh (11.00 – 7.00)

Recruitment and networking event organised by volunteer Centre Edinburgh to promote volunteering. For more information, or to book a stall contact Ellis Ciruello ellis.ciruello@volunteeredinburgh.org.uk or see <http://www.volunteeredinburgh.org.uk/news/pressreleases/BookingForm2008comp.doc>

**** Migrant Rights and Information Day**

3 October in Edinburgh (10.00 – 6.00)

Positive Action in Housing information day to provide an opportunity for new migrants in Edinburgh to meet representatives from a range of different organisations and get information and advice on their employment rights, housing rights and options, welfare benefits entitlements, healthcare rights, education rights and on a wide range of other topics. For information contact Seonad Forbes 0141 353 2220 or see <http://www.paih.org/NMAPFILES/Edinburghmigrantinfoeventagencyinvitation.pdf>

Scottish Churches and Contemporary Migration

8 October 2008 in Edinburgh (9.30-4.15)

Conference organised by ACTS and the Scottish Churches to explore issues around migration, and to identify key themes and challenges to which the Churches in Scotland can make a positive contribution. For information contact Nelu Balaj 01259 216980 / ecumenical@acts-scotland.org or see <http://www.acts-scotland.org/events/2008events/migrationconferece.shtml>

**** Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator Annual Conference**

3 November 2008 in Carnoustie (9.15 – 2.30)

OSCR will report on its work over the past 12 months and its strategic and operational priorities for 2009. For information see <http://www.oscr.org.uk/NewsItem.aspx?ID=f0d64243-9ef7-4354-a89a-4e756d2680c2>

Leadership Development Day

12 November 2008 in Glasgow

Radar Disability Network training day designed to help disabled people and those with long-term health conditions realise their leadership potential and thus increase the number of disabled people in positions of leadership and influence around the UK. For information contact Judith Simpson Judith.Simpson@radar.org.uk

[TOP](#)

Useful Links

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

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

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

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

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

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

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

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

Equality and Human Rights Commission

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/Pages/default.aspx>

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

[TOP](#)



The **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** 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. <http://www.scojec.org/>



BEMIS is the umbrella body for ethnic minority organisations in Scotland. It aims to strengthen the capacity of the ethnic minority voluntary sector; raise the profile and coordinate the voice of this sector; and take a lead on policy issues to ensure that issues of concern are raised with government and other relevant bodies.

<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/>