

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

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S3M-04332 Bill Butler (Glasgow Anniesland) (Scottish Labour): **Refugee Week**— That the Parliament notes that 15 to 21 June is Refugee Week 2009; congratulates the Scottish Refugee Council, which has organised this important week of events, and the many communities and organisations that have worked tirelessly to deliver over 100 events across Scotland to mark the valuable contribution that asylum seekers and refugees make; deplores the human rights abuses around the world that compel people to seek sanctuary; recognises that it is our humanitarian duty to grant asylum to those fleeing persecution and that Scotland should continue to be a haven for people seeking protection; condemns those who would poison our democracy by spreading hatred, and affirms the role of the Parliament in making Scotland a place of safety where people can rebuild their lives.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/business/motions/default.aspx>

Immigration and Asylum (continued) Westminster Debate

Oakington Immigration Removal Centre

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090608/debtext/90608-0021.htm#0906093000002>

Westminster Parliamentary Question

Immigration Controls

Damian Green: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what discussions he has had with the United Nations on its new humanitarian centre at Calais; and if he will make a statement. [278548]

Reply from Phil Woolas: The Government maintain regular contact with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) in the area of immigration.

UNHCR intends to deploy a staff member to the Calais area to support local authorities and partners in the provision of accurate support and information for migrants in the area. The Government are not aware of a new humanitarian centre being provided by the UNHCR, and would remain firmly opposed to any kind of permanent accommodation centre that would attract illegal immigrants and the traffickers who prey on them.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090611/text/90611w0003.htm#09061130000014>

New publications

Migration and Rural Economies: Assessing and addressing risks

http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=/ecomm/files/migration_and_rural_economies.pdf&a=skip

Development on the Move: Measuring and Optimising Migration's Economic and Social Impacts

http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=/ecomm/files/dotm_jamaica.pdf&a=skip

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Undocumented Migrants

http://www.eph.org/IMG/pdf/Annex_19_SRH_EN-HERA_Report_1.pdf

Undocumented and Seriously Ill: Residence Permits for Medical Reasons in Europe

<http://www.picum.org/data/Undocumented%20and%20Seriously%20Ill%20Report%20Picum.pdf>

News

English not first language for one in eight Glasgow pupils

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2512964.0.English_not_first_language_for_one_in_eight_Glasgow_pupils.php

Asylum seeker setback 'disappointing'

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2009/06/09/newsstory13269905t0.asp>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Labouring the immigration issue

http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/thereporters/douglasfraser/2009/06/labouring_the_immigration_issue.html

Foreign doctors told: You can stay in Britain after all

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1192881/Foreign-doctors-told-You-stay-Britain.html>

Dying of cancer – but Home Office expels her parents

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/dying-of-cancer-ndash-but-home-office-expels-her-parents-1702149.html>

British students pushed out of universities by EU applicants

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/5522070/British-students-pushed-out-of-universities-by-EU-applicants.html>

Councils spend £50m a year translating documents no-one reads

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstoppers/politics/5523716/Councils-spend-50m-a-year-translating-documents-no-one-reads.html>

The immigration debate is not a right-left issue

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/deborah-orr/deborah-orr-the-immigration-debate-is-not-a-rightleft-issue-1704140.html>

Lower immigration in the future could harm rural economies

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/pressreleases/?id=3518>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Motions

S3M-04327 Shirley-Anne Somerville (Lothians) (Scottish National Party): **No Place for the BNP**— That the Parliament notes with dismay the election of two members of the BNP to the European Parliament; strongly reasserts its belief that there is no place for racism in our society, and agrees to work together, regardless of all other political differences, to ensure that parties widely considered to be racist, such as the BNP, do not succeed in gaining a foothold in Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/business/motions/Default.aspx?motionid=16781>

Press Release

European Network Against Racism concerned about rise of the far right in the European Parliament

<http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/pdfpress/2009-06-08%20EP%20elections%202009.pdf>

Racism and Religious Hatred (continued)

New publications

Combating Racist Crime and Violence: Testimonies and Advocacy Strategies

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

News

Hate crimes to be targeted by housing chiefs

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2513270.0.hate_crimes_to_be_targeted_by_housing_chiefs.php

Rehab plan for sectarian crime is too expensive

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2513716.0.rehab_plan_for_sectarian_crime_is_too_expensive.php

Scot 'racially abused by BA pilots'

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Scot-39racially-abused-by-BA.5359869.jp>

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Other Holyrood

Parliamentary Motions

S3M-04327 Shirley-Anne Somerville (Lothians) (Scottish National Party): **No Place for the BNP**— That the Parliament notes with dismay the election of two members of the BNP to the European Parliament; strongly reasserts its belief that there is no place for racism in our society, and agrees to work together, regardless of all other political differences, to ensure that parties widely considered to be racist, such as the BNP, do not succeed in gaining a foothold in Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/business/motions/Default.aspx?motionid=16781>

S3M-04345 Pauline McNeill (Glasgow Kelvin) (Scottish Labour): **No Platform for the BNP, Working Together to Combat Racism**— That the Parliament notes with extreme concern the election of two members of the BNP to the European Parliament; welcomes the Not in my Name petition at: <http://action.hopenothate.org.uk/page/s/notinmyname>, which will be presented to the two BNP MEPs when they take their seats, and believes that all of the forces of anti-racism in Scotland, including political parties, trades unions and civil society, should combine their efforts to expose the policies of the BNP and to ensure that it makes no further progress in the United Kingdom or in Scotland and that in the long run it is not afforded any platforms nor means to promote racist policies or to incite racism.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/business/motions/Default.aspx?motionid=16799>

S3M-04347 Margo MacDonald (Lothians) (Independent): **BNP Does Not Speak for Scotland**— That the Parliament calls on the Scottish Government to put measures in place to ensure that Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and any other relevant organisations outwith Scotland are made aware that the British National Party MEPs do not speak for Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/business/motions/default.aspx>

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Other Westminster

Early Day Motions

John Mann (1636) Westminster Parliamentary passes for members of the European Parliament and their staff – That this House notes that the number of parliamentary passes available for the staff of hon. Members and Peers is necessarily limited; further notes that UK Members of the European Parliament are allocated passes to the parliamentary estate, but that hon. Members are not allocated passes to the European Parliament; and believes that it is unnecessary for UK Members of the European Parliament or their staff to be allocated House of Commons passes and that new UK Members of the European Parliament should not therefore be issued with such passes.

<http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/EDMDetails.aspx?EDMID=38821&SESSION=899>

John McDonnell (1638) access to the Houses of Parliament for members of the European Parliament – That this House notes with concern that Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) are automatically given security passes to the Houses of Parliament; believes there is no reason why MEPs need such access to the Houses of Parliament; notes that members of the Scottish Parliament, the Welsh Assembly and the London Assembly are not given passes to the Houses of Parliament; further notes that Members of the UK Parliament are not given security passes to the European Parliament on a reciprocal basis; and therefore calls for an end to the practice of giving security passes to the Houses of Parliament to MEPs.

<http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/EDMDetails.aspx?EDMID=38823&SESSION=899>

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New Publications

Scottish Human Rights Commission Annual Report 2009

<http://scottishhumanrights.com/content/resources/documents/SHRC-AnnualReport2009-Reduced.pdf>

Guidance for Charity Trustees – easy read version

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/DocumentViewer.aspx?ID=1b4ac026-b2e7-42a6-beb4-7aef0e6a6379>

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Other News

The life and times of one of Scotland's first black soldiers

http://www.sundayherald.com/news/heraldnews/display.var.2514271.0.the_life_and_times_of_one_of_scotlands_first_black_soldiers.php

Islamic reformation brewing as English services demanded

http://www.sundayherald.com/news/heraldnews/display.var.2514270.0.islamic_reformation_brewing_as_english_services_demanded.php

What's the extent of travellers' sites, and do they need tighter controls?

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/the-big-question-whats-the-extent-of-travellers-sites-and-do-they-need-tighter-controls-1703156.html>

Other News (continued)

Scottish Human Rights Commission has a new website

<http://scottishhumanrights.com/>

AtmosphEUROPA contest organised by the Intercivil Society and the Intercultural Communication and Leadership School, in partnership with the European Civic Forum and others, and supported by the President of the European Parliament. The contest is open to people under 30 years old who see themselves as a member of a minority.

Deadline for entries: 18 July 2009

Candidates must:

- write a one page-long article, accompanied by a one page long background note, about their leadership vision on climate protection, on conflict resolution between people of different background and on reducing new poverty in your local community, your country, Europe or the world.
- make a 3-minute YouTube video to communicate or enhance their message
- generate interest in the contest, and support for their candidacy by mobilising people to visit their page on the contest website and vote for them.

For details see http://intercivil.net/atmosphEU/site.php?dir=what_you_do_to_win_inc

European Parliament Election

European Election 2009: EU Results

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/bsp/hi/elections/euro/09/flash/html/eu.stm>

European Election 2009: UK Results

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/bsp/hi/elections/euro/09/html/ukregion_999999.stm

Hundreds voice anger at election of two BNP candidates

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/1253603>

Race, repatriation and denying the Holocaust - the truth about the BNP

http://www.sundayherald.com/news/heraldnews/display.var.2514259.0.race_repatriation_and_denying_the_holocaust_the_truth_about_the_bnp.php

Equality and Human Rights Committee statement following European Union elections

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/media-centre/statement-following-european-union-elections/>

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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>

Education (Additional Support for Learning) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/16-EdAddSup/index.htm>

Bill as passed

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/16-EdAddSup/b16bs3-aspassed.pdf>

Bills in Progress

Holyrood (continued)

**** Criminal Justice and Licensing Bill**

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

Justice Committee: Stage 1 evidence from the Scottish Prison Service, COSLA, the Lord Advocate and the Solicitor General, and the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/justice/or-09/ju09-1902.htm#Col2033>

Offences (Aggravation by Prejudice) Bill

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

Bill as passed

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/09-AggPrej/b9s3-introd.pdf>

Scottish Local Government (Elections) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/21-SLGelections/index.htm>

**** Sexual Offences Bill**

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

Stage 3: proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/11-sexualOffences/b11as3-stage3-ml.pdf>

Stage 3 consideration of amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-09/sor0610-02.htm#Col18165>

Stage 3 debate

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-09/sor0610-02.htm#Col18203>

Bill as passed

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/11-sexualOffences/b11bs3-aspassed.pdf>

Bills in Progress

Westminster

**** Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill**

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

amendment paper

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/086/amend/pbc0860906m.23-29.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/086/amend/pbc0861106m.41-47.html>

Public Bill Committee

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmpublic/borders/090609/am/90609s01.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmpublic/borders/090609/pm/90609s01.htm>

Public Bill Committee decisions

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/086/pro0860906p.1-7.html>

Bills in Progress

Westminster (continued)

**** Equality Bill**

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

amendment paper

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/amend/psc0850906m.51-57.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/amend/psc0851106a.131-137.html>

Public Bill Committee proceedings

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/psc0850611p.7-10.html>

Scottish Parliament Equal Opportunities Committee: Evidence from the Scottish Government on the Legislative Consent Motion to the Equality Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/equal/or-09/eo09-1002.htm#Col1136>

Scottish Parliament Equal Opportunities Committee Report on the Legislative Consent Motion to the Equality Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/equal/reports-09/eor09-02.htm#anxa>

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Consultations

(closing date)

** new or updated this week

Working together to protect crowded places (10 July 2009)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/cons-2009-crowded-places/working-together-crowded-places?view=Binary>

and

Safer Places: a counter-terrorism supplement

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/cons-2009-crowded-places/safer-places?view=Binary>

UK Consultation on the European Commission Proposal for an Equal Treatment Directive (28 July 2009)

http://www.equalities.gov.uk/international/eu_directive.aspx

Oversight of the Immigration Advice Sector consultation (6 August 2009)

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/221878/oversight_of_the_immigration_adv/oversight_immigration_advice/immigration_advice_consultation?view=Binary

**** Equality Bill: Policy Proposals for Specific Duties** (closes 30 September)

<http://www.equalities.gov.uk/PDF/Specific%20Duties%20Consultation%20DocumentWEB.pdf>

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Job Opportunities

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

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Events/Conferences/Training

** New or updated this week

**** this week!**

Protecting Vulnerable Groups: Check to Protect

16 June 2009 in Aberdeen (9.30-1.30)

17 June 2009 in Dundee (9.30-1.30)

24 June 2009 in Inverness (9.30-1.30)

25 June 2009 in Perth (9.30-1.30)

Scottish Government events to inform organisations about the new Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme. This new membership scheme for people who work with children and protected adults will replace current disclosure arrangements for people whose post requires an enhanced disclosure. For information see <http://www.protectingvulnerablegroups.com/> or contact Holyrood Events 0131 272 2136

**** this week!**

Refugee Week Scotland: Home is where the heart is

15-21 June 2009

What does Home mean to you? Is it about family and loved ones, the landscape, or the language? Does it represent a sense of security, of belonging, or of freedom? This year's programme is about welcoming all Scots, both old and new, and celebrating this wonderful wee country that we call Home - an opportunity for all of us – no matter what our backgrounds – to embrace both the things we have in common and those that set us apart. For information see www.refugeeweek.org.uk/scotland and http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/Programme_of_events

Ethnic Minority Women and Politics

24 June 2009 in Glasgow (10.30 – 1.30)

BEMIS and Fawcett Society event to bring politics directly to disengaged ethnic minority women in Scotland in order to get their voices heard and engage ethnic minority women in politics. For information contact Tanveer Parnez Tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk or Ashay Ghai Ashay.ghai@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047

Hate crime and community safety (event for Muslim Women)

1 July 2009 in Falkirk (10.00-1.30)

Event organised by AMINA women's resource centre, and Central Police with speakers from the Crown Office, Police, Victim Support, and AMINA, and including round table discussions on issues affecting Muslim Women in relation to policing. For information contact Samina or Gabrielle 0141 585 8026 / info@mwrc.org.uk or Fiach 01786826012 / fiach.obroin-molloy@centralscotland.pnn.police.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Introduction to Working with Asylum Seekers & Refugees

20 August 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>

UKBA (formerly NASS) Asylum Support - The Essentials

3 September 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course covering the asylum process and the legal framework, support arrangements available to asylum seekers from the beginning to the end of the asylum process, and entitlements for refugees and unaccompanied or separated asylum-seeking children. For information contact SRC 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=60>

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Useful Links

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

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

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

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

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

European Parliament <http://www.europarl.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/en/Pages/default.aspx>

Scotland Helpline 0845 604 5510

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>

Useful Links (continued)

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 (the Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure in Scotland) 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/>