

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.

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 is now in recess until 5 September 2010, and the UK Parliament until 6 September 2010.

During the summer recess MEMO will be issued fortnightly.

The next issue will be on 13 September, after which weekly bulletins will resume.

Immigration and Asylum

Press Releases

Approved English language tests for partners

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2010/275292/46-english-test-partners>

Refugee children should have a genuine chance to seek asylum

<https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=PR607%282010%29&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=original&Site=DC&BackColorInternet=F5CA75&BackColorIntranet=F5CA75&BackColorLogged=A9BACE>

High success rates in asylum appeals point to poor decision making at an early stage

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/press/Appeals_success_Aug

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

Statistical News Release: Control of Immigration

<http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb1510snr.pdf>

Control Of Immigration: Quarterly Statistical Summary, United Kingdom April – June 2010

<http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/immig210.pdf>

Monthly asylum application tables

<http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/asylum-jun2010.xls>

Control Of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom 2009 (revised)

<http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb1510.pdf>

August 2010 Immigration Statistics briefing

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=/ecomm/files/migration%20stats%20briefing%20Aug%202010.pdf&a=skip>

Immigration and Employment: Anatomy of a media story

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=%2Fecomm%2Ffiles%2FImmigrationandemploymentAug10%2Epdf>

News

The cap on immigration cannot hold

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/aug/22/editorial-immigration-cap-coalition>

The refused asylum seekers living against the clock

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/aug/18/asylum-seekers-child-detention-deportation>

Why MigrationWatch are wrong: a plea for a more robust debate on immigration

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/articles/?id=4114>

Net migration to UK rose in 2009, statistics show

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-11094468>

Figures show 20% increase in net migration to UK

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/aug/26/net-migration-to-uk-increases>

One in four babies born to mothers from overseas

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/One-in-four-babies-born.6497834.jp>

British to jump housing queue

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Society/article382075.ece

Charities condemn plans to let councils house locals before immigrants

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2010/aug/29/social-housing-council-powers-immigration>

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Equality

New publication

Gypsy Travellers in Scotland - A resource for the media

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/Scotland/gypsy_travellers_in_scotland_-_a_resource_for_the_media_pdf.pdf

News

The arts need diversity schemes

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/aug/16/arts-need-diversity-schemes>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

New publication

Stop Discrimination (newsletter)

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/fdad/cms/stopdiscrimination/downloads/Newsletters/EN-FDAD_Newsletter_5_100531.pdf

News

International Day Against Fascism and Antisemitism

<http://www.unitedagainstracism.org/pages/underframeInternationalDayAgainstFascism.htm>

Bottles, stones and smoke bomb hurled during English Defence League demonstration in Bradford

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1306969/Bottles-smoke-bombs-thrown-English-Defence-League-demonstration-Bradford.html>

Home Secretary bans English Defence League march in Bradford

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/politics/7956272/Home-Secretary-bans-English-Defence-League-march-in-Bradford.html>

Seven HMRC workers sacked for racial misconduct

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/aug/18/hmrc-workers-sacked-racial-misconduct>

Plight of Roma is a stain on the EU's conscience

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/opinion/George-Soros-Plight-of-Roma.6490346.jp>

Debts, lawsuits and internal feuding cast doubt on future of BNP

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/debts-lawsuits-and-internal-feuding-cast-doubt-on-future-of-bnp-2064009.html>

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Other Westminster

Press Releases

Pakistan Floods Appeal

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/NI1/Newsroom/DG_189880?CID=Central&PLA=url_mon&CRE=pakistan_appeal

Fair deal for travellers and the settled community

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/newsstories/housing/1701107>

Communities Minister commemorates the Abolition of the Slave Trade

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/newsstories/communities/1695699>

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Other News

Some Muslims 'risking their lives' in Ramadan

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-10884977>

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Consultations

(closing date)

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Palliative Care Bill (1 September 2010)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/hs/inquiries/PalliativeCareBill/PallCareCallforevid.htm>

**** closes next week!**

Migration Advisory Committee: level of an annual limit on economic migration to the UK (7 September 2010)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/workingwithus/mac/mac-consultation-annual-limit/0610/mac-consultation-annual-limit?view=Binary>

Draft National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland (17 September 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/313390/0099355.pdf>

Limits on non-EU economic migration (17 September 2010)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/limits-on-non-eu-migration/>

Taking action on rights, support and protection of victims of crime and violence (30 September 2010)

http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/news/consulting_public/news_consulting_0053_en.htm

Single Equality Scheme: NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (30 September 2010)

<http://www.nhshealthquality.org/nhsqis/8098.html>

Consultations (continued)

Data protection legislative framework (6 October 2010)
<http://www.justice.gov.uk/dpa-call-evidence-02-07-2010.pdf>

Consultation on the change to policy direction for the Big Lottery Fund
(29 October 2010)
<http://www.culture.gov.uk/consultations/7313.aspx>

**** Equality Act 2010: The public sector Equality Duty: Promoting equality through transparency** (10 November 2010)
http://www.equalities.gov.uk/pdf/402461_GEO_EqualityAct2010ThePublicSectorEqualityDuty_acc.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**

**** Protection of Vulnerable Groups Scheme**

Frequent CRBS training sessions from September onwards to inform organisations about the new Protection of Vulnerable Groups Scheme (the replacement for “Disclosure” checks which must be carried out for staff (paid and voluntary) who work with children and/or “protected” adults). For dates and details of the different courses available see <http://www.crbs.org.uk/Training/TrainingCalendar/EventDetails/tabid/446/Default.aspx>

**** next week!**

Working with Interpreters

7 September 2010 in Glasgow

25 November 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with non-English speaking service users, including asylum seekers and refugees, who need a comprehensive understanding of how to work with interpreters. For information see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=94> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799

**** next week!**

Making services more inclusive for ME/LGBT people

10 September 2010 in Glasgow (9.00 – 2.00)

EveryoneIN training on making services more inclusive for minority ethnic people who may identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender. EveryoneIN is a partnership project between BEMIS and the Equality Network. For information contact Sam Rankin sam@equality-network.org / 0774 704 0355 or Emma Boyd emma@lgbthealth.org.uk / 0131 652 3281

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

An Introduction to Working with Asylum Seekers & Refugees

30 September 2010 in Glasgow

2 November 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for people whose work involves asylum seekers and refugees and who need a comprehensive understanding of the core issues affecting those seeking sanctuary in Scotland. For information see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=89> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

5 October 2010 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 2.30)

Annual conference providing an overview of OSCR's work during the past year and priorities for the future. For information see

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/EventItem.aspx?ID=fd67b6a2-18b0-4fd0-98a1-c046ecff5732>

10th International Conference of National Human Rights Institutions, and Non Governmental Organisations Forum

7-10 October 2010 in Edinburgh

For information see <http://scottishhumanrights.com/news/latestnews/article/ngoforum> (closing date for applications: 22 August 2010)

Gender and Gender Identity

12 October 2010 in Edinburgh (9.00 – 4.00)

EveryoneIN training on making services more inclusive for minority ethnic people who may identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender. EveryoneIN is a partnership project between BEMIS and the Equality Network. For information contact Sam Rankin sam@equality-network.org / 0774 704 0355 or Emma Boyd emma@lgbthealth.org.uk / 0131 652 3281

The needs and experiences of refugee women

22 October 2010 in Glasgow

Guest speaker: Kirsty Thomson, Solicitor, Women and Children's Department at Legal Services Agency. 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 Jamie Spurway jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799 or see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=77>

**** Localism and the Third Sector**

25 October 2010 in Edinburgh

SCVO conference on the future for localism with speakers from all the Holyrood parties, Local Government, and leading third sector organisations. For information contact Helen Swatton 0141 225 8019 / helen.swatton@scvo.org.uk or see

<http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/SCVOEvents/ViewSCVOEvents.aspx?al=t&EID=1276&from=EventHome>

Scottish Refugee Council annual conference

29 October 2010 in Glasgow

The conference will focus primarily on the new Coalition Government's stated agenda for asylum seekers and refugees - including: speeding up the asylum process; ending child detention and treatment of LGBT people seeking asylum. For information contact Graeme Corbett events@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Judge a book by its cover? Not me!

3 November 2010 in Inverness (9.30 – 12.30)

SCVO training course to find out more about the processes of stereotyping, and how misinformed judgements can lead to prejudice and discrimination. For more information contact Jane Baillie jane.baillie@scvo.org.uk / 0131 474 8019.

LGBT Asylum Seekers and Refugees

5 November 2010 in Glasgow (9.00 – 2.00)

EveryoneIN training on making services more inclusive for minority ethnic people who may identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender. EveryoneIN is a partnership project between BEMIS and the Equality Network. For information contact Sam Rankin sam@equality-network.org / 0774 704 0355 or Emma Boyd emma@lgbthealth.org.uk / 0131 652 3281

Youth Interfaith Connect Conference

2 December 2010 (10.00 – 3.00)

Conference for young people organised by ACPOS to discuss issues such as the impact of faith in Scotland today, the impact of religious and sectarian hate crime on our communities, the role of the media in representing faith communities, religious education in schools, identity faith and belief, and faith and social action. An associated discussion forum has been set up at <http://www.interfaithconnect.org/forum/>. For information see <http://www.interfaithconnect.org/> or contact Fiach OBroin-Molloy 01786 456000 / 07769 920 462.

Third Sector Research Conference

3 December 2010 in Edinburgh

SCVO conference to bring together Scottish Government, local government, third sector and academic researchers, to showcase their work and discuss a range of findings of relevance to public policy in Scotland. For information contact Helen Swatton 0141 225 8019 / helen.swatton@scvo.org

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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/>

Useful Links (continued)

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, 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/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/>