

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.*

Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Race Relations](#)

[Equality](#)

[Racism and Religious Hatred](#)

[Scottish Parliament Election](#)

[Other Westminster](#)

[New Publications](#)

[Other News](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Job 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 is now in dissolution until after the elections which will take place on 5 May 2011. During dissolution there are no MSPs and therefore no parliamentary business takes place.

The UK Parliament is now in recess and will return on 26 April 2011.

Immigration and Asylum

Press Releases

Why we're making changes to Scottish Refugee Council

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/978_why_we_re_making_changes_to_scottish_refugee_council

Changes to Scottish Refugee Council services and opening hours

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/977_changes_to_our_services_and_opening_hours

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

No Easy Options: Irregular immigration in the UK

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=%2Fecomm%2Ffiles%2FNo+Easy+Options+Apr2011%2Epdf>

News

New survey shows Scots welcome refugees

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/965_new_survey_shows_scots_welcome_refugees

Helping others is part of the British DNA

http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/news/archive/press/2011/april/20110418_refugeepoll

Britons 'confused over refugees'

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/apr/18/britons-confused-over-refugees>

Fleeing another country? Britain is ready to trip you up

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/apr/22/asylum-system-britain>

More action needed on illegal immigration, says report

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2011/apr/20/more-action-illegal-immigration-ippr-report>

Glasgow Caledonian University has licence suspended

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-13155936>

University visas suspended

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/university-visas-suspended-1.1097325>

Glasgow Caledonian questioned by UK Border Agency over abuse of student visa system

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2011/04/21/glasgow-caledonian-questioned-by-uk-border-agency-over-abuse-of-student-visa-system-86908-23077313/>

Immigration to rise as benefit curbs are lifted

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Society/article611488.ece

[TOP](#)

Race Relations

News

How do you celebrate St George's Day and a royal wedding in the most diverse borough in the country?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/apr/22/royal-wedding-celebrate-modern-englishness>

[TOP](#)

Equality

News

Only 5% of TV ads feature ethnic minorities

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2011/apr/21/tv-ads-ethnic-minorities>

[TOP](#)

Racism and Religious Hatred

News

Bomb threats, vile websites, songs of bloodlust and hate ... But why have the crime figures that reveal the true nature of Scotland's sectarian shame been kept secret? 'We are acting blind without these figures. Let's discuss it'

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/bomb-threats-vile-websites-songs-of-bloodlust-and-hate-but-why-have-the-crime-figures-that-reveal-the-true-nature-of-scotland-s-sectarian-shame-been-kept-secret-we-are-acting-blind-without-these-figures-let-s-discuss-it-1.1097708>

First arrests in crackdown on internet hate

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/first-arrests-in-crackdown-on-internet-hate-1.1097710>

Two arrested in raids over sectarian 'hate comments'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/crime/8469765/Two-arrested-in-raids-over-sectarian-hate-comments.html>

Arrests in Old Firm hate raids

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/news/Arrests-in-Old-Firm-hate.6756935.jp>

World now knows our sinister little secret

<http://sport.scotsman.com/theoldfirm/Tom-Devine-World-now-knows.6756941.jp>

Make hatred history

<http://news.scotsman.com/opinion/Leader-Make-hatred-history.6756977.jp>

For Scotland's sake, Old Firm fans must heed final warning

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/comment/herald-view/for-scotland-s-sake-old-firm-fans-must-heed-final-warning-1.1097688>

Blight of corrosive sectarianism won't go away on its own

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/opinion/Duncan-Hamilton-Blight-of-corrosive.6756982.jp>

Zero tolerance to the 'evil' of sectarianism

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/Zero-tolerance-to-the-39evil39.6756526.jp>

Legal minefield Crown Office must negotiate

<http://news.scotsman.com/religiousissuesinScotland/John-Spyrou-Legal-minefield-Crown.6756530.jp>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Internet must be accountable for sectarian hatred

<http://news.scotsman.com/religiousissuesinscotland/Leader-Internet-must-be-accountable.6756521.jp>

Call for new law to clamp down on internet hate sites

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/Call-for-new-law-to.6756532.jp>

Two men arrested over internet Old Firm 'hate comments'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-13175213>

Lennon: parcel bombs may tip balance in war on bigotry Celtic boss hopes death threat will change attitudes

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/lennon-parcel-bombs-may-tip-balance-in-war-on-bigotry-celtic-boss-hopes-death-threat-will-change-attitudes-1.1097667>

Celtic letter bombs: David Cameron condemns 'appalling' sectarianism

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/apr/21/celtic-letter-bombs-david-cameron>

Celtic QC: Jail those who peddle web hate

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/Celtic-QC-Jail-those-who.6756063.jp>

Parcel bombs sent to Neil Lennon, McBride and Godman

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-13129139>

Football needs to show united front

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/Henry-McLeish-Football-needs-to.6755446.jp>

We all must focus on beating bigots

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/comment/herald-view/we-all-must-focus-on-beating-bigots-1.1097268>

Scottish sectarianism? Let's lay this myth to rest

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2011/apr/24/scotland-sectarianism-research-data>

'Theatrical bigotry' - judge jails man for burning the Koran

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/39Theatrical-bigotry39--judge-jails.6754203.jp>

Man who burned Koran jailed for 'theatrical bigotry'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/8459965/Man-who-burned-Koran-jailed-for-theatrical-bigotry.html>

Cash-strapped BNP 'turns to racist hardcore'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/cashstrapped-bnp-turns-to-racist-hardcore-2269628.html>

Cloak-and-dagger day with the BNP – a party in crisis

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/cloakanddagger-day-with-the-bnp--ndash-a-party-in-crisis-2269244.html>

[TOP](#)

Scottish Parliament Election

New Publications

MEMO+ Scottish Parliament Election 2011: The Parties and their Policies

http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2011/11iv_election_manifestos.pdf

MEMO+ Voting in the Scottish Parliament Election and the UK Parliament Referendum

http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2011/11iv_election_and_referendum.pdf

Manifestos

Conservative Party

<http://www.scottishconservatives.com/downloads/scottish-conservative-manifesto-2011.pdf>

Green Party

<http://scot.gr/holyrood2011>

Labour Party

<http://www.scottishlabour.org.uk/uploads/84613091-e7ae-5ce4-7dff-39f1789cf681.pdf>

Liberal Democrat Party

<http://www.scotlibdems.org.uk/files/SLD2011manifesto.pdf>

Scottish National Party

<http://manifesto.votesnp.com/manifesto>

[TOP](#)

Other Westminster

Press Releases

David Cameron's Easter message

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/topstorynews/2011/04/david-camerons-easter-message-63286>

Foreign Secretary's Easter message

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/news/latest-news/?view=News&id=587223082>

David Cameron's message for Passover

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/latest-news/2011/04/david-camerons-message-for-passover-63167>

Foreign Secretary's Passover message

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/news/latest-news/?view=News&id=584782582>

[TOP](#)

New Publications

MEMO+ Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIOs)

http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2011/11iv_scio.pdf

The Ever-Changing Union: An Introduction to the History, Institutions and Decision-Making Processes of the European Union

<http://www.ceps.eu/ceps/download/5498>

[TOP](#)

Other News

EU wants to label ritually slaughtered meat 'slaughter without stunning']

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/eu/8461697/EU-wants-to-label-ritually-slaughtered-meat-slaughter-without-stunning.html>

Plan to label ritually slaughtered meat angers religious group

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/apr/24/plan-to-label-ritually-slaughtered-meat-angers-religious-group>

[TOP](#)

Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Bills in Progress Westminster

Fixed Term Parliaments Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/fixedtermparliaments.html>

Scotland Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/scotland.html>

[TOP](#)

Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Strathclyde Police Equality and Diversity Strategy (30 April 2011)

<http://www.strathclyde.police.uk/index.asp?locID=1596&docID=-1>

Changes to Immigration-Related Home Office Statistical Outputs (4 May 2011)

[http://uk.sitestat.com/homeoffice/rds/s?rds.immigration-consultation-2011-pdf&ns_type=pdf&ns_url=\[http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs11/immigration-consultation-2011.pdf](http://uk.sitestat.com/homeoffice/rds/s?rds.immigration-consultation-2011-pdf&ns_type=pdf&ns_url=[http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs11/immigration-consultation-2011.pdf)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator Corporate Plan (24 May 2011)

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/NewsItem.aspx?ID=e66c5cf8-36b4-421c-93e1-f4aceffa7ec>

Reform of the Equality and Human Rights Commission (15 June 2011)

http://www.equalities.gov.uk/what_we_do/ehrc_reform.aspx

Consultations (continued)

Forced Marriage Statutory Guidance Consultation (1 July 2011)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/347416/0115668.pdf>

Planning for traveller sites (England and Wales) (6 July 2011)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1886164.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Job Opportunities

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

[TOP](#)

Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Advancing Scotland as a Learning Society: a Community Learning and Development perspective

28 April 2011 in Dundee (meeting focusing on faith issues) (9.30 – 5.00)

16 May 2011 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 5.00)

Series of seminars to explore views on advancing of Scotland as a Learning Society. We hope that you will all be part of this national conversation. For information see http://www.cldstandardscouncil.org.uk/CLD_Standards_Council/The_Standards_Council_Conversations or contact Kirsty Horne k.horne@ltsotland.org.uk.

BEMIS AGM

4 May 2011 in Glasgow (5.30 – 8.00)

The BEMIS AGM will be held at the GO Business and Training Centre, 36 North Hanover Street, Glasgow, G1 2AD. For information contact Sue Barnes 0141 548 8047 / mail@bemis.org.uk

OSCR Outreach Programme: Completing OSCR Returns

10 May 2010 in Aberdeen (10.00 – 12.30)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training for charity advisors to enable them to assist charities to complete annual and supplementary monitoring returns. For information see <http://www.oscr.org.uk/EventItem.aspx?ID=41d2239c-6e59-4edb-96ea-cfd052854b50> or contact communications@oscr.org.uk

Resource or Roadblock? Faith Community Responses to Violence Against Women

19 May 2011 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 1.00)

Women's Aid seminar to explore the role that faith communities have in preventative measures to abuse and effective responses to disclosures of abuse. For information contact info@scottishwomensaid.org.uk / 0131 226 6606

**** Youth Interfaith Conference**

21 June 2011 in East Kilbride (10.00 – 3.00)

ACPOS conference in partnership with the Scottish Inter Faith Council for 16 to 26 year olds to explore interfaith in Scotland including the role of the media in portraying faith, faith and identity in Scotland, and hate crime. For information contact Anton Stephenson Anton.Stephenson@centralscotland.pnn.police.uk / 01786 456 993.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

BA in Community Development programme

Applications accepted until mid August 2011, Course begins September 2011

The University of Glasgow's BA in Community Development is sponsored by BEMIS as part of its programme for capacity building strategy for the ethnic minority's voluntary sector. For information see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/adds/11iv_bemis.pdf and http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/adds/11iv_bemis2.pdf or contact Tanveer Parnez tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

[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/AToZOofCentralGovernment/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/>
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>

Useful Links (continued)

BBC Parliament online

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

[TOP](#)



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/>