

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

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Motions

S4M-01091 Patrick Harvie: Disparities in Asylum Appeal Success Rates—That the Parliament notes with concern the response by the UK Government's Ministry of Justice to a freedom of information request by Dr Nick Gill of the University of Exeter that shows that significant disparities exist between the success rates of asylum appeals held in the various hearing centres around the UK and that the success rate in Glasgow is 22% compared with 44% at Taylor House in London; further notes that comparison with data previously released shows that the disparities appear to be increasing; would welcome research into the reasons for these disparities in order to discover whether there are barriers to justice that need to be addressed, and notes that a proposal for such research has the support of the Red Cross, the Refugee Council and Bail for Immigration Detainees.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?referencenumber=S4M-01091&isinanything=true&resultsperpage=10>

S4M-01088 Alison Johnstone: UK Anti-Slavery Day—That Parliament notes that the annual UK Anti-Slavery Day will be on 18 October 2011 and that, to coincide with the European Anti-Trafficking Day, it will be now held on this day every year; welcomes

Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Motions (continued)

campaigners' efforts to raise awareness of the many people in the UK and around the world who, despite the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade over 200 years ago, continue to be trapped in what it considers to be modern slavery; regrets that, according to ECPAT UK, there are still child victims of trafficking in the UK; supports ECPAT UK's guardianship campaign in its call for a system of guardianship for child victims of trafficking; considers that modern slavery exists in various forms including bonded and child labour, forced marriage and trafficking; considers that ending modern slavery will require coordinated efforts from individuals and governmental and non-governmental organisations; understands that, in March 2011, in response to a petition signed by over 47,000 people, the UK Government opted-in to a EU directive on tackling human trafficking; further understands that EU law on human trafficking is designed to bolster current international anti-trafficking efforts by ensuring cooperation and common standards across member states for the prosecution of traffickers and the protection of victims, and calls on the Scottish Government to continue to tackle this form of exploitation of men, women and children and for it to provide support for the victims.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?referencenumber=S4M-01088&isinanything=true&resultsperpage=10>

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Forced Marriage

Lord Avebury: To ask Her Majesty's Government what amendments they intend to make to the Immigration Rules in the light of the Supreme Court judgment in R (on the application of Quila and another) v Secretary of State for the Home Department; R (on the application of Bibi and another) v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2011] UKSC 45; what instructions are being given to immigration officers and presenting officers on how to deal with new applications by spouses, partners and fiancés under the age of 21, pending applications, and those applications that have been refused and that may or may not be subject to appeal by such applicants; and what new proposals they have for preventing forced marriages. [HL12623]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): The Government are giving careful consideration to the Supreme Court's judgment and are preparing revised instructions for UK Border Agency staff. Further information on the implications of the judgment will be made available to applicants affected by the ruling via the UK Border Agency website very shortly.

There is no place in British society for the practice of forced marriage. It is a breach of human rights and a form of violence against the victims. The Prime Minister has announced that, in England and Wales, the breach of forced marriage protection orders will be criminalised and there will be a consultation on making forcing someone to marry an offence in its own right.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/111025w0001.htm#11102553000443>

Overseas Workers

Michael Connarty: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will make it her policy to maintain visa arrangements which permit overseas domestic workers to change employer. [76147]

Reply from Damian Green: The Government's recent consultation document "Employment—Related Settlement, Tier 5 and Overseas Domestic Workers" set out a number of proposals for reform of the overseas domestic worker provisions, which include making protections more appropriate, should the route be retained.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

We are currently considering the responses that have been received and will announce our decision in due course.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111025/text/111025w0002.htm#11102559000055>

Right of Abode

Sheila Gilmore: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) how many applications for right of residence in the UK her Department has rejected where the applicant is both an A2 national and defines their employment status as self-employed on the basis that her Department believes the applicant is not genuinely self-employed in each of the last three years; [76131]

(2) how many applications for right of residence in the UK her Department has (a) received, (b) approved and (c) rejected where the applicant is both an A2 national and defines their employment status as self-employed in each of the last three years. [76132]

Reply from Damian Green: The information is shown in the following table:

<i>Right of residence applications received from self employed A2 nationals in 2008, 2009, and 2010, and the status of these applications</i> ^(1, 2, 3)						
Case type	Year	Total applications received	Status of application			
			Approved	Refused	Outcome pending	Other ⁽⁴⁾
A2 Self Employed	2008	9,550	6,570	2,565	—	415
A2 Self Employed	2009	7,680	6,120	1,345	—	215
A2 Self Employed	2010	9,270	7,150	1,800	*	320

⁽¹⁾ All figures quoted are internal management information only and are subject to change. This information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols. ⁽²⁾ Figures rounded to the nearest 5 (— = 0, * = 1 or 2). Figures may not sum to the totals shown because of independent rounding. ⁽³⁾ Applications refer to main applicants only, excluding dependants. ⁽⁴⁾ Other includes cases that were revoked, withdrawn, superseded, void, etc.

The UK Border Agency (UKBA) is unable to advise how many applications were rejected on the grounds that the applicant was not believed to be genuinely self-employed. This data is not held in a reportable format on the Case Information Database (CID).

Consequently, in order to provide this information we would need to undertake a manual case by case search of records, which would exceed the cost threshold.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111025/text/111025w0002.htm#11102559000059>

Immigrants: Detainees

Julian Huppert: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many pregnant women were detained for immigration purposes in 2010-11; and how many of them were released in the late stages of pregnancy because their pregnancy meant that they were not able to fly. [76621]

Reply from Damian Green: If a pregnant woman chooses to inform the UK Border Agency of her condition, the detail would be held on her medical file which is confidential between patient and doctor. The UK Border Agency does not hold such information centrally.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

The UK Border Agency's published guidance makes clear that pregnant women should not normally be detained. The exceptions to this general position are where removal is imminent and medical advice does not suggest confinement before the due removal date or, for pregnant women of less than 24 weeks gestation, at Yarl's Wood as part of a fast-track asylum process.

Julian Huppert: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many women detained for immigration purposes were (a) deported and (b) released in 2010-11; and how long each such woman was detained for. [76664]

Reply from Damian Green: Published information on detention relates to those people held in detention, solely under Immigration Act powers in immigration removal centres and short-term holding facilities. This excludes those in police cells, Prison Service establishments, short-term holding rooms at ports and airports (for less than 24 hours), and those recorded as detained under both criminal and immigration powers and their dependants.

The following table shows the available information on number of women leaving detention by reason and length of detention for the 2010-11 financial year.

<i>Women leaving detention by reason and length of detention, 2010-11</i>						
<i>Number</i>						
	<i>Total detainees</i>	<i>Removed from the UK</i>	<i>Granted leave to enter/remain</i>	<i>Granted temporary admission/release</i>	<i>Bailed</i>	<i>Other</i>
Total	4,299	2,831	25	1,237	182	24
3 days or less	1,474	1,195	16	249	3	11
4 to 7 days	769	548	4	206	7	4
8 to 14 days	584	323	2	230	27	2
15 to 28 days	485	196	1	236	50	2
29 days to less than 2 months	458	254	0	159	44	1
2 months to less than 3 months	208	132	1	58	17	0
3 months to less than 4 months	111	66	0	36	7	2
4 months to less than 6 months	104	59	1	38	6	0
6 months to less than 12 months	86	46	0	23	15	2
12 months to less than 18 months	12	8	0	1	3	0
18 months to less than 24 months	3	0	0	0	3	0
24 months or more	5	4	0	1	0	0

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Notes: 1. Data from Q1 2010 onwards are provisional. 2. All people held are detained in the United Kingdom solely under Immigration Act powers and exclude those in police cells, Prison Service establishments, short-term holding rooms at ports and airports (for less than 24 hours), and those recorded as detained as detained under both criminal and immigration powers and their dependants. Figures include dependants. 3. Relates to most recent period of sole detention. The period of detention starts when a person first enters the UK Border Agency estate. If the person is then moved from a removal centre to a police cell or Prison Service establishment, this period of stay will be included if the detention is solely under Immigration Act powers.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111025/text/111025w0002.htm#11102559000052>

Detention Centres: Children

Keith Vaz: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many children have been held in detention at pre-departure accommodation Cedars since it opened. [75650]

Reply from Damian Green: The latest published figures show that no children have been held in the pre-departure accommodation at Cedars between when it opened on 17 August 2011 and 31 August 2011.

Since 25 November 2010, each month the Home Office has published a table specifically showing how many children entered immigration removal centres and short-term holding facilities. This excludes those in police cells, Prison Service establishments and short-term holding rooms at ports and airports (for less than 24 hours), those recorded as detained under both criminal and immigration powers and their dependants. From 29 September 2011, when figures for August were published, this table has included Cedars pre-departure accommodation.

The Home Office publishes monthly, quarterly and annual statistics on the number of children entering detention, solely under Immigration Act powers. Children entering detention figures relating to September 2011 will be published on 27 October 2011 and will be available from the Library of the House and from the Home Office Science, research and statistics web pages at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/research-statistics/migration/migration-statistics/>

Keith Vaz: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many children are being held in each immigration detention facility; and what the reason for the detention is in each case. [75677]

Reply from Damian Green: The latest published figures show that no children were being held in detention, solely under Immigration Act powers in immigration removal centres and short term holding facilities as at 30 June 2011. This excludes those in police cells, Prison Service establishments and short-term holding rooms at ports and airports (for less than 24 hours), those recorded as detained under both criminal and immigration powers and their dependants.

Quarterly figures published on children in detention are taken as a snapshot on the last day of each quarter. Additionally figures are published on children entering detention on a monthly basis.

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of children in detention, solely under Immigration Act powers. Children in detention figures as at 30 September 2011 will be published on 24 November 2011 and will be available from the Library of the House and from the Home Office Science, research and statistics webpages at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/research-statistics/migration/migration-statistics1/>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111024/text/111024w0002.htm#11102438000017>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Detention Centres: Suicide

Shabana Mahmood: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what measures are in place to support those who are held in detention centres who are considered to be at risk of suicide. [76654]

Reply from Damian Green: Each Immigration removal centre has a comprehensive self harm reduction strategy in place to support detainees who are deemed to be at risk of suicide or self-harm. The procedures, Assessment Care in Detention and Teamwork (ACDT), provide a holistic approach to suicide and self-harm prevention within the broader context of decency, safety, and the concept of a healthy centre. It also brings existing policy in line with similar changes implemented by the Ministry of Justice.

The ACDT process starts as soon as an individual has been identified as being at risk. It involves an initial risk assessment and assessment interview conducted by specially trained individuals. A specific care map tailored to the issues faced by the individual is produced to ensure provision of multi-disciplinary support, including input from both health care professionals and staff at the centre. The ACDT document is reviewed at regular intervals to ensure the correct support is provided while the individual is thought to be at risk.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111025/text/111025w0001.htm#11102559000046>

Restraint Equipment: Detainees

Shabana Mahmood: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps she is taking to review the techniques used to restrain detainees on aircraft. [76049]

Reply from Damian Green: The UK Border Agency formally asked the National Tactical Response Group of the National Offender Management Service to conduct a review of the current restraint techniques being used by escort officers including those used during removals.

Officials expect to receive an interim report on the review in November 2011.

Shabana Mahmood: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many detainees have been injured while being restrained during deportation from the UK in (a) the 12 months period ending on 1 September 2011 and (b) each of the previous five years. [76050]

Reply from Damian Green: Escort officers are trained in the use of control and restraint techniques, which are used only as a matter of last resort when all other alternatives of persuading a person to comply with their removal from the UK have failed or they need to be controlled for safety reasons.

The use of restraint is legitimate and lawful so long as its use is justified, proportionate and de-escalated at the earliest opportunity when the individual has complied. Escort officers are required to submit a report each time force has been used to restrain a detainee while being removed. However separate records are not held on injuries sustained. This could be determined only by examination of each use of force or incident report submitted at disproportionate cost.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111024/text/111024w0002.htm#11102438000029>

Press Release

Commission welcomes the agreement on a key element of the asylum package

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/1256&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

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

Monthly asylum application tables - August 2011

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/asylum-aug-20111?view=Binary>

Children entering detention held solely under Immigration Act powers September 2011

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/child-detention-sep2011?view=Binary>

A thematic inspection of how the UK Border Agency manages foreign national prisoners

<http://icinspector.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/Thematic-inspection-report-of-how-the-Agency-manages-Foreign-National-Prisoners.pdf>

Temporary and Circular Migration: empirical evidence, current policy practice and future options in EU Member States

http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/news/0a_EMN_Synthesis_Report_Temporary_Circular_Migration_PUBLICATION_Oct_2011.pdf

Service not servitude: protecting the rights of domestic workers

<http://iwc2.labouronline.org/168807/uploads/d1b4992c-e69e-3784-b9c2-8c43818fbd3d.pdf>

News

Half a million more people to live here in next 25 years

http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/health/half_a_million_more_people_to_live_here_innext_25_years_1_1931796

Migrants to send Britain's population soaring to largest in EU

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/8851902/Migrants-to-send-Britains-population-soaring-to-largest-in-EU.html>

UK Border Agency criticised over convict deportations

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-15467480>

Almost 4,000 foreign offenders on streets after dodging deportation

http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/politics/almost_4_000_foreign_offenders_on_streets_after_dodging_deportation_1_1931778

Britain unable to deport more than 5,000 foreign offenders

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/oct/27/foreign-offenders-deportation-ukba>

Officials taking longer to deport illegal immigrants

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/8846816/Officials-taking-longer-to-deport-illegal-immigrants.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Blair defends opening the door to mass migration and says it had a very positive impact on Britain

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2054903/Tony-Blair-defends-opening-door-mass-migration.html>

MEPs seek open labour market for Bulgarians, Romanians

http://www.euractiv.com/justice/meps-seek-open-labour-market-bulgarians-romanians-news-508552?utm_source=EurActiv%20Newsletter&utm_campaign=5c2761c9be-my_google_analytics_key&utm_medium=email

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Race Relations

New Publication

Runnymede Autumn Bulletin

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/bulletin/pdfs/367-BulletinAutumn11w.pdf>

News

Britain should become more Christian, says Baroness Warsi

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/8854355/Britain-should-become-more-Christian-says-Baroness-Warsi.html>

We can love our diverse neighbours without kowtowing to their every prejudice

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/8856381/We-can-love-our-diverse-neighbours-without-kowtowing-to-their-every-prejudice.html>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

New Publication

Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims: Addressing Islamophobia through Education

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/84495?download=true>

News

Council staff face sectarian abuse inquiry

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/council-staff-face-sectarian-abuse-inquiry-1.1131234>

Why is there still racism in football?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football/2011/oct/26/racism-football-allegations-john-terry>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Leroy Rosenior on racism in football

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football/2011/oct/26/leroy-rosenior-racism-football>

The EDL's Attacks are Causing Serious Harm to British Communities

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/alexander-meleagrouhitchens/post_2576_b_1032883.ht

BNP ratpack hold secret Scots summit as they plan new far-right party

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics-news/2011/10/30/bnp-ratpack-hold-secret-scots-summit-as-they-plan-new-far-right-party-86908-23525635/>

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Other Holyrood

Parliamentary Motion

S4M-01089 Kevin Stewart: St Andrew's Day—That the Parliament notes that it is now over four years since the St Andrew's Day Bank Holiday (Scotland) Bill was unanimously approved by the Parliament; pays tribute to Dennis Canavan for his efforts in this regard; welcomes what it sees as the increasing interest in celebrating this national holiday but feels that more still needs to be done, and believes that everyone in Scotland should have the opportunity of celebrating their national identity, their cultural diversity and their membership of the international community on St Andrew's Day.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?referencenumber=S4M-01089&isinanything=true&resultsperpage=10>

Press Release

Glasgow Games seeks a mascot

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2011/10/26135311>

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Other Westminster

Early Day Motion

Keith Vaz (2309) Diwali 2011 – That this House joins with the rest of the UK in celebrating Diwali, the festival of lights; notes that in Leicester 40,000 attended the switching on of Diwali lights ceremony; congratulates the Prime Minister for his continued support of the tradition of Diwali at Number 10 for the third consecutive year and the Hindu Forum of Britain for its help in celebrating Diwali in the House; and considers that this demonstrates the diversity and multiculturalism that makes the UK the envy of the world.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2010-12/2309>

Other Westminster (continued) **Press Releases**

PM's Diwali message

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/pms-diwali-greetings/>

Foreign Secretary's Diwali message

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/news/latest-news/?view=News&id=674378682>

New Publication

The Cabinet Manual

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files/resources/cabinet-manual.pdf>

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New Publications

New data on BME voting patterns

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/news/368/272/New-data-on-BME-voting-patterns.html>

The UK Voluntary Sector Workforce Almanac 2011

<http://www.tsrc.ac.uk/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=tBYav7aiQf8%3d&tabid=849>

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Other News

'Rise' in ethnic minority young offenders in custody

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-15455887>

Young black men make up four in 10 of youth jail population

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2011/oct/26/young-black-men-youth-jails>

Black and Asian rioters disproportionately involved in disturbances

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-order/8846043/Black-and-Asian-rioters-disproportionately-involved-in-disturbances.html>

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Holyrood

Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s4/bills/01-offbehfoot/index.htm>

Bills in Progress (continued) Westminster

Scotland Bill

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

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Inquiry into reform of Parliamentary business: remodelling the Parliamentary week (31 October 2011)

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s4/committees/stanproc/documents/callforviews_inquiryintoreform.pdf

**** closes this week!**

Reforming Police and Fire and Rescue Services in Scotland (2 November 2011)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/357525/0120778.pdf>

Reasonable accommodation of cultural diversity in the workplace

(no closing date given)

<http://www.esurveyspro.com/Survey.aspx?id=e80f85dd-1859-41b3-80b8-c1ffbccddc76>

Do we need a UK Bill of Rights? (11 November 2011)

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/downloads/about/cbr/cbr-discussion-paper.pdf>

Public Sector Equality Duty (25 November 2011)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/357629/0120853.pdf>

Rights of Children and Young People Bill (1 December 2011)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/357438/0120726.pdf>

Aviation security: Consultation on a statutory authority to carry scheme

(6 December 2011)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/authority-to-carry/>

The Registration of Civil Partnerships Same Sex Marriage (9 December 2011)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/254430/0120640.pdf>

Public Focus Strategy (closes 23 December 2011)

http://www.oscr.org.uk/media/279989/public_focus_strategy.pdf

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Job Opportunities

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

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Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Joseph Rowntree Foundation Call for Proposals:

Poverty and ethnicity: Employer behaviour and workplace culture

Closing date 29 November 2011

<http://tinyurl.com/5spcvus>

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Raising Refugee Women's Voices

3 November 2011 in Glasgow (9.00 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council Conference focusing on refugee women: their needs; the provision of support; and gender sensitivity in the asylum process. All refugee community organisations will be entitled to one free place at the conference. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/events_calendar/1304_scottish_refugee_council_autumn_conference_raising_refugee_women_s_voices or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / events@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

International Day Against Fascism and Antisemitism

9 November 2011

In 1933, Jews in Germany were subjected to increasingly discriminatory treatment by the Nazis. On Nov 9 1938, the Nazis started a pogrom against the Jews. Synagogues were set on fire. Jewish shops had their windows smashed, which gave rise to the name "Kristallnacht", which freely translated means the Night of Broken Glass. Many Jews were physically attacked. The "Kristallnacht" pogrom is usually seen as the symbolic beginning of the Holocaust. On 9 November each year the UNITED network organises a European-wide campaign to commemorate the past and to protest against contemporary forms of fascism and antisemitism. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/6cl37dp>

Influencing policies that affect migrants and their communities in Scotland

11 November 2011 in Edinburgh (9.00 – 5.00)

Migrants' Rights Network seminar to enable the development of more effective advocacy relationships, and implement an 'influencing strategy' to bring about positive change for migrant and refugee communities in Scotland. For information see <http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/event/mrn-masterclass-scotland> or contact Hyo Eun Shin, csp@migrantsrightsscotland.org.uk / 07825 758 559.

**** Ethnic Minority Third Sector Network**

18 November 2011 in the Scottish Parliament (12.00 – 4.00)

Joint BEMIS and CEMVO event to discuss the promotion of equality and diversity, and ethnic minority community contributions to build a cohesive multicultural Scottish society. For information see www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/11x_em3n.pdf or contact BEMIS 0141 548 8047 / info@bemis.org.uk.

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

18 November 2011 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to identify fundamental issues facing asylum seekers and refugees today, and highlighting current legislation and entitlements. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. Special offer - two delegate places for the cost of one on all Scottish Refugee Council training courses throughout September and October. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/64lypff> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Meet Your Muslim Neighbour

20 November in Glasgow (10.00–5.00)

Al-Furqan Islamic Centre Exhibition and tour of the Islamic Centre. For information contact Haq Ghani haqq@msn.com or Javed Gill javed.gill@btinternet.com

**** Equality in Employment**

23 November 2011 in Glasgow (10.30 – 4.30)

GCVS training to help organisations meet their legal and ethical responsibilities. Issues covered include recruitment, monitoring and dignity at work, and equality in volunteering. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/6cv62u8>

The needs and experiences of refugee women

25 November 2011 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide a thorough understanding of fundamental issues affecting women seeking asylum in Scotland. It is appropriate for those working in social work, housing, welfare, education, employment, health, community development or the justice system. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/4x62hfa> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Making Human Rights Happen

30 November 2011 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.00)

1 December 2011 in Dundee (10.00 – 4.00)

British Institute of Human Rights workshops to discuss the role of human rights in a period of cut backs to public services, the role of human rights in protecting the vulnerable, whether human rights offer an effective tool for people wishing to challenge the impact of service cuts or changes, and how to make sure one person's rights are balanced against the interests of society as a whole. For information see <http://www.bihar.org.uk/events/bihar-national-human-rights-tour-information-page>

**** Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children & Young People**

1 (9.30-4.30) and 2 (9.30-12.30) December 2011 in Edinburgh

Shakti training to increase awareness and understanding of issues facing Minority Ethnic women, children and young people affected by domestic abuse. For information contact Mridul, Lisa or Aleksandra 0131 475 2399 / info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk.

**** Collecting & Using Equalities Information**

7 December 2011 in Glasgow (10.30 – 4.30)

GCVS training to provide best practice examples, ideas on how to use the information you collect and practical tips for implementing successful monitoring systems. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/5ta8f3p>

Working with Interpreters

8 December 2011 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an understanding of best practice when working with interpreters, learn about service providers' responsibilities, and how to develop or improve existing practice. Participants will also learn how to communicate effectively with their service-users when using interpreters. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/3gt2h8b> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children & Young People**

16th (9.30-4.30pm) & 17th (9.30-12.30pm) January 2012 in Edinburgh

13th (9.30-4.30pm) & 14th(9.30-12.30pm) February 2012in Edinburgh

19th(9.30-4.30pm) & 20th(9.30-12.30pm) March 2012in Edinburgh

Shakti training to increase awareness and understanding of issues facing Minority Ethnic women, children and young people affected by domestic abuse. For information contact Mridul, Lisa, or Aleksandra 0131 475 2399 / info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

New Muslim Cool

22 March 2012 in Glasgow (all day)

Faith Matters event about the work of Hamza Perez a Muslim Hispanic American whose multi-faith work has seen Christians and Jews support him during difficult times post 9/11. For information contact pa@faith-matters.co.uk / 0207 554 8847 or see <http://faith-matters.org/images/stories/Faith%20Matters%20New%20Muslim%20Cool%20UK%20Tour%20March%202010.pdf>

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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/>
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>

Useful Links (continued)

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/>

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