

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.*

Supported by



Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Race Relations](#)

[Equality](#)

[Racism and Religious Hatred](#)

[Other Holyrood](#)

[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

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

Human Trafficking

Drew Smith: To ask the Scottish Executive how many successful convictions for human trafficking have been obtained in each year since 2007. (S4W-003297)

Reply from Lesley Thomson: There have only been two prosecutions in Scotland, under the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003, in relation to human trafficking. Of the cases prosecuted one trial was discontinued following a review of the available evidence in 2006. The other case concluded on, 9 September 2011, with guilty pleas being tendered at Glasgow Sheriff Court. This is the first conviction for the statutory offence of human trafficking in Scotland. The accused were sentenced, on 3 October 2011, to periods of imprisonment of 44 months and 18 months. While these are the first convictions for human trafficking in Scotland, there have been a number of successful prosecutions for criminal offences against a background of people trafficking, such as identity offences, trading in prostitution, managing an immoral house, knowingly permitting premises to be used as brothel and knowingly living on the earnings of prostitution.

No direct link is currently available, but the above answer can be read at http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_ChamberDesk/WA20111102.pdf

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Visas

Baroness Hamwee: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many persons who originally entered the United Kingdom on (a) an overseas domestic worker (visitor) visa, (b) an overseas domestic worker (other) visa, and (c) an overseas domestic worker (diplomat) visa, have been referred into the national referral mechanism since its inception. [HL12836]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): Between 1 April 2009 and 30 June 2011 the following were referred into the national referral mechanism:

(a) 19 persons who originally entered the United Kingdom on an overseas domestic worker (visitor) visa; (b) 15 persons who originally entered the United Kingdom on an overseas domestic worker (other) visa; and (c) 14 persons who originally entered the United Kingdom on an overseas domestic worker (diplomat) visa.

These data are based on management information and as such have not been quality assured as part of the production of National Statistics outputs. The data are provisional and subject to change.

Lord Laird: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will make recognition of those companies which accredit private colleges in order to issue confirmations of acceptance for studies (CAS) for visa purposes dependent on their taking account of CAS issue and visa propriety in their accreditation regimes. [HL12853]

Reply from Lord Henley: As announced by the Home Secretary on 22 March this year, all education providers wishing to sponsor international students through tier 4 of the points-based system now need to meet new educational oversight requirements by being inspected, audited or reviewed by one of the eight publicly recognised bodies. They must also meet more rigorous immigration compliance requirements by becoming highly trusted sponsors (HTS).

The introduction of a new system of robust educational oversight, by the bodies that already have a statutory role in the inspection of educational provision in the UK, replaces the previous accreditation regime by membership-based organisations. The rationale for this was the widespread evidence that the previous regime proved inadequate in tackling the low standards of educational provision and abuse of the immigration system encountered in the privately funded sector.

The two requirements on sponsors (to meet minimum immigration compliance and educational oversight standards) are assessed separately due to the expertise and resource particular to each organisation. As the experts in immigration control, the UK Border Agency assesses immigration compliance (such as the usage of CAS or student compliance with the terms of their visa) through the sponsorship system (which now requires all sponsors to become HTS). As the education specialists, the educational oversight bodies (and formerly the five private accreditation bodies) inspect/review educational standards.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/111102w0001.htm#11110299000353>

Asylum

Shabana Mahmood: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what the average time taken was for processing legacy asylum cases in the latest period for which figures are available. [78106]

Reply from Damian Green: Cases dealt with under the remit of the legacy casework programme were the older, previously unresolved cases.

Due to the complex nature and variable age of the cases within the legacy cohort,

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

many cases predated the Asylum Case Information Database (ACID). This means that it is not possible to provide a reliable assessment of the average processing time for such cases; to attempt to do so would incur disproportionate costs.

Shabana Mahmood: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department pursuant to the answer of 13 October 2011, *Official Report*, column 497W, on asylum, whether 479,000 or 455,000 asylum cases under the legacy programme have been fully concluded. [78154]

Reply from Damian Green: As Jonathan Sedgwick, then acting chief executive of the UK Border Agency, reported to the Home Affairs Committee on 12 September, 479,000 of the 500,500 cases in the legacy programme have been fully concluded.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111103/text/111103w0001.htm#11110376000031>

Immigrants: Detainees

Julian Huppert: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many women detained for immigration purposes in 2010-11 had children living in the UK and were separated from those children during their detention. [76663]

Reply from Damian Green: The information sought is not recorded centrally by the UK Border Agency and can be obtained through examination of individual case records only at disproportionate cost.

The UK Border Agency has a policy of not separating parents from children although it will sometimes have to deal with circumstances in which such a separation has already taken place. Separation is always in exceptional circumstances and only after full consideration has been given to possible alternatives. A key consideration is to ensure that no child is left unaccompanied by a responsible adult/carer.

In cases where a parent detained in an immigration removal centre has a child in the community, the UK Border Agency will seek to facilitate contact between the parent and child, subject to the wishes of the family, and in liaison with the local authority where appropriate.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm1111031/text/1111031w0002.htm#111103130000045>

Immigrants: Detainees

Julian Huppert: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what arrangements there are for children of mothers who have been detained for immigration purposes to maintain contact with their mothers while they are in detention. [76665]

Reply from Damian Green: The Detention Centre Rules 2001 require that all detained persons are entitled to enjoy family life by way of visits from, or communications with, family members. This requirement applies equally in the case of detained mothers whose children are living in the community or under local authority care.

Other than those necessary in the interests of safety and security, there are very few restrictions placed on the ability of detained persons to maintain outside contacts. All persons detained in immigration removal centres may receive unlimited visits. They may make and receive telephone calls and send and receive as many letters as they wish. Where detained persons do not have the necessary funds to do so, arrangements are in place for them to make telephone calls or send letters free of charge.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111101/text/111101w0001.htm#11110184000035>

Immigration and Asylum (continued) **Press Releases**

Student visa clampdown

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/student-visa-clampdown>

Speeding up removals

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/immigration-removals>

UK youth mobility scheme for Taiwanese nationals

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2011/october/06-taiwan-youth-mobility>

New Publications

The work of the UK Border Agency (April–July 2011)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201012/cmselect/cmhaff/1497/1497i.pdf>

Experiences of forced labour among Chinese migrant workers

Report <http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/Chinese-migrants-forced-labour-full.pdf>

Summary <http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/Chinese-migrants-forced-labour-summary.pdf>

News

3,000 banks on blacklist for student visa applications

http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/education/3_000_banks_on_blacklist_for_student Visa_applications_1_1939369

Colleges lose licences in immigration crackdown

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-15544453>

Foreign students ban on colleges

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/foreign-students-ban-on-colleges-1.1132771>

Ban on foreign students for two language schools

http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/education/ban_on_foreign_students_for_two_language_schools_1_1941753

Student visa curbs are damaging our reputation, Universities UK warns

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2011/nov/02/student-visa-curbs-damaging-uk-reputation>

UK passes 10,000 border arrests due to screening system

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-15516814>

Minimum salary threshold could cut migrant workers by two-thirds

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/nov/04/minimum-salary-cut-migrant-workers>

The refugees rebuilding their lives in Scotland

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/life-style/real-lives/the-refugees-rebuilding-their-lives-in-scotland-1.1132261>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Westminster must follow Scotland's lead

http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/opinion/cartoon/nina_murray_westminster_must_follow_scotland_s_lead_1_1946895

UK Border Agency attacked for 'dumping' missing cases

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-15581877>

MPs attack archive of lost asylum applicants

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/nov/04/archive-lost-asylum-applicants>

Head of UK border force suspended

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/nov/05/head-of-uk-border-force-suspended>

Border Agency chief suspended amid claims passport checks were dropped

http://www.scotsman.com/scotland-on-sunday/uk/border_agency_chief_suspended_amid_claims_passport_checks_were_dropped_1_1950441

Illegal immigrant wins £17,000 compensation for being held in jail

http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/uk/illegal_immigrant_wins_17_000_compensation_for_being_held_in_jail_1_1949690

Court awards deportee £17,000 for being held too long

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/law/2011/nov/04/court-awards-deportee-17000-damages>

Trafficking in Britain: 'For five months I asked when I would get a job, but all I did was clean their home'

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/nov/06/trafficking-britain-eastern-europe>

[TOP](#)

Race Relations

News

What I'm really thinking: the Muslim woman

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2011/nov/04/what-really-thinking-muslim-woman>

[TOP](#)

Equality

New Publication

The Position of Scotland's Equality Groups: Revisiting Resilience in 2011

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/1124/0121151.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Racism and Religious Hatred

Westminster Early Day Motion

Keith Vaz (2344) Racism in Football – That this House condemns any incidents of racism in sport; notes that there are currently two ongoing investigations into alleged incidents of racism by high-profile football players; commends the work of the Kick It Out campaign, Show Racism the Red Card and other charities which provide an inspiring service campaigning to ensure football is free from discrimination; and urges the Government to support these organisations in their excellent work.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2010-12/2344>

Press Release

Commission publishes research on targeted crime

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/news/2011/october/commission-publishes-research-on-targeted-crime/>

New Publications

Equality groups' perceptions and experience of crime: Analysis of the British Crime Survey 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/research/bp4.pdf

Tackling the challenge of targeted harassment

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/key-projects/how-fair-is-britain/tackling-the-challenge-of-targeted-harassment/>

[TOP](#)

Other Holyrood

Parliamentary Questions

Charities and Voluntary Organisations (Financial Pressures)

Rob Gibson (Caithness, Sutherland and Ross) (SNP): To ask the Deputy First Minister how the Scottish Government can alleviate the financial pressures on charities and voluntary organisations. (S4F-00220)

Reply from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Health, Wellbeing and Cities Strategy (Nicola Sturgeon): The third sector has a major role in Scotland's future, especially during a period of economic austerity. Over the next three years, the Scottish Government will provide £73.5 million to the third sector, which compares with funding of £62.1 million over the final three years of the previous Administration. Despite the difficult financial pressures that the Scottish Government faces, that represents a funding increase for the third sector of 18.3 per cent.

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=6504&mode=html#job_59154

Other Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Human Rights Education

Hanzala Malik: To ask the Scottish Executive how it supports work on human rights education in schools, colleges and universities. (S4O-00310)

Reply from the Minister for Learning and Skills (Dr Alasdair Allan): The Scottish Government is committed to creating a modern, inclusive Scotland, which respects, promotes and realises human rights for all citizens.

Education has an important role and enabling young people to develop as responsible global citizens is at the heart of the curriculum for excellence. Support on global citizenship and human rights education is being provided by a range of public and non-governmental bodies, including Education Scotland, the Scottish Human Rights Commission, UNICEF, Amnesty International, Oxfam, Black and Ethnic Minorities Infrastructure in Scotland and members of the IDEAS network.

Hanzala Malik: When will there be national implementation of the strategy and the development of human rights education in Scotland? Moreover, is the minister in a position to advise when the Scottish Human Rights Commission will promote national awareness, respect and understanding of human rights and when it will publish its report?

Reply from Alasdair Allan: I cannot speak directly for the Human Rights Commission, but I can certainly say that the Government is committed to many of the things that it has recommended, which is why citizenship, including human rights, is central to the curriculum for excellence. That is also why the Government is keen to engage with the cross-party group on human rights. I will certainly take on board what the member says about timescales and endeavour to write back to him.

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=6504&mode=html#job_59161

Press Releases

Offensive behaviour at football

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2011/11/01150531>

Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) 2010-11

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2011/11/01100546>

New Publication

2010/11 Scottish Crime and Justice Survey: Main Findings

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/361684/0122316.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Other Westminster

Debate

Female Genital Mutilation

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111103/debtext/111103-0004.htm#1111036800001>

Other Westminster (continued)

Parliamentary Questions

Scotland: Referendum

Lord McAvoy: To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions the Prime Minister has had with the First Minister of Scotland regarding a referendum on Scottish independence since the Scottish Parliamentary elections.

Reply from the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (Lord Strathclyde): My Lords, the Prime Minister has had discussions with the First Minister of Scotland on a range of issues.

Lord McAvoy: My Lords, I thank the noble Lord the Leader of the House for his Answer—I think. Does he agree with me that one thing is now certain; there will be a referendum in Scotland on the issue of separation at some point in the future? The Government seem lost for a definitive policy on this issue. Does he agree that it is essential that such a referendum on separation be conducted in a fair and impartial manner, with everyone entitled to put their point of view without being attacked for holding a point of view? Finally, does he also agree that it was totally reprehensible for a First Minister of Scotland to use public resources to attempt to undermine an eminent professor who had expressed doubts about the principle of separation?

Reply from Lord Strathclyde: My Lords, I understand that the First Minister of Scotland had to apologise to the Scottish Parliament last week for making that error. More fully, I totally agree with the noble Lord that if there were to be a referendum it should be fair and impartial. To that I would add another word—clarity. There is no purpose in having a referendum in Scotland unless the question is very clearly understood by the people of Scotland so that the result can equally be interpreted with clarity.

Lord Forsyth of Drumlean: My Lords, could my noble friend confirm that privately the First Minister has been threatening government Ministers that if we constitute a legally conducted referendum campaign in Scotland, he will make it his business to boycott that referendum and to prevent the police and other services from seeing that it is carried out? Is the First Minister not getting a bit too big for his boots?

Reply from Lord Strathclyde: My Lords, I cannot confirm to my noble friend Lord Forsyth that the First Minister of Scotland has been threatening UK government Ministers. If it were true, however, that he would seek to frustrate a referendum in Scotland that had been legally and rightly established by the Westminster Parliament, it would be the most extraordinary event. Surely the first person who should whoop for joy if there were to be a referendum on the issue of separation in Scotland should be the First Minister.

Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale: Can the Government confirm whether they have conducted any research into the year-on-year implications for jobs in Scotland of investment decisions that might be affected by the prospect of a referendum and the prospect of independence? The First Minister talks of an independence referendum perhaps in 2015, with no certain date or timescale. Will the Government consider making representations to ensure that the uncertainty that that creates is minimised by bringing forward the date to as soon as possible?

Reply from Lord Strathclyde: The noble Lord brings a lot of experience to this whole subject. I am glad to say that my right honourable friend the Secretary of State for Scotland himself has laid six—there could be many more—questions to the First Minister for Scotland on the whole issue of what independence means, so that we can have the clarity that I alluded to in the first Answer.

Lord Howarth of Newport: If a referendum on Scottish independence produced a yes vote, would it not then follow that the size of the House of Commons would be reduced and that the House of Commons would be weakened? What bearing does the noble Lord the Leader of the House think that that would have upon the relationship between these two Houses of Parliament, especially if there were to be an elected second Chamber?

Other Westminster (continued)

Parliamentary Questions

Reply from Lord Strathclyde: My Lords, I admire the way the noble Lord gets the question of an elected second Chamber into virtually every question he poses, but even for me that is far too hypothetical for me to join him.

Lord MacLennan of Rogart: Does my noble friend accept that it is in the interests neither of Scotland nor of the United Kingdom for this issue to drift on unresolved throughout the rest of this Parliament? Is it not now time for the Government to take a decision not only on the future calling of a referendum-their proper role in this union-but on the proper information for the electors about what the consequences would be?

Reply from Lord Strathclyde: My Lords, I entirely agree with my noble friend on the question of information. As far as timing is concerned, it is true that doubts about Scotland's future within the United Kingdom create uncertainty not just for the people of Scotland but for those who wish to invest, to trade, to do business and to live in Scotland. All these things need to be taken into account before a decision is taken on a referendum.

Lord Davidson of Glen Clova: My Lords, in the spirit of clarity, will the Leader of the House indicate whether the Government have a view on whether the Scottish Parliament can competently call a referendum on constitutional change in Scotland, and if so, what that view is?

Reply from Lord Strathclyde: My Lords, the fundamental principle that we believe applies is that matters concerning the union of the kingdom are a reserved matter.

Lord Nickson: My Lords, in the tragic event that there was a referendum and the people of Scotland voted for a separate state, what is the Government's view on what currency they should adopt? Is it a possibility that it might have to be the euro instead of sterling?

Reply from Lord Strathclyde: My Lords, certainly one of the questions that will be raised-and is continually raised-with the First Minister of Scotland, is what currency would exist within the British Isles if Scotland were no longer part of the United Kingdom. At this stage it is very difficult to answer.

Lord Cormack: My Lords, is the First Minister of Scotland seeking to emulate Ian Smith or Robert Mugabe?

Reply from Lord Strathclyde: My Lords, I am not going to follow my noble friend down that route. However, these are important matters. Ultimately the people of Scotland will need to decide whether to remain part of the United Kingdom or to break up one of the most enduring partnerships and one that has suited the people of Scotland economically and culturally more than anything else I can think of.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/111031-0001.htm#1110317000855>

Press Releases

Prime Minister's message for Eid-ul-Adha

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/a-message-for-eid-ul-adha/>

Andrew Stunell sends his best wishes for Eid-ul-Adha

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/newsstories/communities/2024244>

Foreign Secretary's Eid message

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/news/latest-news/?view=News&id=686940782>

[TOP](#)

New Publications

Scottish Third Sector Key Statistics

<http://scvo.cmph.org/l/VW6jSo7xDLR-yQk957Zzpg>

State of the Third Sector

http://scvo.cmph.org/l/3DWorBC_E0tVd265lvd0tA

Inside the EDL: populist politics in a digital age

http://www.demos.co.uk/files/Inside_the_edl_WEB.pdf?1320079341

[TOP](#)

Other News

Commission to represent Scotland on UK Bill of Rights Advisory Panel

<http://scottishhumanrights.com/news/latestnews/article/advisorypaneloct2011>

Scottish charities hit by cuts and growing demand

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-15514490>

Scots charities hit by £100m cash squeeze

http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/politics/scots_charities_hit_by_100m_cash_squeeze_1_1939377

Women & Islam: The rise and rise of the convert

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/women--islam-the-rise-and-rise-of-the-convert-6258015.html>

World's first 'halal whisky' made without alcohol goes on sale in time for party season

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2057012/Worlds-halal-whisky-alcohol-goes-sale-time-party-season.html>

Children in charge of Holland Park Sikh temple

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-15595139>

[TOP](#)

Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Holyrood

**** Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/29678.aspx>

Scottish Government response to the Justice Committee report

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/925/0122388.pdf>

Debate on Stage 2 Report

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=6504&mode=html#iob_59178

Bills in Progress (continued) Westminster

**** Scotland Bill**

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

Scottish Parliament Committee evidence session

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=6486&mode=pdf>

[TOP](#)

Consultations

**** new or updated this week**

**** closes this week!!**

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

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

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>

**** Migration Advisory Committee: level of the 2012/13 annual limit on tier 2 and associated policies** (21 December 2011)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/workingwithus/mac/mac-evidence-document>

Public Focus Strategy (closes 23 December 2011)

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

[TOP](#)

Job Opportunities

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

[TOP](#)

**** this week!**

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>

**** this week!**

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.

**** this week!**

Innovations in the Conduct and Practice of Research and Methods

11 November 2011 in Glasgow (11.30 – 3.00)

BEMIS and GRAMNet seminar to present up-to-date academic thinking and practice relating research in the social sciences and humanities. For information see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12ii_bemis.pdf or contact seminar@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

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

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>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

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

**** Opening of Interfaith Week**

27 November 2011 in Glasgow (1.30 – 3.45)

For information contact Frances Hume fhume@scottishinterfaithcouncil.org / 0141 420 6982.

Making Human Rights Happen

30 November 2011 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.00)

1 Decemer 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.

Meet Your Muslim Neighbour

DATE CHANGED!!

3 December 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

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

**** Research, Ethics and Active Citizenship: Towards Guidelines for Ethical Research Practice**

18 January 2012 in Glasgow (11.30 – 3.30)

BEMIS and GRAMNet seminar to discuss how changes in social science and humanities research methods have led to a deeper commitment to active citizenship and human rights education. For information contact seminar@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047 or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12ii_bemis.pdf.

**** Towards Guidelines for Ethical Research Practice**

Week of 13 February – date still to be confirmed – in Edinburgh

BEMIS and GRAMNet consultation on the subject of guidelines for ethical research practice in social sciences and humanities. For information contact seminar@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047 or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12ii_bemis.pdf.

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>

[TOP](#)

Useful Links

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

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

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

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

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

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

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

Scottish 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

[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/>

The copyright of each article belongs to the publisher on whose website it appears, and it may only be copied or reproduced in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions. Full details of these, and the publisher's contact information, are available on each website.