

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, and that the Scottish Parliament website has recently been redesigned, so that links published in previous issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on the Scottish Parliament website, copy the details from MEMO into the search facility at <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/help/searchadvanced.aspx>.

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 in recess from 23 December 2011 to 8 January 2012, and the UK Parliament from 20 December 2011 to 10 January 2012.

The next issue of MEMO will be published on 16 January 2012.

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Question

Human Trafficking

Drew Smith (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Executive when it last met (a) the UK Border Agency, (b) the Equality and Human Rights Commission, (c) Glasgow 2014, (d) the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service and (e) representatives of police forces to discuss human trafficking. (S4W-4356)

Reply from Kenny MacAskill: The Scottish Government works in partnership with the UK Government and other agencies to ensure that effective measures are taken to combat this form of serious organised crime. Meetings with our key partners are held on a regular basis.

Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Question (continued)

The Scottish Government last met with the UK Border Agency on 21 November 2011 and a further meeting will take place on 16 December 2011. Scottish Government officials met with the Equality and Human Rights Commission on 25 October 2011. The Commonwealth Games Security Committee, which includes representatives from the Scottish Government, met on 27 October 2011. A meeting was held with the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service on 27 September 2011. A meeting was held with the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency on 14 September 2011 and a meeting will be held with the Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland on 9 December 2011.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-04356&ResultsPerPage=10>

Westminster Debate

Immigration

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111212/debtext/111212-0003.htm#1112121700002>

Westminster Grand Committee

Accession (Immigration and Worker Authorisation) (Amendment) Regulations 2011

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/111214-gc0001.htm#11121478000144>

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Immigrants: Citizenship

Frank Field: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many immigrants to the UK have successfully applied for UK citizenship in each of the last 10 years; and if she will make a statement. [86561]

Reply from Damian Green: The available statistics are given in the following table. It is not possible to identify separately grants of British citizenship made to migrants as opposed to those that are UK born within the published data.

The number of applications for and grants of British citizenship has risen significantly since the mid-1990s. This increase is likely, in part, to reflect increased grants of settlement over the same period to non-European economic area nationals—after a period of residence those granted settlement become eligible to apply for citizenship.

The latest Home Office immigration statistics on persons granted British citizenship, from which the data in this reply are derived, are given in table 'cz.02' of the statistical release 'Immigration Statistics July-September 2011'. This publication is available from the Library of the House and from the Home Office Science web site at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/immigration-q3-2011/>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

British citizenship grants by general category

	<i>All grants</i>	<i>Naturalisation based on residence</i>	<i>Naturalisation based on marriage</i>	<i>Registration of minor children related to a British citizen on a discretionary basis</i>	<i>Registration on other grounds</i>
2001	90,282	39,498	28,618	21,239	927
2002	120,121	57,595	34,414	26,319	1,793
2003	130,535	54,967	36,757	35,344	3,467
2004	148,273	64,103	40,406	38,415	5,349
2005	161,699	77,334	34,496	41,641	8,228
2006	154,018	77,080	27,587	42,447	6,904
2007	164,637	87,785	30,423	40,534	5,895
2008	129,377	65,713	29,075	30,832	3,757
2009	203,789	99,474	52,627	47,814	3,874
2010	195,046	93,681	47,028	48,611	5,726

Notes: 1. Data for 2010 are provisional figures. 2. Data presented relate to number of persons. Cases dealt with in the United Kingdom. 3. Grants: A positive outcome of an application for British citizenship prior to attending a citizenship ceremony by applicants over 18 years of age. 4. 'Decisions taken to grant' from November 2001 include grants of British citizenship in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man. 5. Marriage includes civil partnership introduced from 5 December 2005. 6. Minor children: children under 18 years of age. 7. Other includes British Overseas Territories citizens from Gibraltar registered as British citizens under s.5 of the British Nationality Act 1981. *Source:* Home Office, Migration Statistics.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111215/text/111215w0003.htm#111215115000037>

Asylum

Richard Graham: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department in how many of the asylum legacy cases resolved since May 2010 an individual was (a) granted asylum and (b) deported. [85031]

Reply from Damian Green: In answering this question, I have taken deportation to mean removal. Since May 2010, it is not a national statistic, and as such, it should be treated as provisional and therefore subject to change, 280 individuals have been granted asylum and 400 have been removed.

Source: Local management information provided by UKBA, North West Region Planning and MI team.

Richard Graham: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many asylum legacy cases are outstanding; and how many such cases have been concluded in the last 12 months. [85032]

Reply from Damian Green: The UK Border Agency committed to review all older unresolved cases by summer 2011; this was achieved by March 2011. A total of 500,500 cases were reviewed as part of the programme.

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.

During the period 1 December 2010 to 12 September 2011, 41,950 cases reached conclusion, 15,499 asylum legacy cases remain outstanding.

Source: Local Management information provided by UKBA, North West Region

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Planning and MI team. It is not a national statistic. As such it should be treated as provisional and therefore subject to change.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111213/text/111213w0001.htm#11121389000018>

Asylum

Helen Jones: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate she has made of the backlog of cases in the UK Border Agency, broken down by case type and the number of cases in each category. [79780]

Reply from Damian Green: The current number of work in progress cases in the UK Border Agency is shown as follows:

	<i>Number</i>
Temporary Migration ^(1, 5, 6)	42,800
Permanent Migration ^(1, 5, 6)	53,000
Asylum ^(2, 5)	37,900
Other ^(3, 4, 5, 6)	16,400

The number of application over the last six months were:

	<i>Number</i>
Temporary Migration ^(5, 6)	105,700
Permanent Migration ^(5, 6)	147,300
Asylum ^(5, 7)	9,900

⁽¹⁾ Figures were produced on 4 November 2011. ⁽²⁾ Asylum cases also known as the asylum WiP was published on the HM Government website in August 2011 <http://data.gov.uk/dataset/asylum-performance-framework> ⁽³⁾ Figures were produced on 7 November 2011. ⁽⁴⁾ Includes cases from case assurance and audit unit (CAAU). ⁽⁵⁾ All figures rounded to the nearest hundred. ⁽⁶⁾ With the exception of Asylum all figures quoted are management information which has been subject to internal quality checks. ⁽⁷⁾ Asylum application figures are management information which has been subject to internal quality checks.

No 'Other' cases were received within the last six months.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111215/text/111215w0003.htm#111215115000026>

Immigrants: Detainees

Priti Patel: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department with reference to the detention data tables Immigration Statistics April-June 2011 table dt.07.q, what the total length of stay in the UK has been of each of the 74 persons who have been detained for more than 24 months. [82102]

Reply from Damian Green: The following table sets out the total length of stay in the UK of the 74 individuals detained for more than 24 months referred to in the Immigration Statistics April to June 2011.

<i>Length of time (in years) in the UK based on first application raised</i>	<i>Number of individuals</i>
3	7
4	7
5	13
6	5
7	6

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

8	10
9	7
10	4
11	5
12	3
13	1
14	1
15	1
17	2
18	1
20	1

The following table sets out the reasons why the 74 individuals detained for more than 24 months referred to in the Immigration Statistics April to June 2011, had not been removed from the UK. As the table shows, five of the individuals have now been removed from the UK. This information is taken from Internal Management Information and is subject to change.

<i>Barriers to removal</i>	<i>Number of individuals</i>
Travel Document	39
Appeals	6
Children issues	1
Country Situation	1
Nationality not confirmed	1
Judicial Review	15
Awaiting Removal: Multiple Barriers	4
Rule 39*	2
Removed	5

Of the 74 individuals detained for more than 24 months referred to in the Immigration Statistics April to June 2011, 53 lodged an appeal against their deportation. In addition to this:

29 individuals submitted a Judicial Review (JR) against unlawful detention.

five submitted a JR on HR grounds.

five submitted a JR against unlawful detention and on HR grounds.

To determine in which court those of the 74 individuals detained for more than 24 months referred to in the Immigration Statistics April to June 2011, have lodged an appeal against detention or removal would require the examination of individual case files which would incur a disproportionate cost.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111213/text/111213w0001.htm#11121389000031>

Immigrants: Detainees

Priti Patel: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department with reference to the detention data tables Immigration Statistics April-June 2011 table dt.07.q, for what reasons each of the 74 individuals detained for more than 24 months has not been removed from the UK. [82103]

Reply from Damian Green: The following table sets out the total length of stay in the UK of the 74 individuals detained for more than 24 months referred to in the Immigration Statistics April to June 2011.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

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Nationality not confirmed	1
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Awaiting removal: multiple barriers	4
Rule 39 ⁽¹⁾	2
Removed	5

⁽¹⁾ This is a request to the European court of human rights (under rule 39) that an applicant should not be removed from the UK.

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<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111214/text/111214w0001.htm#11121497000052>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Detainees: Children

Jeremy Corbyn: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many children under 16 years are being held in detention for immigration purposes; and how many were being held in (a) May 2011, (b) January 2011 and (c) June 2010. [77052]

Reply from Damian Green: The latest published management information for the number of children under 16 years of age entering detention, held solely under Immigration Act powers in immigration removal centres, short term holding facilities and pre departure accommodation at Cedars is six in October 2011; seven in May 2011; two in January 2011 and 26 in June 2010.

This information is a subset of published data that corresponds closest to the dates requested. These figures exclude those detained 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. They may include age disputed cases. Cedars pre departure accommodation for families opened on 17 August 2011.

Information on numbers of children entering detention is published monthly and is available from the Home Office Science, Research and Statistics web pages at:

<http://homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/research-statistics/migration/migration-statistics1/>

A copy of the latest month has been placed in the Library of the House. November 2011 figures will be available on 29 December 2011.

Information on children detained under immigration Act powers, on any single day, is only published for the last day of each quarter. This information is available from the same web site and from the Library of the House. Figures for those detained on 30 September 2011 have been published on 24 November 2011.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111215/text/111215w0003.htm#111215115000032>

Repatriation

Tony Baldry: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate she has made of the number of people who have applied and been refused the right to remain within the UK who have left the jurisdiction voluntarily in each of the last five years. [85209]

Reply from Damian Green: The number of individuals who have applied and been refused the right to remain within the UK, who have subsequently left voluntarily in each of the last five years is shown in the following table.

	<i>Voluntary departures (number)</i>
2007	2,525
2008	2,500
2009	6,019
2010	9,642
2011	⁽¹⁾ 5,096
Total	25,782

⁽¹⁾ Figures for 2011 are from January to September 2011. *Notes:* 1. Figures include removals via the Assisted Voluntary Return programme, notified voluntary departures, those identified via data matching and those identified at embarkation. 2. Figures were produced on 2 December 2011. 3. Figures are based on individuals' removal date, not their application or refusal date. 4. All figures quoted are management information which has been subject to internal quality checks.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111213/text/111213w0001.htm#11121389000042>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

Press Releases

A Single Permit and a clear set of rights for legal migrant workers

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/11/901&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Migrants in the EU: One in three foreign-born persons aged 25 to 54 overqualified for their job compared with one person in five among the native-born

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_PUBLIC/3-08122011-AP/EN/3-08122011-AP-EN.PDF

Workers' remittances in the EU27 Money transferred by migrants to their country of origin up by 3% to 31 bn euro in 2010

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=STAT/11/183&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

New Publications

Transatlantic Trends: Immigration

http://trends.gmfus.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/TTImmigration_final_web.pdf

Migration reform: caps don't fit

<http://www.londonchamber.co.uk/docimages/9731.pdf>

A Rights-Based Approach to Migration and Development

http://cms.horus.be/files/99931/MediaArchive/40_MigrationPolicyPack.pdf

News

New contract for housing of asylum seekers

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/new-contract-for-housing-of-asylum-seekers.16142904>

Home Office suspends Glasgow college's licence

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/home-office-suspends-glasgow-colleges-licence.16107208>

Immigration is 'more of a problem for Britons' than in rest of the West

http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/uk/immigration-is-more-of-a-problem-for-britons-than-in-rest-of-the-west_1_2012159

What do Europeans think about immigration?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/dec/15/europeans-immigration-transatlantic-trends-survey>

English language challenge rejected

http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/uk/english-language-challenge-rejected_1_2013526

Overseas spouses must speak English before arriving in UK, court rules

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/dec/16/overseas-spouses-speak-english>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

UK returns refused asylum seekers to Sri Lanka

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/dec/16/refused-asylum-seekers-sri-lanka>

'Futile' battle to deport criminals

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article844623.ece

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Race Relations

Press Release

Prime Minister's King James Bible speech

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/king-james-bible/>

News

David Cameron says the UK is a Christian country

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-16224394>

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Equality

Holyrood Parliamentary Question

Modern Apprenticeships

John Wilson (Central Scotland) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Executive how it will ensure that members of black and ethnic minority communities have an equal opportunity to be aware of and considered for modern apprenticeships. (S4W-4295)

Reply from Angela Constance: The Modern Apprenticeship Programme is a fully employed programme in Scotland and as a result recruitment decisions are in the hands of participating employers. We are committed to ensure that we improve the uptake by individuals of black and ethnic minority communities. The best way for us to achieve this is through the careers advice and guidance services offered to individuals and raising awareness among employers.

In 2010 Skills Development Scotland provided funding to the STUC to undertake a project to promote the apprenticeship programme to trade unions and employers. Part of this project looked at improving the awareness of trade unions about the need to work with employers to promote the recruitment of individuals from a diverse range of backgrounds when undertaking apprenticeship recruitment processes.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-04295&ResultsPerPage=10>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Question

John Park: To ask the Scottish Executive, further to the answer to question S4W-03255 by Roseanna Cunningham on 7 November 2011, whether it will review the policy of keeping records in relation to crimes committed under section 74 of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 in order to assist the analysis of data. (S4W-04354)

Reply from Roseanna Cunningham: The Scottish Government is committed to annual analysis of the data on religiously aggravated offences held by the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) in relation to Section 74 of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003. Any review of the Data Retention Policy relating to this information is a matter for COPFS.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-04354&ResultsPerPage=10>

News

Anti-bigot laws passed by the Scottish Parliament

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-16138683>

Controversial laws targeting sectarian hatred at football & on the internet are passed by Holyrood

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics-news/2011/12/14/controversial-laws-targeting-sectarian-hatred-at-football-on-the-internet-are-passed-by-holyrood-86908-23635371/>

Landmark legislation or lawmaking on the hoof?

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/political-news/landmark-legislation-or-lawmaking-on-the-hoof.1323918171>

New Scottish anti-sectarian laws: Holyrood gets shirty over bigot bill

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/politics/new-scottish-anti-sectarian-laws-holyrood-gets-shirty-over-bigot-bill-1-2008736>

Bigotry Bill: Lord Advocate Frank Mulholland says new law will help change Scottish society

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics-news/2011/12/15/bigotry-bill-lord-advocate-says-new-law-will-help-change-scottish-society-86908-23636151/>

Anti-sectarianism bill needs a co-ordinated strategy to work

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/articles/anti-sectarianism-bill-needs-a-co-ordinated-strategy-to-work

Race hatred incidents soar by one fifth in just a year

<http://www.scotsman.com/edinburgh-evening-news/race-hatred-incidents-soar-by-one-fifth-in-just-a-year-1-2004882>

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Other Holyrood

Parliamentary Motion

S4M-01600 Kezia Dugdale: 20th Anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child—That the Parliament notes that 16 December 2011 marks the 20th anniversary of the UK’s ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; considers it important to ensure that children’s rights underpin all legislation, policy and practice affecting children and young people to ensure that every child is able to develop to his or her full potential; notes the progress that has been made over the last 20 years to bring children’s rights into the mainstream in Scotland, but also the significant challenges that remain; acknowledges the proposals from the Scottish Government to give statutory force to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in Scots law, and calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that it does its utmost to fulfil its human rights obligations to children and that every child in Scotland, regardless of background or circumstances, is able to access and enjoy all the rights set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-01600&ResultsPerPage=10>

Press Releases

Offensive behaviour at football

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2011/12/13152054>

Freedom of Information

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2011/12/16120339>

Scotland Bill “missed opportunity and not yet fit for purpose” says Holyrood Committee

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/45335.aspx>

Police and fire reform consultation

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2011/12/16095614>

New Publication

Keeping Scotland Safe and Strong: A Consultation on Reforming Police and Fire and Rescue Services in Scotland

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/365341/0124238.pdf>

News

Changing Labour, Serving Scotland

<http://www.scottishlabour.org.uk/newleader>

Johann Lamont named new Scottish Labour leader

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-16217972>

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Other Westminster

Press Release

International Holocaust Archive to be available in the UK for the first time

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/news/latest-news/?view=News&id=705646982>

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New Publications

Little big societies: micro-mapping of organisations operating below the radar

<http://www.tsrc.ac.uk/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=1uXBCLowziE%3d&tabid=861>

Social impact measurement as an entrepreneurial process

<http://www.tsrc.ac.uk/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=Etz5o0ewsw0%3d&tabid=853>

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Other News

Older ethnic minorities and migrants are also part of the EU's ageing population

<http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/pdfpress/2011-12-18%20joint%20age%20press%20release%20final.pdf>

Pioneering study gives insight into 'hidden' community sector

<http://www.tsrc.ac.uk/NewsandEvents/Insightintohiddencommunitysector/tabid/861/Default.aspx>

Measuring impact gives organisations power, say researchers

<http://www.tsrc.ac.uk/NewsandEvents/Measuringimpactgivesorganisationspower/tabid/855/Default.aspx>

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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/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/29678.aspx>

SPICe Briefing: Bill at Stage 3

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB_11-85.pdf

Stage 3 consideration of amendments

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=6622&mode=html#iob_60288

Stage 3 debate

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=6622&mode=html#iob_60289

Bill as passed

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Offensive%20Behaviour%20at%20Football%20and%20Threatening%20Communications%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b1bs4-aspassed.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Offensive%20Behaviour%20at%20Football%20and%20Threatening%20Communications%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b1bs4-aspassed.pdf)

Bills in Progress (continued) **Westminster**

Human Trafficking (Further Provisions and Support for Victims) Bill

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

**** Scotland Bill**

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

Scottish Parliament Scotland Bill Committee Report

Vol 1 <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/45319.aspx>

Vol 2 <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/45321.aspx>

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Consultations

**** new or updated this week**

**** closes this week!**

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

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

**** closes this week!**

Public Focus Strategy (closing date 23 December 2011)

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

Right to family reunification of third-country nationals living in the EU

(closing date 1 March 2012)

http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/news/consulting_public/consulting_0023_en.htm

**** Proposals for A Freedom Of Information (Amendment) Bill**

(closing date 8 March 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/365157/0124123.pdf>

**** Forced marriage** (closing date 30 March 2012)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/forced-marriage/>

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Job Opportunities

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

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

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

**** Equality in employment**

29 February 2012 in Glasgow (10.30 – 4.30)

GCVS training that includes recruitment, monitoring and dignity at work, and also examines issues around equality in volunteering. For information contact Stacey Anderson Stacey.anderson@gcvs.org.uk / 0141 332 2444.

**** Collecting and using Equalities information**

20 March 2012 in Glasgow (10.30 – 4.30)

GCVS training to equalities monitoring including best practice examples, ideas on how to use the information you collect and practical tips for implementing successful monitoring systems. For information contact Stacey Anderson Stacey.anderson@gcvs.org.uk / 0141 332 2444.

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>

Useful Links (continued)

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>

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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