

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 UK Parliament is in recess until 15 October 2012.

Please note that, because of the forthcoming Jewish festivals, the next issue of MEMO will be published on Friday 5 Oct.

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Question

Human Trafficking

Anne McTaggart (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what steps it is taking to train medical professionals to identify signs of human trafficking. (S4O-01323)

Reply from Alex Neil: The Scottish Government issued guidance to health boards in June 2012 for healthcare staff on human trafficking, which encompasses how to identify and respond to victims of trafficking. The guidance, and covering CEL letter 19(2012), can be accessed on the Scotland's Health on the Web website. It is for health boards, supported where appropriate by NHS Education for Scotland (NES), to provide the educational and training support to enable their staff to access relevant training and continuing professional

Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Question (continued)

Development opportunities. NES has been asked to develop training resources to assist healthcare staff develop the knowledge and skills to respond sensitively on trafficking, and will align this with health boards' ongoing work on gender-based violence.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4O-01323&ResultsPerPage=10>

New Publications

Into the unknown: children's journeys through the asylum process

<http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/sites/default/files/tcs/into-the-unknown--childrens-journeys-through-the-asylum-process--the-childrens-society.pdf>

Monthly asylum application tables - July 2012

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/asylum-jul-2012?view=Binary>

Children entering detention held solely under Immigration Act powers August 2012

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/child-detention-aug2012?view=Binary>

News

UK criticised over child asylum

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/uk-criticised-over-child-asylum-8162508.html>

Children fleeing wars facing 'culture of disbelief' - charity

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/9555912/Children-fleeing-wars-facing-culture-of-disbelief-charity.html>

Fewer than 1 in 10 cases in asylum backlog led to deportation

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/9553662/Fewer-than-1-in-10-cases-in-asylum-backlog-led-to-deportation.html>

London Met students win reprieve over visa ban

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/universityeducation/9558480/London-Met-students-win-reprieve-over-visa-ban.html>

London Metropolitan University wins reprieve in student visa row

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2012/sep/21/london-metropolitan-university-reprieve-student-visa>

Immigration watchdog urges greater use of family detention centre

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/sep/19/watchdog-family-immigration-detention-centre>

International borders are not immigrants, say schools

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-19749263>

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Equality

Press Release

Cardiology inquiry finds expectation of poor health in deprived areas and ethnic communities and calls for review of GP numbers

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/54828.aspx>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Press Releases

Sectarianism advisory group set up

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/09/sectarianism-27092012>

Scottish Parliament Equal Opportunities Committee appalled by repeated failures on treatment of Gypsy/travellers

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/54870.aspx>

Participants at OSCE human rights conference urge governments to tackle root causes of racism and violence against Roma

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/94353>

New Publications

Gypsy/Travellers and Care

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_EqualOpportunitiesCommittee/Reports/eor-12-03w.pdf

A Study of the English Defence League: The Faith Hate Report

<http://faith-matters.org/images/stories/edl%20report.pdf>

No compulsion in religion: an Islamic case against blasphemy laws

<http://www.quilliamfoundation.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/publications/free/no-compulsion-in-religion.pdf>

News

Sectarian advisory group set up

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-19749789>

Northern Irish chief for anti-bigotry body

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/northern-irish-chief-for-anti-bigotry-body.19003571>

'Substantial' Religious Discrimination Affects Muslims, Pagans and Christian Sects, Research Finds

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/09/18/religious-discrimination-muslim-pagan-scientology_n_1893284.html

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Religious intolerance on the rise worldwide, says US report

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/sep/20/religious-intolerance-on-rise-worldwide>

FA must do more to tackle racism and other discrimination, say MPs

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football/2012/sep/18/football-association-parliament-racism>

Golliwogs are a vile reminder of a racist past – even Tory MPs must see this

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2012/sep/21/golliwogs-vile-throwback-tory-mps>

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Other News

Minorities less likely to get cancer

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/health/minorities-less-likely-to-get-cancer.18989167>

Female Genital Mutilation: Why Does This 'Holiday' Horror Endure?

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/hilary-burrage/female-genital-mutilation_2_b_1850091.html

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Holyrood

Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/51531.aspx>

Social Care (Self-directed Support) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/48001.aspx>

Bills in Progress

Westminster

Draft Communications Data Bill

Draft Bill as published

<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm83/8359/8359.pdf>

Crime and Courts Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/crimeandcourts.html>

Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Further Provisions and Support for Victims) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/humantraffickingandexploitationfurtherprovisionsandsupportforvictims.html>

Bills in Progress

Westminster (continued)

Small Charitable Donations Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/smallcharitablecontributions.html>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Reforming Scots Criminal Law and Practice: The Carloway Report

(closing date 5 October 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00396483.pdf>

The implementation of Council Regulation 1099/2009 on the protection of animals at the time of killing

(closing date 26 October 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/08/9239/downloads>

Human rights of unaccompanied migrant children and young people in the UK

(closing date 26 October 2012)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/joint-select/human-rights-committee/inquiries/parliament-2010/human-rights-of-unaccompanied-migrant-children/>

Proposed Lobbying Transparency Bill (closing date 29 October 2012)

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_MembersBills/20120706_Lobbying_Transparency_consultation.pdf

Small Charitable Donations Bill (closing date 30 October 2012)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/news/2012/september/small-charitable-donations-bill/>

Here to Stay: People with learning disabilities from ethnic minority communities including new migrants (no closing date given)

<http://www.snapsurveys.com/swh/surveypreview.asp?k=132127029508>

Facing Facts: EU project to improve monitoring and recording of hate crimes and incidents throughout the European Union (no closing date given)

http://www.ceji.org/facingfacts/?page_id=158

Football Equity: Make your voice heard (no closing date given)

http://www.scottishfa.co.uk/scottish_fa_news.cfm?page=1848&newsCategoryId=4&newsID=10127

Strengthening Food Work Across Minority Ethnic Communities

(no closing date given)

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VMBVL7T>

European survey of antisemitism (no closing date given)

<https://surveys.ipsosinteractive.com/wix/p1640243393.aspx>

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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

**** this week!**

The Asylum Process

28 September 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work working in social work, housing, homelessness, welfare, education, employment, community development or the justice system, to explore housing and homelessness rights of asylum seekers and refugees, and best practice in addressing their housing and support needs. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/9lca9cg>.

Completing the new OSCR Returns

9 October 2012 in Dumfries (9.30 – 12.00)

6 November 2012 in Edinburgh (1.30 – 4.00)

8 November 2012 in Glasgow (1.30 – 4.00)

Oban (date to be confirmed)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training to look at the ways in which charities report to OSCR, and will include an introduction to OSCR Online. For information see <http://www.scvo.org.uk/oscr/oscr-outreach-completing-oscr-returns/>

UKBA asylum support

9 October 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.40)

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the support arrangements available to asylum seekers from the beginning to the end of the asylum process. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/9l2b3te> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Risk management and financial controls

9 October 2012 in Dumfries (1.30 – 4.00)

Oban (date to be confirmed)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training to look at risk management and financial controls within Scottish charities, focusing on different types of fraud, and methods to prevent and tackle fraud. For information see <http://www.scvo.org.uk/oscr/oscr-outreach-risk-management-and-financial-controls/>

Working with interpreters

17 October 2012 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.30)

29 November 2012 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with non-English speaking service users, including asylum seekers and refugees, who need a comprehensive understanding of how to work with interpreters. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/9fs8ae5> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

East European Roma – Cultural Awareness Training

17 October 2012 in Nottingham

Roma Support Group training to include an introduction to Roma culture and traditions, language and history. Reference will be made to the differences between Romanian, Polish and Czech Roma. This will provide the backdrop to practically oriented sessions which will look at barriers to accessing services, and more effective ways to engage with Roma families. For information see http://www.ccclimited.org.uk/roma_17_10_12.html

2012 Human Rights Tour: Civil Society Strikes Back

17 October 2012 in Inverness

18 October 2012 in Edinburgh

British Institution of Human Rights events to find out how we can use human rights to make a difference in our communities. For information see

<http://www.bih.org.uk/events/the-2012-human-rights-tour>

The needs and experiences of refugee women

19 October 2012 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an 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 contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/cdzfb75>.

The Equality Act – just how far does it go?

24 October 2012 in Glasgow (9.30 – 3.30)

Scottish Discrimination Law Association conference to look at the expansion and development of the provisions of the Equality Act, and preview the most important cases in 2013. For information see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/12x_sdla.pdf

Introduction to accessibility

25 October 2012 (10.30 – 4.30)

GCVS training looking at a wide range of accessibility issues – physical, social, communication and cultural, that offers an introduction to basic equalities concepts, access auditing and the legal basis behind the need for accessibility. For information see http://www.gcv.org.uk/whats_on/1506_introduction_to_accessibility

Becoming a charity and choosing the right legal form

6 November 2012 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 12.00)

8 November 2012 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.00)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training to take an in depth look at the pros and cons of registering as a charity, and explain the various legal forms available, including the new Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) structure. For information see <http://www.scvo.org.uk/oscr/oscr-outreach-becoming-a-charity/>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Meet the Charity Regulator

25 November 2012 in Paisley (1.30 – 3.30: public session)

25 November 2012 in Paisley (4.00 – 6.30: charity session)

27 November 2012 in Stirling (10.00 – 4.00: public session)

27 November 2012 in Stirling (1.45 – 4.00: charity session)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator events for the public, explaining how charities must operate and report to the Regulator, and for charity trustees, highlighting how charities can work with the regulator to meet challenges they face. For information see [http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/meet-the-charity-regulator/meet-the-charity-regulator-stirling-\(public-session\)/](http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/meet-the-charity-regulator/meet-the-charity-regulator-stirling-(public-session)/) (Stirling) and [http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/meet-the-charity-regulator/meet-the-charity-regulator-paisley-\(charity-session\)/](http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/meet-the-charity-regulator/meet-the-charity-regulator-paisley-(charity-session)/)

Equality in employment

29 November 2012 in Glasgow (10.30 – 4.30)

GCVS training to provide practical tips and explanations to help organisations meet their legal and ethical responsibilities. Issues covered include recruitment, monitoring and dignity at work, and issues around equality in volunteering. For information see http://www.gcvts.org.uk/whats_on/1507_equality_in_employment

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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.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/>

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

Useful Links (continued)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) <http://www.oscr.org.uk/>

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 Charitable Incorporated Organisation 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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