

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with **BEMIS - empowering Scotland's ethnic and cultural minority communities**. It provides an overview of information of interest to minority ethnic communities in Scotland, including parliamentary activity at Holyrood and Westminster, new publications, consultations, forthcoming conferences and news reports.*

Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Race Relations](#)

[Equality](#)

[Racism and Religious Hatred](#)

[Other Holyrood](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Funding 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, 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 until 21 October 2012, and the UK Parliament until 15 October 2012.

Please note that, because of the forthcoming Jewish festivals, the next issue of MEMO will be published on Monday 15 Oct.

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S4M-04334 Christina McKelvie: Stop Refugee Destitution—That the Parliament welcomes the launch of the Scottish Refugee Council and the Refugee Survival Trust's campaign, Stop Refugee Destitution, which aims to prevent people who are seeking sanctuary in Scotland from experiencing destitution; believes that destitution arises because of what it considers to be inhumane and uncompassionate actions by the UK Border Agency (UKBA); is concerned at what it believes are UKBA's many failings, which, it considers, have led to one-in-four asylum seekers in Scotland experiencing destitution; believes that these are ultimately a result of poor policy decisions made by UK administrations, both past and present; wishes the campaign well when it is launched at the Tron Theatre; hopes that the organisers are successful in raising awareness of

Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Motion (continued)

what it views as an abhorrent situation, and encourages people to sign the Stop Refugee Destitution petition.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-04334&ResultsPerPage=10>

Press Releases

New forms for applications under the points-based system to be used from today

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/october/03-new-pbs-forms>

Reduced cost for travel documents for refugees and stateless persons

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/71-travel-doc-convention>

New Publications

Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings

http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/trafficking/Docs/Gen_Report/GRETA_2012_13_2ndGenRpt_en.pdf

English Language for All

<http://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/English%20Language%20for%20All.pdf>

Film providing information in Polish (with English subtitles) of what EEA nationals must do to obtain British Citizenship

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPTjEeETVTc>

News

Graduate forced out of UK for not earning enough

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/graduate-forced-out-of-uk-for-not-earning-enough.19001472>

UK 'illegally detaining victims of torture' at Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre in Scotland

<http://www.scotsman.com/scotland-on-sunday/uk-illegally-detaining-victims-of-torture-at-dungavel-immigration-removal-centre-in-scotland-1-2555778>

Dungavel ordeal adds to torture victims' misery

<http://www.scotsman.com/scotland-on-sunday/scotland/dungavel-ordeal-adds-to-torture-victims-misery-1-2555902>

Rise in 'slavery' trafficking of homeless by gangs

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/theobserver/2012/sep/30/slavery-homeless-trafficking-gangs>

[TOP](#)

Race Relations

News

Roma integration: national representatives discuss progress and pool ideas

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/12/730&format=HTML&aged=0&language=en&guiLanguage=en>

Religious and belief communities need legal recognition

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/94647>

[TOP](#)

Equality

Press Release

Preferred candidate selected for chair of the Equality and Human Rights Commission

http://www.culture.gov.uk/news/news_stories/9386.aspx

[TOP](#)

Racism and Religious Hatred

News

Scotland and Islam

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/scotland-and-islam.19014869>

Black and Asian officers more likely to face police inquiries

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/black-and-asian-officers-more-likely-to-face--police-inquiries-8168269.html>

John Terry: the FA has been equivocal in its approach to racism

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2012/sep/30/observer-editorial-john-terry-lose-captaincy>

Forget John Terry. Football has striven to fight racism

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2012/sep/30/sunder-katwala-racism-football-terry>

My Big Fat Gypsy Wedding show poster complaints upheld

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-19809721>

Afghan interpreter 'betrayed' as UK rejects asylum bid

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-19807191>

[TOP](#)

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>

Small Charitable Donations Bill

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

[TOP](#)

Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes 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/>

Consultations (continued)

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>

[TOP](#)

Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

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/>

**** this week!**

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

**** this week!**

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/>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** this week!**

She Settles in the Shields

10 October 2012 in Glasgow (12.30-1.30)

CRER event to showcase the work of "She Settles in the Shields", a publication and exhibition conducted by Glasgow Women's Library, to reveal the fascinating stories of hope, isolation, racism, acceptance and integration experienced by the women who travelled to Scotland from all over the world. For information contact Nadia nadia@crer.org.uk / 0141 418 6530.

**** this week!**

Developing Diversity in Scottish Media

11 October 2012 in Glasgow (6.00-7.30)

CRER and National Union of Journalists discussion around developing and celebrating diversity in Scottish media: press, radio and television. For information contact Nadia nadia@crer.org.uk / 0141 418 6530.

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

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://tinyurl.com/9r97dkg>

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

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

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/>

**** BSL Awareness Session for Ethnic & Cultural Minority Communities**

8 November 2012 in Glasgow (10.00-12.00)

BEMIs and Ishara event to raise awareness of British Sign Language. For information contact Ishara@deafconnections.co.uk / 0141 420 2819 or Sue sue.barnes@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047

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.gcv.org.uk/whats_on/1507_equality_in_employment

[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

Useful Links (continued)

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

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

[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 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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