

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

Immigration and Asylum

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Visas

Lord Avebury: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether members of religious orders who are unpaid members of a religious community are exempt from the resident labour market test; and whether they will include further details about that status on the UK Border Agency tier 2 (Ministers of Religion) web page. [HL2762]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): Under tier 2 and tier 5 of the points-based system, there is no requirement for a sponsor to conduct a resident labour market test before bringing a person to the UK who will live within, and as a member of, a religious community, for example a community of nuns or monks.

The UK Border Agency tier 2 (Minister of Religion) web page which outlines basic information for persons coming to the UK will be updated to make this clear. Full

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

guidance for tier 2 and tier 5 sponsors is already available in the policy document on the UK Border Agency website, which sets out all of the circumstances in which a resident labour market test is, or is not, required.

Lord Tebbit: To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Henley on 24 September (WA 202) explaining that they do not record centrally the numbers of visa refusals for foreign nationals with criminal convictions neither spent nor exhausted under the law in their home nation, or under English law, how ministers are able to judge whether their policy to deny admission to undesirable persons is being properly implemented.[HL2843]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: Entry clearance officers consider decisions to refuse or grant a visa on a case by case basis and take into account a range of factors including criminal records from both the UK and overseas.

There are different areas of the Immigration Rules that might be applicable to refusing admission to an undesirable person including:

paragraph 320 (2)-the person is subject to a deportation order; paragraph 320 (6)-the person is personally excluded by the Secretary of State; paragraph 320 (18)-the person has a conviction in the UK or overseas resulting in a custodial sentence of 12 months or more (or it could have resulted in such a sentence had it been committed in the UK); and paragraph 320 (19)-the person's character, conduct or associations makes it undesirable to grant them entry.

The latter two of the list are discretionary refusals. Where there are strong compassionate reasons, entry may be granted. The exact nature of all visa refusals is not recorded centrally, furthermore entry clearance officers (ECOs) in considering all applications have the right skills, training and support to help them identify when a person is and might be liable to refusal and make the correct decisions.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/121105w0001.htm#12110547000523>

Immigration: Eastern Europe

Frank Field: To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office how many people born in A8 countries of Eastern Europe have been resident in the UK for less than 12 months; what the increase in the population was between 2004 and 2011 from those born in the A8 countries of Eastern Europe; and what the figure was for net migration between 2004 and 2011 from those born in the A8 countries of Eastern Europe. [R] [126754]

Reply from Nick Hurd: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the authority to reply.

Letter from Glen Watson, dated November 2012: ... (1) The Office for National Statistics does not collect country of birth data for short term migrants but does collect citizenship information. The most recent estimate of people with A8 citizenship staying for between 3 and 12 months is 29,395. This data is for the year to June 2010. More recent data will be published in May 2013. This estimate is based on the International Passenger Survey (IPS).

(2) The number of people born in the A8 countries in 2004 was 167,000, and in 2011 was 988,000. The increase in this population was therefore 821,000. These estimates are based on the Annual Population Survey (APS).

(3) The latest figures for the year to December 2011 for net migration by country of birth will be published at the end of this month. The figure for net migration from 2004 to 2010 is 355,000. This estimate is based on the IPS.

Differences between the samples of the IPS and the APS, for example the inclusion of short term migrants in the APS, meant that caution should be applied when comparing the two datasets. More detail on the differences between the two

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

surveys can be found in the document 'Estimating International Migration: An exploration of the definitional differences between the Labour Force Survey, Annual Population Survey, International Passenger Survey and Long-Term International Migration'.

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/migration1/population-by-country-of-birth-and-nationality/sources-of-international-migration-data/differences-between-sources-of-international-migration-data.pdf>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121106/text/121106w0003.htm#121106117000132>

Immigration: Kashmir

Gavin Shaker: To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office what recent estimate he has made of the size of the Kashmiri-origin population in the UK. [126897]

Reply from Nick Hurd: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the authority to reply.

Letter from Glen Watson, dated November 2012: ... The Annual Population Survey (APS), used by the ONS to provide population by country of birth and nationality estimates for the UK, does not record information about Kashmiri origin. In the 2011 Census, Kashmiri was not included as a tick-box option on the ethnicity question, but could be self-declared by respondents. Ethnicity data from the 2011 Census will be released between November 2012 and February 2013.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121105/text/121105w0003.htm#12110550000016>

Entry Clearances

Paul Blomfield: To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what estimate he has made of the potential saving to the public purse of the withdrawal of free visas for children from Belarus and Ukraine brought to the UK by the charity Chernobyl Children's Life Line. [126297]

Reply from David Lidington: The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) has until now funded Chernobyl children visas in Belarus only. In the most recent complete financial year—2011-12—the Chernobyl Children's Life Line (CCLL) charity supported 827 visa applications in Belarus. Based on that figure, the cost to the FCO for these visas was approximately £62,850. It should be noted that the 827 CCLL-supported visa applications included a small number of group leaders, whose visas were not provided as gratis. It is not possible to break down the figures for CCLL further to remove this small number of non-gratis visas.

As a goodwill gesture in this final year of gratis visas, we have offered to cover the cost of Chernobyl children visas obtained in Ukraine as well as Belarus, by all eligible Chernobyl Children's charities, up to a ceiling of £200,000 overall for the year. We do not yet have final figures for CCLL-supported visa applications in Ukraine for this financial year.

The decision to end the gratis visa scheme was taken in 2010 in line with a number of other difficult spending decisions in the context of £100 million of cuts for the FCO as a whole. Although the costs of the gratis visa scheme may seem modest, the £200,000 ceiling for the current financial year is comparable with the annual running costs of one of our very small embassies.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121102/text/121102w0001.htm#12110250000054>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Asylum

David Davies: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what the average time taken is to find accommodation for people presenting to the UK Border Agency as asylum seekers. [126615]

Reply from Mark Harper: Any asylum seeker who needs accommodation is immediately placed into one of the UK Border Agency's initial accommodation centres located across the United Kingdom. The support application is then considered in detail, including the accommodation needs of the person and any family members. The time taken to obtain suitable longer term accommodation varies according to the complexity of the case. Data on the average time it takes are not held in a format that is compatible with National Statistics protocols, but I am satisfied that applicants are housed within a reasonable timeframe.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121106/text/121106w0001.htm#121106117000062>

Asylum: Housing

David Davies: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people who have had their claim for asylum seeker status rejected are continuing to live in accommodation provided by the UK Border Agency. [126614]

Reply from Mark Harper: At the end of the second quarter of 2012 a total of 2,360 failed asylum seekers were accommodated under the provisions of Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. Section 4 support is provided to failed asylum seekers who would otherwise be destitute where there is a temporary barrier preventing them from leaving the UK.

A total of 17,982 persons were accommodated under Section 95 of the 1999 Act. Section 95 support is generally available only while a person's asylum claim is under consideration or an appeal is outstanding. However, where there are children in the household eligibility for the support continues until the claim is accepted or the family leaves the United Kingdom. A proportion of the 17,982 cases will therefore be failed asylum seekers with children who have not yet been returned to their own countries. Data on the precise number is not held in a format compatible with National Statistics protocols. These cases are being actively managed.

Chris Ruane: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many and what proportion of people placed into housing by the National Asylum Service were placed in housing in each of the principal seaside towns of the UK in each of the last five years. [127146]

Reply from Mark Harper: The UK Border Agency has published statistics since 2006 on the number of asylum seekers accommodated under section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. The statistics include a breakdown of the numbers accommodated in particular towns and are available in "Table as.16.q" (asylum excel tables volume 5) within Immigration Statistics April-June 2012:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/immigration-tabs-q2-2012/asylum5-q2-2012-tabs>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121107/text/121107w0001.htm#12110783000055>

Asylum: Democratic Republic of Congo

Paul Blomfield: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department when the report into the treatment of failed asylum seekers upon their return to Democratic Republic of Congo will be published; and how she plans to make this report available. [126472]

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Reply from Mark Harper: The UK Border Agency will publish a country policy bulletin for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on its web site this month. This will confirm the Agency's position on returns to the DRC, following allegations made of mistreatment, amounting to torture, of returnees from the UK.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121106/text/121106w0001.htm#121106117000063>

Human Trafficking

Lord Alton of Liverpool: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many women and girls have been prevented from being trafficked as a result of the Department for International Development's Human Trafficking in South Asia Programme; and what percentage were Dalits or Adivasis.[HL2884]

To ask Her Majesty's Government what priority was given to protecting Dalits and Adivasis in the pilot phase of the Department for International Development's Human Trafficking in South Asia Programme.[HL2885]

To ask Her Majesty's Government what measures will be put in place to ensure that priority is given to preventing the human trafficking of Dalits and Adivasis in the implementation phase of the Department for International Development's Human Trafficking in South Asia Programme.[HL2886]

Reply from Baroness Northover: The Department for International Development (DfID) is currently designing a programme to reduce the trafficking of women and girls in South Asia. Evidence from the pilot phase suggests that those most at risk of trafficking are from the poorest and most excluded groups, including Dalits and Adivasis. DfID is strongly committed to reaching the poorest and most marginalised groups through our programmes in South Asia, and this includes Dalits and Adivasis. In India, for example, we are helping 240,000 dalit and tribal girls to attend and complete secondary school.

Once the programme has been designed and approved, the expected results will be publicly available on the DfID website.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/121105w0001.htm#12110547000502>

Human Trafficking

Margot James: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice what the (a) nationality and (b) gender was of each suspected victim of trafficking referred to the Trafficking Victim Support Scheme operated by the Salvation Army in August 2012; in which region each of the suspected victims was found; and which agency referred each case to the scheme. [125973]

Reply from Helen Grant: In August 2012 there were 51 referrals to the Government-funded support service for adult victims of human trafficking in England and Wales administered by the Salvation Army. Details are provided in the following table [see link below]

Justin Tomlinson: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice what the (a) nationality and (b) gender was of each suspected victim of trafficking referred to the Trafficking Victim Support Scheme operated by the Salvation Army in July 2012; in which region each of the suspected victims was found; and which agency referred each case to the scheme. [126129]

Reply from Helen Grant: In July 2012 there were 50 referrals to the Government-funded support service for adult victims of human trafficking in England and Wales administered by the Salvation Army. Details are provided as follows:

To read the lengthy tables see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121102/text/121102w0001.htm#12110250000073>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

Press Releases

Changes to the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2006

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/november/10-change-regulations>

Changes to British citizenship applications from children born of a surrogacy arrangement

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/november/06-surrogate>

Reception conditions for asylum seekers: Better and more harmonised living standards and more effective rules for fighting abuse

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_PRES-12-415_en.htm?locale=en

New Publications

The work of the UK Border Agency (April– June 2012)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmselect/cmhaff/603/603.pdf>

Housing associations and provision for destitute migrants

<https://www.metropolitan.org.uk/images/Destitution-Practice-Pack-October-20121.pdf>

'A prison in the mind'

<http://www.gdwg.org.uk/downloads/GDWG-PrisonInTheMind.pdf>

Will I have to pay? Advice on getting NHS sexual health and HIV services for recent migrants and those of uncertain immigration status

<http://www.nat.org.uk/media/Files/Publications/Oct-2012-Will-I-have-to-pay.pdf>

News

Border Agency may hand amnesty to migrants, MPs warn

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-20252160>

Immigration backlog up

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/immigration-backlog-up.19372846>

Backlog of immigration cases is 'out of control' as MP reveals it is the size of Iceland's population

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/backlog-of-immigration-cases-is-out-of-control-as-mp-reveals-it-is-the-size-of-icelands-population-8298240.html>

UK Border Agency Could Turn 'Out Of Control' Immigration Backlog Into Amnesty, MPs Warn

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/11/09/uk-border-agency-amnesty-immigrants-warning_n_2098652.html?utm_hp_ref=uk-politics

UK Border Agency backlog 'out of control' say MPs

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/nov/09/uk-border-agency-backlog-mps>

Revolt grows in coalition over Theresa May's plan to cut immigration

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/nov/11/immigration-cuts-revolt-coalition>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

The Forgotten People Behind the Headlines: The Asylum Backlog

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/lisa-doyle/immigration-asylum-b_2100821.html?utm_hp_ref=uk-politics

Even Tighter Controls Won't Fix Our Broken Immigration System

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/don-flynn/immigration-asylum_b_2101349.html?utm_hp_ref=uk-politics

UK will not extend Romania and Bulgaria migration curbs

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-20287061>

Asylum abuse rampant, EU ministers say

<http://www.dw.de/asylum-abuse-rampant-eu-ministers-say/a-16334367>

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Race Relations

News

Baroness Warsi: Maypoles, harvest festivals, Christmas carols... it's time for the minorities to join in

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2231168/Baroness-Warsi-Maypoles-harvest-festivals-Christmas-carols--time-minorities-join-in.html>

Jesus Christ 'should be downplayed in school'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/9667435/Jesus-Christ-should-be-downplayed-in-school.html>

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Equality

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Equality Act 2010

Lord Avebury: To ask Her Majesty's Government what meetings Ministers or officials have had with (1) the Hindu Council and (2) the Hindu Forum of Britain at which the working of the Equality Act 2010, including the desirability of activating Section 9(5)(a), was discussed.[HL2732]

Baroness Stowell of Beeston: On 15 March 2011, the then Minister for Women and Equalities, Lynne Featherstone, together with officials from the Government Equalities Office, attended a meeting arranged by Hindu organisations chaired by Lord Dholakia, at which the issue of caste legislation was discussed. At that meeting a number of participants spoke to oppose the bringing into force of Section 9(5)(a) of the Equality Act 2010. As this was not a meeting arranged by HMG, no official record of who attended is held by the Government.

Neither Ministers nor officials have had any other meetings with representatives from either the Hindu Council or the Hindu Forum of Britain at which the exercising of Section 9(5) (a) of the Equality Act 2010 has been discussed.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/121108w0001.htm#12110877000309>

Equality

Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Equality: Travellers

Philip Hollobone: To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities what discussions she has had with the Secretaries of State for Health and Education on equality of health and education outcomes for members of Gypsy and Traveller communities. [123294]

Reply from Helen Grant: I have had no such discussions.

However, in 2010 the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, my right hon. Friend the Member for Brentwood and Ongar (Mr Pickles), set up a Ministerial Working Group on tackling Gypsy and Traveller inequalities, which included Ministers responsible for health and education issues. The Working Group published a progress report in April 2012, setting out 28 commitments from across government, including a number relating to health and education.

The report can be found at:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/mwgreporttravellers>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121106/text/121106w0003.htm#121106117000119>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

News

Success in Tackling Football Related Violence and Disorder

<http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/11/Success-Tackling-Football-Related-Violence-and-Disorder>

Baroness Warsi is to call on Mosques to encourage victims of anti-Muslim hate crime to come forward

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/newsroom/2251335>

Racism online and in extremist groups: two key reports by a UN expert on contemporary forms of racism

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=12743&LangID=E>

States must take resolute measures to end school segregation of Roma

https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=2001049&Site=DC&ShowBanner=no&Target=_self&BackColorInternet=F5CA75&BackColorIntranet=F5CA75&BackColorLogged=A9BACE

Academics' union accused of anti-Semitism

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/9664476/Academics-union-accused-of-anti-Semitism-over-Israel-campaign.html>

Tottenham and FA face threat over claims of anti-Semitism

<http://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/premier-league/tottenham-and-fa-face-threat-over-claims-of-antisemitism-8294794.html?origin=internalSearch>

Tottenham Hotspur defend fans over alleged abuse

<http://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/news-and-comment/tottenham-hotspur-defend-fans-over-alleged-abuse-8294105.html?origin=internalSearch>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

The Y-word is indefensible, even if Tottenham Hotspur fans seek to own it

<http://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/news-and-comment/james-lawton-the-yword-is-indefensible-even-if-tottenham-hotspur-fans-seek-to-own-it-8301466.html?origin=internalSearch>

Are Tottenham Hotspur fans really OK to use the word Yid at matches?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football/blog/2012/nov/09/tottenham-hotspur-fans-yid-chants>

Tottenham fans chanting 'Yid Army' sustains anti-Semitism

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-2230243/David-Baddiel-Tottenham-fans-chanting-Yid-Army-sustains-anti-Semitism.html>

No Jewish Spurs fans are offended by using the term 'Yid', so try targeting the real racists

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-2230221/No-Jewish-Spurs-fans-offended-using-term-Yid-try-targeting-real-racists.html>

New sectarian law hailed a success by Lord Advocate

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-20205917>

New anti-sectarian laws branded a success as high prosecution rate revealed

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/scotland/new-anti-sectarian-laws-branded-a-success-as-high-prosecution-rate-revealed-1-2614960>

'Institutional racism is an issue' in NHS, says ex-executive

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-20210842>

Bus driver who was sacked for being in BNP wins human rights case

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/law/2012/nov/06/bnp-bus-driver-wins-legal-case>

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Other Holyrood

Debate

Organ Donation (Presumed Consent)

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7478&mode=html#iob_68236

Press Release

Referendum question to be tested

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/11/referendum-question09112012>

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Other Westminster

Parliamentary Questions

Religious Faith

Lord Warner: To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their assessment of the proportion of the population having a religious faith; and on what that assessment is based. [HL2775]

Reply from the Senior Minister of State, Department for Communities and Local Government & Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Baroness Warsi):

The Government note that according to the Office for National Statistics' 2009-10 Annual Population Survey, 71.1% of the population of the United Kingdom identified with the Christian religion. Those identifying with other faiths totalled 8.2%, and 20.7% of the population indicated that they had no religious beliefs.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/121108w0001.htm#12110877000324>

Female Genital Mutilation

Karl Turner: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate she has made of the number of girls being taken out of the country to have female genital mutilation performed. [126752]

Reply from Jeremy Browne: The prevalence of female genital mutilation (FGM) in the UK is difficult to estimate because of the hidden nature of the crime. A study based on 2001 census data suggested that over 20,000 girls under 15 could be at high risk of FGM in England and Wales.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121106/text/121106w0002.htm#121106117000067>

Female Genital Mutilation

Karl Turner: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice how much funding the Government has made available for engaging with communities affected by female genital mutilation. [126751]

Reply from Jeremy Browne: I have been asked to reply on behalf of the Home Department.

In 2011-12 the Home Office launched the Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Fund providing £50,000 for frontline organisations who work to prevent FGM. 12 organisations across England and Wales secured funding which supported local work to abandon the practice of FGM.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121107/text/121107w0001.htm#12110783000069>

Meat: Ritual Slaughter

Gordon Henderson: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs whether the hind meat of an animal that has been ritually slaughtered will be included in the list of consistent visuals to show on the new food package label that his Department plans to introduce in 2013. [126015]

Reply from David Heath: The Department has no plans to introduce any rules around the use of any pictograms in food labels. The introduction of pictograms is an area for the European Commission to act as it would be part of a single market initiative. Although there are a few areas of food labelling where the UK can act on its own initiative, this is not one.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121102/text/121102w0001.htm#12110250000053>

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New Publication

Human Rights Indicators: A Guide to Measurement and Implementation

http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/Human_rights_indicators_en.pdf

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Other News

Anti-terrorist measures are threatening work of Islamic charities, charity tells regulators

http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/bulletin/third_sector_governance_bulletin/article/1158926/anti-terrorist-measures-threatening-work-islamic-charities-charity-tells-regulators/?DCMP=EMC-CONThirdSectorGovernance

Schools can sidestep Christian worship rule, say religious education groups

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2012/nov/09/schools-sidestep-christian-worship-rule>

Justin Welby 'to be named as new Archbishop of Canterbury'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-20242129>

Profile: Anglican Bishop of Durham Justin Welby

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/0/19847046>

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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>

Scotland Act 1998 (Modification of Schedule 5) Order 2013

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0040/00404790.pdf>

**** Social Care (Self-directed Support) Bill**

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

proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/56289.aspx>

Bills in Progress

Westminster

Draft Communications Data Bill

Draft Bill as published

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

Bills in Progress

Westminster (continued)

**** Crime and Courts Bill**

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

proposed amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2012-2013/0049/amend/am049-reca.htm>

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

[http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-](http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/humantraffickingandexploitationfurtherprovisionsandsupportforvictims.html)

[13/humantraffickingandexploitationfurtherprovisionsandsupportforvictims.html](http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/humantraffickingandexploitationfurtherprovisionsandsupportforvictims.html)

Small Charitable Donations Bill

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

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

The UK Government's new approach to consultation

(closing date 30 November 2012)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/secondary-legislation-scrutiny-committee/inquiries/parliament-2010/consultations/>

Review of the impact of ending employment restrictions on Bulgarian and Romanian nationals on the agriculture and food processing sectors

(closing date 18 January 2013)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/workingwithus/mac/c-all-saw-sbs.pdf>

National Action Plan for Human Rights (closing date 29 March 2013)

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/actionplan/participatesnap>

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

Engagement of PTAs and Parent Councils with parents from ethnic minority communities (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JQVRK5R>

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Job Opportunities

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

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**** this week!**

Completing the new OSCR Returns

15 November 2012 in Inveraray (10.00-12.30)

20 November 2012 in Inverness (1.30-4.00)

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!**

Faith in Peace-Building

17 November 2012 in Dundee (11.00-4.00)

Interfaith Scotland National Youth Conference to look at ways in which interfaith dialogue can have a positive impact in resolving conflict and promoting peace. For information contact Frances Hume fhume@scottishinterfaithcouncil.org / 0141 420 6982.

National Police Service Consultation

19 November 2012 in Glasgow (5.45 – 8.00)

In April 2013 all the police organisations across Scotland will join together to become a single police service. This is the biggest change to Scottish policing for more than a generation and your views can help shape the new organisation. For information see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12xi_wsrec_police.pdf or contact Janila Stanley istanley@wsrec.co.uk / 0141 337 6626.

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)/)

'Communities Together: Build a Bridge'

26 November 2012 in Glasgow (4.00 – 6.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust workshop to provide event organisers with information about the theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2013: 'Communities Together: Build a Bridge'. For information contact 020 7785 7029 / enquiries@hmd.org.uk

**** Equality issues in the Forth Valley**

28 November 2012 in Stirling (2.00 – 4.00)

30 November 2012 in Falkirk (1.30 – 5.00)

Central Scotland Regional Equality Council events in partnership with Forth Valley public sector service providers to inform people about new equality legislation, and explain what setting equality outcomes actually means to people in Forth Valley and how communities can contribute to and influence this process. For information contact Gillian Currie 01324 610 950 / gillian.currie@centralscotlandrec.org.uk.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Becoming a charity and choosing the right legal form

29 November 2012 in Inveraray (10.00-12.30)

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/>

Working with interpreters

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

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

Freedom to Practice Religion

30 November 2012 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 11.00)

Interfaith Week discussion on how far religious freedoms should extend, which follows on from recent debates surrounding religious groups' rights to maintain traditional practices such as carrying and wearing symbols or articles of clothing central to their faith (e.g. kirpan, hijab, crucifix). For information contact Frances Hume fhume@scottishinterfaithcouncil.org.

**** Scottish Parliament Family Day**

1 December 2012 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh (10.00 – 5.00)

To mark St Andrew's Day the Scottish Parliament has a range of special free events for families and visitors. For information see

<http://scottish.parliament.uk/PublicInformationdocuments/FamilyDay091112.pdf>

**** Racist Incident Reporting in Scotland's Schools**

5 December 2012 in Glasgow (2.30)

Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights report launch examining statistics and policies from Scotland's Local Authorities to explore how the racist incident reporting system operates and whether it meets its potential as a tool to combat racism in schools. For information contact Nadia Rafiq 0141 418 6530 / nadia@crer.org.uk.

**** Bridges to Change**

5 December 2012 in East Renfrewshire (6.00 – 8.30)

Voluntary Action conference to identify local equality priorities. For information contact Linda McCullagh 0141 876 9555 / Linda.McCullagh@va-er.org.uk.

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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

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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