

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 Westminster Parliament was in recess last week
but returns to work on Monday.**

Immigration and Asylum

Press Release

Super priority visa service offers greater flexibility for Indian travellers

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/india-visas>

New Publications

Returning irregular migrants: Is deportation the UK's only option?

http://www.ippr.org/images/media/files/publication/2013/02/returning-migrants-UK-130220_10372.pdf

Immigration and Asylum

New Publications (continued)

Returning irregular migrants: How effective is the EU's response?

http://www.ippr.org/images/media/files/publication/2013/02/returning-migrants-EU-130220_10371.pdf

News

Theresa May's tough immigration rules defied by top judge

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/9890093/Theresa-Mays-tough-immigration-rules-defied-by-top-judge.html>

Tories target migrants getting benefits

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2013/feb/18/tories-benefits-migrants-eu-fight>

Tories to battle Brussels over new migrants

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/political-news/tories-to-battle-brussels-over-new-migrants.20249261>

Wage difference for Romanian and Bulgarian immigrants 'stunning'

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/wage-difference-for-romanian-and-bulgarian-immigrants-stunning-1.69717>

What can Cameron really do about Bulgarian and Romanian immigration?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2013/feb/19/cameron-bulgarian-romanian-immigration>

Romanian and Bulgarian immigration: how the rules have changed

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/9882684/Romanian-and-Bulgarian-immigration-how-the-rules-have-changed.html>

Britain to relax visa rules for Indian investors, signals PM

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2013/feb/18/britain-visa-rules-indian-investors>

Cameron's immigration hierarchy: Indians good, eastern Europeans bad

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2013/feb/18/cameron-immigration-indians-good>

Who will go head to head with the doom-mongers of MigrationWatch?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2013/feb/18/head-to-head-with-migration-watch>

Clegg warns against EU migration 'guesstimates'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-21518466>

Nick Clegg refuses to reveal immigration estimates on LBC radio show

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/nick-clegg-refuses-to-reveal-immigration-estimates-on-lbc-radio-show-8502919.html>

Labour accuses Coalition of immigration mess

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/political-news/labour-accuses-coalition-of-immigration-mess.20287909>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Immigrants take 75% of all jobs created over last 15 years

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3694568.ece>

British-born workers 'took most jobs'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/jobs/9884633/British-born-workers-took-majority-of-jobs-created-in-2012.html>

UKBA backs down over use of force on children and pregnant women

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2013/feb/22/ukba-force-children-pregnant-women>

Moaning about immigration will damage trade, says Gavin Barwell MP

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/9881747/Moaning-about-immigration-will-damage-trade-says-Gavin-Barwell-MP.html>

NHS foreign doctors must speak English, say ministers

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-21547513>

English test could see EU doctors barred from working in Britain

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/9889705/English-test-could-see-EU-doctors-barred-from-Britain.html>

Dialect test to root out bogus asylum seekers pretending to be Palestinians

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2283520/Dialect-test-root-bogus-asylum-seekers-pretending-Palestinians.html>

This perverse mixed message on immigration only harms the UK

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2013/feb/24/immigration-camerons-mixed-message>

School where English is foreign to all pupils

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Education/article1220356.ece

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Race Relations

News

Why have the white British left London?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-21511904>

Flight of the minorities: London's soul is in the suburbs

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2013/feb/21/flight-minorities-london-suburbs-white-flight>

Doreen Lawrence launches race education centre

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-21531925>

British Asian footballers bid for breakthrough

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-21537383>

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Equality

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S4M-05690 Angus MacDonald: Coalition of Racial Equality and Rights' Political Shadowing Scheme—That the Parliament considers that there is a need for better representation of black and ethnic minorities in the political arena; welcomes the Coalition of Racial Equality and Rights' political shadowing scheme; encourages the 15 participants currently attached to MSPs' offices to take full advantage of what it considers this unique opportunity and to put into practice the influential communication, equality and diversity and government training that they have received on the scheme, and considers that they will gain a deeper understanding of Scottish politics and appreciate the practicalities of politics at all levels, which will further empower and inspire them to become politically active.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-05690&ResultsPerPage=10>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

New Publication

European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) Conclusions on the implementation of the recommendations in respect of the United Kingdom subject to interim follow-up

http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/Country-by-country/United_Kingdom/GBR-IFU-IV-2013-006-ENG.pdf

News

They only see my skin colour

<http://www.euronews.com/2013/02/18/they-only-see-my-skin-colour>

White groups facing unspoken racism in UK says Doreen Lawrence

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/9880562/White-groups-facing-unspoken-racism-in-UK-says-Doreen-Lawrence.html>

Racism is hurting whites as well, says Doreen: Stephen Lawrence's mother warns equality is going 'backwards'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2281445/Racism-hurting-whites-says-Doreen-Stephen-Lawrences-mother-warns-equality-going-backwards.html>

Anti-racism campaigner Paul Elliott quits over race insult text

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/anti-racism-campaigner-paul-elliott-quits-over-race-insult-text.1361650174>

Racism activist quits over comments

<http://www.scotsman.com/scotland-on-sunday/uk/racism-activist-quits-over-comments-1-2807438>

Elliott quits in race slur shame

<http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/sport/football/article1220262.ece>

Racism and Religious Hatred **News (continued)**

Rangers sorry over sectarian chants

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/rangers-sorry-over-sectarian-chants.20313128>

Bigots on the bus: why are we forced to put up with them?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2013/feb/21/bigots-bus-london>

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Other Holyrood

New Publication

Yes to a Just Scotland

https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/yesscotland/pages/1696/attachments/original/1361376379/Yes_to_a_Just_Scotland.pdf?1361376379

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Other Westminster

News

Free school applicants' religious affiliation revealed

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-21520161>

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Other News

A black mark for religious observance in our schools

<http://www.scotsman.com/edinburgh-evening-news/opinion/veronica-wikman-a-black-mark-for-religious-observance-in-our-schools-1-2802041>

Parent calls to remove 'religious observance' in non-denominational schools

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-21542417>

Councils offered advice on dealing with gypsies

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/politics/councils-offered-advice-on-dealing-with-gypsies-1-2805100>

Islamic law helps Scottish company buck recession

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article3697272.ece>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Holyrood

**** Post-16 Education Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/56717.aspx>

Stage 1 evidence session, Education and Culture Committee

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7757&mode=pdf>

Victims and Witnesses Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/59133.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>

Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Bill

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

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

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

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Marriage and Civil Partnership Bill (closing date 20 March 2013)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0041/00410328.pdf>

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

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

All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry into electoral conduct in the UK

(closing date 29 March 2013)

<http://www.antisemitism.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Call-For-Papers.pdf>

Victims and Witnesses Bill (closing date 9 April 2013)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/59875.aspx>

**** Tackling Racism Through Youth Work** (no closing date given)

<http://www.crer.org.uk/survey-for-youth-workers>

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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!**

Domestic Abuse and Minority Ethnic Women, Children & Young People

25 February 2013 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 4.30) and 26 February 2013 (9.30 – 12.30)

Shakti training course to increase awareness and understanding of issues facing Minority Ethnic women, children & young people affected by domestic abuse. For information contact Mridul, Lisa, or Aleksandra 0131 475 2399 / info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

**** this week!**

Beyond 2011

26 February 2013 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 12.00)

5 March 2013 in Edinburgh (choice of 10.00 – 12.00 and 2.00 – 4.00)

8 March 2013 in Edinburgh (choice of 10.00 – 12.00 and 2.00 – 4.00)

11 March 2013 in Edinburgh (choice of 10.00 – 12.00 and 2.00 – 4.00)

National Records of Scotland events to look at alternative options to the traditional census.

For information see <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/beyond-2011/background/index.html>

and to book see <http://beyond2011.eventbrite.co.uk> or contact Gemma Jackson 0131 314 4299 / Beyond2011@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

More information about Beyond 2011 is available on the Knowledge Hub site <https://knowledgehub.local.gov.uk/web/scottishbeyond2011programmebeyond2011scotland/welcome>

**** this week!**

Working with interpreters

26 February 2013 in Glasgow (1.15 – 4.45)

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.

**** this week!**

Positive on Employment Conference

26 February 2013 in Glasgow

Conference organised in partnership between BEMIS, the STUC, the Scottish Refugee Council, 'see me', Interfaith Scotland, and GRAMNet to discuss positive action on employment in relation to diversity, migrants and employment, mental health and wellbeing, and inclusive recruitment. For information see <http://bemis.org.uk/conference/poe/poe-conference-programme.pdf> or contact 0141 548 8047 / conference@bemis.org.uk

**** this week!**

The Gathering

27-28 February 2013 in Glasgow

Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations networking event and exhibition. For information see <http://www.gatherscotland.org.uk/intro-text/what-is-the-gathering/>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** this week!**

Motivation, Retention and Development of Volunteers

28 February 2014 in Stirling

Voluntary Action Fund workshop to explore the areas of motivation and development of volunteers with the general aim of identifying key ways of increasing volunteer retention. For information contact 01383 620780.

**** this week!**

The essentials of asylum

1 March 2013 in Glasgow (1.15 – 4.45)

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with people seeking asylum and refugees to provide an introduction to core issues affecting those seeking sanctuary in Scotland. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/bf86cuy> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk.

**** Ethnic Minority 3rd Sector Network**

13 March 2013 (10.30 – 3.00)

BEMIS and Cemvo seminar on using the Public Sector Equality Duties to influence better equality practice and outcomes. For information contact Fiaz Khan 0141 248 4830 / Fiaz.khan@cemvoscotland.org.uk or Graham O'Neill 0141 548 8047 / graham.oneill@bemis.org.uk or see http://bemis.org.uk/event_calendar.html or

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

14 March 2013 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council training to identify fundamental issues facing asylum seekers and refugees today, and highlighting current legislation and entitlements. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/burro73> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk.

Human Rights and Scotland's Constitutional Future: Where we are now? Human Rights and the Independence Debate

18 March 2013 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh (10.30 – 3.45)

Seminar to discuss how the independence debate may influence human rights protections; whether it will provide opportunities to further promote and protect, or threaten human rights, or whether it is an irrelevance. For information see <http://scffevent.eventbrite.com> or contact aw.events@ed.ac.uk.

Progressing Together?

28 March 2013 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 4.45)

CEMVO conference to explore the role of Community Empowerment in Mainstreaming of Race and Equalities across the Public Sector. For information contact Fiaz Khan 0141 248 4830 / fiaz.khan@cemvoscotland.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/d2eyumh>.

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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.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/>

Equality Advisory Support Service <http://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com>

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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