



20 May 2013 ISSUE 352





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
<u>Equality</u>
Racism and Religious Hatred
Other Holyrood
New Publications

Other News Bills in Progress Consultations Job 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

Immigration and Asylum

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Immigration: Married People

Ian Austin: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department with reference to paragraph 18 (b) of Appendix FM-SE (Family members—specified evidence to the UK Border Agency's Immigration Rules) whether the on-target earnings an applicant's spouse is expected to earn by way of commission in a job that will start within three months of arrival will be taken into account to meet the financial requirement. [154042]

Reply from Mark Harper: Under the Immigration Rules in Appendix FM-SE earnings an applicant's spouse may earn by way of commission in a job that will start within three months of arrival in the UK cannot be counted under the financial requirement in a spouse visa application.

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm130513/text/130513w0 001.htm#13051334000014

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Social Security Benefits: Immigrants

Philip Davies: To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions what estimate his Department has made of any additional amount of benefits to be claimed as a result of any increase in the number of Romanian and Bulgarian nationals expected to migrate to the UK over the next three years. [154416]

Reply from Mark Hoban: It is not possible to accurately forecast the likely inflow from Romania and Bulgaria once restrictions are lifted, the inflow will depend on a variety of factors. Therefore we are unable to predict the additional cost of benefits.

From 1 January 2014 Romania and Bulgarian nationals will have the same benefit entitlement as other migrants who are a 'qualified person' from the European Union—i.e. they exercise a right to reside as a worker; a self-employed person; a job seeker; a self-sufficient person or a student.

Contributory benefits, such as contribution based jobseeker's allowance, are payable to anyone who satisfies the contribution and other conditions for the benefit, regardless of nationality.

For income related benefits each claimant must satisfy the habitual residence test before they are eligible to claim means-tested benefits.

Economically inactive people, who are neither in work or seeking work, are required to be self-sufficient and have comprehensive medical insurance. Similarly students are required to be self-sufficient. Therefore, under domestic legislation economically inactive EEA nationals and their family members cannot claim income-related benefits.

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm130513/text/130513w0 003.htm#1305146000032

Migration: Romanians and Bulgarians

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of the recent report by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, *Potential Impacts on the UK of Future Migration from Bulgaria and Romania*, what assessment they have made of the potential impact of future migration from (1) Bulgaria, and (2) Romania, following the lifting of transitional controls at the end of 2013.[HL74]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): The aim of this report was to provide an independent evidence base on which the Government can draw to assess the potential impacts of migration from EU2 countries following the lifting of transitional controls on 31 December 2013.

The report makes some observations on the possible impact on health services, schools and housing of any future migration flows from Bulgaria and Romania. But there are many uncertainties and the numbers who may migrate to the UK, as well as any resulting impacts, are impossible to predict with confidence. The report confirms that, "it is not possible to predict the scale of future migration from Bulgaria and Romania to the UK numerically".

Rather than produce speculative projections, we are focusing on work across Government to cut out abuse of free movement and address pull factors, such as access to benefits and public services.

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/130516w0001.htm#130 51652000301

National Insurance

Lord Laird: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many Romanians and Bulgarians respectively have registered for national insurance numbers (1) in each year since 2007,

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

and (2) in total; how many of those are not recorded as ever paying national insurance contributions; and what is their estimate of the numbers of such nationals who are presently resident in the United Kingdom.[HL102]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Work and Pensions (Lord Freud): The statistics we have on the number of NINo registrations to Romanian and Bulgarian nationals entering the UK are available at: http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool.

Guidance for users is available at:

http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/tabtools/guidance.pdf

I understand that the support staff in the House of Lords Library are also able to assist the noble Lord in extracting the information he requires.

Information of the numbers of Romanians and Bulgarians not recorded as paying national insurance contributions or estimates of numbers presently resident in the UK could only be provided at disproportionate cost.

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/130516w0001.htm#130 51652000303

Asylum

Nicholas Soames: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what proportion of asylum applicants were granted (*a*) asylum or humanitarian protection and (*b*) neither in each of the last five years. [155567]

Reply from Mark Harper: The table shows the total number of asylum applications received in each of the last five years, and what proportion of asylum applicants are estimated to have been (i) granted asylum, (ii) granted humanitarian protection or discretionary leave, (iii) refusals, and (iv) cases where a decision was not known for the years 2007 to 2011, as at May 2012 when the statistics were compiled. Figures relate to main applicants only, and include the outcome of appeals.

Figures for 2012 will be published in the Immigration Statistics April to June 2013 release on 29 August 2013.

The data presented above, are published in table as.06 (Asylum data tables Volume 2) of Immigration Statistics. The latest release Immigration Statistics October to December 2012 is available in the Library of the House and from the Home Office Science website at:

http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/immigration-g4-2012/

Statistics/iningration asylum research/iningration q+ 2012/						
Year of	Total main	Grants of	Grants of HP/DL	Refusals as a	Cases decision	
application	applicants	asylum as a	as a percentage	percentage of	not known as a	
(1)		percentage of	of applications	applications	percentage of	
		applications	(2)		applications(3)	
2007	23,431	25	10	60	4	
2008	25,932	27	11	58	4	
2009	24,487	28	11	58	3	
2010	17,916	28	9	60	3	
2011	19,865	30	7	50	13	

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm130516/text/130516w0 001.htm#13051676000027

Immigrants: Detainees

Priti Patel: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people are currently held in immigration detention centres. [154961]

Reply from Mark Harper: The latest published figures show that there were

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

2,685 people who were detained in immigration removal centres, short term holding facilities and pre departure accommodation as at 31 December 2012.

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of people detained in the UK within Immigration Statistics. The data on people in detention as at the last day of each quarter are readily available in the latest release, Immigration Statistics: October to December 2012, table dt.09.q from the Gov.uk website:

https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/series/immigrationstatistics-quarterly-release

Figures on people held are those detained in the United Kingdom solely under Immigration Act powers and exclude those in police cells, Prison Service establishments, short term holding rooms at ports and airports (for less than 24 hours), and those recorded as detained under both criminal and immigration powers and their dependants.

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm130514/text/130514w0 001.htm#13051446000024

Human Trafficking

Henry Bellingham: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what changes there will be to the National Referral Mechanism for human trafficking victims after the UK Border Agency is abolished. [154260]

Reply from Mark Harper: There will be no change to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for human trafficking victims now that the operational functions of the former UK Border Agency have transferred into the core Home Office. UK Visas and Immigration and Immigration Enforcement will be Competent Authorities alongside the UK Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC) and their staff will consider referrals on potential victims of trafficking just as they did in the former UK Border Agency. To enhance this process the Home Office is piloting an NRM Hub which will provide a centre of expertise in making NRM decisions.

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm130513/text/130513w0 001.htm#13051334000011

Westminster Early Day Motion

Katy Clark (82) Overseas domestic worker visa – That this House notes that on 6 April 2012 the Government made several changes to the overseas domestic worker visa which removed the rights of migrant domestic workers to change employer; further notes that these workers are now given visas that are valid for a maximum period of six months and only for employment with a named employer; recognises that migrant domestic workers are especially vulnerable to exploitation and that the new visas give them even less protection from mistreatment; calls on the Government to restore the previous rights of migrant domestic workers, including the right to change employer, the right to renew the domestic worker visa while still in the UK and the right to family reunion; and urges the Government to extend these rights also to domestic workers in diplomatic households.

http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2013-14/82

Immigration and Asylum (continued) New Publications

Social networks, social capital and refugee integration http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/college-social-sciences/socialpolicy/iris/2013/nuffield-refugees-integration-research-report.pdf

Migrant Seasonal Workers

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/workingwithus/mac/3 5-mac-seasonal/migrant-seasonal-workers?view=Binary

News

People are told EU migrants steal jobs – in truth bosses want cheap labour http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2013/may/17/eu-migrants-referendum-conservatives

NHS: Poles, paracetamol and the myth of health tourism http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2013/may/17/nhs-myth-health-tourism-zoe-williams

Asylum-seeking children are being disbelieved – and classed as adults http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2013/may/17/asylum-seeking-children-social-workers

Jimmy Mubenga security guards had racist jokes on their mobile phones http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2013/may/17/security-guards-racist-jokes-mobiles

UK Census: almost half of foreign-born population hold UK passports http://www.guardian.co.uk/news/datablog/2013/may/16/half-immigrants-have-ukpassports-census

<u> TOP</u>

Race Relations

New Publication

Runnymede Bulletin: Spring 2013 http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/bulletin/pdfs/Spring%20Bulletin%20LD.pdf

<u>TOP</u>

Equality

Holyrood Parliamentary Motions

S4M-06635 Sandra White: STUC Working toward Equality for All—That the Parliament congratulates the STUC on receiving a £247,336 grant for its Equality and Mentoring and Work Shadowing Project; understands that this aims to remove barriers to progression currently experienced by black and minority ethnic (BME) workers in the further and higher education sector in Scotland; believes that the project will develop and deliver a training and mentoring programme for BME people seeking to advance their careers in the sector and work with e mployers to increase their awareness of systemic

Equality Holyrood Parliamentary Motions (continued)

barriers to BME staff's progression and improve their ability to address these; notes that this two-year project aims to support 50 people and at least 10 employers, with the grant fully funding the project, and commends the STUC for its continued work on ensuring equality for all workers across Glasgow and the rest of Scotland.

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Adva nce&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-06635&ResultsPerPage=10

S4M-06633 Sandra White: Positive Moves for BME Residents of Glasgow, Edinburgh and Dundee—That the Parliament congratulates PATH (Scotland)'s award of £436,462 to fund its Positive Moves in the Workplace project, which aims to support black and minority ethnic (BME) people who work, or aspire to work, in the housing sector to make the transition to more senior, supervisory or management roles; understands that this five-year project aims to support 100 BME people in Glasgow, Dundee and Edinburgh, to improve personal skills such as assertiveness and the ability to deal with conflict while supporting them in planning their career and realising opportunities for progression; understands that 25 housing organisations will be assisted to develop equalities policies and best practice and, therefore, be better able to support BME staff in their progression and that an aftercare service for previous trainees of PATH's Housing Traineeship will also be set up to help retain jobs and support further progression; wishes the project every success, and believes that it will have an immensely beneficial impact on each city where the initiative is being rolled out. http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Adva nce&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-06633&ResultsPerPage=10

Press Release

European Roma Policy Coalition calls on the European Commission to ensure greater Roma participation and more effective measures to combat discrimination http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/pdfpress/ERPC%20Press%20Statement%2015%20May%202013%20-%20meeting%20Commissioners.pdf

News

Charities are 'too white, too male, too middle class': Review says diversity in recruitment and promotion should become a priority http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/charities-are-too-white-too-male-too-middle-class-review-says-diversity-in-recruitment-and-promotion-should-become-a-priority-8617850.html

Trevor Phillips: equality campaigners fixated with 'name-calling and denunciation' http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/10066765/Trevor-Phillips-equality-campaignersfixated-with-name-calling-and-denunciation.html

TOP

Racism and Religious Hatred

Westminster Early Day Motion

Bob Blackman (117) Caste discrimination in the UK – That this House notes the serious concerns expressed by the Hindu community at the possible consequences of the provisions in the Enterprise and Regulatary Reform Act 2013 relating to caste within the protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2010; and recognises the need to ensure a full and proper consultation period of at least two years with the affected communities to address the issues they have raised about practical difficulties with the legislation. http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2013-14/117

News

Pig's head left at Sikh MP's house http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/Politics/article1261452.ece

TOP

Other Holyrood

Parliamentary Motion

S4M-06591 Hanzala Malik: Strathclyde Student Elected as NUS National Black Students' Officer—That the Parliament congratulates Kwaku Adjei, a student at the University of Strathclyde, on being elected National Union of Students National Black Students' Officer for 2013-14; considers that the role will entail many challenges in organising the ethnic minority student population of the UK's universities and colleges, and wishes Kwaku every success in his year of office.

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Adva nce&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-06591&ResultsPerPage=10

<u>TOP</u>

Other News

Census figures show Christianity in sharp decline while belief in Islam dramatically increases

http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/census-figures-show-christianity-in-sharp-decline-while-belief-in-islam-dramatically-increases-8621271.html

Ministers 'work' for God, not for Methodists: Members of the church exempt from employment laws

http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/ministers-work-for-god-not-formethodists-members-of-the-church-exempt-from-employment-laws-8617854.html

Police and Politicians Turn Blind Eye to FGM Because of Victims' Skin Colour http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/neil-wallis/fgm-police-politicians-turn-blindeye_b_3285678.html

<u>TOP</u>

** new or updated this week

Holyrood

** Children and Young People Bill

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/62233.aspx

Bill as introduced

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Children%20and%20Young%20People%20(Sc otland)%20Bill/b27s4-introd.pdf

Explanatory Notes

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Children%20and%20Young%20People%20(Sc otland)%20Bill/b27s4-introd-en.pdf

Policy Memorandum

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Children%20and%20Young%20People%20(Sc otland)%20Bill/b27s4-introd-pm.pdf

Delegated Powers Memorandum

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/CYPB_-Delegated_Powers_Memorandum_2.pdf

** Post-16 Education Bill

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

Proposed amendments

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Post-16%20Education%20Bill/b18s4-stage2ml2.pdf

** Scottish Independence Referendum Bill

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/61076.aspx

Referendum (Scotland) Bill Committee: Stage 1 evidence session http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_ReferendumScotlandBillCommittee/Agenda_and_pa pers_16_May.pdf

** Scottish Independence Referendum (Franchise) Bill

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/60464.aspx

Proposed amendments http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/63554.aspx

** Victims and Witnesses Bill

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/59133.aspx

Justice Committee: Stage 1 evidence session http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8150&mode=pdf

<u>TOP</u>

Consultations

** new or updated this week

** closes this week! Making Justice Work - Courts Reform Bill (closing date 24 May 2013) http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/02/5302/downloads

Consultations (continued)

** The Implications of Scottish Independence for business; higher education and research; and postal services (closing date 7 June 2013) http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/business-innovation-and-skills/inquiries/implications-of-scottish-independence/

Beyond 2011: user requirements for future population and socio-demographic information (closing date 10 June 2013)

http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/beyond-2011/consultations-events/consultations/userrequirements.html

Design of the Data Sharing and Linking Service (closing date 29 May 2013) <u>http://www.isdscotland.org/Products-and-Services/eDRIS/DSLS-consultation/</u>

Scottish Independence Referendum Bill (closing date 6 June 2013) http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_ReferendumScotlandBillCommittee/RefBill_call_for ______evidence_21_March_2013.pdf

See Hear: A strategic framework for meeting the needs of people with a sensory impairment in Scotland (closing date 28 June 2013) http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0041/00417992.pdf

Interests of the Members of the Scottish Parliament Bill (closing date 22 July 2013) <u>http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_StandardsProceduresandPublicAppointmentsCom</u> <u>mittee/Inquiries/FINAL_consultation_document.pdf</u>

Children and Young People Bill (closing date 26 July 2013) http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_EducationandCultureCommittee/General%20Docu ments/Call_for_written_evidence.pdf

** **Review of the Balance of Competences: Asylum and Immigration** (closing date 5 August 2013) <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/199891/as</u> <u>ylum-immigration-call-for-evidence.pdf</u>

Our Communities, Your Duties (no closing date given) https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KN9FT6N

TOP

TOP

Job Opportunities

Click here to find out about job opportunities

Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

** this week!

Dealing with discrimination

22 May 2013 in Inverness (1.00 – 4.30)

Equality and Human Rights Commission training focusing on individual protection against discrimination, and providing an update on discrimination law and, by using case studies,

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

building knowledge of how to identify and tackle discrimination. For information contact David Reilly 0141 228 5967 / <u>scotlandcommunication@equalityhumanrights.com</u>

** this week!

Influencing Politicians and Political Structures

22 May 2013 in Glasgow (10.30 – 4.30)

Coalition for Equality and Rights training to communicate effectively with political decision makers. For information contact Nadia <u>nadia@crer.org.uk</u> / 0141 418 6530 or see <u>http://www.crer.org.uk/training/influencing-politicians-political-structures</u>

The housing journey from seeking asylum to settling in Scotland

30 May 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 contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / <u>train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk</u> or see <u>http://tinyurl.com/c9wuzp9</u>.

Working with interpreters

30 May 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 contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see http://tinyurl.com/c8k983b.

Refugee Week

17-23 June 2013

Festival with over 100 arts and cultural events, including music, comedy, theatre, literature, community celebrations, events in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Perth and as far afield as Mull and New Galloway, to celebrate the contributions refugees have made to Scotland and the communities that have welcomed them. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/5877/RefugeeWeek2013_Program_me.pdf

Mental Health and Ethnicity

30 October 2013 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

West of Scotland Health and Ethnicity Conference to present an evidence based approach to influence the development of a healthier minority ethnic community in Scotland. Deadline for submissions: 31 July 2013. For information contact Sidra Shirjeel sidra.shirjeel@cc3.org.uk or see http://tinyurl.com/bmvj354

TOP

Useful Links

Scottish Parliament http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/home.htm

Scottish Government http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Home

Westminster Parliament <u>http://www.parliament.uk/</u>

Useful Links (continued)

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments) <u>http://www.direct.gov.uk/DI1/Directories/AToZOfCentralGovernment/fs/en?CONTENT_ID</u> <u>=10013528&chk=8b2gQw</u>

European Parliament http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/

One Scotland Many Cultures http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/

Scottish Refugee Council <u>www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk</u>

Scottish Inter Faith Council <u>http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org/</u>

Equality and Human Rights Commission http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/

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

Scottish Human Rights Commission <u>http://scottishhumanrights.com/</u>

ACAS <u>www.acas.org.uk</u>

SCVO <u>http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Home/Home.aspx</u>

Volunteer Development Scotland <u>www.vds.org.uk</u>

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

Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS) <u>http://www.crbs.org.uk/</u>

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) <u>http://www.scojec.org/</u>



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. <u>http://www.bemis.org.uk/index.html</u>



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. <u>http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/</u>

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