

## 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 and UK Parliament and Government websites been redesigned, so that links published in back issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on these websites, copy details from MEMO into the relevant search facility.**

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## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Questions

#### Human Trafficking

**Jenny Marra:** To ask the First Minister what steps the Scottish Government is taking to tackle human trafficking. (S4F-01968)

**Reply from the First Minister (Alex Salmond):** We are working to ensure that police and prosecutors have the powers that they need to make Scotland a hostile place for traffickers, to raise awareness among the public and organisations about the potential signs of trafficking, and to ensure that tailored support packages are available for the victims of that heinous crime.

We are grateful to Jenny Marra for her interest in this agenda. The responses to the consultation on her possible members' bill confirm strong support for Scottish human trafficking legislation. As Ms Marra knows, on Monday 17 March we confirmed that the Scottish Government will introduce a human trafficking bill in this parliamentary session to strengthen further that response.

**Jenny Marra:** I thank the First Minister for taking on the bill and for using his majority to put important legislation on the statute book in Scotland.

## Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

The most important part of the bill will be the legal right of victims to get the support that they need. One trafficking victim is identified in Scotland every four days, but we believe that to be the tip of the iceberg. Will the First Minister commit today to enacting a survivors service and survivors standards, as approved by 51,000 members of the public, to ensure that victims of this human rights abuse in our communities get the legal right of support for recovery that they desperately need?

**Reply from the First Minister:** We will look sympathetically at the proposals. The aim and objective will be to consolidate and strengthen the existing criminal law. Enhancement of the status of and support for the victims of trafficking will require the relevant agencies to work with the Scottish Government to develop and implement the anti-trafficking strategy.

I am sure that, as we develop that dialogue, we will produce legislation that I hope everyone in this chamber believes will improve the lot of the victims, and be of great credit to this Parliament and to Scotland.

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9054&mode=html#job\\_81835](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9054&mode=html#job_81835)

## UK Parliament Questions

### Schools: First Languages

**Lord Tebbit:** To ask Her Majesty's Government in how many schools in England is English not the first language of a majority of pupils.[HL5938]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Schools (Lord Nash) (Con):** Information on the number and proportion of pupils whose first language is other than English is published as part of the Department for Education's annual statistical release "Schools, pupils and their characteristics". The latest release of this publication is for January 2013 and is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-pupils-and-their-characteristics-january-2013>

The underlying data (school level schools pupils) contains information for individual schools, including the proportion of pupils whose first language is other than English.

**Lord Tebbit:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the total yearly extra cost to schools of educating children whose first language is not English.[HL5939]

**Reply from Lord Nash:** We do not collect this data centrally. It is for individual schools to decide how much extra they choose to spend on educating pupils whose first language is not English.

Through their local funding formulas, local authorities may allocate funding to schools on the basis of the number of pupils in the school who speak English as an additional language and entered the state school system in the past three years. Local authorities allocated £233 million in this way in 2013-14. The funding is not ring-fenced within a school's budget so this figure may not be a reliable indicator of actual spending.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140320w0001.htm#14032061000259>

### Immigration Bill

**Alex Cunningham:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether she plans to conduct a full child rights impact assessment of the Immigration Bill covering (a) its effect on both migrant and British children, (b) the implications of Article 8 of the European Convention in Human Rights for Clause 14, (c) healthcare charges and (d)

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

immigration checks by landlords in the private rental sector; and if she will make a statement. [191550]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office is committed to considering the impact of all new policies and legislation, including where they impact specifically on children. Careful regard has been had to the best interests of children in the UK in framing the provisions of the Immigration Bill. We are satisfied that the Bill, including the provisions on article 8, healthcare charges and landlords, is compatible with our obligations under the UN convention on the rights of the child and with the children's duty under section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009. The Home Office has published an impact assessment of the Immigration Bill and a European Convention on Human Rights Memorandum, and has no plans to conduct a separate child rights impact assessment.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140317/text/140317w0001.htm#14031738000015>

### Immigration: Fees and Charges

**Naomi Long:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will introduce a pre-consideration eligibility test for visas and immigration applications where the associated fees exceed £500. [191740]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office makes certain checks before considering an application, for example ensuring that an applicant's biometric information has been recorded and the correct fee has been paid. Eligibility checks form part of the consideration of an application. It is the responsibility of people applying to enter or remain in the UK to ensure that they meet the requirements of the immigration rules, or other relevant legislation.

**Naomi Long:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) how much revenue the UK Visas and Immigration Service received from application fees where the application is not processed due to reasons of eligibility in each of the last three years; [191741]

(2) what the administrative costs associated with visa and immigration applications received by the UK Visas and Immigration Service which are not processed due to reasons of eligibility were in each of the last three years. [191742]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The information is as follows.

*In-Country Applications:* No pre-eligibility assessment is made on application. An application is processed through to a determination, whether that is a rejection for incorrect/fee application form; in these instances a refund is made.

Applications are fully case worked to other conclusions, such as refusal and grant. Therefore, we can state that there is no associated income, or expenditure related to eligibility assessments.

*Overseas Applications:* The Immigration rules do not contain any pre-assessment eligibility criteria. The only circumstance in which an application is not processed is if no work has been done on it, before biometrics have been taken. In these circumstances the applicant will be refunded the visa fee. Therefore there is no cost or income associated with applications that have not been processed.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140319/text/140319w0001.htm#14031980000040>

### Visas: Health Insurance

**Lord Leigh of Hurley:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have any plans to require visa applicants to have full health insurance.

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord**

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

**Taylor of Holbeach:** My Lords, we have no current plans to do so. The Immigration Bill that is before the House in Committee requires temporary migrants coming to study, work or join family members for more than six months to pay a health surcharge to ensure that they make a fair and proportionate contribution to the NHS commensurate with their immigration status. Overseas visitors will continue to be liable for NHS treatment charges.

**Lord Leigh of Hurley:** My Lords, I thank my noble friend the Minister. Does he agree with me that while the health service surcharge is welcome, at £200 it is a little inadequate, given that the National Health Service itself has calculated that the cost of providing services, even to people aged 15 to 44, is £700? More importantly, the proposed health service charge takes no account of a person's illness, whereas if they were required to obtain insurance before they came to this country, that illness could be assessed and properly and fully costed. I am sure my noble friend will agree that it is no coincidence that out of 30 countries that provide comparable health insurance to the United Kingdom, only the UK and Ireland do not require certain migrants to have health insurance, which goes some way to explain the estimated health tourism bill of £2 billion.

**Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach:** My Lords, my noble friend to some degree misunderstands the reason for the surcharge, which is, as I have said, to ensure that temporary migrants pay a fair contribution towards the health service. It is not intended to be a full cost recovery but, none the less, it will raise in the region of £2 billion over 10 years. Visitors are not covered by this scheme and they will be liable for full cost recovery, which they may indeed choose to insure against.

**Baroness Hamwee:** My Lords, I suspect that health insurance for visa applicants would be extremely complicated to administer. Does my noble friend think that there might be something to be said for it if the Government go down the route recently recommended by the Migration Advisory Committee of auctioning about 100 visas a year, with a reserve price of £2.5 million, to get accelerated settlement in the UK? I sincerely hope that they will not go down that route.

**Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach:** My noble friend is tempting me to elaborate a policy into a direction in which the Government have no intention of moving at the present time. There is a review of health service charges going on. Currently the recovery of health service charges is a problem. The health service is not getting the income that it should be getting from health service charges, but my noble friend is right to say that the merit of this scheme covering temporary migrants is that it makes a significant contribution and is very simple to administer.

**To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see**  
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140317-0001.htm#1403173000312>

### Overseas Students

**Nicholas Soames:** To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office how many non-EU students (a) came to the UK and (b) departed the UK in the last period for which figures are available. [191830]

**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 Caron Walker dated March 2014:* ...The latest available provisional estimates published by ONS are for the year ending September 2013 and are based on the United Nations definition of a long-term international migrant, that is, someone who changes their country of usual residence for a period of at least one year. In addition to the ONS estimates, the Home Office have published counts of study-related visas issued to non-EEA citizens in 2013.

a) How many non-EU students came to the UK?

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

The latest provisional estimates from the International Passenger Survey (IPS) show that 124,000 non-EU citizens arrived in the UK for formal study in the year ending September 2013, with a margin of error of +/- 14,000. The margin of error refers to the 95 per cent confidence interval and is a measure of the uncertainty associated with making inferences from a sample.

HO visa and admissions data provide a more complete count for non-EEA students coming to the UK. The latest Home Office data show that there were 218,773 study-related visas issued to non-EEA nationals (including dependants, excluding student visitors) in 2013. Please note that Home Office student visa data will include some short-term migrants, who stay in the UK for less than 12 months.

b) How many non-EU students departed the UK?

Latest provisional IPS estimates show that 49,000 non-EU citizens, whose previous main reason for immigrating to the UK was formal study, emigrated from the UK in the year ending September 2013. This estimate has a margin of error of +/- 5,000. It should be noted that a person's main reason for migration may not be their only reason for migration. A note has been published to provide guidance on interpreting previous main reason for migration estimates, particularly within the context of student migration:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/population-and-migration/international-migration-methodology/international-migration-how-to-interpret-table-4.pdf>

*[please note that the above weblink appears to be incorrect]*

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140317/text/140317w0005.htm#1403181000008>

### Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

**David Hanson:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) how many people on Tier 2 visas studying medicine left the country in each year since 2010; [191339]

(2) how many people entered the UK on Tier 2 visas to study medicine in each year since 2010. [191340]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Tier 2 is a route in which applicants are sponsored for skilled work, not for study. Students coming to the UK to study degrees in medicine normally apply in Tier 4.

Postgraduate doctors can be sponsored for work-based training in Tier 2, but it is not possible to identify the number of these without reviewing individual case records.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140317/text/140317w0001.htm#14031738000012>

### Entry Clearances

**David Ward:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what preparations and resources her Department has put in place to address the backlog of deferred visa applications following a decision on her Department's appeal against the judgment of Mr Justice Blake on 5 July 2013 on the Government's visa income threshold. [191099]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** UK Visas and Immigration are closely monitoring the number of applications on hold pending the outcome of the appeal. The appeal was heard at the Court of Appeal on 4 and 5 March 2014 and the Home Secretary awaits the final determination of the courts. It would be wrong to pre-empt the court's decision in this matter, or indeed when the court is likely to make that determination.

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

These are factors that will inform the Department's approach to clearing the applications placed on hold. Policy and operational teams are considering a range of options that may best accommodate a clearance programme once the court finally determines the case.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140317/text/140317w0001.htm#14031738000011>

### Female Genital Mutilation

**Nicholas Brown:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) if she will set out how the (a) existence and (b) risk of female genital mutilation to applicants for asylum in the UK is treated under the immigration rules; [191369]

(2) how many requests for asylum in the UK cited female genital mutilation as a factor in the asylum application in each year for which figures are available; and how many such applications were (a) accepted and (b) refused. [191370]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** An individual who claims that she would, on return to her home country, suffer female genital mutilation may qualify for refugee status if she is able to demonstrate that her fear of return is well-founded.

Factors that are taken into account when assessing the risk include evidence that female genital mutilation is knowingly tolerated by the authorities or that the authorities are unable or unwilling to offer effective protection. The UK does not seek to remove individuals who face a real risk of persecution on return.

Asylum decision-makers consider claims for international protection carefully and sensitively and ensure that all evidence relating to an individual's claim is taken into account. Each claim is considered on its own merits in the light of country of origin information and guidance. Specific guidance and training on gender-specific issues, including the risk of female genital mutilation, is provided to decision-makers.

Information on the basis of claim for asylum is not centrally recorded, and the information requested in the right hon. Member's second question could only be obtained through a manual search of individual case files. This would exceed the cost limit.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140319/text/140319w0001.htm#14031980000038>

### Human Trafficking

**Baroness Cox:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they will take to ensure that abused domestic workers who attempt to report their treatment to the police are not arrested as a result of false criminal allegations made by their traffickers.[HL5841]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach):** The Crown Prosecution Service has recently published its guidance on dealing with cases where an individual, who may be a victim of modern slavery, is accused of committing a crime. Allegations relating to such a case would be a matter for the police to consider, on a case by case basis.

In our work to stamp out modern slavery, we are looking at what more can be done to protect victims of slavery and ensure that, where a person is compelled to commit an offence as a direct result of their slavery experience, full consideration is given to discontinuing the case.

**Baroness Cox:** To ask Her Majesty's Government how they ensure that Government-funded accommodation and support provided to victims of trafficking following a positive reasonable grounds decision meets reasonable quality standards; and where guidelines on those standards can be found.[HL5842]

**Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach:** The Home Office has recently taken over

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

management of the Government-funded victim care contract. The contract currently requires those organisations sub-contracted by The Salvation Army to provide victims with care and support, according to their individual needs. Later this year, we will be re-tendering the contract and will consider the issue of quality standards as part of the tender process.

**Baroness Cox:** To ask Her Majesty's Government how they will ensure adequate provision of legal representation, counselling and accommodation to victims of trafficking.[HL5843]

**Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach:** The UK complies with its international obligations to provide care and support for trafficked victims, through the Government-funded contract with The Salvation Army, in England and Wales. This includes access to legal representation, counselling and accommodation. However, in our work to stamp out Modern Slavery we will be looking at such provision again.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140318w0001.htm#14031882000190>

### Human Trafficking: Children

**Paul Blomfield:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how trafficked children will be identified and referred to the Government's new personal advocates trial for child victims of trafficking; and if she will make a statement. [192159]

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** We know that children who have been trafficked are incredibly vulnerable and that they are not always getting the support and protection that they need. In January my Department announced proposals to trial specialist, independent advocates for trafficked children. These specialist, independent advocates will be both experts in trafficking, and also completely independent of the local authority.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140320/text/140320w0001.htm#14032097000027>

## Press Release

### Calling all journalists

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/latest\\_news/2297\\_calling\\_all\\_journalists](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/2297_calling_all_journalists)

## New Publications

### Monitoring places of detention

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/291836/npm-ar-report-12-13-web.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/291836/npm-ar-report-12-13-web.pdf)

### The work of the Immigration Directorates (April–September 2013)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmselect/cmhaff/820/820.pdf>

## News

### Immigrant detainees face 'excessive force and abuse,' says report

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/immigrant-detainees-face-excessive-force-and-abuse-says-report-9200583.html>

# Immigration and Asylum

## News (continued)

### **MSP tells of delight over bill on human trafficking**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/msp-tells-of-delight-over-bill-on-human-trafficking.23722324>

### **Tougher human trafficking penalties in pipeline**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/tougher-human-trafficking-penalties-in-pipeline-1-3343422>

### **Together we can tackle trafficking**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/leaders-together-we-can-tackle-trafficking-1-3343924>

### **Tougher laws to make Scotland a beacon to the world in war on human trafficking**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4036756.ece>

### **Scottish Refugee Council welcomes trafficking legislation**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/latest\\_news/2298\\_scottish\\_refugee\\_council\\_welcomes\\_trafficking\\_legislation](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/2298_scottish_refugee_council_welcomes_trafficking_legislation)

### **Scots dad tells of heartache after immigration laws prevent his Japanese wife and young son from living in Scotland with him**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/scots-dad-tells-heartache-after-3254866>

### **James Brokenshire defends elite-row immigration speech**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-26633959>

### **Stop this 'near-obsession' with damaging immigration controls, say Tory MPs**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/stop-this-nearobsession-with-damaging-immigration-controls-say-tory-mps-9210256.html>

### **Tory MPs warn of 'near-obsession' with migrants**

[http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk\\_news/National/article1391177.ece](http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article1391177.ece)

### **Ministers fuelled anti-immigrant prejudice, say MPs**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-26670359>

### **'A trickle rather than a flood': MPs accuse Government of inflaming anti-immigration prejudice against Romanians and Bulgarians**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/a-trickle-rather-than-a-flood-mps-accuse-government-of-inflaming-antiimmigration-prejudice-against-romanians-and-bulgarians-9206177.html>

### **Government rapped over immigration**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/uk/government-rapped-over-immigration-1.279476>

### **UK ranks as 5th most popular for asylum seekers**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/uk-ranks-as-5th-most-popular-for-asylum-seekers-1-3350147>

### **Virtuoso American organist blasts UK border officials after being detained and deported just hours before a show**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/virtuoso-american-organist-blasts-uk-border-officials-after-being-detained-and-deported-just-hours-before-a-show-9206167.html>



## Immigration and Asylum

### News (continued)

**Heavily pregnant immigrant carrying dead child wouldn't seek help as she was afraid she'd have to pay NHS under 'health tourism' rules**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/heavily-pregnant-immigrant-carrying-dead-child-wouldnt-seek-help-as-she-was-afraid-shed-have-to-pay-nhs-under-health-tourism-rules-9205591.html>

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## Community Relations

### News

**Religious education 'helps communities get along'**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/education-26617395>

**Ignoring RE 'could cause social unrest'**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/faith/article4035481.ece>

**If you don't think multiculturalism is working, look at your street corner**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/mar/16/passive-tolerance-beacon-hope-diverse-communities>

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## Equality

### Press Release

**No equal opportunities in jobs for ethnic and religious minorities in Europe**

<http://www.enar-eu.org/No-equal-opportunities-in-jobs-for>

### News

**Lenny Henry calls for ethnic TV industry boost**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-26626388>

**Diversity in children's books: colouring in required**

<http://www.theguardian.com/books/2014/mar/20/diversity-children-books-colour-young-people>

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# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## Scottish Parliament Questions

### **Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012**

**Siobhan McMahon:** To ask the Scottish Government what progress it has made in reviewing the operation of the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012. (S4O-03044)

**Reply from the Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs (Roseanna Cunningham):** Section 11 of the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012 requires the Scottish ministers to report to Parliament on the act's operation over two full football seasons. The Government has commissioned an independent evaluation of the operation of section 1, which is on offensive behaviour at regulated football matches, by the University of Stirling in conjunction with ScotCen Social Research. That work is on-going.

The act requires the Government to report to Parliament no later than 1 August 2015 and we will do so. The work that I described and the evaluation that we are commissioning of section 6, which is on threatening communications, will ensure that our report to Parliament is based on a comprehensive, quality-assured and evidence-based evaluation of the first two full seasons in which the act has operated.

**Siobhan McMahon:** I understand that the University of Stirling researchers who are carrying out the independent evaluation of the 2012 act have already submitted their evidence to the Scottish Government in the form of interim reports. Will the minister say whether the required report will be presented to Parliament earlier than August 2015 or, better still, whether she will commit to repealing the act, as Scottish Labour has done today?

**Reply from Roseanna Cunningham:** I do not profess to be an expert on football, but even I know that this year's football season will not be over until the end of May. That means that the research is still on-going; it will cover the second full football season of the act's operation. The legislation provided for that approach, which is precisely what we are doing. ...

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9054&mode=html#job\\_81829](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9054&mode=html#job_81829)

## Press Release

### **UN and Council of Europe experts join forces to fight racism and hate speech in Europe and beyond**

[http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/Library/PressReleases/156-20\\_03\\_2014\\_Ruutere\\_en.pdf](http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/Library/PressReleases/156-20_03_2014_Ruutere_en.pdf)

## News

### **Labour plan to scrap controversial anti-sectarian law**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-26664770>

### **Labour to axe sectarian abuse Act**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/labour-to-axe-sectarian-abuse-act-1.278101>

### **Anas Sarwar: Labour will scrap controversial football laws**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/anas-sarwar-labour-will-scrap-controversial-football-laws.1395310818>

# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## News (continued)

**Scottish Labour pledge to scrap SNP's hated football bigotry laws in radical shake-up if they win next election**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/scottish-labour-pledge-scrap-snps-3262872>

**Labour 'to scrap football sectarianism laws'**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/labour-to-scrap-football-sectarianism-laws-1-3347517>

**Protester cleared of racism for songs about English Tories**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/protester-cleared-of-racism-for-songs-about-english-tories.23727462>

**Racial abuse conviction**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/racial-abuse-conviction.23713796>

**'Everyday sexism' and 'institutional racism' blocking women and ethnic minority teachers**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/everyday-sexism-and-institutional-racism-blocking-women-and-ethnic-minority-teachers-9210004.html>

**'I, too, am Oxford': The intricacies of racism today**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/i-too-am-oxford-the-intricacies-of-racism-today-9200337.html?origin=internalSearch>

**Cambridge college cancels 'racist' Gone with the Wind themed ball**

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/abby-and-libby-blog/2014/mar/19/cambridge-college-cancels-racist-gone-with-the-wind-themed-ball>

**The Gone With the Wind theme first suggested for a Cambridge University college ball was crass**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/mar/23/cambridge-university-ball-gone-with-the-wind-upper-class-racism>

**'More than half of players have witnessed racist abuse'**

<http://www.theguardian.com/football/2014/mar/18/kick-it-out-survey-racism-rule-rooney>

**FA launches films urging players and fans to report discrimination**

<http://www.theguardian.com/football/2014/mar/22/fa-films-players-fans-discrimination>

**Only three black applicants win places to train as history teachers**

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/mar/22/black-graduate-history-teachers-institutional-racism>

**A childhood of racial abuse has left me feeling paranoid and worthless**

<http://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2014/mar/21/childhood-racial-abuse-left-me-feeling-paranoid-worthless>

**Religious leaders warn about climate of fear in run-up to European elections**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/mar/21/religious-leaders-warn-climate-fear-european-elections>

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## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### Press Releases

#### **Census 2011: Identity, Language and Religion in Scotland**

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Census-2011-Identity-Language-and-Religion-in-Scotland-a8c.aspx>

#### **Scotland's ethnic diversity**

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scotland-s-ethnic-diversity-a9c.aspx>

### New Publications

#### **Overview of Equality Results from the 2011 Census Release 2**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0044/00446638.pdf>

#### **Letter to headteachers: Female Genital Mutilation**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0044/00446674.pdf>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### Parliamentary Questions

#### **Female Genital Mutilation**

**Lord Dobbs:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what are the impediments to bringing prosecutions in cases of female genital mutilation.

**Reply from the Advocate-General for Scotland (Lord Wallace of Tankerness):** My Lords, the Crown Prosecution Service can consider prosecuting only those cases that have been referred to it by the police following an investigation of a number of significant factors affecting the reporting of female genital mutilation. Those include a lack of information from affected communities and the age and vulnerability of the girls and women, which prevents them from coming forward to report offences or to give evidence in court. However, your Lordships' House should be in no doubt that the Crown Prosecution Service is working hard to bring a successful prosecution.

**Lord Dobbs:** I thank my noble friend for the encouraging replies and initiatives the Government have been taking. However, he will understand when I say that these are not yet enough. Female genital mutilation is a crime. It is estimated that 66,000 women and children in England and Wales are victims, yet there has not been a single prosecution. Can my noble friend assure the House that, while we are rightly sensitive to the interests of minority cultures, the Government will never neglect our fundamental British culture, which deems that this practice is little less than butchery and must be stopped? While the Minister rightly emphasises the role that education has to play in stamping out this practice, will he accept that by far the best way of driving this lesson home and saving as many innocent women and young girls as possible is to ensure that those responsible are identified, prosecuted and locked away, where they can do no further harm?

**Reply from Lord Wallace of Tankerness:** My Lords, there is widespread frustration that there has been no prosecution, albeit that there has been legislation on the statute books since 1985. At present, the Crown Prosecution Service is considering or advising the police on 11 cases, four being re-reviews of

## Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

cases that had previously been considered and where a decision was made that no further action should be taken. My noble friend is absolutely right: this is a crime. It is a very serious form of violence against girls and women and is a form of child abuse. I assure my noble friend that the criminal law applies to everyone, without exception.

**Baroness Butler-Sloss:** My Lords, ought not the Government look beyond the CPS at teachers in schools, and particularly the college of GPs, and ask GPs to check girls in certain minority communities to see whether or not they have been victims of this practice? This really needs to be done. It is not up to the CPS to do this; it cannot proceed unless it has the relevant evidence. We need to go to the core groups that deal with these children, particularly the college of GPs.

**Reply from Lord Wallace of Tankerness:** My Lords, the noble and learned Baroness is absolutely right: the Crown Prosecution Service can take only cases referred to it by the police. In turn, the police require co-operation and engagement on the part of those involved in schools, education, the health service, including GPs, and, indeed, the communities themselves. That is why there is a range of activities across government, agencies and the third sector to try to raise awareness and improve lines of communication so that cases can be reported with more confidence.

**Baroness Smith of Basildon:** My Lords, the Minister's answers are very clear, and I agree entirely with the noble Lord, Lord Dobbs, and the noble and learned Baroness, Lady Butler-Sloss. It is clear that legislation alone has not been an adequate deterrent. However, the French system works particularly well, whereby young girls who present to hospital are examined to see whether they are victims of FGM. We would not necessarily want to go down that route but, given that it has been successful, will the noble and learned Lord take on board the comments made by the noble and learned Baroness, Lady Butler-Sloss, but also look at other ways of addressing this issue, including involving hospitals and other agencies which could bring evidence to the attention of the CPS to ensure that we get a prosecution, as that will be the only genuine deterrent that will really make a difference?

**Reply from Lord Wallace of Tankerness:** My Lords, the noble Baroness mentions France. My understanding is that there is no specific crime of female genital mutilation in France. Nevertheless, I think that other issues are involved there which are somewhat different. However, I reassure the noble Baroness that the Crown Prosecution Service is looking at experience in different jurisdictions to try to get information on best practice. With regard to hospitals, which she mentioned, as from next month there is intended to be a reporting requirement from hospitals of cases which they discover, and a database will be built up. It is important to remind those involved that there is a legal obligation on NHS staff to safeguard children and young people and that, if they identify someone they consider to be at risk, or who has already undergone FGM, they must respond appropriately by involving the social services, which, in turn, can involve the police.

**Lord Lester of Herne Hill:** My Lords, this morning the BBC revealed that, since 2009, some 4,000 patients have been treated in London hospitals for the after-effects of FGM. Clearly, this is a very widespread and serious health problem. Will my noble and learned friend look at our own jurisdiction with regard to civil protection for forced marriages and consider whether, instead of relying only on the criminal process, with the difficulty of the burden of proof and all the rest of it, it might not be sensible instead to amend the law to ensure that civil protection orders can be imposed in the family courts, as in the case of forced marriage?

**Reply from Lord Wallace of Tankerness:** My noble friend makes an important

## Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

point. Last month, there was a round-table discussion involving Ministers, the Crown Prosecution Service, the Director of Public Prosecutions and a whole range of government departments which have an interest in this issue. The fact that this matter goes across a number of departments has been reflected in the questions asked today. One of the action points to be taken forward by the Ministry of Justice is to seek views on how a civil prevention order might work alongside criminal legislation to protect potential victims because protection—preventing it happening in the first place—is vital, as well as prosecuting those who have perpetrated this offence.

**Baroness O'Cathain:** My Lords, I ask the Minister whether these girls have any access to confidential information. For example, we have ChildLine, Rape Crisis, services for battered wives, and all those areas where people can, if they are in positions like this, phone up and get some help and assistance. I have never heard of one for this bestial practice. Is there any charity that we could approach and ask?

**Reply from Lord Wallace of Tankerness:** My Lords, I can reassure my noble friend that the NSPCC has in fact initiated a helpline, in co-ordination with the Home Office. Perhaps one of the issues is the need for greater dissemination of that. Another recent initiative has been the issuing of a statement opposing FGM, of which 41,000 copies have been sent out in over 11 languages to raise awareness and to bring this issue to the attention of those who have been victims. One of the issues that has been looked at by the police and the Crown Prosecution Service is that, for those victims who do come forward, the appropriate witness protection is in place to give them reassurance and to help them. People obviously have been very brutally treated.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140320-0001.htm#1403206000568>

### Female Genital Mutilation

**Luciana Berger:** To ask the Secretary of State for Health what services are given in support of NHS nurses reporting cases of female genital mutilation. [191991]

**Reply from Jane Ellison:** The Government published the guidance “Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines: Female Genital Mutilation” February 2011, which provides advice to health professionals on when they should report cases under section 47 of the 1989 Children Act.

Guidance is also available from various professional bodies, for example, the General Medical Council and the Royal College of Midwives. In addition, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children female genital mutilation (FGM) helpline, co-funded by the Home Office, is a resource for health professionals and young people with concerns about safeguarding issues.

The Department is also working with NHS England, Health Education England and the Royal Colleges to develop materials and training to support NHS staff, including nurses, to better identify and support girls at risk of FGM. Further announcements on this work will be made in due course.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140318/text/140318w0003.htm#140318120000083>

### Female Genital Mutilation

**Luciana Berger:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) if she will bring forward legislative proposals to make the reporting of female genital mutilation cases mandatory for all public sector workers; [191984]

(2) if she will bring forward legislative proposals to make conspiring to perform female genital mutilation a criminal offence. [191986]

## Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

**Reply from Norman Baker:** Performing FGM has been a specific criminal offence since the Prohibition of Female Circumcision Act 1985. Conspiring to perform FGM is also an offence. Moreover, the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 made it an offence for UK nationals or permanent UK residents to carry out FGM abroad or to aid, abet, counsel or procure the carrying out of FGM abroad, even in countries where FGM is legal.

The Ministry of Justice and the Home Office are currently considering proposals from the Director of Public Prosecutions on whether the criminal law can be further strengthened and is also considering whether a civil law remedy might provide an additional tool to tackle FGM.

Under section 47 of the Children Act 1989, anyone who has information that a child is potentially or actually at risk of significant harm is required to inform social care or the police. FGM is child abuse and the robust frameworks which place clear statutory duties on local authorities and other agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children are equally applicable to FGM.

**Nicholas Brown:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how the risk of female genital mutilation is assessed under immigration rules for applicants for asylum in the UK. [192329]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** An individual who claims that she would, on return to her home country, suffer female genital mutilation may qualify for refugee status if she is able to demonstrate that her fear of return is well-founded. Factors that are taken into account when assessing the risk include evidence that female genital mutilation is knowingly tolerated by the authorities or that the authorities are unable or unwilling to offer effective protection. The UK does not seek to remove individuals who face a real risk of persecution on return.

Asylum decision-makers consider claims for international protection carefully and sensitively and ensure that all evidence relating to an individual's claim is taken into account. Each claim is considered on its own merits in the light of country of origin information and guidance. Specific guidance and training on gender-specific issues, including the risk of female genital mutilation, is provided to decision-makers.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140320/text/140320w0001.htm#14032097000025>

## News

### Minister in bid to end practice of FGM

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/minister-in-bid-to-end-practice-of-fgm.23713802>

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## Other News

### First prosecutions for female genital mutilation

[http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest\\_news/first\\_prosecutions\\_for\\_female\\_genital\\_mutilation/](http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest_news/first_prosecutions_for_female_genital_mutilation/)

### FGM: UK's first female genital mutilation prosecutions announced

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-26681364>

## Other News (continued)

### **Doctor accused of female genital mutilation**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/doctor-accused-of-female-genital-mutilation-1-3350151>

### **Two men to face first charges in Britain over female genital mutilation**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/two-men-face-first-charges-3268083>

### **The first prosecution for female genital mutilation is a watershed moment**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/the-first-prosecution-for-female-genital-mutilation-is-a-watershed-moment-9208559.html>

### **Doctor at NHS hospital and another man become first ever to be charged with carrying out female genital mutilation**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2586074/Doctor-NHS-hospital-man-charged-carrying-female-genital-mutilation.html>

### **Almost 4,000 women and girls treated for effects of female genital mutilation in London hospitals since 2009**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/almost-4000-women-and-girls-treated-for-effects-of-female-genital-mutilation-in-london-hospitals-since-2009-9203218.html>

### **London doctor faces UK's first FGM prosecution**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/crime/article4040458.ece>

### **Islamic law to be enshrined in British legal system as lawyers get guidelines on 'Sharia compliant' wills**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/islamic-law-to-be-enshrined-in-british-legal-system-as-lawyers-get-guidelines-on-sharia-compliant-wills-9210682.html>

### **Islamic law is adopted by British legal chiefs**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/10716844/islamic-law-is-adopted-by-british-legal-chiefs.html>

### **Britain's justice system should be the same for all**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-order/10715795/Britains-justice-system-should-be-the-same-for-all.html>

### **Law body's guide to sharia 'backs discrimination'**

[http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk\\_news/National/article1391428.ece](http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article1391428.ece)

### **Record numbers contact helpline for forced marriage and honour-based abuse**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/record-numbers-contact-helpline-for-forced-marriage-and-honourbased-abuse-9210254.html?origin=internalSearch>

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## **Bills in Progress**

\*\* new or updated this week

### **Scottish Parliament**

#### **Assisted Suicide Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/69604.aspx>



## **Bills in Progress** **Scottish Parliament** (continued)

### **Criminal Justice Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/65155.aspx>

## **Bills in Progress** **UK Parliament**

### **Asylum Seekers (Return to Nearest Safe Country) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/asylumseekersreturntonearestsafecountry.html>

### **Asylum (Time Limit) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/asylumtimelimit.html>

### **Charitable Status for Religious Institutions Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/charitablestatusforreligiousinstitutions.html>

### **Collection of Nationality Data Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/collectionofnationalitydata.html>

### **Face Coverings (Prohibition) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/facecoveringsprohibition.html>

### **Foreign Nationals (Access to Public Services) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/foreignnationalsaccesstopublicservices.html>

### **Illegal Immigrants (Criminal Sanctions) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/illegalimmigrantscriminalsanctions.html>

### **\*\* Immigration Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/immigration.html>

Committee Stage, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140317-0001.htm#1403173000323>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140319-0001.htm#14031971000041>

Proposed amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2013-2014/0084/amend/ml084-VI.htm>

Bill as amended in Committee

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2013-2014/0096/14096.pdf>

### **Immigration Act 1971 (Amendment) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/immigrationact1971amendment.html>

### **Lobbyists (Registration of Code of Conduct) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/lobbyistsregistrationofcodeofconduct.html>

## Bills in Progress

### UK Parliament (continued)

#### Modern Slavery Bill (draft)

Draft Bill as published

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/266165/Draft\\_Modern\\_Slavery\\_Bill.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/266165/Draft_Modern_Slavery_Bill.pdf)

#### Romanian and Bulgarian Accession (Labour Restriction) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/romanianandbulgarianaccessionlabourrestriction.html>

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* closes this week!**

**Care for unaccompanied and trafficked children** (closing date 25 March 2014)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/care-for-unaccompanied-and-trafficked-children>

**\*\* closes this week!**

**In our own words: undocumented migrants and their supporters**

(closing date 30 March 2014)

<http://picum.org/en/our-work/undocumented-migrants/terminology/-in-our-own-words-call-for-submissions-from-undocumented-migrants-and-their-supporters>

**Charity Pulse 2014** (closing date 11 April 2014)

<http://bird-song.co.uk/charity-pulse-2014/>

**Holocaust Commission call for evidence** (closing date 30 May 2014)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-holocaust-commission-keeping-the-memory-alive>

**\*\* Assisted Suicide Bill** (closing date 6 June 2014)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/74417.aspx>

**Scottish Football Association Equality Survey** (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VKJQQ95>

**Experiences of Race and Religion-Related Hate Speech in the UK** (no closing date given)

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HR7RBZ3>

**Bullying and Prejudice in Schools: Pupil Views and Experiences** (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BullyingAndPrejudicePupils?v=3>

**Bullying, Harassment and Prejudice in Schools: Teacher Views and Experiences**

(no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BullyingandPrejudiceStaff?v=3>

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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

### **Working with refugee and asylum seeking women**

3 April 2014 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the differences between a migrant, a refugee and an asylum seeker, illustrate the differences between sex and gender, and examine the factors that might cause women to flee from their own countries and challenges they face when claiming asylum. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Martha Harding [martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) / 0141 223 7951 or see <http://tinyurl.com/pk4etc4>

### **\*\* The immigration generation\_gap**

3 April 2014 in Glasgow (6.00 – 9.30)

Migrants Rights Network event to explore young people's attitudes, concerns and opinions on immigration and free movement and feature four short commissioned films by young filmmakers. For information see <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-immigration-generation-gap-tickets-9810037085?aff=es2&rank=0&sid=e43d05deb2c111e38a8112313b00d4e1> or contact 020 7336 9412 / [info@migrantsrights.org.uk](mailto:info@migrantsrights.org.uk)

### **Reporting asylum in the media: What you need to know**

15 April 2014 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course to find out how to find the facts you need, understand how the asylum system works and explore how to sensitively achieve the best outcome when interviewing asylum seekers and refugees. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Martha Harding 0141 223 7951 / [martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) or see <http://tinyurl.com/nzcptyx>

### **Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children and Young People:**

1st (9.30am-4.30pm) & 2nd (9.30am-12.30pm) May 2014 in Edinburgh

9th (9.30am-4.30pm) & 10th (9.30am-12.30pm) June 2014 in Edinburgh

7th (9.30am-4.30pm) & 8th (9.30am-12.30pm) July 2014 in Edinburgh

Shakti course aimed at increasing awareness and understanding of issues facing Minority Ethnic women, children & young people affected by domestic abuse. For information see <http://www.shaktiedinburgh.co.uk/training&events.html> or contact 0131 475 2399 / [info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk](mailto:info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk)

### **GRAMNet Film Series**

14 May 2014 in Glasgow (6.00)

18 June 2014 in Glasgow (6.00)

Film Series is organised in partnership between GRAMNet (Glasgow Refugee and Asylum Network), BEMIS, and The Iona Community, showcasing films and documentaries with a theme of Homecoming and Hospitality. Following each film, invited local organisations and community groups will suggest positive actions that can be undertaken locally to address one or more of the issues raised in each film. For information see [http://www.gla.ac.uk/media/media\\_292556\\_en.pdf](http://www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_292556_en.pdf)

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### Developing Management and Leadership Programme

May 2014 to January 2015 in Glasgow

PATH (Scotland) training course with funding from the Equality Unit of the Scottish Government to examine power inequalities and the impact of such inequalities on under-represented groups. It will also enable participants to recognise and develop their skills and abilities as managers and leaders. The course is validated by the University of Glasgow, Centre for Open Studies. For information see [http://pathscotland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/DMLS\\_14-15\\_CourseOutline.pdf](http://pathscotland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/DMLS_14-15_CourseOutline.pdf) and to apply complete the form at <http://pathscotland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Leadership-Application-Form-14-15.doc>

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## Useful Links

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

**Scottish Government** <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Home>

**UK Parliament** <http://www.parliament.uk/>

**GovUK (links to UK Government Departments)** <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations>

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

**Scotland's Referendum: Qs&As** <http://www.scotreferendum.com/questions-and-answers/>

**One Scotland Many Cultures** <http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/>

**Scottish Refugee Council** <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk>

**Interfaith Scotland** <http://www.interfaithscotland.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](http://www.acas.org.uk)

**SCVO** <http://www.scvo.org.uk/>

**Volunteer Development Scotland** [www.vds.org.uk](http://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 News** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/>

## Useful Links (continued)

BBC Democracy Live [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc\\_parliament/default.stm](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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