

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.

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

Scottish Parliament Motion

S4M-10204 Christina McKelvie: Launch of Refugee Week Scotland 2014, Welcome—That the Parliament recognises the launch of Refugee Week Scotland 2014 at the Old Fruitmarket in Glasgow from 6.30 to 8.30 pm on 16 June; understands that there is an exciting line-up of performances in store at the launch, which features the keynote speakers, Humza Yousaf MSP, Minister for External Affairs and International Development at the Scottish Government, and Dougie Campbell, vice chair of the Scottish Refugee Council, and will be compered by the writer and broadcaster, Lesley Riddoch; notes that the Parliament will hold a reception on 18 June to commemorate Refugee Week and considers that this will benefit from guest speakers, including those with a refugee background; acknowledges that the theme this year is Welcome, and very much welcomes the contribution made by all who choose Scotland as their home.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-10204&ResultsPerPage=10>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

New Publications

Asylum support policy bulletin 87 (The Civil Partnership Act 2004)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/317967/pb-87.pdf

Asylum support applications from EEA citizens or those who have refugee status in another country: process

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/317959/pb-76.pdf

News

South African man who speaks English as first language threatened with deportation - for not taking language exam

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/south-african-man-who-speaks-english-as-first-language-threatened-with-deportation--for-not-taking-language-exam-9486650.html>

Deportees treated as commodities by security staff, says prisons inspector

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/jun/02/deportees-prisons-inspector-tascor-private-security-staff>

Church attendance has been boosted by immigrants, says study

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/10873405/Church-attendance-has-been-boosted-by-immigrants-says-study.html>

Church attendance has been propped up by immigrants, says study

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/jun/03/church-attendance-propped-immigrants-study>

Migrants use Big Issue as welfare back door, says IDS

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4109288.ece>

Trafficked Children Need Us to Advocate For Them

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/javed-khan/child-trafficking-uk_b_5458055.html?utm_hp_ref=uk

End of sponsored visas for foreign chefs, bricklayers and tilers in Government attempt to address labour shortages

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2651275/End-sponsored-visas-foreign-chefs-bricklayers-tilers.html>

We've got your number, ministers tell immigrants using British roads illegally

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/10883710/Weve-got-your-number-ministers-tell-immigrants-using-British-roads-illegally.html>

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Equality

News

Sajid Javid: arts industry must do more for poor and ethnic minorities

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/jun/06/sajid-javid-arts-industry-do-more-include-poor-minorities>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

New Publication

Police handling of allegations of discrimination

http://www.ipcc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Documents/guidelines_reports/IPCC_report_police_handling_of_allegations_of_discrimination_June2014.pdf

News

Muslim degraded Sikh employee

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/muslim-degraded-sikh-employee.24373206>

Police handling of discrimination complaints 'poor'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-27707625>

Police More Likely To Believe Racism Complaints Made By Their Own Officers Than The Public, Report Suggests

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2014/06/05/police-racism-complaints-double-standards_n_5451486.html?utm_hp_ref=uk

Police failing over race abuse claims

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4109250.ece>

Belfast pastor who criticised Islam denounces racist attack on Muslims

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/jun/02/woman-charged-racist-attack-pakistani-belfast>

Tackling racism in Northern Ireland must start with the first minister

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/jun/03/racism-northern-ireland-muslims-peter-robinson-resign>

Northern Ireland first minister says sorry to Muslims

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4108837.ece>

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Scottish Independence Referendum

Scottish Parliament Debate

Independent Scotland (European Union Membership)

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9226&mode=html#iob_83196

Scottish Government Press Release

Scotland in the EU

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scotland-in-the-EU-d3e.aspx>

Scottish Independence Referendum (continued)

News

ONS unveil compendium of comparable statistics across the UK

<http://www.theguardian.com/news/datablog/2014/jun/06/ons-unveil-compendium-of-comparable-statistics-across-the-uk>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Release

Queen's Speech

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Queen-s-Speech-d40.aspx>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Queen's Speech

The Queen's Speech at the State Opening of Parliament details the Government's policies and the Bills it will introduce during the coming parliamentary session.

Queen's Speech

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm140604/debtext/140604-0001.htm#14060429000003>

New Publications

Queen's Speech 2014: what it means for you

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/queens-speech-2014-what-it-means-for-you/queens-speech-2014-what-it-means-for-you>

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Other News

FGM law expanded to cover foreign nationals habitually resident in UK

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/jun/04/female-genital-mutilation-law-foreign-nationals-fgm>

Eric Pickles accused of illegally blocking Traveller sites

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/eric-pickles-accused-of-illegally-blocking-traveller-sites-9503354.html>

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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>

Criminal Justice Bill

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

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Consultations ** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Student Finance: a Sharia-compliant alternative finance product (closing date 12 June 2014)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/299124/bis-13-1311-consultation-on-a-sharia-compliant-alternative-finance-product.pdf

Scotland's Electoral Future: delivering improvements in participation and administration (closing date 11 July 2014)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0044/00448004.pdf>

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

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

Light on: perceptions and interpretations of expressions (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BPJCY6J>

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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

Homecoming Scotland 2014

Wide range of events throughout the whole of 2014. For information see the full programme <http://www.visitscotland.com/see-do/homecoming-scotland-2014/events/>



BEMIS, in partnership with Visit Scotland and the Scottish Government has launched 'Multicultural Homecoming 2014', a programme of events to showcase Scotland's rich cultural diversity, and a small Grants Programme to help community groups put on local events. For information see <http://bemis.org.uk/project/multicultural-homecoming-2014/>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** this week!**

Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children and Young People:

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

7 (9.30am-4.30pm) & 8 (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

**** this week!**

Substance Abuse

12 June 2014 in Glasgow (10.30 – 1.00)

Bemis in association with Fast Forward workshop to enable minority ethnic community organisations to provide information and run information sessions about substance abuse. For information contact Kayleigh Thorpe Kayleigh.thorpe@bemis.org.uk

**** this week!**

National Youth Independence Referendum

15 June 2014 in Stirling (9.00 – 12.30)

Partnership event between BEMIS Scotland, Youth Scotland, and A&M Training, to provide an opportunity for young people aged 14-25 to put their questions to a panel of representatives from both sides of the independence debate. For information and to book a place, contact events@bemis.org.uk

**** this week!**

Dragon Boat Race

15 June 2014 in Perth (3.00)

Dragon Boat Race on the River Tay in Perth City Centre, in association with Perthshire Chinese Community Association. For information contact ChineseBoatRace@pkc.gov.uk or see <http://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/9146/Dragon-Boat-Race-on-the-River-Tay>

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

16 June 2014 in Inverness (7.00 – 9.00)

BEMIS event in partnership with CEMVO Scotland to discuss the Independence Referendum with representatives of the Yes ,and Better Together campaigns. For information and book a place, contact Danny Boyle danny.boyle@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047 or Fiaz Khan fiaz.khan@cemvoscotland.org.uk / 0141 248 4830.

Refugee Week

16 to 22 June 2014 Celebration of the warm welcome that Scots give to refugees seeking sanctuary from around the globe and the unique contributions refugees make to our communities. For details of events see <http://tinyurl.com/kk9q5b7>

GRAMNet Film Series

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

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** Celebrating Africa 2014**

21 June 2014 in Edinburgh (11.00 – 4.00)

Event showcasing African heritage and culture in the areas of heritage, culture and sports, including live African music, dance, cultural performances, stalls, workshops and children activities. For information see <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/celebrating-africa-event-2014-tickets-11462130541>

Scotland's Census Conference

25 June 2014 in Edinburgh (10.00–4.00)

National Records of Scotland / British Society for Population Studies conference to share information about current and planned census analyses and to discuss where collaboration could result in improved understanding and benefits to Scotland and its people. For information see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/scotlands-census-conference-tickets-11345184753> or contact 2011comms@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Delivering Human Rights - A Constitution for Scotland

27 June 2014 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.15)

Human Rights Consortium Scotland conference to discuss how to raise awareness of human rights, and promote economic, social, cultural, civil, political and environmental rights. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/nbbvlxy> or contact hrcscotland@gmail.com

Ethnic Minority 3rd Sector Network

22 July 2014 in Edinburgh (7.00 – 9.00)

BEMIS event in partnership with CEMVO Scotland to discuss the Independence Referendum with representatives of the Yes ,and Better Together campaigns. For information and book a place, contact Danny Boyle danny.boyle@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047 or Fiaz Khan fiaz.khan@cemvoscotland.org.uk / 0141 248 4830.

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

1 September 2014 in Glasgow (7.00 – 9.00)

BEMIS event in partnership with CEMVO Scotland to discuss the Independence Referendum with representatives of the Yes ,and Better Together campaigns. For information and book a place, contact Danny Boyle danny.boyle@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047 or Fiaz Khan fiaz.khan@cemvoscotland.org.uk / 0141 248 4830.

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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/>

Useful Links (continued)

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

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

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 News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/>

BBC Democracy Live 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/>