

MEMO 400

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview



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*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.*

Message from the Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) and BEMIS on the production and publication of the 400th edition of MEMO – the Minority Ethnic Matters Overview.

From the first edition in August 2005, MEMO has been an invaluable source of information of particular interest to minority ethnic communities in Scotland, and has made a significant contribution to informing and empowering Scotland's minority ethnic, religious and cultural communities.

I wish you continuing success in the production of MEMO, and welcome its on-going contribution to making Scotland what we want it to be – a safer, stronger and more inclusive society where all can live in peace and realise their potential both as individuals and as members of wider society.



Roseanna Cunningham MSP

Message from BEMIS



MEMO is a unique partnership between BEMIS Scotland and SCoJeC, the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities, which has proven to be an excellent resource for promoting the latest developments and initiatives within race equality settings. Pulling together pertinent information from both Holyrood and Westminster, supplemented by articles, publications; and statistical analysis from across the sector,

MEMO has achieved its 400th issue. The collation of these vast amounts of information creates the perfect interface for communities, organisations, and individuals to keep up to date with the all the latest developments, and a key platform for organisations and communities to share information and work with key stakeholders who receive the publication on a weekly basis.

**Rami Ousta
Chief Executive Officer**

Message from the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities

400 issues is a significant milestone – MEMO has been disseminating information about political developments and other matters of interest to minority ethnic communities for almost 9 years – and this is a good opportunity to reflect. Throughout that time the feedback we receive has been uniformly positive; these are typical:

"MEMO is the very best thing to give [my new colleague] an overview of the area and keep her up-to-date with what's going on, and I myself find all of it invaluable."

"MEMO is used in our local authority to assist the Council's anti-racist tutors keep up-to-date with current matters & better able to fulfil their obligations under Equalities legislation."

The only criticism is that readers want even more, and we have been asked to extend its range to cover other equality strands.

We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with BEMIS and contribute to its vision of empowering minority communities to engage directly with Scottish civic society, rather than acting as gatekeepers for them. And of course we are very grateful for the Scottish Government funding that makes this possible.

There can be no better measure of the value of MEMO than the fact that if it's not already in in-boxes when they get to work on Monday morning, some fans e-mail to ask if everything's ok! If it's not, it's that the internet has let us down, as nothing else interferes with the commitment of Leah Granat, SCoJeC's Research and Publications Officer, whose dedication is the real foundation on which this stands. Our thanks, above all, to her.



Ephraim Borowski
Director

MEMO is essential Sunday night or Monday morning reading. Immigration and asylum are fast-moving areas of policy and debate. For an organisation like Scottish Refugee Council seeking to track and influence these agendas, MEMO is indispensable. It provides an eagle-eyed and brilliantly helpful synopsis of how asylum and immigration issues have been covered in our parliaments and media over the last week as well as looking ahead to what is coming up. Congratulations to SCoJeC and BEMIS for their 400th edition. I look forward to reading it for more years to come."

**Gary Christie, Acting Chief Executive,
Scottish Refugee Council**

I find MEMO useful. It gives a lot of information on various migrant-related topics, highlights important news entries, and there are some job opportunities listed. Useful.

Marzanna Antoniak, Migrant Voice

MEMO is a very useful quick and easy way to keep up to date with developments, news, and events in the minority ethnic sector. It is great to get such comprehensive information from a reliable source.

Tim Hopkins
Director, Equality Network

I would like to thank you for excellent information sharing through MEMO. It kept us in touch with the big picture and future strategic development. We have also used it to promote our vacancies/events to reach out organisations and individuals across Scotland.

**Mohammed Afzal, Minority Ethnic Access
Development (MEAD)**

Thanks for MEMO. I found it extremely useful and a good source of info for issues matter to BME communities of Scotland.

Dr. Ali Salamati

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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 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 Debate

Asylum Seekers and Refugees

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9255&mode=html#job_83444

Scottish Parliament Motions

S4M-10347 Humza Yousaf: Asylum Seekers and Refugees, The Need to Create a More Humane System—That the Parliament welcomes the celebration of Refugee Week Scotland 2014 from 16 to 22 June, co-ordinated by the Scottish Refugee Council; notes that the events highlight the vibrancy and dynamism of Scotland's many cultures; understands that refugees, many of whom have been victims of violence and ill-treatment, are seeking a place of safety to rebuild their lives; believes that asylum seekers and refugees should be integrated into Scotland's communities from day one, as set out in *New Scots: Integrating Refugees in Scotland's Communities*, developed in partnership by the Scottish Government, COSLA and the Scottish Refugee Council; recognises the excellent work of local authorities and third sector organisations in supporting asylum seekers and refugees; believes that more must be done to ensure that the asylum system treats people in the most humane, fairest and holistic way possible, consistent with the aspirations of the New Scots report and respecting human rights, and believes that, for many asylum seekers, the current system exacerbates the traumas that they have already suffered.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-10347&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-10347.1 Jamie McGrigor: Asylum Seekers and Refugees, The Need to Create a More Humane System—As an amendment to motion S4M-10347 in the name of Humza Yousaf (Asylum Seekers and Refugees, The Need to Create a More Humane System),

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Motions (continued)

leave out from first "believes" to end and insert "recognises the excellent work of local authorities and third sector organisations in supporting asylum seekers and refugees, and supports the work being done by the UK Government to improve the asylum system so that it is efficient, humane and fair and focuses on helping genuine asylum seekers and refugees".

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-10347.1&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-10347.2 Alison McInnes: Asylum Seekers and Refugees, The Need to Create a More Humane System—As an amendment to motion S4M-10347 in the name of Humza Yousaf (Asylum Seekers and Refugees, The Need to Create a More Humane System), leave out from ", and believes that" to "exacerbates" and insert "; welcomes the ending of child detention for immigration purposes at Dungavel, and believes that all that can be done should be done to ensure that the system for asylum seekers does not exacerbate".

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-10347.2&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Questions

Immigration Officers: Training

Greg Mulholland: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what training immigration officials receive in relation to handling extremely sensitive and emotional situations; and if she will make a statement. [199701]

Reply from Karen Bradley: Dealing with sensitive and emotional situations is part of the training provided to all staff in Border Force, Immigration Enforcement and UK Visas and Immigration and includes keeping children safe, human trafficking and diversity and equality. Depending on their role, immigration officials also receive further training on duty of care; interviewing vulnerable people; handling sensitive gender and sexual orientation claims and issues faced by victims of human trafficking. The training highlights warning signs to look for when dealing with vulnerable people and how to refer them to other statutory agencies that have protection or welfare roles.

There are assurance processes in place to make sure that required standards are continuing to be met. This includes the independent observation and assessment of operational activity on a regular basis to ensure that officers are carrying out their duties appropriately and that staff handle situations sensitively and proportionately.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm140618/text/140618w0001.htm#14061892000024>

Overseas Students: Entry Clearances

Lord Laird: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many non-European Union students came to the United Kingdom (1) in the last year, and (2) in the previous year; what are the numbers for the top 20 countries involved; what bodies advise the Government on the issue of visas for student entry to the United Kingdom; and, what assessment they have made of the operation of the current college inspection system.[HL51]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): The information requested, relating to visas granted, is given in the table below.

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Entry clearance visas issued for Study		
Top 20 nationalities in the year ending March 2014, compared to the year ending March 2013.		
<i>Country of nationality</i>	<i>Year ending March 2014</i>	<i>Year ending March 2013</i>
China	62,351	57,631
United States	14,146	13,773
India	13,172	15,861
Nigeria	11,582	10,926
Malaysia	10,036	8,135
Saudi Arabia	9,942	9,469
Hong Kong	9,675	8,850
Thailand	4,866	4,533
Pakistan	4,820	8,924
Russia	4,619	4,205
Korea (South)	4,316	4,145
Brazil	3,996	1,983
Libya	3,781	2,049
Iraq	3,772	2,615
Canada	3,713	3,492
Japan	3,275	3,064
Taiwan	3,255	3,246
Singapore	3,109	2,747
Bangladesh	3,033	2,797
Vietnam	2,980	2,993
Other	38,614	35,324
Total	219,053	206,762

Notes:

- Study visas comprise those issued under Tier 4 and pre-PBS equivalents.
- The number of visas granted in a period does not directly equate to the number of individuals arriving in that period.
- Figures exclude Student Visitors.
- Figures include dependants.

Source: table be_06_q_s, Immigration Statistics January-March 2014, Before Entry Volume 4.

The information is based on the latest published Home Office immigration statistics which are available from the Library of the House and on the Department's website at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-january-to-march-2014

The Government engages with a range of bodies, including the Joint Education Taskforce about the student visa system although they do not formally advise the Government on the issue of visas for student entry to the United Kingdom. The Government works closely with the bodies that inspect colleges, including the Quality Assurance Agency and the Independent Schools Inspectorate but has not made any formal assessment of the operation of the current college inspection system.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201415/ldhansrd/text/140616w0001.htm#1406171000244>

Asylum: Housing

Dan Jarvis: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how much has been spent from the public purse on accommodating asylum seekers in (a) hotels and (b) bed

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

and breakfasts, hostels and other establishments that provide lodging paid on a short-term basis in each year since May 2010; and how much was spent in each region. [199172]

Reply from James Brokenshire: Accommodation is provided to asylum applicants through contracts with third party suppliers. Providers are required to provide accommodation that is safe, fit for purpose and correctly equipped in line with the contractual Statement of Requirements agreed between themselves and the Home Office.

There is no added expense to the Home Office when providers use B&B or hotel accommodation as short term contingency accommodation. Any and all additional costs are borne by the provider.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm140616/text/140616w0004.htm#14061716000126>

Immigrants: Detainees

Sarah Teather: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people are currently being held in prisons solely under immigration powers. [199159]

Reply from James Brokenshire: As at 3 June 2014 there were 790 detainees held in prison establishments solely under immigration powers, of whom 174 were held in HMP The Verne.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm140616/text/140616w0004.htm#14061716000133>

UK Parliament Early Day Motions

Teresa Pearce (99) High Court judgment on asylum support – That this House notes the High Court judgment of 9 April 2014 (*Refugee Action v Secretary of State for the Home Department*) which states that the Government's assessment of the amount needed by asylum seekers to meet their essential living needs is flawed and further notes the Government's decision not to appeal this ruling; is concerned as stated in the judgment, that asylum support rates have not been increased since April 2011 and that the majority of those on asylum support receive just £5.23 a day to pay for essentials such as food, clothing and toiletries; further notes that asylum seekers spend an average of 18 months on this support and are almost never allowed to work; believes this is detrimental to the well-being of refugees including children; is particularly concerned that children aged 16 and 17 years are treated as adults for the purposes of asylum support making it difficult to participate fully in education; and calls on the Government to raise asylum support rates to at least 70 per cent of income support - the equivalent of £7.17 a day for most adult asylum seekers - and to increase this in line with inflation annually.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2014-15/99>

Katy Clark (107) Immigration Rules – That this House condemns the Financial (Minimum Income) Threshold in the Immigration Rules introduced by the Government which came into force on 9 July 2012; notes that the rules are having a negative impact on UK citizens who have spouses from non-EU/EEA nations and is resulting in families being forced to live outside the UK or to live separately in different countries; calls on the Government urgently to lower the threshold for the minimum income and allow families to return to the UK with immediate effect; further calls on the Government to implement the recommendation of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Migration to undertake an independent review of the Financial (Minimum Income) Threshold generally to ensure that families with spouses from non-EU/EEA nations with stable and reasonable incomes

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Early Day Motions (continued)

are granted permission to immigrate to the UK; and notes that the UK's four children's commissioners all endorsed the APPG report on Migration and its recommendations.
<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2014-15/107>

Press Releases

Humza Yousaf: Refugee Week Scotland's warm welcome a fitting theme for Glasgow 2014
<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/opinion/news/humza-yousaf-refugee-week-scotlands-3716178>

World Refugee Day: more people being offered protection in the EU
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20140620STO50103/html/World-Refugee-Day-more-people-being-offered-protection-in-the-EU>

World Refugee Day: time for solidarity
http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-14-203_en.htm

Q/A: The European Commission helps refugees
http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-14-436_en.htm?locale=en

'War's Human Cost': World's population of displaced tops 50 million, UN refugee agency reports
<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=48089#.U6RUp42Swbc>

New Publications

Studying under tier 4 of the points-based system
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/321959/T4_v20.0_EXT.pdf

The family migration income threshold: Pricing UK workers out of a family life
http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/publications/MRN_Family-Migration_Briefing-June_2014.pdf

Asylum in the EU
http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/e-library/docs/infographics/asylum/infographic_asylum_en.pdf

News

Are you an immigrant living in the UK? Share your story
<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/jun/17/migrant-uk-share-your-story>

British Social Attitudes Report: 'British' must speak English
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-27874539>

Two-thirds say immigrants should face wait for benefits
<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/two-thirds-say-immigrants-should-face-wait-for-benefits.24514251>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Immigrants must speak English and should have access to benefits restricted, say Britons: Opinion poll finds 95% believe the language is cornerstone of Britishness
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2659568/Immigrants-speak-English-access-benefits-restricted-say-Britons-Opinion-poll-finds-95-believe-language-cornerstone-Britishness.html>

Growing majority of public think it is necessary to speak English to be British
<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/jun/17/british-values-speak-english>

Graduates four times more likely to back immigration – as nearly all Britons say speaking English is key to national identity
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/graduates-four-times-more-likely-to-back-immigration--as-nearly-all-britons-say-speaking-english-is-key-to-national-identity-9541661.html>

British attitudes harden towards immigrants
<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/jun/17/immigration-british-attitudes-harden-benefits>

Public attitudes harden towards those who don't learn English
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4121363.ece>

Hardline view of immigrants found
<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/hardline-view-of-immigrants-found-1.426106>

Politicians at odds with public opinion on immigration
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4121227.ece>

Immigration office criticised over delays in applications
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-27922352>

Young refugees can be force for positive change
<http://www.scotsman.com/news/young-refugees-can-be-force-for-positive-change-1-3451179>

Global refugee total worst since WWII, says UN
<http://www.scotsman.com/news/world/global-refugee-total-worst-since-wwii-says-un-1-3452479>

Migrants use EU to enter Britain by back door
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4124841.ece>

How migrants exploit EU rules to get their families into Britain by the back door: Border chief reveals thousands are getting citizenship in other European countries then moving to UK
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2662782/Migrants-outside-Europe-moving-Britain-using-Brussels-free-movement-rules-Government-border-chief-John-Vine-reveals.html>

Why we prefer our immigrants to be invisible
<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/jun/21/immigrants-taken-to-cleaners-living-london-wage>

Fear and anger in once-wealthy town divided by insecurity and immigration
<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/jun/16/fear-anger-wisbech-cambridgeshire-insecurity-immigration>

Immigration and Asylum News (continued)

Immigration inspector warns of rise in proxy marriage misuse

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/jun/19/immigration-proxy-marriage-misuse>

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Community Relations

UK Parliament Question

Community Relations: Islam

Hilary Benn: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government what grants his Department has made to Muslim organisations to support integration and community cohesion, by organisation, in each year since May 2010. [199834]

Reply from Stephen Williams: My Department is willing to work with all faith communities represented in the United Kingdom who are committed to integration. The Department for Communities and Local Government funds three programmes designed to encourage people of different faiths to come together at local and national level in dialogue and shared endeavour. These are Near Neighbours (operated by the Church Urban Fund), Together in Service (operated by FaithAction) and support for the work of the Inter Faith Network for the United Kingdom. Muslims are among the faith groups that are involved in and benefit from these programmes.

We do not have specific pre-allocated budgets for working with individual faiths.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm140616/text/140616w0002.htm#14061716000016>

New Publication

British Social Attitudes Report 2014

http://www.bsa-31.natcen.ac.uk/media/38202/bsa31_full_report.pdf

News

British social attitudes survey - views on immigration, Scotland and nationality

<http://www.theguardian.com/news/datablog/2014/jun/17/british-social-attitudes-survey-immigration-scotland-and-britishness>

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Equality

UK Parliament Question

Teachers: Ethnic Groups

Sharon Hodgson: To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills what steps his Department has taken to increase the number of black and minority ethnic professors teaching in public universities. [199998]

Equality

UK Parliament Question (continued)

Reply from David Willetts: Higher education institutions (HEIs) are independent, autonomous bodies and are entirely responsible for the recruitment, promotion and retention of their staff. Universities, like other employers, are subject to the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and must ensure they do not discriminate in their recruitment practices. Universities are also required to meet the public sector equality duty and take a proactive approach to advancing equality of opportunity. I understand that employer and employee representative organisations are taking action to address issues of equality in the higher education sector work force. The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) through the Equality Challenge Unit and in other ways, works with the higher education (HE) sector to support activities to address issues of representation both in the HE work force and student population.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm140617/text/140617w0001.htm#14061778000056>

New Publication

Second Annual Human Rights and Racial Equality Benchmarking Report 2013-14: Executive Summary

http://nicem.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Second-Annual-Human-Rights-and-Racial-Equality-Benchmarking-Report-2013_14-Executive-Summary-.pdf

News

'Conscience clause' could protect Christian workers, says top judge

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-order/10912236/Conscience-clause-could-protect-Christian-workers-says-top-judge.html>

Davies-style review urged into barriers to ethnic minorities in boardrooms

<http://www.theguardian.com/business/2014/jun/17/women-in-the-boardroom-gender>

Lenny Henry: diversity in the TV industry 'is worth fighting for'

<http://www.theguardian.com/culture/2014/jun/20/lenny-henry-interview-diversity-tv-industry>

BBC pledges more ethnic diversity among staff

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/medianews/article4126000.ece>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Motion

S4M-10374 Drew Smith: Show Racism the Red Card Reaches 12,036 Students in 2013-14—That the Parliament understands that, over the last academic year, Show Racism the Red Card Scotland worked with 12,036 young people and adults in Show Racism and Bigotry the Red Card educational activity in which the students take part in a range of visual, auditory and kinaesthetic activities designed to build empathy and understanding and to encourage discussion and critical thinking; notes that Show

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Motion (continued)

Racism the Red Card also delivers workshops, which aim to educate against prejudice toward asylum seekers and refugees, people from Gypsy, Roma and Travelling communities, Islamophobia and anti-sectarianism; understands that of those participants who admitted to behaving in a racist or sectarian manner in the past, 70.5% now say that they would not do so again, and further notes that 90.6% of participants said that they would challenge or report racism or sectarianism.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-10374&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Questions

Racially Aggravated Offences

David Simpson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many racially aggravated attacks were recorded in the latest period for which figures are available. [200511]

Reply from Norman Baker: The police provide the Home Office with aggregated figures of the recorded number of racially or religiously aggravated assault with (a) and (b) without injury offences. It is not possible to separately identify the specific aggravating factor.

In the year ending December 2013, the police recorded 2,473 racially or religiously aggravated assault with injury offences and 3,988 racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury offences.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm140618/text/140618w0001.htm#14061892000029>

Religious Hatred

Lord Hylton: To ask Her Majesty's Government what measures they are taking to prevent members of Britain First and other extreme groups causing offence in mosques in England; and whether there are any plans to take out injunctions against known offenders.[HL173]

Reply from the Senior Minister of State, Department for Communities and Local Government & Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Baroness Warsi) (Con): Everyone has the right to feel safe in the place where they worship, free from discrimination and prejudice and we utterly condemn the recent intrusions of Britain First in Bradford and the fear and intimidation this has created among residents. In our country people of all religions must be able to worship without fear of harassment or interruption.

The Secretary for State for Communities and Local Government (the Rt Hon Eric Pickles) has met with representatives of the Bradford Council of Mosques to encourage them to develop guidance for all mosques on what they should do in case of a repeat of the incidents in Bradford. Freedom of worship is a fundamental and hard-fought British liberty that should be defended and we will continue to work with faith organisations and the Council of Mosques to take the right security precautions and ensure that people in Bradford and elsewhere feel safe.

Injunctions would be taken out by the individual Mosques involved, not by Government. We are unaware of any plans to take out injunctions in this case.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201415/ldhansrd/text/140617w0001.htm#14061759000294>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination (continued) **Press Release**

OSCE/ODIHR launches Hate Crime Reporting website

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/119866>

New Publication

New website: Hate Crime Reporting

<http://hatecrime.osce.org/>

News

'Sickening' racist graffiti targets Dundee's Polish community

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/local/dundee/sickening-racist-graffiti-targets-dundee-s-polish-community-1.426532>

Racist firebug jailed for four years over Alloa blaze

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-27902171>

Jealous man is jailed for fireraising

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime-courts/jealous-man-is-jailed-for-fireraising.24523600>

Racist jailed for four years after bombing house

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/scotland/top-stories/racist-jailed-for-four-years-after-bombing-house-1-3449809>

Two jailed over bacon mosque attack

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/two-jailed-over-bacon-mosque-attack-1.433437>

Pair detained for desecrating mosque with strips of bacon

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime-courts/pair-detained-for-desecrating-mosque-with-strips-of-bacon.24549530>

Pair jailed for Edinburgh mosque bacon attack

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/scotland/top-stories/pair-jailed-for-edinburgh-mosque-bacon-attack-1-3452582>

Bacon Mosque Attack: Couple Jailed For Throwing Swine At Window

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2014/06/20/edinburgh-central-mosque-jail-for-couple-who-threw-bacon-at-window-and-wrapped-swine-around-door-handles_n_5515344.html?utm_hp_ref=uk-news

Schools 'must do more to tackle racist bullies'

<http://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/education/schools-must-do-more-to-tackle-racist-bullies-1-3451537>

Nick Clegg: Birmingham schools row coverage may have raised Islamophobia

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2014/jun/20/nick-clegg-birmingham-schools-islamophobia>

Europe must face up to the new antisemites

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/jun/20/europe-must-face-new-antisemites>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

Racism in Northern Ireland: up to three race-related incidents reported daily

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/jun/17/racism-northern-ireland-race-related-incidents-reported-daily>

Northern Ireland's first minister casts doubt on 'racist' protest in Belfast

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/jun/19/northern-ireland-peter-robinson-doubt-racist-protest-knocknagoney-belfast>

Government must investigate Sodexo racism claims, says Labour

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2014/jun/19/labour-government-must-investigate-sodexo-racism-claims>

So many complaints, so little action. Do the police take racism seriously?

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/jun/16/complaints-police-racism-accusations-officers>

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Scottish Independence Referendum

Scottish Parliament Debate

Scotland's Future

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9258&mode=html#iob_83479

UK Parliament Debate

Scotland: Independence

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201415/ldhansrd/text/140616-gc0001.htm#14061622000276>

Scottish Government Publication

Scotland's Future: it's in your hands

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0045/00453646.pdf>

Scottish Government Press Releases

Young people have Scotland's Future in their hands

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Young-people-have-Scotland-s-Future-in-their-hands-dfd.aspx>

Road to written constitution

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Road-to-written-constitution-dbc.aspx>

Humane approach to asylum

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Humane-approach-to-asylum-dd1.aspx>

Scottish Independence Referendum

Scottish Government Press Releases (continued)

Delivering government with independence

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Delivering-government-with-independence-e05.aspx>

UK Government Press Releases

Why Scotland is better off as part of the UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/why-scotland-is-better-off-as-part-of-the-uk>

Scottish referendum: intimidation has no part to play in debate

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/scottish-referendum-intimidation-has-no-part-to-play-in-debate>

News

Scottish independence: Voters to have say on 'Yes' constitution plan

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-27858240>

Scottish independence: Pro-Union parties make pledge on Holyrood powers

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-27868030>

Scottish independence: Post-referendum agreement reached

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-27906062>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Equal Opportunities Committee

Evidence session on female genital mutilation

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9230&mode=pdf>
(p6 onwards)

News

MSPs are told girls face risk of genital mutilation

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/msps-are-told-girls-face-risk-of-genital-mutilation.24533606>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Parliamentary Questions

Developing Countries: Female Genital Mutilation

Iain McKenzie: To ask the Secretary of State for International Development what steps

Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

she is taking to tackle female genital mutilation overseas; and if she will make a statement. [200039]

Reply from Lynne Featherstone: The UK is supporting efforts to end Female Genital Mutilation worldwide by making the largest single donor commitment ever to this issue, with a flagship programme of £35 million over 5 years. We also aim to galvanise unprecedented political commitment for this neglected issue.

On 22 July, the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for International Development, the right hon. Member for Putney (Justine Greening), the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the right hon. Member for Maidenhead (Mrs May), and UNICEF will host Girl Summit 2014, an event to bring together community leaders, grassroots organisations, governments, international organisations and the private sector to build on current efforts and rally a global movement to end FGM and child, early and forced marriage (CEFM) in a generation, everywhere, forever.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm140616/text/140616w0003.htm#14061716000094>

Female Genital Mutilation

Greg Mulholland: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many female genital mutilation cases her Department has been made aware of in each year since 2012; and in how many such cases those involved were either deported or threatened with deportation. [199797]

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

As we do not centrally record the information requested, we are unable to obtain the data for the number of people, whose claim involved female genital mutilation, that were deported or threatened with deportation.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm140618/text/140618w0001.htm#14061892000023>

Petition

Female Genital Mutilation

The Petition of residents of the UK, Declares that the Petitioners believe that not enough is being done to stop the illegal practice of female genital mutilation, and further that a Petition on this subject has received over 2,600 signatures.

The Petitioners therefore request that the House of Commons urge the Government to do more to stop female genital mutilation and to encourage other countries to stop this practice. [P001349]

Observations from the Secretary of State for the Home Department: Female Genital Mutilation is child abuse and it is illegal. The coalition Government are absolutely clear that political or cultural sensitivities must not get in the way of preventing, uncovering and prosecuting this terrible form of criminal activity.

This Government recognise that tackling violence against women and girls, including FGM, requires a sustained, robust and dynamic cross-Government approach.

That is why the Minister for Crime Prevention initiated a cross-departmental declaration, which has now been adopted by eight Departments. We recognise that every Department needs to play its part in addressing FGM. All NHS acute hospitals must now collect data on patients who have undergone FGM. The Home Office is part-funding a

Other UK Parliament and Government

Petition (continued)

new study into the prevalence rates of FGM in England and Wales. Last June the Home Office, in conjunction with the NSPCC and Metropolitan Police Service, set up a dedicated FGM helpline providing advice to anyone who is concerned about FGM. The Department for International Development has established a £35 million programme to address FGM in Africa and beyond, with a further £12 million committed to help end FGM in Sudan. The Government are legislating, through the Serious Crime Bill, to extend the reach of the extraterritorial offences in the 2003 Act to include habitual (as well as permanent) UK residents. It is also considering whether a civil law remedy may provide an additional tool to tackle FGM. On 22 July, the Prime Minister, supported by the Home Secretary and the Development Secretary, is hosting a Girl Summit, a major event to tackle forced marriage and FGM. The summit will bring together political leaders, young people and activists to accelerate an ambitious package of policies to end FGM and forced marriage, both internationally and here in the UK.

Female Genital Mutilation is a human rights abuse with devastating consequences for victims. We are determined to work together across Government to protect victims, prosecute perpetrators and end this practice for good.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm140616/petntext/140616p0001.htm#14061620000014>

Press Releases

Faith and community leaders unite to condemn FGM

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/faith-and-community-leaders-unite-to-condemn-fgm>

Forced marriage now a crime

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/forced-marriage-now-a-crime>

News

New Islamic bonds could raise £200m for Treasury in first issue ever by Western country

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2664686/New-Islamic-bonds-raise-200m-Treasury-issue-Western-country.html>

Forced marriage law 'a huge step forward'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-27830815>

Forced marriage crackdown hailed

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/forced-marriage-crackdown-hailed-1.424321>

New law against forced marriage takes effect

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/new-law-against-forced-marriage-takes-effect-9539097.html>

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Other News

Amina/Citizens Advice Direct Money Helpline

http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/14vi_amina.pdf

Other News (continued)

City Mosque will broadcast call to prayer every day throughout Games

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/city-mosque-will-broadcast-call-to-prayer-every-day-throughout-games.24548885>

Police keep wary eye open for evidence of FGM in Scotland

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4124832.ece>

Pillay welcomes appointment of new UN human rights chief

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/Media.aspx?IsMediaPage=true&LangID=E>

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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>

Bills in Progress UK Parliament

Arbitration and Mediation Services (Equality) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2014-15/arbitrationandmediationservicesequality.html>

Modern Slavery Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2014-15/modernslavery.html>

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Consultations ** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Human Rights in Scotland (closing date 25 June 2014)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JW9RPLB>

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

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

**** Scottish Independence Bill: A consultation on an interim constitution for Scotland** (closing date 20 October 2014)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0045/00452762.pdf>

(summary: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0045/00452784.pdf>)

Consultations (continued)

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>

Advancing Migrant Access to health Services in Europe (no closing date given)
<http://www.amase.eu/wp/be-part-of-amase/>

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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/>

**** this week!**

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

**** this week!**

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

Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children and Young People:

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

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

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/>

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) www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services

Useful Links (continued)

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/>

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