

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

The House of Commons is in recess until 1 September and the House of Lords until 13 October 2014. During the summer MEMO will be issued fortnightly. The next issue will be on 1 September.

Immigration and Asylum

New Publications

Guidance: Assisted voluntary returns for families and children

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/assisted-voluntary-returns-for-families-and-children/assisted-voluntary-returns-for-families-and-children>

Guidance: Assisted voluntary return of irregular migrants

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/assisted-voluntary-return-of-irregular-migrants-information-for-organisations/assisted-voluntary-return-of-irregular-migrants>

Levels of support for asylum seekers provided by the Home Office

http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/news/Home_Office_asylum_support_letter.pdf

Immigration and Asylum (continued) **News**

Asylum seekers are housed in slum conditions

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/asylum-seekers-are-housed-in-slum-conditions.25059670>

A mother's story: water dripping from the ceiling and sleeping on the floor

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/a-mothers-story-water-dripping-from-the-ceiling-and-sleeping-on-the-floor.25067811>

Review asylum contracts

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/comment/herald-view/review-asylum-contracts.25057330>

John Vine: What's gone wrong with immigration – by a man who should know

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/john-vine-whats-gone-wrong-with-immigration--by-a-man-who-should-know-9647820.html>

Migrants lose subsidised translation service

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4167441.ece>

Nick Clegg announces end to subsidised translation services for migrants

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/nick-clegg-announces-end-to-subsidised-translation-services-for-migrants-9650410.html>

End of free translators for a driving licence or passport, says Clegg who insists English language is 'glue that binds us'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2717816/No-free-translator-apply-driving-licence-passport-says-Clegg-insists-English-language-glue-binds-us.html>

£125,000 for Indian woman bullied by Heathrow immigration officers

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/law/article4166897.ece>

Tougher immigration rules 'will make Britons poorer'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4166039.ece>

Reducing immigration would slow UK economy and lead to tax rises

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/aug/04/reducing-immigration-slow-uk-economy-tax-rises>

'Trafficked' illegal immigrant can claim for discrimination

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/law/reports/article4167758.ece>

Clegg joins calls for limit on EU workers

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4165999.ece>

Nick Clegg accuses Tories of abandoning immigration pledges

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/nick-clegg-accuses-tories-of-abandoning-immigration-pledges-9647873.html>

Lib Dem immigration vision outlined

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/lib-dem-immigration-vision-outlined-1.507029>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Tories have quietly dropped pledge to cut migration below 100,000, crows Nick Clegg in swipe at David Cameron

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2716183/Tories-dropped-pledge-cut-migration-crows-Clegg-Cameron-realised-wont-deliver-it.html>

Sir John Major praises immigrants' 'guts and drive'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-28737782>

Sir John Major praises 'guts and drive' of Britain's immigrants

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4174074.ece>

Number of eastern European workers soars by 25% in a year

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4175806.ece>

Number of Romanians and Bulgarians working in UK rises 8%

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/aug/13/romanians-bulgarians-working-uk-eu>

Number of Romanian and Bulgarian workers in UK hits new high

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/11030392/Number-of-Romanian-and-Bulgarian-workers-in-Britain-hits-new-high.html>

Ban on job recruitment abroad 'not justified'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4173430.ece>

Tilbury Docks: Man dies after 35 found in container

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-28817688>

Tilbury Docks container stowaways 'Sikhs from Afghanistan'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-28827133>

Man dies after 35 found in container at Essex port

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/transport/man-dies-after-35-found-in-container-at-essex-port-1-3511707>

Tilbury container death: murder investigation launched

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/aug/17/murder-probe-migrant-dead-container-tilbury-port>

Tilbury migrant death: 'There were screams and then bangs on the door'

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/aug/16/tilbury-migrant-death-new-deal-zeebrugge>

Tilbury Docks: Homicide probe into man's death as 35 'people trafficking victims' found in shipping container

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/tilbury-docks-man-dies-after-over-30-adults-and-children-are-found-in-container-9673137.html>

Man dies as 35 people found 'screaming and banging' in shipping container at Tilbury Docks

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/11038521/Man-dies-as-35-people-found-screaming-and-banging-in-shipping-container-at-Tilbury-Docks.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Iain Duncan Smith blames rising immigration levels on people who refuse to get a job

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/iain-duncan-smith-blames-rising-immigration-levels-on-people-who-refuse-to-get-a-job-9660489.html>

More Australians could work in the UK if new visa deal goes ahead

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2723684/More-Australians-work-UK-new-visa-deal-goes-ahead.html>

Home Office leaves the vulnerable out on a limb

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/media/press_releases/2490_home_office_leave_s_the_vulnerable_out_on_a_limb

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Community Relations

New Publication

Who feels Scottish? National identities and ethnicity in Scotland

<http://www.ethnicity.ac.uk/medialibrary/briefings/dynamicsofdiversity/code-census-briefing-national-identity-scotland.pdf>

News

Ethnic minorities prefer to identify themselves as Scots

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/ethnic-minorities-prefer-to-identify-themselves-as-scots.24935929>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News

Call to condemn rise of antisemitism in Scotland

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-blogs/social-justice-and-poverty/call-to-condemn-antisemitism>

Agenda: Antisemitism

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/comment/columnists/agenda.25022851>

Antisemitism on rise across Europe 'in worst times since the Nazis'

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/aug/07/antisemitism-rise-europe-worst-since-nazis>

Suddenly it feels uncomfortable to be a Jew

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/opinion/columnists/article4173330.ece>

Jewish groups fear race hatred as violence and abuse increase

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4175666.ece>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

Obsessive Gaza coverage is fanning antisemitism

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/aug/07/gaza-coverage-rise-antisemitic-attacks-europe>

The Guardian view on Gaza and the rise of antisemitism

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/aug/08/guardian-view-gaza-rise-antisemitism>

Anti-Jewish hatred is rising – we must see it for what it is

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/aug/11/anti-jewish-hatred-rising-antisemitism-meaning>

Why, as a British Jew, I'm terrified by the anti-Semitism suddenly sweeping my country

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-2720381/Why-British-Jew-I-m-terrified-anti-Semitism-suddenly-sweeping-country.html>

Dundee bus driver sacked after racial remark

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/local/dundee/dundee-bus-driver-sacked-after-racial-remark-1.506707>

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Scottish Independence Referendum

Scottish Government Publications

Scotland's Future and the Environment

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0045/00457321.pdf>

A Jobs Plan for an Independent Scotland

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0045/00457476.pdf>

Scotland's Future - What Independence Means for You

This booklet is now also available in Gaelic, Cantonese, Polish, Arabic, Bengali, Chinese Mandarin, Hindi, French, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, and Urdu. To download it in any of these languages see

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2014/08/9991/downloads>

UK Government Publications

The Implications of Scottish Independence on Business; Higher Education and Research; and Postal Services

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmselect/cmbis/504/504.pdf>

Scottish Government Press Release

Are you registered?

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Are-you-registered-fe1.aspx>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Release

Scotland's People, a snapshot of life in Scotland

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scotland-s-People-a-snapshot-of-life-in-Scotland-fb0.aspx>

New Publication

Scotland's People Annual Report: Results from 2013 Scottish Household Survey

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0045/00457570.pdf>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Press Release

Armed Forces at Living Islam Festival

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/armed-forces-at-living-islam-festival>

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Other News

Celebrating Voluntary Action Awards

(closing date for nominations: 28 August 2014)

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/latest/newsroom/>

FGM inquiries 'a tough challenge'

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/fgm-inquiries-a-tough-challenge-1.511131>

FGM inquiries 'a tough challenge'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-2718568/FGM-inquiries-tough-challenge.html>

FGM cases 'rising but without charges resulting'

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime-courts/fgm-cases-rising-but-without-charges-resulting.24983047>

Britain's first FGM clinic to open in London in September

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-28809456>

No Scots FGM prosecutions after 14 suspected cases

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/no-scots-fgm-prosecutions-after-14-suspected-cases-1-3502766>

Bridging the ethnic organ gap

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/bridging-the-ethnic-organ-gap-175124n.24963572>

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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>

Assisted Dying Bill (England and Wales only)

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

Asylum (Time Limit) Bill

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

Illegal Immigrants (Criminal Sanctions) Bill

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

Modern Slavery Bill

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

UK Borders Control Bill

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

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Consultations ** new or updated this week

Exploring the impact of Family Migration Rules on children and young people (closing date 1 September 2014)

http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/force_download.php?fp=%2Fclient_assets%2Fcp%2Fpublication%2F856%2Fquestionnaire.doc

(Guidance on submitting responses

http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/force_download.php?fp=%2Fclient_assets%2Fcp%2Fpublication%2F857%2FGuidance_occ.pdf)

Proposed Organ and Tissue Donation Bill (closing date 25 September 2014)

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_MembersBills/Organ_Donation_Consultation_Document.pdf

**** Equality and Human Rights Commission call for evidence on religion or belief issues** (closing date 14 October 2014)

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/commission-calls-evidence-religion-or-belief-issues>

Consultations (continued)

Modern Slavery Bill (UK Parliament) (closing date 14 October 2014)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/news/2014/july/have-your-say-on-the-modern-slavery-bill/>

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>)

**** Targeted Regulation of Scottish Charities** (closing date 24 October 2014)

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/targeted-regulation-consultation/>

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/>

Our Borderlands - Our Future (no closing date given)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/scottish-affairs-committee/inquiries/parliament-2010/our-borderlands-our-future/>

Migrants' Views on the Impact of the Migration Debate (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/L5JW3CP>

Inquiry into the recruitment and appointment practices on company boards

(no closing date given)

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legal-and-policy/our-legal-work/inquiries-and-assessments/inquiry-recruitment-and-appointment-practices-company-boards>

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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/>

**MULTICULTURAL
HOMECOMING 2014**

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!**

Multicultural Homecoming 2014

21 August 2014 in Edinburgh (6.00 – 7.30)

BEMIS event with music, conversation and stories from five people from of Scotland's diverse population. See the person behind the talent and story behind the person. For information and tickets see <http://www.justjust.org/calendar-just-festival-2014/2014/7/11/multicultural-homecoming-2014>

**** Mental Health First Aid: Young People**

28 August 2014 in Glasgow

2 October 2014 in Dundee

Children in Scotland training to learn the critical skills required to support young people in need of first aid when they're struggling with mental health problems. For information contact Linsey Hunter 0131 313 8828 / training@childreninScotland.org.uk or see <http://www.childreninScotland.org.uk/html/trashow.php?ref=1914>

Ethnic Minority 3rd Sector Network

4 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.

**** Around the World in Eighty Faiths**

5 September 2014 in Edinburgh (11.00 – 12.00)

Lecture to discuss connections between religion and medicine. For information see http://www.wccs2014.org/scientific_programme/Public_Lecture_Flyer_Peter_Owen-Jones_1.pdf

Racism: From the Labour Movement to the Far-Right

5-6 September 2014 in Glasgow

Centre on Dynamics of Ethnicity conference to consider the continuing mutation and expansion of racism into new 'cultural' forms and the electoral consolidation of parties of the far-right. For information see <http://racismconference14.wordpress.com/>

Domestic Abuse and Minority Ethnic Women, Children and Young People

10th (9.30-4.30pm) & 11th (9.30-12.30pm) September 2014

8th (9.30-4.30pm) & 9th (9.30-12.30pm) October 2014

6th (9.30-4.30pm) & 7th (9.30-12.30pm) November 2014

3rd (9.30-4.30pm) & 4th (9.30-12.30pm) December 2014

Shakti Women's Aid training to increase awareness and understanding of issues facing Minority Ethnic women, children and 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

**** Update on employment and equality rights**

11 September 2014 in Glasgow (10.00 – 1.00)

Scottish Employment Rights Network and Equality and Human Rights Commission Conference to provide updates on the impact of significant recent changes to Employment Tribunals, key discrimination cases, and the important developments in equal pay law over the past year. For information contact Irene Herery equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com / 0141 228 5966.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Caring for Older People – Contribution of Faith Communities

19 September 2014 in Inverness (10.00 – 3.00)

Recent research has begun to quantify the largely unrecognized work done by faith groups in caring for older people. This workshop will provide information about how the government views this work and how they support organisations carrying it out. For information contact info@fiop.org.uk.

**** Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator: Targeted Regulation**

12 September 2014 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 12.15)

23 September 2014 in Stirling (1.30 – 4.15)

23 September 2014 in Perth 6.00 – 8.30)

29 September 2014 in Fort William (6.00 – 8.30)

15 October 2014 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.15)

15 October 2014 in Hamilton (2.00 – 4.45)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator meetings to discuss key changes to the way charities are regulated, including changes to reporting mechanisms, publication of charity accounts on the Register, and the creation of a charity trustee database. For information see <http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/latest-events/>

Holocaust Memorial Day workshop

10 November 2014 in Edinburgh (1.15 – 4.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust workshop to explore the HMD 2015 theme “Keep the memory alive”, hear more about activity organising, and meet others who are planning to mark HMD in your area. Free but booking essential. For information contact 020 7785 7029 / enquiries@hmd.org.uk.

**** Domestic Abuse And Women Subject To Immigration Control: Where Human Rights Do Not Reach**

18 November 2014 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 1.00)

Scottish Women’s Aid seminar to explore the impacts of insecure immigration status on women who experience violence and abuse. For information contact booking@scottishwomensaid.org.uk / 0131 226 6606 or see <http://tinyurl.com/ocvuxva>.

Promoting Good Relations: New Approaches, New Solutions

21 November 2014 in Glasgow

Commission for Racial Equality and rights conference to consider one of the most challenging aspects of the Public Sector Equality Duty – the duty to foster good relations. For information contact Nadia Rafiq nadia@crer.org.uk

**** Working With People Affected By Forced Marriage**

11 February 2015 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 4.00)

Scottish Women’s Aid seminar to demystify forced marriage and help delegates to gain the knowledge they need to provide appropriate support to those affected. For information contact booking@scottishwomensaid.org.uk / 0131 226 6606 or see <http://tinyurl.com/ovxofgs>.

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Useful Links

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

Useful Links (continued)

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

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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