

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 Scottish Parliament is in recess until 27 October 2014.
The UK Parliament recess ends today.**

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Questions

Post-study Work Visa (Reintroduction)

Adam Ingram: To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with the United Kingdom Government about reintroducing the post-study work visa. (S4O-03576)

Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning (Michael Russell): The Scottish Government was opposed to the abolition of the post-study work visa and we want the ability to reintroduce the visa in Scotland. Last week, we submitted evidence to the UK all-party parliamentary group on migration inquiry into the closure of the post-study work route. The evidence made clear the negative impact that the closure of the route has had on international student numbers, on businesses and on universities and colleges.

Adam Ingram: I thank the cabinet secretary for his answer. Can he confirm that he will work with Universities Scotland and others who wish to see a reintroduction of the post-

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

study work route to ensure that the Smith commission will consider devolving immigration?

Reply from Michael Russell: Indeed. Of course, the clearest and most obvious way to have immigration controlled by the Scottish Parliament would be to support independence. However, given the present constitutional set-up, it is more than possible to see how migration and immigration issues could be devolved. Indeed, if Gordon Brown is honest to his intention of introducing a federal structure, there are federal structures that work in that way. For example, in Quebec, there is shared sovereignty over the issues of migration. Of course, in those circumstances, I would want control of the issue to be vested in this Parliament so that we can advantage Scotland and advantage those who want to come and study and work here.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9569&i=86803>

New Publication

Still Stateless, Still Suffering

http://www.statelessness.eu/sites/www.statelessness.eu/files/ENS_Still_Stateless_Still_Suffering_online%20version_2.pdf

News

'Harmful' UK student visa policy 'baffles' top academic

<http://www.bbc.com/news/education-29522229>

Student visa policy baffles head of Oxford

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/education/article4230192.ece>

Oxford University boss attacks UK's immigration policy for harming academia

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/oxford-university-boss-attacks-uks-immigration-policy-for-harming-academia-9780427.html>

Immigration puts British birth rates among highest in EU

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4229020.ece>

David Cameron secures tougher immigration restrictions on new EU numbers

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/11150390/David-Cameron-secures-tougher-immigration-restrictions-on-new-EU-numbers.html>

Ugandan orphans denied UK entry without parental consent

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-norfolk-29522485>

Scots university offers scholarships to asylum-seeking students

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/scots-university-offers-scholarships-to-asylum-seeking-students.1412920769>

Wisbech: the end of the road for migrant workers

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/oct/08/wisbech-migrant-workers-exploited-gangmasters-eastern-europe>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Migrant children denied an equal chance at university

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/oct/07/asylum-seekers-immigration-rules-university-denied>

How will 'super diversity' affect the future of British politics?

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/oct/08/immigration-britains-changing-identity>

Ed Miliband: we will introduce tougher rules on benefits for new migrants

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2014/oct/11/ed-miliband-toughen-benefit-rules-for-migrants>

Labour 'shares' immigration concerns, insists Harman

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-29587391>

City is 'Uniting Nations' to help refugee families

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/city-is-uniting-nations-to-help-refugee-families-183918n.25526953>

Ministers urged to act against sex trafficking

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4233761.ece>

Keep HIV-positive migrants out of Britain, says Ukip's Nigel Farage

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2014/oct/10/nigel-farage-keep-hiv-positive-migrants-out-britain>

Nigel Farage defends plan to bar immigrants with HIV from NHS care

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2014/oct/10/nigel-farage-defends-plan-immigrants-hiv-nhs>

Are foreign patients really to blame for NHS squeeze?

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/oct/10/foreign-patients-nhs-nigel-farage>

Ukip's Nigel Farage confronted by woman with HIV over 'quality' of migrants entering UK remarks

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/ukips-nigel-farage-confronted-by-woman-with-hiv-over-quality-of-migrants-entering-uk-remarks-9786814.html>

We should not let in migrants if they've got HIV, says Farage: Ukip leader wants to control the 'quantity and quality' of people coming into the country

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2787275/We-not-let-migrants-ve-got-HIV-says-Farage-Ukip-leader-wants-control-quantity-quality-people-coming-country.html>

Join the Scottish Refugee Council's creative community!

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_blogs/2510_join_our_creative_community

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Community Relations

News

Black women in Britain – from the Romans to the Windrush

<http://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2014/oct/06/black-women-in-britain-from-the-romans-to-the-windrush>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News

Disbanded LSE men's rugby club had history of racism and misogyny

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/oct/09/lse-rugby-club-racism-misogyny>

Racism in English football is overt, says Fifa vice-president Jeffrey Webb

<http://www.theguardian.com/football/2014/oct/08/racism-overt-english-football-fifa-jeffrey-webb>

Women more racist than men in search for someone to love

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/americas/article4231955.ece>

Latest figures on anti-Muslim Hate Crimes from the Metropolitan Police Service

<http://tellmamauk.org/latest-figures-anti-muslim-hate-crimes-metropolitan-police-service/>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Releases

Powers for a purpose

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Powers-for-a-purpose-113d.aspx>

A Budget for a prosperous and fairer Scotland

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/A-Budget-for-a-prosperous-and-fairer-Scotland-110d.aspx>

Equality Statement Scottish Draft Budget 2015-16

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2014/10/7097>

Further financial devolution – what are the options?

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/82237.aspx>

Publication of 2013/14 Members' expenses information

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/82279.aspx>

New Publications

More Powers for the Scottish Parliament: Scottish Government Proposals

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0046/00460563.pdf>

Other Scottish Parliament and Government New Publications (continued)

Scottish Budget: Draft Budget 2015-16

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0046/00460440.pdf>

Equality Statement: Scottish Draft Budget 2015-16

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0046/00460433.pdf>

Forced Marriage Statutory Guidance (revised 2014)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0046/00460509.pdf>

Forced Marriage Practitioner Guidance (update 2014)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0046/00460555.pdf>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Press Release

New funding for female genital mutilation and forced marriage prevention

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funding-for-female-genital-mutilation-and-forced-marriage-prevention>

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Other News

Celebrate and support Muslim charities - don't undermine them

<http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/augustus-della-porta-celebrate-support-muslim-charities-dont-undermine/policy-and-politics/article/1316708>

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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>

Bills in Progress

UK Parliament (continued)

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

**** closes this week!**

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>)

Proposed Organ and Tissue Donation Bill (closing date extended to 23 October 2014)

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

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

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

Equality and Human Rights Commission call for evidence on religion or belief issues

(closing date extended to 31 October 2014)

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

Equality and Human Rights Commission Strategic Plan (closing date 12 November 2014)

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/about-us/our-work/ehrc-consultations/consulting-statutory-review-our-strategic-plan>

**** Inquiry into the devolution of further fiscal powers** (closing date 14 November 2014)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/82244.aspx>

Planning and travellers (closing date 23 November 2014)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/354061/consultation_doc_140903.pdf

Consultations (continued)

Review of the shortage occupation lists for the UK and Scotland (closing date 5 December 2014)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/359315/Call_for_evidence_FINAL.pdf

Equality and Human Rights Commission Litigation strategy survey (closing date 12 December 2014)

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/about-us/our-work/ehrc-consultations/litigation-strategy-survey?wssl=1>

**** Community Empowerment Bill** (no closing date given)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVqICS_Rgro&feature=youtu.be

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/>

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/>



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!**

Black History Month

1-31 October 2014

For a full programme of events, see

<http://www.crer.org.uk/BlackHistory/BHM14brochure.pdf>

**** this week!**

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator: Targeted Regulation

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/>

**** this week!**

GRAMNet Film Series: “Multicultural Homecoming” and “Future Memory in Red Road”

15 October 2014 (5.30)

Film Series is organised in partnership between GRAMNet (Glasgow Refugee and Asylum Network) and BEMIS showcasing films and documentaries with a theme of Home and Homecoming. Following each film there will be a discussion to enable everyone to share their views and thoughts in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. For information see <http://www.cca-glasgow.com/programme/53e8e39b7622caa257000152> or contact events@bemis.org.uk

**** Scottish Refugee Council Volunteering Open Evening**

20 October 2014 in Glasgow (4.30 – 6.30)

The Scottish Refugee Council is looking for volunteers who are good communicators, keen to volunteer in a fast-paced, invigorating environment and have strong empathy for those seeking refugee protection in Scotland. This meeting is open to anyone, regardless of immigration status. For information see

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/what_you_can_do/volunteer

**** New Scots: Working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees**

21 October 2014 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

19 November 2014 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

13 January 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

18 February 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

25 February 2015 in Glasgow (volunteers only) (9.30 – 4.00)

3 March 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

15 April 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

20 May 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

28 May 2015 in Glasgow (volunteers only) (9.30 – 4.00)

2 June 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an introduction to the issues and legal systems affecting people seeking safety in Scotland. For information contact Martha Harding martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7951 or see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training>

**** Funding workshop**

22 October 2014 in Glasgow (1.00 – 3.00 *booking essential*)

Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) workshop in partnership with the Coalition for Racial Equality

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

and Rights. HLF can provide grants from £3,000 for projects that help people explore heritage. Heritage can be anything from the past that we want to pass to future generations, whether it is researching long ago history or sharing modern cultural traditions, or more. For information see www.hlf.org.uk and to book a place contact nadia@crer.org.uk / 0141 418 6530.

A level playing field? Discrimination Law in 2014

23 October 2014 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.00)

Scottish Discrimination Law Association conference in partnership with the Equality and Human Rights Commission. For information contact Angela Barclay 0141 228 5951 / equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/14x_sdl.pdf

**** Supporting Refugee Women**

4 November 2014 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

4 February 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

28 April 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an understanding of the issues and legal systems impact specifically on refugee women. This includes discussing issues of FGM and sexual violence. For information contact Martha Harding martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7951 or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training>

Domestic Abuse and Minority Ethnic Women, Children and Young People

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

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.

Introduction to Discrimination Law

12 November 2014 in Greenock (12.45 – 4.30)

Equality and Human Rights Commission training session giving a basic introduction to discrimination law. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/ltd7yvk> or contact Lindsey Reynolds Lindsey.Reynolds@equalityhumanrights.com / 0141 228 5967.

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>.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

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 Interpreters**

3 December 2014 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

18 March 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

14 May 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an understanding of how to communicate clearly and effectively with people when working with interpreters. For information contact

Martha Harding martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7951 or see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training>

**** Essentials of Asylum**

9 December 2014 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

28 January 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

6 May 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide information about the UK asylum process, including the difference between an asylum seeker and a refugee, asylum support, and rights and entitlements. For information contact Martha Harding

martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7951 or see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training>

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 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>

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/>

One Scotland <http://onescotland.org/>

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

Interfaith Scotland <http://www.interfaithscotland.org/>

Useful Links (continued)

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://onescotland.org/>

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