

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with **BEMIS - empowering Scotland's ethnic and cultural minority communities**. It provides an overview of information of interest to minority ethnic communities in Scotland, including parliamentary activity at Holyrood and Westminster, new publications, consultations, forthcoming conferences and news reports.*

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Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month, and that the Scottish and UK Parliament and Government websites been redesigned, so that links published in back issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on these websites, copy details from MEMO into the relevant search facility.

Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to MEMO@scojec.org and requests to be added to circulation to mail@bemis.org.uk

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Debate on the Queen's Speech

col 210 **The Home Secretary (Theresa May):** ... I ... would prefer to see people detained for a very short period—in fact, many people are detained for only a matter of days, and the majority of detentions are for less than two months. ...

... the Government's ambition to reduce net migration to the tens of thousands remains. The reason we say that is simple. We recognise that uncontrolled immigration has an impact on people's lives, on public services and on jobs, and helps to hold down wages at the lower end of the income scale. ... we wish to build an immigration system that works in the national interest, is fair to British subjects and legitimate migrants, but is tough on those who flout the rules or abuse our hospitality. ...

We will introduce a new immigration Bill, which will ensure that we can remove those with no right to be in the UK more quickly, create a fairer labour market for working people and deny illegal immigrants access to public services. We will take the radical step of making illegal working a criminal offence, to make Britain a less attractive place for people to come and work in illegally. That will provide a firmer legal foundation for seizing the earnings of illegal workers as the proceeds of crime. We will also create a new

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Debate on the Queen's Speech (continued)

enforcement agency to crack down on the exploitation that fuels illegal immigration.

We will further reform the immigration route for migrant workers and consult on the introduction of a levy on work visas under tier 2 of the points-based system to fund the development of skills. If we are to close the skills gap more quickly, we must reduce our reliance on foreign labour. We will also introduce a requirement that all public-facing public sector workers must speak fluent English. We will act to tighten up access to our public services and protect them against abuse by people who are here illegally. We will build on measures introduced in the Immigration Act 2014 to provide a more immediate impact and extend into previously unregulated public service areas. We will deny financial services to illegal immigrants, building on the existing power to prevent them from opening a bank account, and we will make it easier for landlords to evict illegal migrants from rented accommodation.

In addition, we will build on our reforms to speed up the removal process by extending the power introduced by the Immigration Act 2014 to require individuals to leave the UK before bringing an appeal against a decision in all human rights cases, except where there is a real risk of serious, irreversible harm as a result of the overseas appeal. ...

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm150528/debtext/150528-0002.htm>

Press Releases

European Commission makes progress on Agenda on Migration

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5039_en.htm?locale=en

First measures under the European Agenda on Migration: Questions and Answers

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-15-5038_en.htm?locale=en

New Publications

New free website with practice "Life in the UK" test

<http://www.lifeintheuktestweb.co.uk/>

Cutting Justice: The impacts of the legal aid cuts for people detained in Brook House and Tinsley House IRCs

<http://www.gdwg.org.uk/perch/resources/cuttingjustice.pdf>

News

Greening: UK will not accept migrant relocation quotas

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-32885662>

Do you want more immigrants working in Britain, or more British jobs going to foreign call centres?

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/11629787/Do-you-want-more-immigrants-working-in-Britain-or-more-British-jobs-going-to-foreign-call-centres.html>

Syrian refugees in the UK: 'We will be good people. We will build this country'

<http://www.theguardian.com/global/2015/may/26/syrian-refugees-uk-we-will-build-country-boat-smuggle>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Firms to be hit with new tax for hiring foreign workers instead of employing young Brits

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3099332/Firms-hit-new-tax-hiring-foreign-workers-instead-employing-young-Brits.html>

Grandmother facing deportation after 30 years living in Scotland

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/grandmother-facing-deportation-after-30-years-living-in-scotland.127281261>

Woman faces deportation after 30 years over lost piece of paper

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4453478.ece>

Gran faces deportation to US despite living in Scotland for 30 years

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/gran-faces-deportation-despite-living-5775385>

'Give our failed asylum seekers help they need'

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/u/give-our-failed-asylum-seekers-help-they-need.1432797114>

Church adds voice to Dungavel detainee demonstration

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/recent/church_adds_voice_to_dungavel_detainee_demonstration

Civil Society organisations and Community Campaigners to demonstrate outside Dungavel Removal Centre

<http://www.stuc.org.uk/news/1166/demonstration-dungavel-removal-centre>

Protesters at Dungavel call for end to immigration detention

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-32947002>

Protestors ring Dungavel demanding: close this 'scar' on Scotland

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/protestors-ring-dungavel-demanding-close-this-scar-on-scotland.127562865>

Hundreds of campaigners have staged a protest to end detention for immigrants in Scotland

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/hundreds-campaigners-staged-protest-end-5792268>

Protest over detention of asylum seekers in Dungavel to be held

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/protest-over-detention-of-asylum-seekers-in-dungavel-to-be-held-208507n.127478255>

Diary of a night in the company of asylum seekers who wait for food, warmth and a place to sleep

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/u/diary-of-a-night-in-the-company-of-asylum-seekers-who-wait-for-food-warmth-and-a-place-to-sle.1432882427>

The unsayable truth about immigration: it's been a stunning success for Britain

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/11622192/The-unsayable-truth-about-immigration-its-been-a-stunning-success-for-Britain.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Bisexual asylum seeker in Home Office battle has deportation flight cancelled

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/may/29/bisexual-asylum-seeker-home-office-battle-deportation-flight-cancelled>

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Equality

New Publication

Equality Act 2010 Handbook for Advisors

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/publication_pdf/Equality%20Act%202010%20-%20Handbook%20for%20Advisers.pdf

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Debate

Islamophobia and Racist Graffiti

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9970&i=91582#ScotParlOR>

Press Release

Minister welcomes tackling sectarianism research

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Minister-welcomes-tackling-sectarianism-research-1958.aspx>

New Publications

Tackling Sectarianism and its Consequences in Scotland: Final Report of The Advisory Group on Tackling Sectarianism in Scotland – April 2015

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00477619.pdf>

Scottish Government response to the final Report of the Advisory Group on Tackling Sectarianism in Scotland: May 2015

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00477625.pdf>

An Examination of the Evidence on Sectarianism in Scotland: 2015 Update

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00477640.pdf>

Reversing the burden of proof: Practical dilemmas at the European and national level

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/files/burden_of_proof_en.pdf

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination (continued) **News**

How sectarian bias colours family life

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4450413.ece>

£3 million funding to tackle sectarianism

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/3-million-funding-to-tackle-sectarianism-1-3782553>

Projects set up to tackle sectarianism in Scotland to share £3m in funding

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/projects-set-up-tackle-sectarianism-5758882>

Play hopes to bring curtain down on sectarianism

<http://www.scotsman.com/what-s-on/theatre-comedy-dance/play-hopes-to-bring-curtain-down-on-sectarianism-1-3783065>

****** all Taigs': Vandals desecrate Catholic church by daubing sectarian slogans on its walls**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/-taigs-vandals-desecrate-catholic-5768920>

Scottish football still ignoring sectarianism and should face sanctions, experts tells Government

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/scottish-football-still-ignoring-sectarianism-and-should-face-sanctions-experts-tells.127444990>

SFA seeks help in fight against sectarianism

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/sport/football/scotland/article4455573.ece>

Call to cut public cash to football if sectarianism sanctions ignored

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/call-to-cut-public-cash-to-football-if-sectarianism-sanctions-ignored.127517102>

A real hunger for change across Scotland and the ending of sectarianism

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/comment/columnists/agenda-a-real-hunger-for-change-across-scotland-and-the-ending-of-sectarianism.127414849>

Sleep training 'may reduce racism and sexism'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/health-32914228>

Oxford Union accused of racism for sale of 'colonial comeback' cocktail

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2015/may/29/oxford-union-accused-of-racism-for-sale-of-colonial-comeback-cocktail>

Oxford Union criticised over 'tasteless' Colonial Comeback cocktail served during debate on British Empire

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/oxford-union-criticised-over-tasteless-colonial-comeback-cocktail-served-during-debate-on-british-empire-10284369.html>

Oxford Union under fire for 'unforgivable' racism and 'celebrating enslavement' after bar advertises £2.50 'colonial comeback' cocktails with a poster of a chained slave

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3102356/Oxford-Union-fire-celebrating-enslavement-bar-advertises-colonial-comeback-cocktails-poster-slaves-chains.html>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

JD Wetherspoon admits 'racially stereotyping' against Travellers for second time in as many weeks

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/jd-wetherspoon-admits-racially-stereotyping-against-travellers--again-10286889.html>

Jewish woman wins £16,000 payout from car firm hire that turned her down for a job because she can't work on Saturdays

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3102267/Jewish-woman-wins-16-000-payout-travel-agent-turned-job-t-work-Saturdays.html>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Releases

First Minister on Queen's speech

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/First-Minister-on-Queen-s-speech-193e.aspx>

Scotland Bill sells Scotland short

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scotland-Bill-sells-Scotland-short-1947.aspx>

Fund to strengthen communities

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Fund-to-strengthen-communities-1921.aspx>

Parliament Day comes to Orkney

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/89743.aspx>

Presiding Officer to stand down at 2016 Scottish election

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/89861.aspx>

Holyrood set to rock as nation-wide music competition is launched

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/89865.aspx>

Increasing transparency around lobbying

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Increasing-transparency-around-lobbying-1952.aspx>

News

MSPs reject Assisted Suicide Scotland Bill

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-32887408>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Press Release

Prime Minister sets out his vision for the country in a 'one nation' Queen's Speech

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-sets-out-his-vision-for-the-country-in-a-one-nation-queens-speech>

New Publications

Queen's Speech 2015

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/queens-speech-2015>

Queen's Speech 2015: what it means for you

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/queens-speech-2015-what-it-means-for-you/queens-speech-2015-what-it-means-for-you>

Queen's Speech 2015: background information

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/430149/Q_S_lobby_pack_FINAL_NEW_2.pdf

Crescent Moon Visibility for Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr 2015

http://astro.ukho.gov.uk/nao/miscellanea/ramadan_2015/index.html

News

Queen's Speech 2015: Bill-by-bill

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-32898443>

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New Publications

Improving Gypsy/Traveller Sites - Guidance on minimum sites standards ,and site tenants' core rights and responsibilities

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00477976.pdf>

Race and the 2015 General Election Part 4: 2020 and Beyond

<http://www.racecard.org.uk/news/race-and-the-2015-general-election-part-4-2020-and-beyond/>

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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>

Stage 1 debate

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9970&i=91558#ScottParlOR>

The Bill was defeated by 86 votes to 32 with no abstentions.

Community Empowerment Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/77926.aspx>

Community Justice Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/88702.aspx>

Criminal Justice Bill

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

Education Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/87330.aspx>

Human Trafficking and Exploitation Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/84356.aspx>

Bills in Progress

UK Parliament

**** Scotland Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2015-16/scotland.html>

Bill as introduced

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2015-2016/0003/16003.pdf>

Explanatory Notes

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2015-2016/0003/en/16003en.pdf>

Impact Assessment

<http://www.parliament.uk/documents/impact-assessments/IA15-004.pdf>

First Reading, House of Commons

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm150528/debtext/150528-0001.htm#15052828000009>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

The economic impact of the Tier 1 (Entrepreneur) route (closing date 12 June 2015)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/416129/Call_for_Evidence_Tier_1_Entrepreneurs.pdf

Consultations (continued)

Race, ethnicity and employment (closing date 1 July 2015)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/89097.aspx>

**** Proposals for a Lobbying Transparency Bill** (closing date 24 July 2015)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00477580.pdf>

**** Community Justice Bill** (closing date 12 August 2015)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/89658.aspx>

**** EU Blue Card: recruitment of highly qualified third-country nationals** (closing date 21 August 2015)

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-is-new/public-consultation/2015/consulting_0029_en.htm

What's Changed about Being Jewish in Scotland? (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JewishinScotland2015>

Discrimination in Football Survey (no closing date given)

http://efemico.eu/main_files/FARacismSurvey/FARacismSurvey.html

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

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

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**

**** this week!**

New Scots: Working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees

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>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** this week!**

Refugee Festival Scotland

3 to 21 June 2015, Scotland-wide

The theme for Refugee Festival Scotland 2015 is 'Celebrate'. The festival celebrates not only the contribution refugees make to the vibrancy of our communities and cultural life, but also Scotland as a place that offers protection to people fleeing conflict and persecution where can rebuild their lives in safety: something we can all be proud of. For information about events during the festival see the full programme <http://tinyurl.com/qbr26t9> or contact the Scottish Refugee Council 0141 248 9799 / info@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Educator training – Equalities and Parental Involvement

9 June 2015 in Leith (4.30 – 6.30)

Gathered Together (Cruinn Còmhla) training for education professionals to enable them to improve engagement with all parents, particularly those from ethnic minorities. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/event/equalities-and-parental-involvement/> or contact mail@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047

Parent Council training - Equalities and Engagement

9 June 2015 in Leith (7.00 – 9.00)

11 June 2015 in Glenrothes (6.00 – 8.00)

16 June 2015 in Glasgow (6.00 – 8.00)

Gathered Together (Cruinn Còmhla) training for Parent Councils to enable them to engage with all the parents in their school, particularly parents from ethnic minorities. We will explore in detail equalities practice and practical steps that Parent Councils can take to promote greater participation. For information contact mail@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047 or see <http://tinyurl.com/qzd4x7a> (Leith), <http://tinyurl.com/o99sg5j> (Glenrothes), or <http://tinyurl.com/ozbjqok> (Glasgow)

**** Khat in your community**

10 June 2015 in Glasgow (10.00 – 1.00)

Fast Forward event to discuss community support opportunities and peer education approaches to tackling khat issues, alcohol and many other topics. For more information see <http://fastforward.org.uk/news/general/khat-in-your-community.html> or contact 0131 554 4300 / admin@fastforward.org.uk

Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children and Young People:

16th (9.30-4.30) & 17th (9.30-12.30) June 2015 in Edinburgh

Shakti Women's Aid course to raise awareness and understanding of issues facing minority ethnic women, children and young people affected by domestic abuse. For information see: <http://shaktiedinburgh.co.uk/events-training/> or contact Ola or Mridul 0131 475 2399 / info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

**** Engaging With Westminster**

18 June 2015 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.00)

Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights workshop to increase awareness, understanding and active involvement with the UK Parliament. For information contact Nadia Rafiq 0141 418 6530 / nadia@crer.org.uk

Clore Social Fellowship Programme

Closing date for applications 25 June 2015

12 month full time or 24 month part time programme including, amongst other things, residential courses, coaching and mentoring, and a practice-based research project.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

General fellowships and specialist fellowships in migrant communities, gender equality, youth work, older people, and other areas. For information see <http://cloresocialleadership.org.uk/Fellowship-Programme>

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Useful Links

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

Scottish Government <http://www.gov.scot/>

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/>

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/>



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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