

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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Contents

Immigration and Asylum	Other News
Community Relations	Bills in Progress
Equality	Consultations
Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination	Job Opportunities
Scottish Devolution	Funding Opportunities
Other Scottish Parliament and Government	Events/Conferences/Training
Other UK Parliament and Government	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.

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The UK Parliament will be in recess from 18 September until 12 October. Due to the Jewish festivals of Yom Kippur, and Succot, the next two issues of MEMO will be circulated midweek on 24 September and 7 October.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Debate

Refugees

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10084&i=93106#ScotParIQR>

Scottish Parliament Questions

Refugee Task Force

Sandra White: To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the Scottish Government's refugee task force. (S4T-01101)

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

Reply from the Minister for Europe and International Development (Humza Yousaf): Later today, I will chair the first meeting of the refugee operational task force to provide a co-ordinated Scottish response to the global refugee crisis. It will focus on the practical issues in the areas of housing, health services, language support, transport, social services and many other issues, and look at ensuring a positive and welcoming environment for the refugees arriving in Scotland. The task force will also look to harness the overwhelming public engagement in response to the refugee crisis.

The task force will include in its membership refugees, representatives from local government and refugee organisations, and many other stakeholders. The task force's immediate priority will be to ensure that suitable accommodation and support are available for the people who arrive, noting in particular that some people, such as unaccompanied children, will have specific needs.

The task force meeting is being held further to the refugee summit that the First Minister chaired last Friday, which was attended by party leaders from the Parliament, and further to my meeting yesterday with the Scottish Refugee Council.

Sandra White: ... The minister talked about a co-ordinated approach when people arrive. Does he think that David Cameron's offer to take 20,000 refugees over five years is adequate? Is he aware of a timescale for refugees arriving in Scotland?

Reply from Humza Yousaf: When any country is willing to accept refugees, we should welcome that. This morning I spoke to the United Kingdom Government minister for immigration, James Brokenshire, and I put on record that I think that the move is an important first step. I reassure the member that I think that 20,000 should be not a cap or upper limit but the absolute bare minimum. In the same way, the figure of 1,000 refugees that Scotland is willing to take immediately should be regarded not as a cap or upper limit but as the number that we are prepared to take immediately.

On the offer to take 20,000 refugees over five years, I hope that the majority of the arrivals will be front loaded. Many refugee organisations have asked for that, because the crisis is immediate; it is now. Therefore, it would be wise for the UK—and Scotland, in playing its part—to take in as many refugees now as we can do.

On the point about a co-ordinated response, we will try to ensure that there is a central focal point by the end of the task force meeting, through which we can harness all the public engagement. I know that many efforts are being made up and down our country, and we will see how we can co-ordinate those efforts through a central focal point. I will be able to say more about that after the task force's meeting later today.

Sandra White: It would be helpful for everyone in and outside the Parliament if we could have an update on the timescale for arrivals in Scotland.

The minister talked about updating us on the task force and the need for co-ordination. He is aware that many groups have been set up and I know that all members of the Scottish Parliament have received representations on the issue. When he considers a co-ordinated approach, will he consider setting up a one-stop shop, website and telephone number? Many people have contacted me because they are desperate to help refugees. They are talking about having somewhere to store goods and about transporting goods to Calais and elsewhere. It would be in everyone's interests if we could have an update on whether there will be a central website or telephone number through which people can get information as quickly as possible, so that donated goods can reach the refugees in the way that is intended.

Reply from Humza Yousaf: We will continue to push the UK Government to go as quickly as possible, while acknowledging the complexities of what it is trying to

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

do, particularly through the vulnerable persons relocation scheme. Criteria are attached to the scheme, which the UK Government must, quite rightly, ensure are met. The member should be in no doubt that we are working at a pace and trying to push things along as swiftly as possible.

On the member's latter point, I will consider ideas, including some of the ideas that she mentioned, such as a website. Such matters are on the agenda for and will be discussed by the operational task force, and I will be able to update Sandra White—and the Parliament, if it so wishes—after the task force's meeting.

I echo what Sandra White said about how people up and down the country are showing overwhelming compassion and humanity in their desire to help their fellow human beings. I commend the many organisations that have been set up, including Scotland supporting refugees and the Glasgow campaign to welcome refugees, for their work and efforts to help the most vulnerable people in the world. ...

To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10068&i=92980#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Motions

S4M-14245 Humza Yousaf: Responding to the Global Refugee Crisis—That the Parliament recognises the severity of the global refugee crisis and calls for a coordinated international humanitarian response; acknowledges the contribution of the UK Government to the humanitarian needs of those in the refugee camps bordering Syria and the commitment to take 20,000 Syrian refugees from these camps by 2020; calls on the UK Government to increase the numbers it will accept, coordinate with its European partners and take its fair share of the refugees arriving in the EU; welcomes the cross-party summit on the refugee crisis and the establishment of the taskforce to coordinate Scotland's response, which has been aided by £1 million from the Scottish Government; further welcomes the overwhelming public response to the crisis, the generosity of spirit being demonstrated across Scotland and the positive response of local government, the third sector and communities, and commits to ensuring that those arriving in Scotland will be given a warm and positive welcome and that Scotland will take a fair share of refugees.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14245&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-14245.1 John Lamont: Responding to the Global Refugee Crisis—As an amendment to motion S4M-14245 in the name of Humza Yousaf (Responding to the Global Refugee Crisis), after "EU" insert "; welcomes the appointment of a UK Government minister to coordinate the delivery of this commitment; notes that the UK's response has been further boosted by an extra £100 million in aid, taking the total contribution to the Syrian refugee crisis to over £1 billion, which is the UK's largest response to a humanitarian crisis; notes that, while taking in a sustainable level of refugees is important, tackling the root causes of this crisis must be a priority for world leaders".

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14245.1&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-14245.2 Claire Baker: Responding to the Global Refugee Crisis—As an amendment to motion S4M-14245 in the name of Humza Yousaf (Responding to the

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Motions (continued)

Global Refugee Crisis), insert at end "; notes the positive measures that the University of Glasgow has taken to support refugee students by offering fee waivers, extending its Talent Scholarship programme and accommodating two Syrian academics as PhD students, and encourages other universities to explore opportunities, with support from the Scottish Government, to offer places to students whose studies have been interrupted and whose education could benefit their home country in the future".

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14245.2&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-14154 Kenneth Gibson: Leadership Needed to Tackle Refugee Crisis—That the Parliament notes with great concern the ongoing refugee crisis being witnessed in Europe and across the Mediterranean Sea; understands that the International Organization for Migration estimates that more than 350,000 migrants attempted to cross the Mediterranean between January and August 2015; considers it a tragedy that over 2,600 refugees and migrants have died or gone missing while undertaking this perilous journey and that at least a further 1,000 have lost their lives along various other migration routes, including the Sahara desert and South Asia's Bay of Bengal; understands that, far from being economic migrants looking to improve their circumstances, figures compiled by the United Nations show that 62% of those who reached Europe by boat this year were from Syria, Eritrea and Afghanistan, countries ravaged by war and religious extremism; understands that the number of those seeking refuge in Europe equates to less than 0.05% of the continent's population and considers that, as the world's richest continent, much more could be done to address the unfolding tragedy; applauds what it considers to be the exceptional efforts of the German Government, which is preparing to take in 800,000 asylum seekers in 2015; recognises that the Scottish Government, in partnership with some Opposition leaders and a host of organisations, has made clear its willingness to work with the UK in addressing this important issue; is aware that a growing number of people across the country wish the UK Government to adopt a similarly proactive role; believes that the UK could comfortably provide sanctuary to many more asylum seekers due to the fact that UN figures show that the number of refugees in the UK has fallen from 193,600 to 117,161 over the last four years, and calls on the UK Government to show decisive leadership to ensure that the UK plays a full and active role in alleviating this escalating and tragic situation.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14154&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-14152 John Mason: Removing Rhetoric from the Refugee Crisis—That the Parliament acknowledges the recent debate on the tragic death of many refugees across the EU and particularly in the Mediterranean; considers, as was noted recently in *The Guardian*, that much of the rhetoric surrounding this debate has avoided the use of figures that could give context to what the refugees are fleeing from and where they are fleeing to; therefore notes reports that 62% of the refugees reaching Europe are fleeing from perceived danger in Syria, Eritrea and Afghanistan, that migrants attempting to cross into the UK from Calais make up between only 1% and 2.5% of the estimated 200,000 total migrants who have landed in Italy and Greece, that, in 2014, Germany and France received 97,275 and 68,500 asylum applications respectively in comparison with only 27,870 applications to the UK and that the number of refugees and migrants who have arrived in Europe only constitutes 0.027% of the total population; considers that these numbers, while completely unable to truly demonstrate the tragedy that many fellow human beings are currently experiencing on Europe's shores, are crucial in order to fully understand the scale of this crisis and to challenge many of the misconceptions that are held regarding what is actually going on; urges the UK Government to change its

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Motions (continued)

strategy in order to take a fairer share of the moral obligation to look after these vulnerable people, and hopes that ending this humanitarian crisis on the UK's doorstep will now be treated as an absolute priority.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14152&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-14195 John Pentland: Wishaw to Calais—That the Parliament congratulates Peter McDade and Maria and Angela Feeney from Wishaw on what it considers the tireless work of their Wishaw to Calais Team in raising funds for Syrian refugees in Calais; understands that the team has raised almost £5,000 through a crowdfunding page and received much more support in pledges from the labour movement; praises the team for this and applauds the churches, school groups and other community organisations from across Scotland that have arranged collections of food, clothing and toiletries urgently needed by the refugees; recognises that North Lanarkshire Council has supported the cause by donating the use of vans and a local warehouse to store and receive further donations; understands that Kenneth Duffy and Nikki McMillan of Motherwell will be walking 500 miles to raise cash for the appeal; believes that the cause has also attracted fantastic and wide-reaching coverage through many press outlets; considers that this has helped to raise further awareness and support of the group's aims; understands that, due to the volume of donations received, several journeys to Calais will be made; believes that these will begin on 16 October 2015, and hopes that people will continue to support the group's objectives, which it believes will exceed the initial expectations of Peter, Maria and Angela.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14195&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-14226 Lewis Macdonald: Aberdeen Solidarity with Refugees—That the Parliament congratulates the citizens of Aberdeen and North East Scotland on what it considers their humanity and solidarity in raising money and donating items for refugees in Calais; congratulates Aberdeen Solidarity with Refugees, which is a grassroots organisation with many volunteers that is coordinated by Nigel Martin Lammas, Steven Bothwell, Shelley Milne and Iain Richardson, on, it understands, raising over £3,000 and collecting thousands of donations since it was formed on 31 August 2015; believes that part of this money has been put toward the cost of hiring a 40-foot lorry to transport some of the donated clothes, toiletries, shoes and tents from the city to Calais; commends various charities and businesses in the area, including the Aberdeen Academy of Performing Arts, Six Degrees North and the Arts Centre and Theatre Aberdeen, on allowing their premises to be used for the collection and sorting of donations, and wishes the volunteers and fundraisers every continued success in their efforts to support the refugees.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14226&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-14242 Roderick Campbell: Welcoming the Response in North East Fife to the Refugee Crisis—That the Parliament welcomes what it considers the overwhelmingly positive response by people in North East Fife to the current refugee crisis; notes that special collection points have been set up across the area to aid refugees escaping persecution from the Middle East and Africa; praises the work of Cupar Fife Refugee Collection and Refugee Action St Andrews for what it sees as the excellent work that they are doing alongside local people to raise funds and collect essential items to help refugees at their time of need; considers that it is vital not only to provide material support to refugees, but also to establish an understanding of refugees and promote

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Motions (continued)

long-term advocacy measures, and is moved by the enthusiastic attitude in Scotland toward alleviating the plight of refugees across Europe.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14242&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-14270 Mark McDonald: Dyce Pupils Collection for Refugees—That the Parliament commends Dyce Primary School for its efforts to help refugees in Calais; understands that the school's Rights and Respect Group organised a collection of clothes and other essential items; notes that the project was the pupils' idea after having a discussion about refugees at school; further understands that the donations were taken to the Arts Centre and Theatre in King Street to be shipped in the week commencing 20 September 2015; considers that the pupils have raised awareness of the plight of refugees in their community by securing donations, and hopes that their hard work will inspire others to do what they can to help those in crisis.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14242&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Debates

Application for an emergency debate on the Refugee Crisis in Europe

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm150907/debtext/150907-0002.htm#15090715000003>

Refugee Crisis in Europe

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm150908/debtext/150908-0002.htm#15090846000002>

Humanitarian Crisis in the Mediterranean and Europe

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm150909/debtext/150909-0001.htm#15090928000001>

Immigration Detention

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm150910/debtext/150910-0001.htm#15091022000001>

UK Parliament (House of Commons) Ministerial Statement and Q&A

Syria: Refugees and Counter-terrorism

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm150907/debtext/150907-0001.htm#15090740000002>

UK Parliament (House of Lords) Ministerial Statement and Q&A

Syria: Refugees and Counterterrorism

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/150907-0001.htm#15090716000026>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

UK Parliament Questions

British Nationality: Applications

Steve McCabe [8777] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the report of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration, published on 11 December 2014, what additional checks on British citizenship applications have been introduced as a result of the findings of that report; and how much time those checks have added to the time taken to consider cases.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The additional checks introduced as a result of the findings of the report of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration are as follows:

- Financial checks
- Further verification of referee details
- Relevant information held by other government departments
- Full review of an applicant's immigration compliance since arrival in the UK

Additional checks are carried out on cases assessed as having a medium or high likelihood of failing to satisfy the good character requirement, and the checks conducted depend on the specific circumstances of an individual case and any further investigation deemed necessary when the results of checks are received. No information is aggregated in national reporting systems to enable reporting on the time additional checks have added to the time taken to consider cases.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8777/>

Immigration Controls

Tulip Siddiq [8258] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of applications for permanent leave to remain from people who have had discretionary leave to remain status (a) in each age group and (b) with each level of educational qualification for at least 10 years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Since 2005 the proportion of applications that have been granted Indefinite Leave to Remain who have previously had Discretionary Leave status broken down by age group is as follows: Age 0 to 6 - 520 Age 7 to 18 - 3,160 Age 19 to 30 - 15,300 Age 31 to 40 - 16,340 Age 41 to 50 - 8,640 Age 51 to 60 - 2,815 Age 61 and over - 1,865

The Home Office does not hold data to show the proportion of applications that have Indefinite Leave to Remain who have also had Discretionary Leave status, based on their educational qualifications.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-07-21/8258/>

Visas: Married People

Drew Hendry [9697] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment her Department has made of the effect of current regulations on spousal visas on low wage families in the UK; and if she will amend spousal visa application criteria to take into account potential employment opportunities that migrant spouses might have to bridge the minimum income threshold.

Reply from James Brokenshire: We welcome those who wish to make a life in the UK with their family, work hard and make a contribution, but family life must not be established here at the taxpayer's expense. The minimum income threshold under the family Immigration Rules for sponsoring a non-European Economic Area national spouse to come to the UK aims to prevent burdens on the taxpayer and promote integration. Its level reflects advice from the independent Migration Advisory Committee on the income which means a family settled in the UK will generally cease to be able to access income-related

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

benefits.

The employment prospects of the migrant spouse are no guarantee that they will find work in the UK. Those with an appropriate job offer here can apply under Tier 2 of the Points Based System. Migrant spouses coming to the UK under the family route must be capable of being independently supported by their sponsor or by their joint savings or non-employment income. The courts have agreed that this is a matter of public policy for the Government and Parliament to determine.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-09/9697/>

Immigrants: Employment

Patrick Grady [8940] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether it is possible for an individual or prospective employer to appeal or ask for a review of a determination by the Employer Checking Service on an individual's right to work in the UK.

Reply from James Brokenshire: There is no appeal process for an Employer Checking Service decision, but if correspondence is received from a representative or employer confirming new/additional information i.e. a new application was not showing on the system at the time the decision was made, then a revised response will be issued directly to the employer.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8940/>

Overseas Students: Visas

Maeleine Moon [8835] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 10 August 2015 to Question 4785 on education institutions: licensing, how many applications for a Tier 4 sponsor licence made in each year since 2010 are still undetermined; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from James Brokenshire: All applications submitted during the year 2010 to 2013 have been concluded. There were 12 applications submitted during 2014, and 52 applications submitted during 2015 which are yet to be determined.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8835/>

Overseas Students: Visas

Kwasi Kwarteng [8469] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what provision is made for genuine overseas students who enrol at a private higher education college that subsequently has its licence revoked to enable them to retain their visa and continue their studies.

Reply from James Brokenshire: We will continue to clamp down on immigration abuse in order to deliver an effective immigration system which works in the national interest, and is fair to British taxpayers and genuine students.

Where the Tier 4 licence of a private college is revoked, the Home Office will write to the Tier 4 students enrolled at the college and curtail their existing leave to 60 calendar days from the date of the letter. These Tier 4 students are not permitted to retain their visa or continue studying with the college that has had its licence revoked. During this 60 day period however, the students may find a new sponsor with a valid Tier 4 licence and make a visa application for further leave to remain if they wish to continue their studies in the UK. If they do not make such an application before their leave expires, they will have to leave the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8469/>

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Migrant Workers: Visas

Deidre Brock [8345] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she has any plans to open the tier 3 category of visas to new applicants.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Her Majesty's Government has no plans to open Tier 3 of the Points Based System.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-07-21/8345/>

NHS: Migrant Workers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Mike Kane [8980] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate the Government has made of the number of NHS workers affected by the new income requirements for Tier 2 visas.

Mike Kane 8981] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions she has had with the Secretary of State for Health on the likely impact of the changes to Tier 2 visa income requirements for workers from outside the European Economic Area on the NHS.

Reply from James Brokenshire: In June, the Government commissioned the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to provide advice on significantly reducing non-EEA economic migration, including raising minimum salary thresholds to ensure that those entering the UK on Tier 2 (skilled work) visas are not undercutting the resident labour force.

The MAC published its interim report on 13 August, which recommended waiting until its final report in December, which will analyse the impacts of Tier 2 salary requirements further and their interaction with other issues we have asked the MAC to consider. The Government is currently considering its response. No decision has yet been made regarding changes to minimum income requirements for Tier 2 (skilled work) visas.

In 2012, the Government announced it would implement a minimum pay requirement of £35,000 for Tier 2 migrants applying for settlement from April 2016. An impact assessment for that policy change was published in March 2012 and is available at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/117957/impact-assessment-tier2.pdf

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8980/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8981/>

Nurses: Migrant Workers

Heidi Alexander [8517] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what estimate he has made of the number of nurses who will leave the NHS in 2017 as a result of changes to the immigration rules which will require non-EEA nationals with Tier 2 visas to earn £35,000 per year before they are allowed to stay in the UK; and what steps he is taking to prevent staff shortages as a result.

Reply from Ben Gummer: The Home Office estimate that there were 713 visas issued to nurses in 2011/12 to whom the pay threshold and six year cap would apply if they are still resident in the United Kingdom.

Health Education England is implementing a number of steps to increase nurses numbers within the National Health Service. These plans include:

- increases in the number of training commissions, which will deliver over 23,000

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

- more nurses by 2019;
 - a Return to Practice programme, aimed at encouraging previously qualified nurses that have left the NHS, to update their skills and qualifications and return to practice within the NHS, and
 - the provision of flexible routes into nursing for pre-existing support staff, such as part-time nursing degrees in partnership with the Open University for care assistants who have been sponsored by their employer.
- Additionally, the Chief Nursing Officer has established a programme board to oversee activities aimed at increasing nursing numbers.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8517/>

Entry Clearances

Jeremy Corbyn [8377] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for Refugee Family Reunion (under Part 11 Immigration Rules) have resulted in the granting of entry clearance to children under 18 and the refusal of entry clearance to female children over 18 from the same family (a) in total and (b) for families originating from (i) Syria, (ii) Afghanistan and (iii) Iran in the last two years for which records exist.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Home Office is able to provide some of the information requested, but is unable to provide information on which applications are from members of the same family, as to obtain this would incur disproportionate cost. The numbers of family reunion visas issued & refused in total and broken down by age group, gender and the specific nationalities requested is set out in the table [at] [http://qna.files.parliament.uk/qna-attachments/391858/original/8377%20annex%2023.07.15\[1\]%20v2.docx](http://qna.files.parliament.uk/qna-attachments/391858/original/8377%20annex%2023.07.15[1]%20v2.docx)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-07-21/8377/>

Overseas Students: Scotland

Deidre Brock [8346] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she has any plans to reintroduce tier 1 post-study work visas for students completing their studies at Scottish universities.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Her Majesty's Government closed Tier 1 (Post-Study Work) in April 2012 and has no plans to reintroduce the route for any international graduates, including those who have studied at Scottish universities. We closed the Tier 1 (Post Study Work) route because too many individuals in the route were unemployed or in low-skilled work, and too many were using the student route merely as a means to work in the UK, without any intention of study, which does not help hard-working people or our educational institutions.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-07-21/8346/>

Refugees: EU Action

David Nuttall [8358] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Conclusions of the European Council of 25 and 26 June 2015 paragraph 4(e), whether the UK is legally bound by the agreement to participate in resettling 20,000 displaced persons.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The European Commission proposal on resettlement is in the form of a Recommendation and is therefore not legally binding on Member States.

Her Majesty's Government has been very clear that resettlement of refugees is a

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

matter for national governments, not the EU. We will not participate in any EU proposals for mandatory resettlement. But we will continue to decide and run our own national schemes as part of our wider asylum and migration policy and the EU proposals on resettlement explicitly recognise this. We expect to resettle up to 2,200 refugees over the next two years under our existing national schemes.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-07-21/8358/>

Asylum

David Davies [8910] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum seekers had been waiting for a decision on whether they can be granted asylum for more than 12 months on the latest date for which data is available.

Reply from James Brokenshire: At the end of June 2015, 2,426 asylum applications for main applicants and dependants were pending an initial decision after 12 months. The figure provided is a subset of latest published statistics for applications received for asylum since April 2006, which are published by the Home Office on a monthly and quarterly basis. The latest release, Immigration Statistics April to June 2015, is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-april-to-june-2015>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8910/>

Asylum

David Davies [8911] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applicants had been granted asylum in each of the last three years for which figures are available.

Reply from James Brokenshire: There were 5,135, 5,736 and 7,266 grants of asylum based on initial decision by main applicants in 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively. These figures are published in the Immigration Statistics release table as_01 "Asylum applications and initial decisions for main applicants, by country of nationality". The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on asylum applications and initial decisions within the Immigration Statistics release. A copy of the latest release, Immigration Statistics April-June 2015, is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/series/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8911/>

Asylum

David Davies [8912] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have claimed asylum in each of the last three years for which figures are available.

Reply from James Brokenshire: There were 21,843, 23,584 and 25,033 asylum applications from main applicants in 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively. These figures are published in the Immigration Statistics release table as_01 "Asylum applications and initial decisions for main applicants, by country of nationality".

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on asylum applications and initial decisions within the Immigration Statistics release. A copy of the latest release, Immigration Statistics April-June 2015, is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/series/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8912/>

Asylum: Finance

Caroline Lucas [8052] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will publish an impact assessment of the reduced standard rate of asylum cash support due to take effect from 10 August 2015; and if she will make an assessment of the effects of that reduction on (a) single parents and their children, (b) families with children and (c) other people seeking asylum.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Asylum seekers who are destitute are provided with accommodation and a cash allowance to cover their essential living needs. The level of the allowance is kept under regular review.

The most recent review showed that the asylum support payments provided to larger household groups comfortably exceeded what is necessary to meet their essential living needs. In conducting the review, due regard was given the Public Sector Equality Duty and the assessment was that the reduced payments were still sufficient to meet those needs.

The adequacy of the payment rates will be kept under review through the annual review cycle and in line with the statutory test to ensure that the right level of support is provided to asylum seekers and their families.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-07-20/8052/>

Asylum: Finance

Stuart McDonald [7908] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the explanatory note on the Asylum Support (Amendment No. 3) Regulations 2015, on what basis it was concluded that those Regulations would have no impact on the voluntary sector.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Asylum seekers who are destitute are provided with accommodation and a cash allowance to cover their essential living needs. The level of the allowance is kept under regular review. The most recent review showed that the asylum support payments provided to larger household groups comfortably exceeded what is necessary to meet essential living needs. Despite the planned reduction in the rate, the payments are still sufficient to meet those needs. There should therefore be no impact on the voluntary sector.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-07-20/7908/>

Asylum: Finance

Chris Stephens [9082] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions her Department has had with other Government departments on the potential effect on social services of proposed reductions in the level of asylum seeker support.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Other Government Departments were notified of the changes. It is not believed that they will have any impact on local authority social services. Although the payments provided to destitute asylum seekers with dependants were reduced from 10 August 2015 they remain sufficient to cover essential living needs and free accommodation continues to be provided. The payment level for asylum seekers without dependants was raised to £36.95 (from £36.62) with effect from 6 April 2015.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/9082/>

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Asylum: Children

Kirsty Blackman [8066] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people granted temporary asylum as children have been denied permanent asylum upon applying as an adult in each of the last 10 years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: When a child passes the age of 18 and their Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) leave expires, they are no longer considered to be a UASC and are therefore required to take steps to return voluntarily or seek further leave to remain. If the individual does not seek to regularise their stay through further applications or leave is not granted they may be removed in accordance with the Immigration Rules and published Home Office policy should they fail to leave voluntarily.

The table below provides the number of individuals refused further leave in each of the last 10 years where they had been previously granted UASC leave.

Year of Further Leave Application	No of FL Refusals
2005	0
2006	6
2007	50
2008	156
2009	483
2010	870
2011	871
2012	631
2013	505
2014	374

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-07-20/8066/>

Asylum: Children

The following two questions both received the same answer

Kirsty Blackman [9321] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people granted temporary asylum as children have been denied permanent asylum upon applying as an adult by country of origin in each of the last 10 years.

Kirsty Blackman [9322] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people granted temporary asylum as children, having arrived in the UK under the age of 12, have been denied permanent asylum upon applying as an adult in each of the last 10 years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Home Office does not return Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) whose claims have been refused, unless adequate reception arrangements are in place in the country to which the child is to be returned. If adequate reception arrangements are absent, most unaccompanied children are granted temporary leave to remain (UASC Leave) which usually continues until their 18th birthday. When a child passes the age of 18 and their UASC Leave expires, they are no longer considered to be an unaccompanied asylum seeking child and are therefore required to take steps to return voluntarily or seek further leave to remain. If the individual does not seek to regularise their stay through further applications or leave is not granted they may be removed should they fail to leave voluntarily. The table below provides the number of people granted UASC Leave as children and who have been denied permanent asylum upon applying as an adult by country of origin in each of the last 10 years:

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

The Home Office statistics on asylum applications and initial decisions for UASC are published quarterly in 'Immigration Statistics, April to June 2015: data tables', available from the Library of the House and from the Home Office website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-april-to-june-2015-data-tables>.

To read the very long tables see

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-07/9321/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-07/9322/>

Asylum: Syria

Mary Creagh [8239] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Syrian refugees granted asylum in the UK were studying in the UK at the time their asylum application was made in each of the last five years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: We are unable to provide the information requested as to produce an accurate number would require a manual review of records matched between different Home Office data systems, which would only be achievable at a disproportionate cost.

The UK has a proud tradition of providing protection to those who need it most. Between 2011 and March this year, we granted asylum or other forms of leave to over 4,200 Syrian nationals and dependants.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-07-21/8239/>

Asylum: Deportation

Gareth Thomas [9116] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum seekers have been removed to a third country under the terms of the Dublin Convention in each month of 2014 and 2015 to date; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The information requested is shown in the following table:

Jan -14	Feb -14	Mar -14	Apr -14	May -14	Jun -14	Jul -14	Aug -14	Sep -14	Oct -14	Nov -14	Dec -14	Jan -15	Feb -15	Mar -15	Apr -15	May -15	Jun -15	Total
88	67	80	57	57	55	51	41	71	74	64	40	49	67	71	59	36	71	1098

These figures are based on management information and are only valid for the date of the report (8/09/2015). This information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-07/9116/>

Dungavel House Immigration Removal Centre: Detainees

Stuard McDonald [8752] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people of each nationality are detained at Dungavel House Immigration Removal Centre.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The table below shows the number of people detained at Dungavel House immigration removal centre by nationality, as at 30 June 2015, the latest date for which figures are available.

To read the very long table see

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8752/>

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Dungavel House Immigration Removal Centre: Detainees

Stuart McDonald [8753] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people of each nationality detained at Dungavel House Immigration Removal Centre have been detained at that centre for more than (a) three, (b) six and (c) 12 months.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The table below shows the number of people detained at Dungavel House immigration removal centre by nationality, by length of detention, as at 30 June 2015.

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of people detained in the United Kingdom for immigration purposes, within the Immigration Statistics release. Data relating to people in detention are available in tables dt_11_q to dt_13_q in Immigration Statistics: April – June 2015 on the GOV.UK website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/series/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>

To read the very long table see

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8753/>

Deportation

David Davies [8907] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, to which countries people have been forcibly removed in the last three years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The table below shows the number of enforced removals from the United Kingdom by destination country for the last three years. The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of enforced removals from the United Kingdom for immigration purposes, within the Immigration Statistics release. Data relating to enforced removals by destination are available in tables rv_05 to rv_06_q in Immigration Statistics: April – June 2015 on the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/series/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>

To read the very long table see

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8907/>

Human Trafficking

Fiona Bruce [8025] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) men, (b) women and (c) children came forward as potential victims of human trafficking in each year since 2012; how many such people (i) were returned to their country of origin and (ii) stayed on in the UK; how many of those who stayed in the UK were granted asylum; and what data is collected from each shelter administered by the Salvation Army scheme.

Reply from Karen Bradley: The table below sets out the number of potential victims of human trafficking who were referred into the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) in each year since 2012, broken down by the age of the potential victim at the time of referral.

	Adult			Minor		Total
	Male	Female	Transgender	Male	Female	
2012	258	636	0	142	150	1186
2013	469	901	0	154	222	1746
2014	615	1124	2	291	308	2340

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

It is not possible to accurately provide comprehensive information on the outcomes of those referred into the NRM. The Salvation Army provides the Home Office with information on the number of victims it has supported and the types of exploitation encountered. It also provides case specific information such as the NRM decision and victims' country of origin.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-07-20/8025/>

Human Trafficking

Lord McColl of Dulwich [HL1925] To ask Her Majesty's Government, in (1) 2013–14, and (2) 2014–15, how many potential victims of trafficking referred to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) were accommodated by the National Asylum Support Service; and of those, how many received (a) a positive reasonable grounds decision, and (b) a positive conclusive grounds decision.

Reply from Lord Bates: In 2013/14, 1,282 referrals were made into the NRM, of which 537 were accommodated in NASS accommodation. Of those in NASS accommodation, 403 individuals were issued with Positive Reasonable Grounds decisions, of which 154 received a subsequent positive Conclusive Ground decision.

In 2013/15 1,800 referrals were made into the NRM, of which 716 were accommodated in NASS accommodation. Of those in NASS accommodation, 632 individuals were issued with Positive Reasonable Grounds decisions, of which 126 received a subsequent positive Conclusive Ground decision.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-09-07/HL1925/>

Human Trafficking

Lord McColl of Dulwich [HL1926] To ask Her Majesty's Government in (1) 2013–14 and (2) 2014–15 how many potential victims of trafficking referred to the National Referral Mechanism and accommodated by the National Asylum Support Service received specialist trafficking outreach support under the Victim Care Contract during the 45-day reflection and recovery periods.

Reply from Lord Bates: The number of potential victims of human trafficking who received outreach support under the Victim Care Contract whilst accommodated through the Home Office asylum contracts accommodation were as follows:

01/07/2013 - 30/06/2014 - 202 (Male - 20; Female - 182)

01/07/2014 - 30/06/2015 - 246 (Male - 33; Female - 213)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-09-07/HL1926/>

Human Trafficking: Temporary Accommodation

Fiona Bruce [8024] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the total cost to the public purse was of administering shelters organised by the Salvation Army where potential trafficked victims have been placed; how much such funding goes to individual non-governmental organisations who ran such shelters in 2014; and how much of the overall Government grant for these shelters is spent by the Salvation Army on administration and running costs.

Reply from Karen Bradley: The Salvation Army and their 11 subcontractors provide support for potential victims of trafficking in England and Wales. The contract is jointly funded by the Home Office and the Ministry of Justice. The management of the contract was transferred from the Ministry of Justice to the Home Office in March 2014, so data is provided for the financial year 2014/15.

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

In the financial year 2014/15, the total cost of the contract was £5,158,251, of which £235,440 was spent on administration and management of the contract. The remainder was spent by The Salvation Army and their subcontractors on providing support to potential victims.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-07-20/8024/>

Prime Minister's Questions: Refugee Crisis

Harriet Harman: ... This is the largest movement of people across Europe since the second world war with, in just one month, more than 50,000 refugees arriving in Greece and thousands more setting off on foot to go from Hungary to Austria. The Prime Minister committed on Monday that we would accept 20,000 Syrian refugees over the next five years, but for these people 2020 must seem a lifetime away. Can he tell the House how many will be allowed to come to the UK by the end of this year?

Reply from the Prime Minister: ... This is the biggest crisis facing Europe. We have to act on all of the areas she mentions. We have to use our head and our heart. We have committed to taking 20,000 people. I want us to get on with that. There is no limit on the number of people who could come in the first year. Let us get on with it, but let us recognise that we have to go to the camps, find the people, make sure they can be housed, find schools for their children, and work with local councils and local voluntary bodies to make sure that when these people come they get a warm welcome from Britain.

Ms Harman: ... We have to do all those things the Prime Minister has set out in relation to the refugees, but we still need to know, and we need a commitment, about the number we will take this year. This is an urgent crisis. If he cannot give us a number today, can he at least commit to go away and consult local authorities and throughout Government, and voluntary organisations and charities, and come back in a month and say how many this country will take this year?

It is welcome that the Prime Minister has said that we will take in Syrian refugees from the camps in the region, but he has ruled out taking in those who have made it to southern Europe. We understand his argument is that he does not want more people to put themselves in danger, but we have to deal with the reality. The reality is that thousands of people, including thousands of children without their parents, have already arrived in Europe. Save the Children has proposed that we take 3,000 of them into this country. Surely we should be playing our part to help those most vulnerable of children, even if they are already in Europe. Will he reconsider this?

Reply from the Prime Minister: On the number that we can achieve over the coming year, we have the first meeting on Friday of the committee that will be chaired jointly by the Home Secretary and the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. We will invite representatives of the Local Government Association and possibly some voluntary bodies to that meeting to make sure that we can plan. It is one thing to give a commitment to a number, whether it is the 20,000 that I think is right or something else; it is another thing to make sure that we can find these people, get them here and give them a warm welcome. I hope that the whole country can now come together in making sure that we deliver this effort properly.

The second point that the right hon. and learned Lady raised was about Europe. She talked about the reality in Europe. There is also a bigger reality, which is that 11 million Syrians have been pushed out of their homes and only 3% of them have so far decided to come to Europe. It is in the interests of the Syrian people and, indeed, all of us that we do everything we can to make sure that as many people as possible stay in the neighbouring countries and the refugee camps in

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

preparation for one day returning to Syria. That is why Britain has led the way in funding the refugee camps, funding Lebanon and funding Jordan, and we will continue to do just that.

To answer the right hon. and learned Lady's point about children, we will go on listening to Save the Children, which has done excellent work. A number of other expert organisations warn about the dangers of taking children further from their parents. The overall point I would make is that those who have already arrived in Europe are at least safe. If we can help the ones in the refugee camps—the ones in Lebanon and Jordan—it will discourage more people from making the perilous journey. All I can say is that from the conversations I have had so far with the leaders of, for instance, France and Germany, it is clear that they can see Britain playing her role, funding the refugee camps, meeting the target of 0.7% of GDP and welcoming 20,000 Syrians into our homes. ...

To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm150909/debtext/150909-0001.htm#15090926000005>

Refugee Crisis

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to tackle the refugee crisis affecting Europe.

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Transport and Home Office (Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon): My Lords, the Prime Minister has announced, as we heard yesterday, that over the course of this Parliament the United Kingdom will resettle up to 20,000 more Syrian refugees under the vulnerable persons relocation scheme. The Prime Minister has also announced a further £100 million of aid, bringing the Government's commitment to £1 billion, more than any other country in the world with the exception of the USA.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: My Lords, I thank the Minister for adding to the Statement of yesterday, but we have a great deal of confusion. What is the Government's policy? A week ago, we were told by the Prime Minister that we did not need to welcome any further refugees, as it would not answer the question, and that we should invest in the countries from which they were coming. Then this Sunday, on the Andrew Marr show the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that we need to invest in the work of local authorities in giving housing to refugees coming here. When we think of those 5,000 refugees, it is really 4,000 every year for the next five years—and that is as individuals. In families, it will probably be between 1,000 and 2,000 families a year. What is the Government's policy? In all this, we have not a penny to be given to those who are most in need: those on the roads for hundreds of miles, and who even suffer drowning and so on, because the Government here are sitting on their hands and not doing anything in a practical way.

Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: My Lords, I say from the outset that it is preposterous to suggest that the drowning of migrants is somehow attributable to the Government here—it is attributable to those criminal gangs who actually pick on vulnerable people. Every one of us was moved by the pictures we saw of those drowning children, but that drowning child was just one example of what we have seen with those criminal gangs. The Government are at the forefront of working with EU partners to ensure that we tackle those criminal gangs. The noble Lord asked about government policy. Let us be clear: it is comprehensive. As I said in my original Answer, £1 billion has been sent to those countries which are supporting the people—the real refugees—across the Syrian crisis in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan—as I saw myself in the Zaatari camp. The Prime Minister has announced an additional 20,000 on top of the 5,000 places that we have

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

guaranteed here to those people under the vulnerable people scheme. These are practical steps of a comprehensive policy in dealing with a situation which is impacting not just the region or Europe but globally. It needs a global solution and the UK is playing its part. ...

To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/150908-0001.htm#15090847000340>

Syria: Christian Refugees

Lord Green of Deddington: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to prioritise Christian refugees from Syria in their plans to resettle further refugees in the United Kingdom.

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Transport and Home Office (Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon): My Lords, the Prime Minister has already announced that over the course of this Parliament the United Kingdom will resettle up to 20,000 more Syrian refugees. The expanded programme will prioritise the most vulnerable refugees, particularly children and women at risk of abuse. It will not distinguish on the basis of religion.

Lord Green of Deddington: My Lords, I am grateful for that Answer from the Minister. Is he aware of an article in the Sunday press by the noble and right reverend Lord, Lord Carey of Clifton? He reported that Christians have been targeted by ISIL for crucifixion, beheading and rape. Even now, they are not to be found in the UN camps because they have been attacked by Islamists and have had to find refuge in private houses and churches. Will the Government now assure this House that they fully understand the plight of Syrian Christians and that they realise that they are not in the camps for the reason I have given? If they reach an agreement with the UNHCR that does not take account of that fact, they are discriminating against Christians, who have suffered from these events at least as much as anybody else. It can be done; it is a question of the small print. Let it be done.

Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: I assure the noble Lord that the Government take all persecution against any minority very seriously. In his consideration, he mentioned the Christians; and we have seen the appalling scenes against the Yazidis. All minorities who are suffering such persecution at the hands of this hideous ISIL entity will be dealt with in the proper way, by ensuring that their vulnerabilities are protected and they are given the protection they deserve. ...

To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/150909-0001.htm#15090934000403>

UK Parliament Early Day Motions

Patricia Gibson (374) Tackling the refugee crisis – That this House notes with extreme concern the ongoing refugee crisis being witnessed in Europe and across the Mediterranean Sea; understands that the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) estimates that more than 350,000 migrants have attempted to cross the Mediterranean Sea between January and August 2015; considers it a tragedy that over 2,600 refugees and migrants have died or gone missing whilst undertaking this perilous journey and that at least a further 1,000 have lost their lives along various other migration routes, including the Sahara Desert and South Asia's Bay of Bengal; further notes that far from being economic migrants looking to improve their circumstances, figures compiled by the

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Early Day Motions (continued)

United Nations show that 62 per cent of those who had reached Europe by boat this year were from Syria, Eritrea and Afghanistan - countries ravaged by war and religious extremism; is aware that the number of those seeking refuge in Europe equates to less than 0.05 per cent of the continent's population and that, as the world's richest continent, much more could be done to address the unfolding tragedy; applauds what it considers to be the exceptional efforts of the German Federal Government which is preparing to take in 800,000 asylum seekers this year; recognises that a growing number of people across the country wish the UK Government to adopt a similarly proactive role; believes that the UK could comfortably provide sanctuary to many more asylum seekers due to the fact that UN figures show the number of refugees in the UK fell from 193,600 to 117,161 over the last four years; and calls on the Government to show decisive leadership to ensure the UK plays a full and active role in alleviating this escalating and tragic situation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2015-16/374>

Daniel Zeichner (369) National homes register to help alleviate the refugee crisis –

That this House is appalled at the humanitarian crisis unfolding on the doorstep of Europe and urges the Government to honour and follow in the great traditions of the UK by accepting many more thousands of genuine and desperate refugees, caused by the greatest displacement of people since the Second World War; notes that whilst Germany has pledged to resettle 30,000 refugees under its commitment to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the UK has so far taken approximately just 200 under its own Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme; urges the Prime Minister and Home Secretary to build on their recent announcements by re-energising the spirit of the Kinder-Transport and bringing forward innovative ideas, such as a voluntary national homes register for those citizens able and generous enough to accommodate the most vulnerable refugees; further notes that this would offer new routes for the public into existing and proposed resettlement programmes; and finally commends the work of the many thousands of people from all political persuasions across the country who share a desire to offer refuge and hope to those escaping great hardship, violence and terror from across the world.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2015-16/369>

Press Releases

Scotland welcomes refugees

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scotland-welcomes-refugees-1cfe.aspx>

Scotland stands ready to welcome refugees

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scotland-stands-ready-to-welcome-refugees-1cee.aspx>

Scotland's response to refugee crisis

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scotland-s-response-to-refugee-crisis-1cb4.aspx>

Home Secretary's update on the migration situation in Europe and the Middle East

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/home-secretarys-update-on-the-migration-situation-in-europe-and-the-middle-east>

UK should opt in to EU Refugee Scheme

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/UK-should-opt-in-to-EU-Refugee-Scheme-1cd2.aspx>

Immigration and Asylum Press Releases (continued)

MEPs approve first emergency rules for distributing asylum seekers in the EU

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150903IPR91518/html/MEPs-approve-first-emergency-rules-for-distributing-asylum-seekers-in-the-EU>

Refugee Crisis: European Commission takes decisive action

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-is-new/news/news/2015/20150909_1_en.htm

Migrants put Europe to the test

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150903IPR91513/html/Opening-migrants-put-Europe-to-the-test>

Refugee crisis: Council of Europe reminds states of respect for human rights of all

<http://tinyurl.com/o5p6alm>

Council of Europe Bank proposes new "Migrant and Refugee Fund"

<http://tinyurl.com/q9gyasn>

In phone calls on migration crisis, Ban urges European leaders to 'be voice of those in need of protection'

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51812#.Ve7qYJ2qqko>

New Publications

Scotland welcomes refugees

New website to help co-ordinate Scotland's response to the refugee crisis.

<http://www.scotlandwelcomesrefugees.scot/>

Changing the debate on migration

[http://classonline.org.uk/docs/2015_Changing_the_debate_on_migration_\(MRN\).pdf](http://classonline.org.uk/docs/2015_Changing_the_debate_on_migration_(MRN).pdf)

News: Scottish Politics

Scotland to take 'more than its share' of refugees

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/scotland-to-take-more-than-its-share-of-refugees-1-3887500>

Scotland ready to take share of refugees - Humza Yousaf

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13739011.Scotland_ready_to_take_share_of_refugees_Humza_Yousaf/

SNP's debate motion on refugee support rejected

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-34190524>

SNP leads refugee debate in Commons

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-34190524>

Nicola Sturgeon: We must stop this humanitarian crisis

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/opinion/13651770.Nicola_Sturgeon_We_must_stop_this_humanitarian_crisis/

Immigration and Asylum News: Scottish Politics (continued)

Syrian refugee resettlement welcomed by Scottish Europe minister Humza Yousaf
http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13651314.Syrian_refugee_resettlement_welcomed_by_Scottish_Europe_minister_Humza_Yousaf/

Kezia Dugdale: Europe needs to step up and end the suffering of refugees
<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/kezia-dugdale-europe-needs-step-6397347>

Glasgow MP calls for more refugees to be welcomed into the UK
http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13710897.Glasgow_MP_calls_for_more_refugees_to_be_welcomed_into_the_UK/

Sturgeon: I will put up refugees in my house
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4549486.ece>

New website channels Scottish support for refugees
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-34257592>

New website launched to show Scots how they can help refugees
http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13720858.New_website_launched_to_show_Scots_how_they_can_help_refugees/

New website launched to show Scots how they can help refugees
http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13720864.New_website_launched_to_show_Scots_how_they_can_help_refugees/

News: UK Politics

Refugee crisis: Government to begin talks on resettlement of refugees in Britain
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/refugee-crisis-government-to-begin-talks-on-resettlement-of-refugees-in-britain-10496348.html>

David Cameron rejects EU call to take refugee share
<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/david-cameron-rejects-eu-call-to-take-refugee-share-1-3882636>

Cameron under fire over five-year timescale of accepting 20,000 Syrian refugees
http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/13651478.Cameron_under_fire_over_five_year_timescale_of_accepting_20_000_Syrian_refugees/

David Cameron is blasted for only agreeing to take in 20,000 Syrians to the UK over the next five years
<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/david-cameron-blasted-only-agreeing-6401373>

David Cameron announces 'up to' 20,000 Syrian refugees will be accepted by Britain - after more than 360,000 sign our petition
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-cameron-announces-20000-syrian-refugees-will-be-accepted-by-britain--after-more-than-360000-sign-our-petition-10489913.html>

Britain to open the doors to 20,000 Syrians - but spread out over five years and only from refugee camps in the Middle East
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3224902/Syrian-orphans-offered-help-Cameron-promises-Britain-safe-haven-thousands-refugee-camps.html>

Immigration and Asylum News: UK Politics (continued)

Britain could take 20,000 refugees this year and children will not be deported at 18 – David Cameron insists

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/britain-could-take-20000-refugees-this-year-and-children-will-not-be-deported-at-18-david-cameron-insists-10493033.html>

Syrian child refugees 'to be deported at age 18', says Paddy Ashdown

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/syrian-child-refugees-to-be-deported-at-age-18-10490273.html?origin=internalSearch>

Syrian refugee children brought to Britain under Cameron's rescue plan could be sent back after just five years

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3226209/Syrian-refugee-children-brought-Britain-Cameron-s-rescue-plan-DEPORTED-soon-reach-18.html>

Britain will take 20,000 refugees says Cameron

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/britain-will-take-20-000-refugees-says-cameron-1-3879997>

Prime Minister David Cameron says Britain will take in 20,000 Syrians in wake of refugee crisis

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/prime-minister-david-cameron-says-6399522>

Migrant crisis: David Cameron to set out UK plan for refugees

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-34171148>

David Cameron: Britain will accept 20,000 refugees

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/11848150/Refugee-crisis-Syria-and-foreign-aid-budget-David-Cameron-in-Parliament-live.html>

Four thousand Syrian refugees every year to be given homes in UK, David Cameron announces

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/syria/11849631/Four-thousand-Syrian-refugees-every-year-to-be-given-homes-in-UK-David-Cameron-announces.html>

Cameron pledges to resettle 20,000 Syrian refugees

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/europe/article4549776.ece>

SNP's Angus Robertson tells Commons debate 'act quickly to help refugees'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-34190524>

Angus Robertson: Britain must 'rise to challenge' and take more refugees of Syrian war

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13656698.Angus_Robertson_Britain_must_rise_to_challenge_and_take_more_refugees_of_Syrian_war/

'Britain must take more than 4,000 refugees a year'

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/britain-must-take-more-than-4-000-refugees-a-year-1-3881474>

News: Europe

Britain must pay £90m to settle asylum-seekers across Europe

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4552690.ece>

Immigration and Asylum News: Europe (continued)

Britain must be part of migrant quota system, says Juncker

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/europe/article4551972.ece>

Migrant crisis: EU to announce plans for quotas

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-34193568>

Syrians fleeing to the UK are illegal immigrants not refugees, says MEP Janice Atkinson

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/syrians-fleeing-to-the-uk-are-illegal-immigrants-not-refugees-says-mep-janice-atkinson-10492806.html>

News: Other Organisations

Politicians decide future of vulnerable refugees

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/2769_politicians_decide_future_of_vulnerable_refugees

Vigils show Scotland's support for refugees

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/blogs/2771_vigils_show_scotland_s_support_for_refugees

Equality and Human Rights Commission offers assistance to the Government on the refugee crisis

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/commission-offers-assistance-government-refugee-crisis>

Commission comments on refugee crisis

<http://scottishhumanrights.com/news/latestnews/refugeenewssep2015>

Commission joins European network calls for urgent EU-wide response to refugee crisis

<http://scottishhumanrights.com/news/latestnews/enrhirefugee2015>

Religious leaders unite to urge Government to take immediate action on refugee crisis

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/religious-leaders-unite-urge-government-6392325>

Catholic Bishops offer support to refugees

<http://www.scmo.org/articles/catholic-bishops-offer-support-to-refugees.html>

All 450 Scots Catholic parishes prepared to welcome refugees, archbishops announce

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13715767.All_450_Scots_Catholic_parishes_prepared_to_welcome_refugees_archbishops_announce/

Catholic parishes preparing to take in thousands of refugees

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/11849276/Catholic-parishes-preparing-to-take-in-thousands-of-refugees.html>

Archbishop warns Cameron over Syrian refugees

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/11860902/Archbishop-warns-Cameron-over-Syrian-refugees.html>

Update on Church response to refugee crisis

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

Immigration and Asylum News: Other Organisations (continued)

Responding to the Migrant and Refugee crisis

<http://www.scotland.anglican.org/responding-to-the-migrant-and-refugee-crisis/>

News: Background and Comment

Easy decisions not always best

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/brian-monteith-easy-decisions-not-always-best-1-3879343>

How far can our compassion towards refugees stretch?

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/columnists/13651477.How far can our compassion towards refugees stretch /](http://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/columnists/13651477.How_far_can_our_compassion_towards_refugees_stretch/)

My family's hell as we escaped from Vietnam

[http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13649618.My family s hell as we escaped from Vietnam/](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13649618.My_family_s_hell_as_we_escaped_from_Vietnam/)

Scots woman sparks worldwide movement in support of refugees with suggestion for peaceful vigil

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/scots-woman-sparks-worldwide-movement-6398509>

Syrian refugees 'could fill vacancies' in Highlands

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-34183962>

Record half a million have sought asylum in the EU this year

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13656718.Record half a million have sought asylum in the EU this year/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13656718.Record_half_a_million_have_sought_asylum_in_the_EU_this_year/)

So myopic we cannot see that doing the right thing brings the best rewards

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/13709813.So myopic we cannot see that doing the right thing brings the best rewards/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/13709813.So_myopic_we_cannot_see_that_doing_the_right_thing_brings_the_best_rewards/)

Accepting these migrants is a huge mistake

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/opinion/columnists/article4552486.ece>

If this is the best Britain can do for refugees, it's sickening

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/sep/10/britain-refugees-sickening-david-cameron-big-society>

Cameron's offer of 20,000 Syrian refugees over five years is derisory

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/sep/07/cameron-20000-syrian-refugees-offer-derisory>

If Britain deports the refugee children it takes in once they turn 18, everybody loses

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/if-britain-deports-the-refugee-children-it-takes-in-once-they-turn-18-everybody-loses-10493218.html?origin=internalSearch>

David Cameron presented with '1.4 million welcomes for refugees' from the British public

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/refugee-crisis-david-cameron-presented-with-14-million-welcomes-for-refugees-from-the-british-public-10493157.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News: Background and Comment (continued)

David Cameron wants us to take 12 Syrian refugees a day for the next five years? That's barely even a response to the crisis

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/david-cameron-wants-us-to-take-12-syrian-refugees-a-day-for-the-next-five-years-thats-barely-even-a-response-to-the-crisis-10491138.html>

Refugee crisis: Cutting Britain's overseas aid to help pay for taking in refugees will exacerbate the problem

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/refugee-crisis-cutting-britains-overseas-aid-to-help-pay-for-taking-in-refugees-will-exacerbate-the-problem-10495542.html>

Refugee crisis: Thousands of Syrians have UK visa requests rejected by Home Office

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/refugee-crisis-thousands-of-syrians-have-uk-visa-requests-rejected-by-home-office-10492206.html>

Refugee crisis: 20 children among 200 Syrians deported by the UK since start of war

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/refugee-crisis-20-children-among-200-syrians-deported-by-uk-since-start-of-war-10493946.html>

We need to stop telling ourselves that women and children are the only refugees who matter

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/we-need-to-stop-telling-ourselves-that-women-and-children-are-the-only-refugees-who-matter-10493332.html?origin=internalSearch>

Thousands attend vigils in Scotland for refugees

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-34227188>

Thousands show solidarity by joining Scottish vigils in support of refugees

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/thousands-show-solidarity-joining-scottish-6432158>

Thousands join Solidarity with Refugees rally in London

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/sep/12/london-rally-solidarity-with-refugees>

The Britain-bashers' moral outrage will not solve this migration crisis

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/11847750/The-Britain-bashers-moral-outrage-will-not-solve-this-migration-crisis.html>

Glasgow's brain-child: rallies held across the globe for refugees

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13716897.Glasgow_s_brain_child_rallies_held_across_the_globe_for_refugees/

'We stand with you, shoulder to shoulder, and hand in hand. We see you – we are one'

http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/political_news/13716890.We_stand_with_you_shoulderto_shoulders_and_hand_in_hand_We_see_you_we_are_one/

News: Other Issues Relating to Immigration and Asylum

Strict immigration rules 'drive families apart' by separating British children from their parents

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/strict-immigration-rules-drive-families-apart-by-separating-british-children-from-their-parents-10492226.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News: Other Issues Relating to Immigration and Asylum (continued)

Immigration rule 'has split 15,000 children from a parent'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-34191606>

Refugee crisis: Lost children being split from parents left 'vulnerable to trafficking and abuse'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/refugee-crisis-lost-children-being-split-from-parents-left-vulnerable-to-trafficking-and-abuse-10494331.html>

Scots charity claims refugees from Syria are being denied asylum in UK

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13709814.Scots_charity_claims_refugees_from_Syria_are_being_denied_asylum_in_UK/

Immigration income threshold creates thousands of 'Skype kids', says report

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2015/sep/09/immigration-income-threshold-creates-thousands-of-skype-kids-says-report>

Tough immigration rules are stopping the NHS hiring foreign nurses: Failure to recruit 1,000 in the next 6 months 'will compromise patient safety'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-3229126/Tough-immigration-rules-stopping-NHS-hiring-foreign-nurses-Failure-recruit-1-000-6-months-compromise-patient-safety.html>

'If they locked me in Dungavel, I'd give up': Volunteers slam cruel treatment of asylum seekers

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/if-locked-dungavel-id-give-6415530>

Asylum seeker evicted and faces deportation after his accent is doubted by Home Office

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13709814.Asylum_seeker_evicted_and_faces_deportation_after_his_accent_is_doubted_by_Home_Office/

Why is Britain locking up 32,000 immigrants a year?

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/women/womens-politics/11859016/Why-is-Britain-locking-up-32000-immigrants-a-year.html>

[TOP](#)

Community Relations

Press Release

First Minister welcomes faith groups

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/first-minister-welcomes-faith-groups/>

[TOP](#)

Equality

Scottish Parliament Equal Opportunities Committee

Inquiry into Race, Ethnicity, and Employment: evidence session

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10067&i=92975#ScotParIOR>

Equality (continued) Press Releases

How well is Scotland “Measuring Up” for Equality?

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/how-well-scotland-%E2%80%9Cmeasuring-%E2%80%9D-equality>

European Roma Institute will spread understanding of Roma culture and challenge stereotypes

<http://tinyurl.com/plwa2qt>

New Publications

Measuring Up? Performance - a report of public authorities performance in meeting the Scottish Specific Equality Duties

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/publication_pdf/measuring_up_4_performance_final_1.pdf

Measuring Up? Practice - a report of public authorities practice in meeting the Scottish Specific Equality Duties

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/publication_pdf/measuring_up_4_practice_final_2.pdf

News

Lack of data for Scotland’s BAME community

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/comment-lack-of-data-for-scotland-s-bame-community-1-3881360>

[TOP](#)

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Question

Football: Racial Discrimination

David Simpson[8474] To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, what discussions his Department plans to have with the Football Association on eliminating racist chanting and abuse by football spectators.

Reply from Tracey Crouch: The Football Association’s Inclusion Advisory Board, chaired by Heather Rabbatts, reports to the Sports Minister regarding progress on Football’s Inclusion and Anti-Discrimination Plan, including actions taken to improve the reporting and analysis of in-stadia offences.

More generally, racist chanting or abuse is a criminal offence under the Football (Offences) Act 1991 and Public Order Act 1986. It is a matter for the police and the courts to determine each case’s merits.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-04/8474/>

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

Zack Davies given life imprisonment for racially motivated machete attack

http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest_news/zack_davies_given_life_imprisonment_for_racially_motivated_machete_attack/

New Publication

Resource Pack: Holocaust Memorial Day 2016 – Don't Stand By

<http://hmd.org.uk/campaign-pack>

News

Young People Urged to 'Pause B4U Post'

<http://nilbymouth.org/2015/young-people-urged-to-pause-b4u-post/>

Warning over rise of far-right hate crime

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/europe/article4550352.ece>

Islamophobic crime in London 'up by 70%'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-34138127>

Islamophobic Hate Crimes Soar in London: Time for a National Response

<http://www.mcb.org.uk/islamophobic-hate-crimes-soar-in-london-time-for-a-national-response/>

Hate crimes against Muslims soar in London

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/07/hate-crimes-against-muslims-soar-london-islamophobia>

Hate crimes against Muslims in London 'up by 70%', police figures show

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/hate-crimes-against-muslims-in-london-up-by-70-according-to-police-10489175.html>

Video shows teenager wearing hijab knocked unconscious as rise in hate crime revealed

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/teenager-wearing-hijab-knocked-unconscious-demonstrates-rise-in-hate-crime-in-london-10489930.html>

Shocking moment hijab-wearing girl is attacked from behind and knocked to the floor unconscious as police reveal huge rise in hate crimes against Muslims

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3225020/Shocking-moment-hijab-wearing-woman-attacked-knocked-floor-unconscious-police-reveal-huge-rise-hate-crimes-against-Muslims.html>

Muslim women in Britain: Spat on and covered in faeces

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/women/womens-life/11848780/Islamophobic-Britain-Muslim-women-are-spat-on-and-covered-in-faeces.html>

Teen seriously hurt in anti-Semitic attack at Manchester tram stop

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-manchester-34173393>

Two teenagers arrested after suspected antisemitic attack in Manchester

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/sep/10/two-teenagers-arrested-after-suspected-antisemitic-attack-in-manchester>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

Two teens held in dawn raids after anti-semitic attack leaves Jewish boy with brain injuries

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/two-teens-held-dawn-raids-6416256>

Hate crime witnesses to report transport attacks

<http://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/hate-crime-witnesses-to-report-transport-attacks-1-3879625>

Sajid Javid condemns 'dinner party anti-Semites'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/11852435/Sajid-Javid-condemns-dinner-party-anti-Semites.html>

Rise of the 'dinner party anti-Semite': Top Tory slams middle class racists happy to tolerate Jewish slurs

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3226767/Rise-dinner-party-anti-Semite-Tory-slams-middle-class-racists-happy-tolerate-Jewish-slurs.html>

Forza Clapton! The non-league club taking a stance against racism and homophobia

<http://www.theguardian.com/football/2015/sep/10/clapton-ultras-anti-fascist-essex-senior-league-football>

Survey finds a third of black and ethnic minority Scots experience discrimination

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-34220544>

One in 3 ethnic Scots is victim of prejudice

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/scotland/top-stories/one-in-3-ethnic-scots-is-victim-of-prejudice-1-3885705>

UEFA probing Ajax claims of controversial bigotry advice from Scottish football chiefs

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13719346.UEFA_probing_Ajax_claims_of_controversial_bigotry_advice_from_Scottish_football_chiefs/

Flames for Humanity's Heroes: Community art project for Holocaust Memorial Day

<http://hmd.org.uk/news/take-part-our-arts-project-hmd-2016>

Why do Sikhs also experience anti-Muslim violence and hate?

<http://faith-matters.org/2015/09/14/why-do-sikhs-also-experience-anti-muslim-violence-and-hate/>

[TOP](#)

Scottish Devolution

Scottish Parliament Debate

Scotland's Future, Democracy and Devolution

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10087&i=93137#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Devolution (continued)

Scottish Parliament Motions

S4M-14252 John Swinney: Scotland's Future, Democracy and Devolution—That the Parliament notes the establishment of the all-party Smith Commission following the 2014 referendum on independence and the commitment of the UK Government to legislate to implement the recommendations of the commission in full; further notes the findings of the Devolution (Further Powers) Committee that the Scotland Bill in its current form does not deliver the recommendations of the commission in full; further notes that no amendments to the Bill were accepted at its committee stage in the House of Commons; urges the UK Government to bring forward amendments at the Bill's report stage to give effect to the Smith Commission recommendations and in particular to meet the standards set by the Devolution (Further Powers) Committee, and recognises the need for a satisfactory and fair fiscal framework to allow the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Government to make effective use of the powers in the Bill.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14252&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-14252.1 Annabel Goldie: Scotland's Future, Democracy and Devolution—As an amendment to motion S4M-14252 in the name of John Swinney (Scotland's Future, Democracy and Devolution), leave out from first "further" to end and insert "regrets that the Scottish Government's immediate reaction to the Smith Agreement was to criticise and disparage its recommendations; notes that the Smith Agreement proposes a very significant transfer of powers to the Scottish Parliament that will make it one of the most powerful sub-national legislatures in the world; considers that, in the context of rejection of independence by voters in Scotland in the 2014 referendum, the Smith Agreement and the Scotland Bill, reflecting changes to the original draft clauses, deliver on pledges to provide more powers for the Scottish Parliament; recognises that extensive constitutional change is best brought about by building a broad consensus between political parties and governments; calls on the Scottish Government to respect the result of the referendum by repeating its assurances that such a poll would be a once-in-a-generation event, and urges continuing objective and constructive scrutiny of the Scotland Bill so that where any improvements to the legislation can be identified appropriate changes can be made."

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14252.1&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-14252.2 Claire Baker: Scotland's Future, Democracy and Devolution—As an amendment to motion S4M-14252 in the name of John Swinney (Scotland's Future, Democracy and Devolution), insert at end ", and believes that devolution should not stop at the Scottish Parliament but go on to create more effective delivery of public services, for example through the devolution of the work programme to local communities and empowering people in greater local decision-making".

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-14252.2&ResultsPerPage=10>

News

'Energised and enthused nation' is referendum legacy

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/-Energised-and-enthused-nation-is-referendum-legacy-1cea.aspx>

[TOP](#)

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Debate

Human Rights Act 1998 (Amnesty International Campaign)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10068&i=92998#ScotParlOR>

Press Releases

Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2014-15

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Recorded-Crime-in-Scotland-2014-15-1cbc.aspx>

Lowest recorded crime levels in a generation

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Lowest-recorded-crime-levels-in-a-generation-1cbf.aspx>

New Publication

Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2014-15

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00484776.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Other UK Parliament and Government

Parliamentary Question

Primary Education: Ramadan

Jim Fitzpatrick [7927] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what guidance her Department issued to primary school head teachers on working with pupils who wanted to fast during Ramadan.

Reply from Nick Gibb: The Department for Education has not issued guidance to primary schools on fasting during Ramadan as it is a matter for individual schools to decide how to accommodate pupils who wish to fast during this time. We would expect schools to consider carefully the views of pupils and parents, as well as pupil wellbeing, when applying policies involving religion or individuals' beliefs. All schools must ensure that any measures they take comply with their legal obligations under the Equality Act 2010.

The Equality and Human Rights Commission has published detailed practical guidance for schools, available online at:

www.equalityhumanrights.com/private-and-public-sector-guidance/education-providers/education-providers-schools-guidance

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-07-20/7927/>

Press Releases

Rosh Hashanah 2015: David Cameron's message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/rosh-hashanah-2015-david-camerons-message>

Other UK Parliament and Government Press Releases (continued)

Rosh Hashanah: Foreign Secretary's message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/rosh-hashanah-foreign-secretarys-message>

Rosh Hashanah: Greg Clark's message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/rosh-hashanah-greg-clarks-message>

News

Imams, priests and rabbis face security vetting under Home Office plans

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11860993/Imams-will-have-to-register-and-face-security-vetting-under-Home-Office-plans.html>

Imams set to face security vetting under Home Office plans

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/faith/article4555498.ece>

Who's who in Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn's shadow cabinet

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-34241395>

[TOP](#)

Other News

FGM order made to protect Kent girl taken to Sudan

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-kent-34213818>

[TOP](#)

Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Community Justice Bill

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

**** Criminal Justice Bill**

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

Justice Committee: Stage 2 consideration of amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10071&i=93026#ScotParIOR>

**** Education Bill**

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

Education and Culture Committee: Stage 1 Report

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_EducationandCultureCommittee/Reports/ECS042015R09.pdf

Bills in Progress Scottish Parliament (continued)

Human Trafficking and Exploitation Bill

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

Transplantation (Authorisation of Removal of Organs etc.) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/89893.aspx>

Bills in Progress UK Parliament

Child Victims of Human Trafficking (Central Government Responsibility) Bill

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

Illegal Immigrants (Criminal Sanctions) Bill

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

** Scotland Bill

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

Scottish Parliament Devolution (Further Powers) Committee: evidence session

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10076&i=93066&c=1858450#ScotParlOR>

Proposed amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2015-2016/0048/amend/pbc0480709a.1-6.html>

UK Borders Control Bill

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

[TOP](#)

Consultations

** new or updated this week

** *closes this week!*

Prescription and Title to Moveable Property (Scotland) Bill (closing date 23 September 2015)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00480843.pdf>

Review of Tier 2 [of the points-based immigration system] (closing date 25 September 2015)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/441429/Call_for_Evidence_Review_of_Tier_2.pdf

Testimonies on the impact that the EU has had on the lives of people in Scotland (closing date 30 September 2015)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/gettinginvolved/91225.aspx>

EU Blue Card: recruitment of highly qualified third-country nationals (closing date extended to 30 September 2015)

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

Consultations (continued)

Veterinary Surgeons: language control for EU migrants (closing date 30 September 2015)
https://consult.defra.gov.uk/animal-health-and-welfare/vet_language_controls

Consultation on the draft statutory multi-agency practice guidance on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in England and Wales (closing date 30 September 2015)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-the-draft-statutory-multi-agency-practice-guidance-on-female-genital-mutilation-fgm>

The Union and Devolution (closing date 2 October 2015)
<http://www.parliament.uk/documents/lords-committees/constitution/union-and-devolution/The%20Union%20and%20Devolution%20Call%20for%20Evidence.pdf>

****Countering Extremism** (closing date 8 Oct)
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2015/150827-new-inquiry-countering-extremism/>

**** Transplantation (Authorisation of Removal of Organs etc.) (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 12 October 2015)
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/91986.aspx>

****Mediterranean migration inquiry** (closing date 21 October 2015)
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/mediterranean-migration/>

Smart Borders Package (closing date 29 October 2015)
http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-is-new/news/news/2015/20150729_01_en.htm

Hate Crime Reporting in Scotland (no closing date given)
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/amina-hatecrime>

Experiences and opinions about having been a volunteer (no closing date given)
<http://survey.bupnet.de/index.php/survey/index/sid/738838/newtest/Y/lang/en>

Experience and practice about working with young volunteers (no closing date given)
<http://survey.bupnet.de/index.php/survey/index/sid/454824/newtest/Y/lang/en>

Creating A Fairer Scotland: What Matters To You? (no closing date given)
<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00479666.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities

[TOP](#)

Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Fairer Scotland Engagement Fund

Deadline for applications: 12 October 2015

Voluntary Action Fund grants to help small voluntary organisations and community

Funding Opportunities (continued)

groups in Scotland with income under £25,000 to run an event or engagement activity to gather views on how we can create a Fairer Scotland. Grants of up to £300 (or exceptionally up to £500 for a larger event) are available to support an event or engagement activity with a group of five or more people to discuss how we can create a Scotland where people are healthier, happier and treated with respect, and where opportunities, wealth and power are spread more equally.

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/fairer-scotland-engagement-fund>

[TOP](#)

Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

** *this week!*

Supporting Youth-Led Research: Training for Youth Workers

18 September 2015 in Edinburgh

23 September 2015 in Glasgow

30 September 2015 in Dundee

YouthLink Scotland training for youth workers who would like to know more about supporting young people to undertake research into issues that affect them and their communities. For information see <https://www.actiononsectarianism.info/supporting-youth-led-research-training-for-youth-workers-2> or contact Amy Goulding 0131 313 2488

** **Minority ethnic community conversations**

29 September 2014 in Glasgow (G3) (9.30 – 12.30)

1 October 2015 in Glasgow (G40) (5.30 – 8.30)

3 October 2015 in Glasgow (G41) (9.30 – 12.30)

Series of events bringing together people from minority ethnic communities and public service providers from the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership (CPP) to give minority ethnic communities a voice and a way to influence community planning. For information contact Helen Hunter helen.hunter2@glasgow.gov.uk / 0141 287 0060

Fairer Scotland

29 September 2015 in Kilmarnock (5.30 – 9.00)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-kilmarnock-tickets-18167729167>

7 October 2015 in Inverness (1.30 – 5.00)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-inverness-tickets-18178512420>

14 October 2015 in Midlothian (5.30 – 9.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-midlothian-tickets-18178524456>

20 October 2015 in Dumfries (1.30 – 5.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-dumfries-tickets-18178531477>

29 October 2015 in Stornoway (1.30 – 5.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-stornoway-tickets-18178557555>

5 November 2015 in Dundee (5.30 – 9.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-dundee-tickets-18178566582>

10 November 2015 in Inverclyde (5.30 – 9.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-inverclyde-tickets-18178573603>

17 November 2015 in Glasgow (5.30 – 9.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-glasgow-tickets-18178575609>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Voluntary Action Fund events to hear, discuss, prioritise, and take action on ideas to create a Fairer Scotland, and make people's lives better. This is your chance to think about and prioritise ideas that will help make Scotland a fairer place to live and make a real impact on Scotland's future. For information see the relevant weblink above.

Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Primary School Information

30 September 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

1 October 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

Employment and Equality Rights

5 October 2015 in Glasgow (10.00 – 3.00)

Scottish Employment Rights Network and Equality and Human Rights Commission Conference and Practical Workshops on Discrimination Claims to increase awareness of how best to protect employment and equality rights from first complaint, lodging an Employment Tribunal claim and preparing cases for tribunal. For information see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/15x_sern.pdf or contact Kyle Mulholland equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com / 0141 228 5925.

Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Secondary School Information

7 October 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

8 October 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

**** 15 Days of Action: Young People's Event**

8 October 2015 in Glasgow (11.00)

British Institute of Human Rights event for young people between the ages of 11 and 18 to find out how the Human Rights Act works and what it means about how we should be treated by people who have power over us. For information see <https://www.bihhr.org.uk/Event/15-days-of-action-young-peoples-event-glasgow>

**** 15 Days of Action: Community Event**

9 October 2015 in Arbroath (10.00)

British Institute of Human Rights event to debate current media and political issues, including the future of the Human Rights Act. For information see <https://www.bihhr.org.uk/Event/15-days-of-action-full-day-community-event-arbroath>

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

12 October 2015 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 4.00)

Training to demystify forced marriage and help delegates to gain the knowledge they need to provide appropriate support to those affected. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/nq29vu0>

Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Parental Involvement and Engagement

21 October 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

22 October 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

**** Section 4 Support: How to Win Appeals**

21 October 2015 Online Webinar (10.00 – 11.30)

Asylum Support Appeals Project webinar to discuss the eligibility criteria for section 4 support, examine some of the most common grounds of appeal and provide hints and tips on how to prepare successful appeals. For information see <https://asaproject.clickmeeting.com/section-4-appeals/register>

**** Further Submissions, JR and Asylum Support: What You Need to Know**

22 October 2015 Online Webinar (10.00 – 11.30)

Asylum Support Appeals Project webinar for delegates with experience of asylum support casework and legal practitioners to explore the issue of how access to asylum support is affected when an asylum seeker's further submissions have been refused, and steps are being taken towards judicial review of this decision. For information see <https://asaproject.clickmeeting.com/further-submissions-asylum-support/register>

Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Post 16 Education and Choices

28 October 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

29 October 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Mother tongue – at home and school

4 November 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

5 November 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

Organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day

6 November 2015 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust workshop for people interested in organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January 2016. For information contact 020 7785 7029 / enquiries@hmd.org.uk or see <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hmdt-workshop-glasgow-tickets-17792785701?ref=ebtn>

Organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day: young people

7 November 2015 in Glasgow (12.00 – 3.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust Youth Champions workshop for people aged 14 to 24 who are interested in organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January 2016. For information contact 020 7785 7029 / enquiries@hmd.org.uk or see <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hmdt-youth-workshop-glasgow-tickets-17792908067?ref=ebtn>

Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Children's Rights in Scotland

11 November 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

12 November 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact gtevents@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

[TOP](#)

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

[TOP](#)



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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