

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

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The Scottish Parliament is still in dissolution since before the elections that took place on 5 May 2016. The new Parliament will sit for the first time on 12 May when new MSPs will be sworn in, and the formal opening of the Parliament, in the presence of the Queen, will take place on 2 July.

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Debates

EU Immigration

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-05-05/debates/160505108000002/EUImmigration>

Asylum Seeker Dispersal Policy

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-05-03/debates/1605032000003/AsylumSeekerDispersalPolicy>

Dublin System: Asylum

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-05-04/debates/16050454000002/DublinSystemAsylum>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

UK Parliament Questions

Immigration

Shabana Mahmood [34453] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for discretionary leave to remain have been (a) received, (b) rejected and (c) treated as invalid in the latest period for which figures are available; and how many such applications were rejected owing to (i) failure to pay the fee and (ii) refusal of fee waiver.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Our records indicate that 12,656 (a) applications for further discretionary leave to remain were received from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015.

164 (b) were rejected for failure to pay the fee or Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) and

175 (c) rejected as invalid.

Of the 164 rejections 55 (i) were rejected owing to failure to pay the application fee and 89 (ii) owing to refusal of a fee waiver. 20 were also rejected solely due to failure to pay the IHS.

Notes:

- The data relates to applications for Further Discretionary Leave to Remain.
- The 12,656 (a) applications were made by 12,430 people (due to repeat applications).
- The data provided is provisional management information that is subject to change. It has not been assured to the standard of Official Statistics.
- All of the statistics referred to in the answer come with necessary caveats about the accuracy of the data. The data provided to answer (b), (c), (i) and (ii) above has been drawn from manual records on the Home Office Case Information Database, which, as with any large scale recording system, is subject to possible human errors with data entry and processing.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-18/34453/>

Immigration: EEA Nationals

William Wragg [35279] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many EEA nationals have moved to the UK since 1 February 2004 and (a) are now eligible for and (b) have been granted permanent residency status by virtue of being resident for at least five years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: European Economic Area (EEA) nationals have free movement rights in other Member States, but these rights are not unconditional. An EEA national does not gain the right of permanent residence merely by living in the UK; the right is only gained once they have exercised a Treaty right continuously for five years by working, being self-employed, self-sufficient or a student. EEA nationals who are not working or self-employed must have comprehensive sickness insurance and sufficient resources to support themselves and their families to avoid becoming a burden on the social assistance system.

EEA nationals with the right of permanent residence may apply for documentation confirming that right. The table below shows the number granted a document certifying permanent residence since 2006, when such documentation was introduced.

Grants of Documents certifying permanent residence for European Economic Area nationals	
	Documents certifying permanent residence - granted
2004	5,263

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

2005	6,639
2006	5,436
2007	3,973
2008	1,785
2009	6,074
2010	9,491
2011	11,734
2012	8,546
2013	14,528
2014	9,787

Source: Immigration Statistics October to December 2015, Home Office, table ee_02

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/502000/eea-q4-2015-tabs.ods

May include a small number of Croatian nationals in 2013 before their accession to the EU in July of that year.

Figures for 2015 will be published on 26th May 2015.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-25/35279/>

Immigration: Appeals

Lord Lester of Herne Hill [HL7970] To ask Her Majesty's Government why they propose to increase immigration and asylum chamber fees, and what assessment they have made of the likely impact of those increased fees on access to justice.

Reply from Lord Faulks: We're protecting the most vulnerable from any fee increase, including those who receive asylum support and cases involving children being supported or housed by a local authority. But it is also right that the taxpayer does not subsidise those who choose to challenge a decision made by the Home Office before the Tribunal.

We have a duty to the public to reduce the deficit and ensure sustainable funding for Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service.

We have published a full impact assessment alongside the consultation document published on the Government website.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-04-26/HL7970/>

Visas: Overseas Students

The Marquess of Lothian [HL7934] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Immigration Minister, James Brokenshire, on 14 March (HC29894), and in the light of the figures released by the Home Office on the number of non-EU students who had their visas curtailed in the three years to the end of December 2015 as part of their strategy to clamp down on immigration abuse, how many educational institutions were affected, and whether any of those educational institutions remain open to British and EU students.

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: It is not possible to run a report linking each curtailment decision to a specific educational institution. To provide the information requested would require a manual check of every curtailment in the cohort referenced which would incur a disproportionate cost.

The Immigration Rules allow for leave of an individual to be curtailed for a variety of reasons, not only as a result of an institution losing its sponsor licence but also, for example, is a student drops out of their course of study and is reported to the

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Home Office by the sponsor. Sponsors have a number of reporting duties in respect of their students, and these can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sponsor-a-tier-4-student-guidance-for-educators>

The Home Office does not close down educational institutions. The revocation of a Tier 4 sponsor licence means that an educational institution can no longer recruit non-EEA students under the Points Based System. The institution may, however, continue to operate and teach UK and EEA students. The Home Office does not routinely monitor educational institutions who do not hold a sponsor licence.

Tier 4 Compliance

http://qna.files.parliament.uk/qna-attachments/515554/original/Tier_4_Sponsor_Guidance_-_Document_3_-_Tier_4_Compliance_2016-04.pdf

Sponsorship Duties

http://qna.files.parliament.uk/qna-attachments/515554/original/Tier_4_Sponsor_Guidance_-_Document_2_-_Sponsorship_Duties_2016-04.pdf

Applying for a Tier 4 Licence

http://qna.files.parliament.uk/qna-attachments/515554/original/Tier_4_Sponsor_Guidance_-_Document_1_-_Applying_for_a_Tier_4_licence_2016-04.pdf

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-04-25/HL7934/>

Refugees

Lord Ouseley [HL7926] To ask Her Majesty's Government how they are liaising with local public service providers to ensure that all incoming refugees as part of the refugee resettlement policy are appropriately assisted within local community cohesion programmes.

Reply with Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The Government and the Local Government Association continue to work closely with individual local authorities who are volunteering to take refugees.

Local authorities are required to provide refugees they resettle with a 12 month support package tailored to their individual needs which includes; accommodation, casework support and integration assistance, medical and social care needs and English language tuition. The first 12 months of a refugee's resettlement costs will be funded by central government from the Overseas Development Aid budget.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-04-25/HL7926/>

Prime Minister's Questions: Refugee children

Angus Robertson: Last week, the Prime Minister took issue when I mentioned unaccompanied Syrian refugee children in Europe and the Kindertransports of the 1930s. Since then, he has been written to by Sir Erich Reich, the chairman of the Association of Jewish Refugees' Kindertransport special interest group, who said: "The echoes of the past haunt many of my fellow Kinder and I whose fate similarly rested with members of the British parliament. I feel it is incumbent on us to once again demonstrate our compassion and human-kindness to provide sanctuary to those in need."

Why has it taken so long, and the threat of a parliamentary defeat, for the Prime Minister to begin changing his mind?

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Reply from the Prime Minister: First, let me pay tribute to the gentleman mentioned by the right hon. Gentleman. Let us be clear that no country has done more than Britain to help when it comes to Syrian refugees. No country has raised more money, and only the United States has spent more money. I want us to proceed with as much support from across the House as we can. I think it is right to stick to the principle that we should not be encouraging people to make this dangerous journey. I think it is right to stick to the idea that we keep investing in the refugee camps and in neighbouring countries. I also think it is right not to take part in the EU relocation and resettlement schemes, which have been, in my view, a failure.

We are already taking child migrants in Europe with a direct family connection to the UK, and we will speed that up. I am also talking to Save the Children to see what more we can do, particularly with children who came here before the EU-Turkey deal was signed, because I say again that I do not want us to take steps that will encourage people to make this dangerous journey. Otherwise, our actions, however well-meaning they will be, could result in more people dying, rather than more people getting a good life.

Angus Robertson: Last week, I accused the Prime Minister of walking by on the other side when he stoutly defended his then policy, opposing further help for unaccompanied refugee children in Europe. If what we are hearing now is the beginnings of a U-turn, I very much welcome it, as I am sure do Members from all parts of the House. May I encourage him to think more about what can be done, given that the Kindertransport helped 10,000 children from Europe? Finally, may I ask him to take the opportunity to thank Lord Alf Dubs and all campaigners who have worked so hard for the UK to live up to the example and the spirit of the Kindertransport?

Reply from the Prime Minister: I certainly think that all those people deserve recognition for the work they have done to put this issue so squarely on the agenda, but let me just say again that I do reject the comparison with the Kindertransport. I do so for this reason: I would argue that what we are doing primarily—taking children from the region, taking vulnerable people from the camps, going to the neighbouring countries and taking people into our country, housing them, clothing them, feeding them and making sure they can have a good life here—is like the Kindertransport.

I think that to say that the Kindertransport is like taking children today from France, Germany or Italy—safe countries that are democracies—is an insult to those countries. But, as I have said, because of the steps we are taking, it will not be necessary to send the Dubs amendment back to the other place; the amendment does not now mention a number of people. We are going to go around the local authorities and see what more we can do, but let us stick to the principle that we should not be taking new arrivals to Europe.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-05-04/debates/16050453000018/Engagements#contribution-16050453000140>

Prime Minister's Questions: Refugee children

Edward Leigh: The Christian Yazidi and Shi'a children in Syria are suffering from genocide carried out by Daesh, and we should recognise it as such. May I urge the Prime Minister to do more to replicate the Kindertransport of the 1930s? That is what we are doing in taking children directly from the camps in Syria. If we were to take 16-year-olds from a safe environment in Europe, we would simply be causing more misery and encouraging the people traffickers.

Reply from the Prime Minister: My hon. Friend has asked me two questions. One is whether there is more we can do to label what has happened as genocide.

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions *(continued)*

That has always been done under a legal definition, but there is a very strong case here for saying that it is genocide, and I hope that it will be portrayed and spoken of as such.

On the issue of the Kindertransport, I agree with my hon. Friend. We have an enormous amount of which we can be proud—the money that we have put into the camps, and the fact that we raised more in London on one day than any humanitarian conference has ever raised in the history of the world. We have a very strong record. We will do more for children who were already registered in Europe before the EU-Turkey deal, but the principle that we should try to cling to is that we should not do anything that encourages people to make the perilous journey. That has been the cornerstone of our policy and it should remain the case.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-05-04/debates/16050453000020/Engagements#contribution-16050453000158>

Refugees: Calais

The following two questions both received the same answer

Barry Sheerman [34219] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate her Department has made of the number of children in Calais who are waiting to be reunited with their families in the UK.

Barry Sheerman [34220] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average length time taken to reunite stranded minors with their families in the UK once they have been identified in Calais has been in each of the last three years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: There is no official estimate of the number of children in Calais, this is primarily a matter for the French authorities. It is only possible to assess whether an individual has links to the UK that could enable a transfer on family unity grounds once they make an application for asylum in France.

Once an asylum claim is lodged in France the Dublin Regulation procedure requesting the UK to take charge of a child on family unity grounds takes place very quickly, often in a matter of weeks, subject to consideration of the evidence in each individual case. An average time is not available for each of the last three years.

Since February 2016 the UK has accepted 30 family reunification applications from minors in France of which 23 have already been transferred to the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-15/34219/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-15/34220/>

Asylum: Children

The following two questions both received the same answer

Lord Hylton [HL7890] To ask Her Majesty's Government why less than 30 of the 157 children at Calais and identified as eligible for family re-union have so far been admitted to the UK; and what plans they have to improve the processes for re-union.

Asylum: EU Law

Lord Hylton [HL7892] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of Amnesty International's report *Trapped in Greece: an avoidable refugee Crisis* of April 2016, in particular concerning the EU and the Dublin III Regulations on Family Reunion.

Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: There is no official estimate of the

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

number of children in Calais; this is primarily a matter for the French authorities. It is only possible to assess whether an individual has links to the UK that could enable a transfer on family unity grounds once they make an application for asylum in France.

Once an asylum claim is lodged in another Member State, the Dublin Regulation procedure requesting the UK to take charge of a child on family unity grounds can take place very quickly, often in a matter of weeks, subject to consideration of the evidence in each individual case.

Since February 2016 the UK has accepted 30 requests from France under the Dublin Regulation to take charge of asylum seeking children on family grounds of which 23 have already been transferred to the UK. We are working closely with the French Government and NGOs, including on a joint communications campaign to inform migrants of their options and we provided a senior UK asylum official to the French Government who has put processes in place to support an efficient procedure.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-04-25/HL7890/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-04-25/HL7892/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Lisa Cameron [35734] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps he is taking to ensure that treatment is provided to detainees held in immigration removal centres who are (a) self-harming and (b) experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder.

Reply from Ben Gummer: People detained in immigration removal centres (IRCs) should receive an equivalent range and quality of treatment and services for their health needs as people in the community, according to their clinical needs.

Health care in IRCs in England is commissioned by NHS England, who only commission evidence-based treatments approved by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). NICE provides guidance on the treatment of people who self-harm, which healthcare professionals in IRCs are expected to take into account. NICE guidance is available at:

<http://pathways.nice.org.uk/pathways/self-harm>

NICE also provides detailed guidance on treating post-traumatic stress disorder, which health professionals in IRCs should take into account when deciding on treatment. This guidance is available at: <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/C26>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-26/35734/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Paul Monaghan (1442) Marleen Baldwin and application of policy on forcible removal from the UK – That this House expresses grave concern with the actions of the UK Visas and Immigration service in respect of threatening Canadian national Marleen Baldwin, a 73 year-old woman who is recovering from surgery, with forcible removal from the UK; notes that the Home Office has decided to arbitrarily advance curtailment of her leave to remain to the extent that she is now effectively required to leave the UK immediately; further notes that this elderly lady is a home owner of independent means settled in Scotland and widely recognised to be an upstanding member of her

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Early Day Motion (continued)

community; and utterly condemns the callous, uncaring and egregious manner in which this genteel lady is being treated by the UK Government despite her having done everything possible to categorically demonstrate her legitimate right to remain indefinitely in the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2015-16/1442>

Press Releases

Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children to be resettled from Europe

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/unaccompanied-asylum-seeking-children-to-be-resettled-from-europe>

Almost 90 000 unaccompanied minors among asylum seekers registered in the EU in 2015

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-is-new/news/news/2016/20160502_1_en.htm

Towards a sustainable and fair Common European Asylum System

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-1620_en.htm?locale=en

Questions & Answers: Reforming the Common European Asylum System

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-1621_en.htm?locale=en

UNICEF calls for better protection of children under revised EU asylum rules

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=53856#.VytqIRV96nY>

Unaccompanied refugee and migrant children in Europe 'falling between the cracks' – UNICEF

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=53872#.Vy92FmR96nZ>

New Publications

EU Migration, Welfare Benefits and EU Membership

http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/news/Report_-_EU_Migration_Welfare_Benefits.PDF

Shifting Ground: changing attitudes to immigration in the long term and during election campaigns

<https://www.ipsos-mori.com/Assets/Docs/Publications/sri-shifting-ground-attitudes-to-immigration-2016.pdf>

News

Migrant crisis: EU plans penalties for refusing asylum seekers

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-36202490>

EU states face €250k fine for every rejected refugee

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-05-04/world/eu-states-face-250k-fine-for-every-rejected-refugee-hcpsrd7sj>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Nearly 90,000 lone children seek asylum in Europe

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/02/nearly-90000-lone-children-seek-asylum-in-europe/>

Cameron backs down and says UK will take Syrian child refugees

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/cameron-backs-down-and-says-uk-will-take-syrian-child-refugees-1-4119245>

David Cameron backtracks on Government's refusal to resettle refugee children from inside Europe

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-cameron-backtracks-on-refusal-to-resettle-refugee-children-from-inside-europe-a7012826.html>

Refugee crisis: David Cameron could consider concession over accepting children from Europe

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/refugee-crisis-david-cameron-could-consider-concession-over-accepting-child-migrants-from-europe-a7011996.html>

In U-turn, Britain to let in more Syrian child refugees

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/afp/article-3573360/UK-unaccompanied-Syrian-children-Cameron.html>

Child refugees from EU refugee camps to have papers fast-tracked to head off Conservative MPs' rebellion

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/03/child-refugees-from-eu-refugee-camps-to-have-papers-fast-tracked/>

Rebels force a U-turn on refusal to accept lone child refugees

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-05-04/news/rebels-force-u-turn-on-lone-child-refugees-t9ngw90ph>

Kindertransport veteran tells PM to take in Syrian children

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/pm-urged-to-take-in-3-000-syrian-children-by-kindertransport-veteran-5ct2nxnv5>

Syrian conflict: David Cameron urged to accept lone children

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-36200366>

Britain must take Europe's child refugees, Tory MP tells David Cameron

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/04/britain-must-take-europes-child-refugees-tory-mp-tells-david-cam>

Britain beckons child refugees

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/britain-beckons-child-refugees-j5mr8mjl6>

Lost Generation

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/comment/lost-generation-0ss6pcw2n>

Plight of the child refugees: Zyrat is 12. He's an orphan. And he's alone in a squalid French camp. If Britain is to call itself civilised, we must take in youngsters like him

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3574160/Plight-child-refugees-Zyrat-12-s-orphan-s-squalid-French-camp-Britain-call-civilised-youngsters-like-him.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Never again must we leave children to suffer alone

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-05-07/comment/never-again-must-we-leave-children-to-suffer-alone-58phr6p2z>

Councils demand more money to deal with young migrants

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/councils-demand-more-money-to-deal-with-young-migrants-3jsb83d0m>

Aid offer for Christian child refugees

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-05-07/news/aid-offer-for-christian-child-refugees-3h8bqk9w9>

Syrian refugee children to be welcomed to Edinburgh

<http://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/syrian-refugee-children-to-be-welcomed-to-edinburgh-1-4120599>

Foster families can cope with new refugees

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/foster-families-can-cope-with-refugee-influx>

Beds for refugees unfilled at boarding schools due to Government red tape, teachers warn

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2016/05/04/beds-for-refugees-unfilled-at-boarding-schools-due-to-government/>

No money for food, clothing or a home: how asylum seekers are left destitute on UK streets

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/may/07/homeless-asylum-seeker-refugees-forced-red-cross-food>

Life inside Dungavel

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14478256.Life_inside_Dungavel/

Hundreds join Dungavel detention centre protest

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-36236986>

Campaigners stage protest outside Dungavel immigration removal centre

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14478067.WATCH_Campaigners_stage_protest_outside_Dungavel_immigration_removal_centre/

Protesters demand closure of 'racist and inhumane' Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/protesters-demand-closure-racist-inhumane-7920265#Y9v5b9ZXZ3vBQsgs.97>

Migrants to pay for A&E visits and prescriptions

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/migrants-to-pay-for-a-amp-e-visits-and-prescriptions-c0cddhbjl>

Glasgow school has no 'Scottish' students, headteacher reveals

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/education/glasgow-school-has-no-scottish-students-headteacher-reveals-1-4116517>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Cash appeal for school where no one speaks English

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/cash-appeal-for-school-where-no-one-speaks-english-qgrg7s6fx>

The Glasgow primary without a SINGLE Scottish pupil: 181 of school's 222 children are from either Romania or Slovakia

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3569230/Primary-school-Glasgow-222-pupils-not-single-one-Scottish-Headteacher-pleads-crowdfunding-cash-teach-Slovakian-Asian-Romanian-pupils.html>

Migration pressure on schools revealed

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/07/migration-pressure-on-schools-revealed/>

Drink driving figures deepen concern over impact of EU immigration

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/05/drink-driving-figures-deepen-concern-over-impact-of-eu-immigrati/>

Refugee held illegally after Home Office refused to believe he was 16

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/may/04/home-office-refused-believe-age-refugee-detained-illegally>

Afghans endure 'Jungle' squalor in hope of better life

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-36232981>

Nigerian mother 'lied that her ex wanted their daughters to undergo female genital mutilation so she could claim asylum'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3579334/Nigerian-mother-lied-ex-wanted-daughters-undergo-female-genital-mutilation-claim-asylum.html>

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Community Relations

UK Parliament Debate

Voluntary Sector: Faith Organisations

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-05-05/debates/160505103000001/VoluntarySectorFaithOrganisations>

News

Jewish and Catholic religious leaders in ceremony to welcome new joint faith school campus

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/14468567.Jewish_and_Catholic_religious_leaders_in_ceremony_to_welcome_new_joint_faith_school_campus/

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Equality

UK Parliament Debate

Black and Minority Ethnic People: Workplace Issues

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-05-03/debates/16050325000363/BlackAndMinorityEthnicPeopleWorkplaceIssues>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Questions

Antisemitism

Robert Jenrick [36015] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of racially motivated attacks in England and Wales targeted Jews in each of the last five years.

Reply from Karen Bradley: The Home Office does not hold the requested information. The Home Office receive data on hate crimes recorded by the police in England and Wales for the five centrally monitored strands (race, religion, sexual orientation, disability and gender identity) but these data cannot be broken down by race or religion of the victim and cover all offences, not just “attacks”. The most recently available data relate to the financial year 2014/15 and can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/hate-crime-england-and-wales-2014-to-2015>

The Association of Chief Police Officers also publishes data on hate crimes for England, Wales and Northern Ireland. These figures separate out the number of crimes that were anti-Semitic. Data for 2014/15 can be found at:

http://www.report-it.org.uk/files/hate_crime_data_npcc_2014-15.pdf

From April 2016, the Home Office will collect a breakdown of religion-based hate crime data from the police to help forces build community trust, target their resources and enable the public to better hold them to account. This information will be provided voluntarily in 2016/17, but we intend to make it mandatory from the following year.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-28/36015/>

Antisemitism

Robert Jenrick [36029] To ask the Attorney General, how many people were prosecuted for offences relating to anti-semitism in the UK in each of the last five years.

Reply from Robert Buckland: The Whilst the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) does flag cases on its case management system that are identified as racial or religious hate crimes, it does not maintain a central record of prosecutions for offences specifically relating to anti-semitism. Such information could only be obtained through a manual search of records which would incur disproportionate cost.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-28/36029/>

King's College London: Antisemitism

Robert Jenrick [36143] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, whether he has had discussions with university vice chancellors on the reported

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UK Parliament Questions (continued)

anti-Semitic incident at King's College London on 19 January 2016; and whether any people have been prosecuted for their connection with that incident.

Reply from Joseph Johnson: There is no place in our society, including higher education, for bigotry, hatred and any form of racism such as anti-Semitism. We expect universities to act swiftly to investigate and address any anti-Semitic incidents reported to them. Responsibility for ensuring students do not face harassment, abuse or violence rests with individual institutions, as a clear part of their duties under the 2010 Equality Act.

In November I asked Universities UK to set up a task force to consider what more can be done to address harassment on campus, including on the basis of religion and belief. The Union of Jewish Students are part of the advisory group.

In relation to the event organised by the Kings College Israel Society, officials in my Department and in the Higher Education Funding Council for England asked Kings College what action they had taken in response, and I have met with the Principal to discuss this incident. It is completely unacceptable for legitimate free speech to be shut down on our universities campuses through intimidation and harassment and we will continue to fully support university leaders who take a strong stance on this.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-29/36143/>

Universities: Antisemitism

Lord Patten [HL8001] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their assessment of anti-semitism within bodies representing students in English universities.

Reply from Baroness Evants of Bowes Park: The Government is clear that there is absolutely no place in higher education or anywhere else in society for bigotry, hatred or any form of racism such as anti-Semitism.

Recent reports of anti-Semitism are extremely concerning and must be met with a decisive response. We expect all bodies with a role in English higher education to be absolutely clear in their opposition to racism in all its forms, and to have robust policies in place to tackle such hatred and support victims.

At the Government's request, Universities UK has set up a taskforce to examine what more can be done to tackle harassment and hate crime on campus, including anti-Semitism.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-04-26/HL8001/>

Religious Hatred

Baroness Berridge [HL8059] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon on 21 April (HL Deb, col 762–4) on religiously motivated crime, whether they will provide details of which community groups the Home Secretary is engaging with in the "community round tables", and how many times each of those round tables have met in the past year.

Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: In his speech on countering extremism in July 2015, the Prime Minister said that he wanted to hear directly from those in our society who are challenging extremism. The Community Engagement Forum is one of the ways we are doing this. The Forums provide a platform for a wide range of partners to share their experiences and learn from each other. Attendance at the Forums is fluid to ensure Ministers can hear from a wide range of partners from a variety of backgrounds.

To date, the Community Engagement Forum has met on 13 October 2015, 19 November 2015 and 14 January 2016. A list of those that have attended is

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

available in response to written parliamentary questions HL6419 and HC20784. Further community forums are planned for later this year. In addition, I myself have chaired round tables with different faith communities and leaders.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-04-27/HL8059/>

New Publication

Antisemitism Worldwide 2015

<http://kantcenter.tau.ac.il/sites/default/files/Report%202015%20with%20graphs.pdf>

News: Labour Party and antisemitism

Labour suspends activist over alleged anti-Semitic comments

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-kent-36203911>

Scottish Labour councillor suspended over anti-semitic allegations

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/scottish-labour-councillor-suspended-over-anti-semitic-allegations-1-4118989>

Scottish councillor suspended by Labour Party over alleged anti-semitic comments in wake of Ken Livingstone racism row

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/scottish-councillor-suspended-labour-party-7894528#oqDDU0ACeTclsfC3.97>

Labour comes under fresh pressure in anti-Semitism row

http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/political_news/14469919.Labour_comes_under_fresh_pressure_in_anti_Semitism_row/

Labour suspends three councillors over alleged antisemitic remarks

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2016/may/02/labour-suspends-two-councillors-alleged-antisemitism>

Labour suspends two councillors over Israel Facebook posts in latest antisemitism row

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/labour-antisemitism-row-suspends-councillor-ilyas-aziz-facebook-posts-israel-us-jeremy-corbyn-a7009771.html>

Labour has secretly suspended 50 members for anti-Semitic and racist comments

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/02/labour-has-secretly-suspended-50-members-for-anti-semitic-and-ra/>

Chief rabbi: Labour has severe problem with antisemitism

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/may/04/chief-rabbi-labour-has-severe-problem-with-antisemitism>

Chief Rabbi: Labour has a 'severe' problem with anti-Semitism

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/03/chief-rabbi-labour-has-a-severe-problem-with-anti-semitism/>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination **News: Labour Party and antisemitism** (continued)

Labour must cure its severe antisemitism, says chief rabbi

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-05-04/news/defiant-corbyn-predicts-victory-at-local-elections-nzr29qk2h>

Chief Rabbi tells Jeremy Corbyn to stop denying Labour's anti-Semitism problem as party braces for election disaster

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3572715/Chief-Rabbi-tells-Jeremy-Corbyn-stop-denying-Labour-s-anti-Semitism-problem-party-braces-election-disaster.html>

News: other racism, religious hatred, and discrimination

The reality of being a Muslim MP? Smear campaigns outside mosques and being told to change my name

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/the-reality-of-being-a-muslim-mp-smear-campaigns-outside-mosques-and-being-told-to-change-my-name-a7013136.html>

Three years since my dad was murdered by an Islamophobic terrorist, Muslim lives are still at risk in the UK

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/three-years-since-my-dad-was-murdered-by-an-islamophobic-terrorist-muslim-lives-are-still-at-risk-a7010056.html>

This is what a racist looks like: Help us find the scum who shouted vile abuse at 'Scotland's baby'

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/what-racist-looks-like-help-7898131#IMoOszlTQbPqML3.97>

Canadian poet with Filipino heritage says she never encountered racism until she came to Scotland

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/lifestyle/canadian-poet-filipino-heritage-says-7842340#MXJgCKq3J6Bvp2gl.97>

How everyday antisemitism in Britain has left its mark on me

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/may/03/everyday-antisemitism-britain-prejudice>

Jewish father says he has been driven out of his East London home after being attacked thirty times in three years by racist asian thugs who screamed 'kill the Jew'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3573122/Jewish-father-driven-London-home-anti-Semitic-attacks.html>

Universities 'ignore Jew hatred'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/universities-ignore-jew-hatred-s0q2q00zr>

Ballet school in race row after banning braids girl

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-05-06/news/ballet-school-in-race-row-after-banning-braids-girl-xlmk23b5p>

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Scottish Parliament Elections

Press Releases

Formation of the new Scottish Government

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/formation-new-scottish-government/>

PM call with Nicola Sturgeon: 6 May 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-nicola-sturgeon-6-may-2016>

New Publications

MSPs elected on 5 May 2016

<http://www.parliament.scot/msps/current-msps.aspx>

Number of MSPs in each party

<http://www.parliament.scot/msps/12450.aspx>

News

Scottish Parliament: election results

<http://www.bbc.com/news/election/2016/scotland/results>

News: SNP

Holyrood 2016: SNP claims 'historic' win but no majority

<http://www.bbc.com/news/election-2016-scotland-36205187>

Nicola Sturgeon rules out coalition after 'emphatic' win for SNP

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-36230416>

Holyrood 2016: Sturgeon seeks 'consensus' with opposition

<http://www.bbc.com/news/election-2016-scotland-36233674>

'I will lead open and inclusive government', says Sturgeon

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/i-will-lead-open-and-inclusive-government-says-sturgeon-1-4121715>

Nicola Sturgeon vows to 'work above party boundaries' after losing majority

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14477949.VIDEO_Nicola_Sturgeon_vows_to_work_above_party_boundaries_after_losing_majority/?ref=mr&lp=13

News: Conservative

Scottish Conservatives to be second largest party at Holyrood

<http://www.bbc.com/news/election-2016-scotland-36224344>

Holyrood 2016: Ruth Davidson calls for unified opposition

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-36236292>

Holyrood 2016: Ruth Davidson vows to hold SNP to account with fresh approach

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/holyrood-2016-ruth-davidson-vows-to-hold-snp-to-account-with-fresh-approach-1-4121429>

Scottish Parliament Elections (continued)

News: Labour

Scottish Labour leader Kezia Dugdale 'heartbroken' by result

<http://www.bbc.com/news/election-2016-scotland-36226182>

Holyrood 2016: 'Heartbroken' Kezia Dugdale takes full responsibility for slide

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/holyrood-2016-heartbroken-kezia-dugdale-takes-full-responsibility-for-slide-1-4121406>

Election 2016: Kezia Dugdale vows to stay on as Scottish Labour leader despite 'heartbreaking' result

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14476413.Election_2016_Kezia_Dugdale_vows_to_stay_on_as_Scottish_Labour_leader_despite_heartbreaking_result/

News: Green

Patrick Harvie vows to push Scottish Government 'beyond its comfort zone'

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14477198.Patrick_Harvie_vows_to_push_Scottish_Government_beyond_its_comfort_zone/

Holyrood 2016: Patrick Harvie vows to push SNP 'beyond its comfort zone'

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/holyrood-2016-patrick-harvie-vows-to-push-snp-beyond-its-comfort-zone-1-4121410>

News: Lib Dem

Holyrood 2016: Lib Dems' voice will be heard 'loud and clear'

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/holyrood-2016-lib-dems-voice-will-be-heard-loud-and-clear-1-4121400>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Parliamentary Questions

Forced Marriage Unit

Naz Shah [36315] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, how many people made contact with the Forced Marriage Unit in (a) 2013, (b) 2014 and (c) 2015.

Reply from James Duddridge: The Forced Marriage Unit is a joint Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Home Office Unit which was set up in January 2005 to lead on the Government's forced marriage policy, outreach and casework. Statistics on the number of enquiries and cases dealt with by the Forced Marriage Unit via its public helpline and email inbox in 2013, 2014 and 2015 are published online here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/forced-marriage#statistics-on-forced-marriage-collected-by-fmu>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-03/36315/>

Female Genital Mutilation

Sarah Champion [35289] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what

Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

steps police and social services take when a girl is identified as being at risk of female genital mutilation.

Reply from Karen Bradley: On 1 April the Government published updated multi-agency guidance on female genital mutilation (FGM), which we have placed on a statutory footing for the first time. The guidance applies to all frontline professionals in England and Wales, and includes steps police and social services should take when a girl is identified as being at risk of FGM. The guidance will help increase awareness of FGM; improve compliance with good practice in order to afford victims of this terrible abuse the greatest possible protection. It will also help to support effective training of frontline professionals and a more effective multi-agency response. The guidance is available on GOV.uk

The Government has introduced FGM Protection Orders through the Serious Crime Act 2015 which can be used to protect a potential victim or other family member who may be at risk of FGM. Data released on 31 March 2016 shows that 32 FGMPs were issued between their introduction in July 2015 and December 2015.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-25/35289/>

Female Genital Mutilation

Catherine West [35905] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many cases of female genital mutilation have been reported in (a) London and (b) England and Wales in each of the last five years.

Reply from Karen Bradley: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a crime and it is child abuse. We will not tolerate a practice that can cause extreme and lifelong physical and psychological suffering to women and girls.

The most recent NHS data published on 8 March shows that between October – December 2015 there were 1,316 newly identified cases of FGM within the NHS. A breakdown of this information by region is available at: www.hscic.gov.uk, as are earlier reports.

In addition, data released by the Ministry of Justice on 31 March shows that since their introduction in July 2015, 32 FGM Protection Orders were issued between July and December 2015.

A new mandatory reporting duty requiring regulated health and social care professionals and teachers to report known cases of FGM in under 18s to the police came into force on 31 October 2015. The duty will help increase the number of referrals to the police in order to deter perpetrators and in turn prevent this appalling crime from happening.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-27/35905/>

Press Release

PM call with Nicola Sturgeon: 6 May 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-nicola-sturgeon-6-may-2016>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Bills in Progress UK Parliament

Asylum (Unaccompanied Children Displaced by Conflict)

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

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>

**** Immigration Bill**

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

House of Commons Library Briefing Paper

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-7558/CBP-7558.pdf>

Scotland Act 1998 (Amendment) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2015-16/scotlandact1998amendment.html>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Proposals to amend Immigration and Asylum Chamber fees (closing date 3 June 2016)

<https://consult.justice.gov.uk/digital-communications/first-tier-tribunal-and-upper-tribunal-fees>

Draft Code of Practice for Stop and Search (closing date 15 July 2016)

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/organised-crime-and-police-powers-unit/stop-and-search>

Police Powers to Search Children and Young People for Alcohol (closing date 15 July 2016)

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/organised-crime-and-police-powers-unit/under18search>

Police Scotland: local policing (consultation open during the whole year)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/8LMB9WX>

The rise of anti-Semitism (closing date not yet announced)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/inquiry2/>

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Job Opportunities

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

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Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Social Isolation and Loneliness Fund

Deadline for applications 20 May 2016

Scottish Government funding to tackle social isolation and loneliness among Scotland's most vulnerable people. For information and application form see

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/social-isolation-and-loneliness-fund/>

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

Gender Based Violence and BME Women, Children, and Young People

17 May (9.30-4.30) & 18 May (9.30-4.30)

31 May (9.30-4.30) & 1 June 2016 (9.30-4.30)

Shakti Women's Aid awareness-raising training for any practitioner or interested individual. For information see <http://shaktiedinburgh.co.uk/events-training/> or contact 0131 475 2399 / info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

New Scots: Working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees

25 May 2016 in Glasgow

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

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Useful Links

Scottish Parliament <http://www.parliament.scot/>

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

Useful Links (continued)

SCVO <http://www.scvo.org.uk/>

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) <http://www.oscr.org.uk/>

Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS) www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services

Disclosure Scotland <http://www.disclosurescotland.co.uk/>

BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/>

BBC Democracy Live http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc_parliament/default.stm

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The **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC)** is the representative body of all the Jewish communities in Scotland. It advances public understanding about the Jewish religion, culture and community, and also works in partnership with other organisations to promote good relations and understanding among community groups and to promote equality. (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC029438) <http://www.scojec.org/>



BEMIS is the Scottish national Ethnic Minorities led umbrella body, supporting, empowering, and building the capacity of minority third sector community organisations. As a strategic partner with Government, it is proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland, and helps develop and progress multicultural Scotland, active citizenship, democracy, and Human Rights Education at the Scottish, UK, and European levels. <http://www.bemis.org.uk/>



The **Scottish Government** is committed to promoting equality of opportunity and social justice for all those who live in Scotland. **One Scotland** is the Scottish Government campaign designed to tackle racism. It aims to raise awareness of racist attitudes, highlight its negative impact and recognise the valuable contributions that other cultures have made to our society – and make Scotland no place for racism. <http://onescotland.org/>

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