

## 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.*

### Contents

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

**Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to [MEMO@scojec.org](mailto:MEMO@scojec.org) and requests to be added to circulation to [mail@bemis.org.uk](mailto:mail@bemis.org.uk)**

**The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 4 September 2016.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### UK Parliament Debate

**Independent Advocates for Trafficked Children**

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-06-28/debates/16062854000001/IndependentAdvocatesForTraffickedChildren>

### UK Parliament Questions

#### Immigration

**Lord Tebbit [HL680]** To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon on 8 June (HL380), when they expect immigration to fall below 100,000 a year; and how they define "sustainable levels" of immigration.

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** We consider net migration of tens of thousands per year to be sustainable.

We will continue to work towards achieving the ambition to reduce net migration to sustainable levels over the course of this Parliament.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-14/HL680/>

### Immigration: EU Nationals

**Alison Thewliss** [41257] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans her Department has to allow EU citizens resident in the UK to be able to continue to live in the UK.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** As the Prime Minister has said, there will be no immediate changes in the circumstances of European nationals currently residing in the UK.

Under current arrangements EU nationals do not need to apply for a residence card or a permanent residence card in order to establish their free movement rights and responsibilities.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-27/41257/>

### EU Immigration

**Lord Hylton** [HL649] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to speed up family reunions for refugees and migrants now in Europe, particularly in Greece, Italy and France; and whether special provision has been made for the 1,400 unaccompanied children in Greece, and households headed by women.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** The Government continues to work with key EU Member States to ensure the Dublin Regulation family reunification process works effectively.

Under the UK-France Joint Declaration of 20 August 2015, the UK and France have committed to ensuring that provisions of the Dublin III Regulation are used efficiently and effectively. To assist the handling of such cases, the two Governments have established a permanent official contact group, agree single points of contact within respective Dublin Units and a UK asylum expert was seconded to the French administration to facilitate the improvement of all stages of the process. The UK and France are running regular joint communication campaigns in northern France which inform unaccompanied children and others of their right to claim asylum in France and the family reunion process.

We are also providing support to the Dublin units in Greece and Italy, both bilaterally and through European Asylum Support Office (EASO).

On the 4 May the Prime Minister announced the Government will work with local authorities on plans to resettle unaccompanied refugee children from Europe. We are looking to transfer children who are already present in Europe before the EU-Turkey deal came into force on 20 March.

Ministers and senior officials are engaged in ongoing discussions with Greece, Italy, and France to identify and transfer to the UK unaccompanied refugee children where it is in their best interests. We are also consulting local authorities, non-governmental organisations, UNICEF and UNHCR.

The UK is the largest bilateral contributor to the humanitarian response to the crisis in Europe and the Balkans with a total contribution of £65 million. This includes nearly £46 million to provide life saving aid to migrants and refugees including food, water, hygiene kits and infant packs, and protection for the most vulnerable, as well as support to organisations helping governments build their

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

capacity to manage arrivals in Greece and the Balkans. The efforts of the partners we fund are targeted to reach the most vulnerable including children.

It also includes the £10 million Refugee Children Fund the Department for International Development (DFID) has created the needs to vulnerable refugee and migrant children specifically in Europe. The fund will support three specialist and mandated organisations the UNHCR, Save the Children and the International Rescue Committee to work with host authorities to care for and assist unaccompanied or separated children in Europe and the Balkans.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-13/HL649/>

### Asylum: Scotland

**Ian Murray** [40967] To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, pursuant to the Answer of 9 June 2016 to Question 38918, what discussions he has had with the Home Secretary on asylum seeker dispersal policy in Scotland since December 2015.

**Reply from David Mundell:** I am due to meet the Minister for Immigration soon to discuss a range of issues. Officials from the Scotland Office are in regular contact with officials from the Home Office on a range of issues concerning asylum seekers in Scotland, including asylum seeker dispersal policy.

The Home Office is currently in direct discussions with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities and a number of local authorities on how asylum dispersal will continue to work in practice. The Home Office maintains an active partnership with local government across the UK, including those in Scotland, and funds Strategic Migration Partnerships to plan for the most appropriate dispersal of asylum seekers. The partnerships consider the impact on communities and local services so that adjustments to dispersal patterns can be made where appropriate.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-20/40967/>

### Asylum

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno** [HL718] To ask Her Majesty's Government what percentage of asylum applications were accepted over the past 12 months.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** In the year ending March 2016, there were 33,713 initial decisions on asylum applications from main applicants and dependants. Of these decisions, 37% (12,410) were grants of asylum or an alternative form of protection.

The Home Office publishes quarterly figures on asylum applications and initial decisions within the Immigration Statistics release. A copy of the latest release, Immigration Statistics January to March 2016, is available from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-january-to-march-2016>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-15/HL718/>

### Asylum

**Ian Murray** [38749] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the oral contribution of the Minister for Immigration of 3 May 2016, Official Report, column 45WH, on asylum seeker dispersal policy, if she will publish the template letter she plans to send to leaders of local authorities on widening dispersal.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** We continue to work closely with a wide range of local authorities across the UK to increase the number of areas that

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

accommodate and support people seeking asylum and protection.

I am reassured that the number of local authorities participating in the dispersal scheme continues to increase. I intend therefore only to write to specific local authority leaders if progress is unsatisfactory.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-26/38749/>

### Asylum: Children

**Yvette Cooper** [40665] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate her Department has made of the number of minors in Calais who are eligible to claim asylum in the UK under the Dublin III arrangements for family reunion.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** A project to identify and protect vulnerable people in the camps in Calais is being delivered by a French non-government organisation, France Terre D'Asile (FDTA). FDTA finds potential victims of trafficking and exploitation (including children), and directs them to existing protection, support and advice within France. The management of asylum claims and the protection of children in Calais is primarily a matter for the French authorities but the UK has contributed £530,000 towards the costs of this project, which launched formally in December 2015.

The FDTA has carried out a survey of children in the camps in the Calais area, which identified, within the scope of the survey, 43 children with claimed family links to the UK. We are working closely with the French Government, UNHCR and FDTA to ensure that where family links are established, transfers take place efficiently under the Dublin Regulation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-15/40665/>

### Asylum: Children

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Yvette Cooper** [40667] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many officials of her Department are on secondment in France to assist with the identification of potential requests for the UK to take charge of an asylum-seeking child in France.

**Yvette Cooper** [40668] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many immigration and asylum officials of her Department have been seconded to (a) Greece, (b) Italy and (c) France since the beginning of May 2016.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** We have a number of officials already working on migration matters in France, Greece and Italy. A number of deployments to France from the Home Office and Foreign Office are supporting joint efforts with France to ensure Dublin Regulation transfers are carried out effectively and efficiently. Our support included the secondment of a UK asylum expert to the Dublin unit in France to assist and facilitate the improvement of all stages of the process of identifying, protecting and transferring relevant cases to the UK. A team of Home Office officials are part of the joint communications programme in Calais and there are weekly meetings between the heads of the UK and French Dublin Units. There is a Home Official seconded on a bi-lateral basis to the Italian Dublin Unit and we are about to second a UK official to Greece as additional support for Dublin family transfers to the UK.

Since May we have also deployed asylum experts to support hotspots and Dublin units in both Greece and Italy under the European Asylum Support Office and as notified in my statement of 21 April, HCWS687, up to 75 UK expert personnel will be deployed to Greece to support implementation of the EU-Turkey Migration

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Agreement. These officials are being deployed in stages. We are considering if we need to deploy any additional resource to assist with the family reunification of children.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-15/40667/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-15/40668/>

### Asylum: Religious Freedom

*The following four questions both received the same answer*

**Alan Brown** [40359] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to ensure that asylum caseworkers are trained to assess the claims of people who are seeking asylum on the grounds of persecution relating to religion or belief.

**Alan Brown** [40369] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the implications to her policies of the findings of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on International Freedom of Religion or Belief's report entitled, *Fleeing Persecution: Asylum Claims in the UK on Religious Freedom Grounds*, published in June 2016; and what plans she has to implement the recommendations of that report.

**Jim Shannon** [40386] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will make it her policy to implement the recommendations of the report by the All-Party Parliamentary Group for International Freedom of Religion or Belief, entitled *Fleeing Prosecution: Asylum claims in the UK on Religious Freedom Grounds*.

**Jim Shannon** [40387] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will take steps to improve the training and support caseworkers receive on asylum claims in the UK on grounds of religious persecution.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office carefully considers all asylum claims on their individual merits, including claims based on religious persecution. We grant protection to those who genuinely need it in accordance with our international obligations under the Refugee Convention and the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).

Published guidance on the interviewing and consideration of asylum claims is regularly reviewed and takes into consideration the views of stakeholders, including religious groups. The current training and support available for asylum caseworkers includes a UNHCR endorsed Foundation Training Programme. This, and follow-on courses, covers all aspects of the asylum interview and decision making process, including the assessment of credibility and country information in religious based claims. Real-life case studies and role-play are used throughout the training programme to reinforce knowledge and understanding of the issues.

We are currently carefully considering the APPG report and its recommendations and will provide a response in due course.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-13/40359/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-13/40369/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-13/40386/>

and

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-13/40387/>

### Undocumented Migrants: Albania

**Lord Blencathra [HL474]** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many illegal Albanian migrants have been captured in the UK in the last 12 months, how many have asked for asylum, and how many have been removed from the UK.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** The attached tables shows the number of Albanian immigrants arrested on Enforcement Visits and as a result of Police Enquiries from the 1 April 2015 to the 31 March 2016 inclusively.

Year/Month	Number of Enforcement visits	Year/Month	Number of Police Enquiries
2015 04	37	2015 04	117
2015 05	46	2015 05	135
2015 06	57	2015 06	109
2015 07	28	2015 07	119
2015 08	60	2015 08	120
2015 09	55	2015 09	128
2015 10	66	2015 10	151
2015 11	30	2015 11	134
2015 12	40	2015 12	117
2016 01	35	2016 01	127
2016 02	19	2016 02	147
2016 03	23	2016 03	154
<b>Total</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1558</b>

Asylum applications and returns of nationals of Albanian are released on the GOV.UK website at in the latest Immigration statistics January to March 2016:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release> In the asylum table as\_02\_q

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/525625/asylum2-q1-2016-tabs.ods](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/525625/asylum2-q1-2016-tabs.ods) and the returns table rv\_03\_q

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/525001/returns1-q1-2016-tabs.ods](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/525001/returns1-q1-2016-tabs.ods)

[Table](#)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-06/HL474/>

### Immigrants: Detainees

**Rushnara Ali [40312]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people from (a) Burma, (b) Afghanistan and (c) Syria are held in immigration removal centres in England.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** As at 31 March 2016, the latest published statistics, there were 66 Afghan and 19 Syrian nationals in detention in the UK. There were no Burmese nationals held in detention on the 31 March 2016.

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of persons removed or departed voluntarily from the UK within Immigration Statistics. Information on those in detention by nationality is available in the latest release, Immigration S statistics: January to March 2016, table dt\_13\_q from GOV.UK on the statistics web pages at:

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

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

We are currently not enforcing returns to Syria, although Syrians may be removed to safe third countries, for example where they have been identified as the responsibility of an EU Member State.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-13/40312/>

### **Detention Centres: Sexual Offences**

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

**Angela Crawley** [40859] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many incidents of (a) rape and (b) sexual abuse have been reported in detention centres in each of the last three years.

### **Immigrants: Detainees**

**Angela Crawley** [40877] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many women who have reported (a) sexual abuse and (b) rape whilst in detention have subsequently been deported in each of the last three years.

### **Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre: Sexual Offences**

**Angela Crawley** [40860] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many incidents of (a) rape and (b) sexual abuse have been reported at Yarl's Wood immigration removal centre in each of the last three years.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** All complaints made by detainees are investigated by the relevant supplier in accordance with Detention Services Order 03/2015 'Handling complaints'. Any allegations of serious misconduct made by a detainee against staff are also referred to the Home Office Professional Standards Unit (PSU) for investigation. Where a detainee, or someone on behalf of a detainee, alleges that a member of staff has committed a sexual offence against them the police will automatically be notified, even if the detainee does not wish the matter to be reported or to make a formal complaint.

Management information shows that there have been six allegations of sexual assault made by detainees against staff at Yarl's Wood immigration removal centre between 2013 and 2015. Of these six allegations, one was made in 2013, three in 2014 and two in 2015.

In the same period there have been two Home Office PSU investigations into allegations of sexual assault made by detainees against staff in other immigration removal centres. Both allegations were made in 2015. There have been no allegations of rape made by a detainee against staff at any immigration removal centre during this period.

This is provisional management information that is subject to change. It has not been assured to the standard of Official Statistics.

Information on the number of women who have been deported following an allegation of sexual abuse or rape while in detention is not held centrally and could only be provided at disproportionate cost.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-20/40859/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-20/40877/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-20/40860/>

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

### Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre: Pregnancy

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Angela Crawley** [40861] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many pregnant women are in detention at Yarl's Wood immigration removal centre.

#### Deportation: Pregnancy

**Angela Crawley** [40991] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many pregnant women have been deported from the UK in the last five years.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office will not necessarily be aware that a woman is pregnant unless she chooses to make this known to us and a woman may not know herself that she is pregnant when she is detained. It may not always be appropriate for healthcare professionals to disclose information that the patient has asked not to be disclosed.

Subject to these limitations, management information for 21 June 2016 shows that there were no pregnant women detained under Immigration Act powers at Yarl's Wood immigration removal centre.

Information on the number of pregnant women deported from the UK in each of the last five years is not held centrally and providing it would incur disproportionate cost.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-20/40861/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-20/40991/>

#### Deportation

**Chris Law** [41180] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether security staff working on mass deportation flights have accredited training in the use of force in the confined space of an aircraft.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Yes. All escorting staff employed on charter flights are required to undertake and pass training in the Home Office Manual for Escorting Safely (HOMES). This is an accredited training package which is provided by the National Offender Management Service for use in confined spaces, including aircraft. Escorting staff are required to undertake refresher training on a regular basis.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-24/41180/>

#### Deportation

**Gareth Thomas** [39761] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many overstayers have (a) been removed and (b) voluntarily deported as a result of action taken by Capita in each month since October 2012; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Capita do not remove individuals from the UK. The scope of the contract is one of contact management, where Capita encourage individuals to depart voluntarily and in compliance with the immigration rules.

Since the beginning of the contract in 2012 to Quarter 1 2016, Capita has recorded 143,400 departures.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-07/39761/>



## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

### Human Trafficking: Children

**David Burrowes** [40759] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 10 May 2016 to Question 36436, what progress she has made on (a) reflecting on the recommendations of other parties on the rollout of independent child trafficking advocates and (b) that rollout.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** The Government is committed to introducing appropriate support for trafficked children. It is important we get these structures right, given the significant risks to these children. We are working with a broad range of interested parties as well as Parliamentarians to further develop an approach so that we deliver an improved service for trafficked children. I will update Parliament in due course.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-15/40759/>

## Press Releases

### Protection for EU citizens' rights

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Protection-for-EU-citizens-rights-25e3.aspx>

### Reassurance for EU students

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Reassurance-for-EU-students-25e2.aspx>

### Protection and future of migrant children: a challenge for Europe

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/protection-and-future-of-migrant-children-a-challenge-for-europe>

### Commission calls for renewed commitment to Roma integration

[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-16-2296\\_en.htm?locale=en](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-2296_en.htm?locale=en)

### Stop evictions of Roma and Travellers

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/stop-evictions-of-roma-and-travellers->

## New Publications

### Rights, Resilience, and Refugee Integration in Scotland

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0001/1142/Full\\_Integration\\_Report\\_June\\_2016.pdf](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0001/1142/Full_Integration_Report_June_2016.pdf)

### Assessing the implementation of the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies and the Council Recommendation on effective Roma integration measures in the Member States

[http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/files/roma-report-2016\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/files/roma-report-2016_en.pdf)

## News

### Sturgeon seeks guarantees on rights of EU nationals in Scotland

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/sturgeon-seeks-guarantees-on-rights-of-eu-nationals-in-scotland-1-4168146>

## Immigration and Asylum

### News (continued)

**Foreigners have no reason to be afraid of Scotland, says equalities secretary**

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/local/fife/217006/foreigners-have-no-reason-to-be-afraid-of-scotland-says-equalities-secretary/>

**UK citizenship given to children of eastern European migrants in error**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jun/29/uk-citizenship-children-eastern-european-migrants-error>

**EU nationals in Scotland voice concerns over Brexit**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/eu-nationals-in-scotland-voice-concerns-over-brexit-1-4163790>

**EU nationals in Edinburgh: 'We're here to create jobs not take them'**

<http://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/our-region/edinburgh/leith/eu-nationals-in-edinburgh-we-re-here-to-create-jobs-not-take-them-1-4163915>

**Migrants increase size of primary schools by an extra class**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-06-29/news/migrants-increase-size-of-primary-schools-by-an-extra-class-vmh1bm7nb>

**Rise in ethnic minority pupils in primary schools, figures show**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2016/06/28/rise-in-ethnic-minority-pupils-in-primary-schools-figures-show/>

**Migrant baby boom fuels 25% rise in 'titan' primary schools: More than 100,000 children now being taught in supersized institutions with 800-plus pupils**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3665011/Migrant-baby-boom-fuels-25-rise-titan-primary-schools-100-000-children-taught-supersized-institutions-800-plus-pupils.html>

**Most Britons think migrants are overloading public services**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/most-britons-think-migrants-are-overloading-public-services-jcf3lnf3n>

**Migrants 'at work, saving people's lives'**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-06-28/news/migrants-at-work-saving-people-s-lives-wc78tzsgr>

**NHS England medical director strongly defends overseas staff**

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2016/jul/01/nhs-england-medical-director-bruce-keogh-defends-overseas-staff>

**Foreign nurse language tests relaxed**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-06-28/news/foreign-nurse-language-tests-relaxed-9bvjqvk77>

**Don't keep migrants out, strengthen workers' rights**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jun/30/migrants-workers-rights-migration-employers-cheap-foreign-labour>

**Unaccompanied child refugees should be made to feel at home in the UK**

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2016/jun/28/unaccompanied-child-refugees-uk-home-foster-carers-support>

## Immigration and Asylum

### News (continued)

#### Statutory service needed to help refugees build lives in Scotland

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/news/3014\\_statutory\\_service\\_needed\\_to\\_help\\_refugees\\_build\\_lives\\_in\\_scotland](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3014_statutory_service_needed_to_help_refugees_build_lives_in_scotland)

#### Refugee festival ends – but much more to come

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/blogs/3015\\_refugee\\_festival\\_ends\\_but\\_much\\_more\\_to\\_come](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/blogs/3015_refugee_festival_ends_but_much_more_to_come)

[TOP](#)

## Community Relations

### Press Release

#### Communities Secretary visits Dar Al Islam Mosque

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/communities-secretary-visits-dar-al-islam-mosque>

[TOP](#)

## Equality

### UK Parliament Question

#### Apprentices: Ethnic Groups

**Stephen Timms** [40636] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what steps he is taking to reduce the gap in apprenticeship completion rates for people who are Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic.

**Reply from Nick Boles:** We want to increase the quantity and quality of all apprenticeships, including for people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities.

Our far-reaching reforms are improving the quality of all apprenticeships. We have insisted that they must all be paid jobs with substantial training, develop transferable skills and have a minimum 12 months' duration. The Institute for Apprenticeships is being created to ensure the quality of apprenticeship standards in England.

Information on apprenticeship completion rates is published in the National Achievement Rate Tables:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/sfa-national-achievement-rates-tables-2014-to-2015>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-14/40636/>

[TOP](#)

# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## UK Parliament Ministerial Statement and Q&A

### Hate Crime (House of Commons)

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-06-29/debates/1606296600002/HateCrime>

### Hate Crime (House of Lords)

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-06-29/debates/16062974000418/HateCrime>

## UK Parliament Questions

### Prime Minister's Questions

**Jeremy Corbyn:** This week, sadly, there has been more evidence that racist incidents are increasing. Evidence collated by monitoring groups shows that in the past three or four days alone there have been attacks and abuse from Stoke to Stockton, and from Dorset to the Clyde. What monitoring systems have the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary put in place, what reports have they received from the police, and what extra resources will go to communities that have been targeted in those vile racist attacks?

**Reply from the Prime Minister:** I agree that those attacks are appalling. They need to stop, and it is right that all Members of the House, and on both sides of the referendum debate, utterly condemn them. That is not what we do in Britain, and at last night's meeting I reassured the Prime Ministers of countries such as Romania, Poland and the Czech Republic, who were concerned about the issue. We do monitor these attacks. The Home Secretary receives regular reports, and we will soon publish a new action plan on tackling hate crime to step up our response. We want new steps to boost the reporting of hate crime and to support victims, new CPS guidance to prosecutors on racially aggravated crime, a new fund for protective security measures in potentially vulnerable institutions, and additional funding for community organisations so that they can tackle hate crime. Whatever we can do we will do to drive those appalling hate crimes out of our country.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-06-29/debates/16062964000017/Engagements#contribution-16062964000116>

### Prime Minister's Questions

**Michelle Donelan:** Yesterday, a former member of my staff was verbally abused and attacked while out shopping in London because of the colour of his skin—he is of Pakistani origin. He was chased down the road by a lady shouting about how we had voted out, and that people like him shoot others and blow people up. Will the Prime Minister reiterate the commitment he has given this morning to do everything in his power to eradicate that evil hatred, and reiterate that leaving the EU should not be used to breed racism but, in fact, the opposite—it should provide us with an opportunity to be much more international rather than just European?

**Reply from the Prime Minister:** We have many imperfections in this country, but we do have a claim to be one of the most successful multi-race, multi-faith and multi-ethnic democracies anywhere on earth, and we should do everything we can to safeguard that. That means having the clearest possible statements from all our political leaders, which we have heard today and should go on hearing. More to the point, we want action by the police and the prosecuting authorities. The laws are there to prosecute people, they should be used, and we will strengthen the guidance in the way that I have suggested. We should absolutely not put up with that in our country.

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-06-29/debates/16062964000017/Engagements#contribution-16062964000135>

#### Universities: Anti-Semitism

**Lord Leigh of Hurley:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to counter anti-Semitism on university campuses in the United Kingdom. ...

**Reply from Baroness Evans of Bowes Park:** There is no place in our society for bigotry, hatred or any form of racism, such as anti-Semitism. Higher education institutions are committed to challenging intolerance on campus. They have a clear responsibility under the Equality Act 2010 to provide a safe and inclusive environment. Universities UK has established a task force to consider further measures to address harassment on campus, and it will report in the autumn.

**Lord Leigh of Hurley:** I thank my noble friend for her helpful Answer. Will her department consider the basis of the definition of anti-Semitism to be that proposed by Sir Eric Pickles and subsequently adopted by the UK College of Policing and the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance? It specifies that anti-Semitism manifests itself when double standards are applied to the state of Israel, requiring of it behaviour that is not expected or demanded of other democratic nations. Will the Minister assure us that it cannot be right that British Jewish students in universities should be intimidated by overaggressive anti-Israel activity on their campuses?

**Reply from Baroness Evans of Bowes Park:** My noble friend is right: the definition Eric Pickles used was the EUMC working definition, which provides a valuable description of some of the ways contemporary anti-Semitism is manifested. He is also right that it has been included in operational guidance for the police since 2014. Universities may well want to consider it. One of the issues that the Universities UK task force, which I mentioned in my previous Answer, is looking at is how better training can be undertaken for university staff to help them understand the many different forms that anti-Semitism can take.

**Lord Anderson of Swansea:** My Lords, the president of the National Union of Students sets a deplorable example. Is the Minister aware that in the past few days a Jewish law student at the University of York has obtained £1,000 and an apology from the student union? Is it not wrong that an individual student had to take up this case himself? Although I do not know the position in the University of York, does she agree that it is often the weakness of vice-chancellors, who refuse to promote the ideas of toleration and of universities as places of understanding, that is at the root of this problem?

**Reply from Baroness Evans of Bowes Park:** I thank the noble Lord for that question. I am pleased, excepting what Zachary had to go through, that he got an apology and compensation, but I entirely agree that it is unacceptable for students to have to face this. Incidents of anti-Semitism must be taken seriously and investigated swiftly. Many universities do that, but the new Universities UK task force, which I mentioned, is looking at what more can be done. It is considering a number of specific actions in relation to anti-Semitism: an improved need for data collection to ensure that incidents are recorded effectively; the importance of a complaints procedure that protects the identity of students who are fearful of coming forward; and, as mentioned, the need for better training to make sure that university staff understand the different forms that anti-Semitism can take because it is not acceptable on university campuses.

**Lord Singh of Wimbledon:** My Lords, while sympathising with members of the Jewish community who have been ill-treated, does the Minister agree that they are not alone in frequently being subjected to abuse and discriminatory behaviour in universities and elsewhere? It is the duty of the Government to ensure that all communities are equally protected against irrational hatred and abuse, particularly in today's unpredictable and

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

difficult times.

**Reply from Baroness Evans of Bowes Park:** I agree with the noble Lord. Indeed, the Universities UK task force is looking at harassment on campus and, in particular, at what more can be done by the HE sector to prevent and respond to incidents of violence and sexual harassment against women, hate crimes generally and other forms of harassment, including anti-Semitism and Islamophobia. This task force is looking at a broad array of issues to ensure that the HE sector ensures that students can live and learn safely in a spirit of tolerance and understanding.

**To continue reading this lengthy question and answer session see**

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-06-27/debates/1606278000460/UniversitiesAnti-Semitism>

## UK Parliament Early Day Motion

**Stuart McDonald (256) Xenophobia and political discourse** – That this House recognises the hugely positive contribution made by nationals of other countries, including other EU countries, to the UK's economy, society, communities and families; condemns the xenophobia, racism and hostility that many are encountering; believes that political discourse and rhetoric both during, and for many years prior to, the EU referendum has been a factor in legitimising and emboldening such xenophobia; calls on political parties to work together to combat xenophobia in all possible ways; and further calls for migration policy and debates to be based on evidence and honesty, rather than political expediency.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2016-17/246>

## Press Releases

**Alarming post-Brexit racist incidents require action**

<http://www.enar-eu.org/Alarming-post-Brexit-racist-incidents-require-action>

**OSCE/ODIHR Director concerned about reported rise of hate incidents in the United Kingdom, supports calls for tolerance in a challenging time**

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/249776>

**Equality and Human Rights Commission comments on racist incidents following EU referendum**

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/commission-comments-racist-incident-following-eu-referendum>

**Human Rights Council discusses racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance**

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=20190&LangID=E>

and

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=20195&LangID=E>

## **Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination** (continued) **New Publications**

**The Geography of anti-Muslim hatred: Tell MAMA Annual Report 2015**

[http://tellmamauk.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/tell\\_mama\\_2015\\_annual\\_report.pdf](http://tellmamauk.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/tell_mama_2015_annual_report.pdf)

**The Shami Chakrabarti Inquiry Report**

<http://www.labour.org.uk/page/-/party-documents/ChakrabartiInquiry.pdf>

## **News**

**Poles and Muslims targeted amid sudden rise in hate crime**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-06-27/news/soles-and-muslims-are-targeted-amid-sudden-rise-in-hate-crime-wt6jm2nz>

**David Cameron: UK will not stand for hate crime after Brexit vote**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/14582848.David\\_Cameron\\_UK\\_will\\_not\\_stand\\_for\\_hate\\_crime\\_after\\_Brexit\\_vote/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/14582848.David_Cameron_UK_will_not_stand_for_hate_crime_after_Brexit_vote/)

**Cameron condemns xenophobic and racist abuse after Brexit vote**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jun/27/sadiq-khan-muslim-council-britain-warning-of-post-brexit-racism>

**Sadiq Khan makes call for vigilance over Brexit hate crimes**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/sadiq-khan-makes-call-for-vigilance-over-brexit-hate-crimes-1-4163971>

**UK faith leaders unite in condemning post-referendum rise in xenophobic abuse**

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2016/jun/28/uk-faith-leaders-unite-in-condemning-post-referendum-rise-in-xenophobic-abuse>

**Reports of racist abuse in Wales following Brexit**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-36640447>

**Police log fivefold rise in race-hate complaints since Brexit result**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jun/30/police-report-fivefold-increase-race-hate-crimes-since-brexit-result>

**Racism is not only the preserve of the dispossessed**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jun/30/racism-not-only-preserve-dispossessed>

**Brexit has given voice to racism – and too many are complicit**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jun/27/brexit-racism-eu-referendum-racist-incidents-politicians-media>

**‘A frenzy of hatred’: how to understand Brexit racism**

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2016/jun/29/frenzy-hatred-brexit-racism-abuse-referendum-celebratory-lasting-damage>

**Britons urged to wear safety pins in solidarity with immigrants**

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2016/jun/29/britons-urged-to-wear-safety-pins-in-solidarity-with-immigrants-safetypin>

# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## News (continued)

**Britain's raging racism calls for more than symbolic safety pins**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jul/01/britain-racism-safety-pins-brexit-migrants-xenophobic>

**BBC journalist called a 'n\*\*\*\*r' as post-EU referendum race hate crime spikes**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/people/trish-adudu-brexit-bbc-journalist-eu-referendum-race-hate-crime-a7115476.html>

**The warnings of the Holocaust have never been more relevant in Britain**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/06/30/the-warnings-of-the-holocaust-have-never-been-more-relevant-in-b/>

**Safety pins used to fight racism and show solidarity with immigrants**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/good-news/2016/06/29/safety-pins-used-to-fight-racism-and-show-solidarity-with-immigr/>

**People 'scared to leave the house' after rise in hate crime post-Brexit vote**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/06/30/people-scared-to-leave-the-house-after-rise-in-hate-crime-post-b/>

**Who is going to manage the expectations of our newly emboldened racists when their white future doesn't arrive?**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/brexit-eu-referendum-racist-attacks-poland-polish-immigrants-newly-emboldened-racists-white-future-a7105931.html>

**BBC presenter is called 'P\*\*\*\*' on the streets as police probe racist attacks and calls to hate-crime hotline soar 60% in the wake of vote to leave the EU**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3662114/Reports-attacks-Poles-Muslims-wake-Brexit-vote.html>

**After the vote, the hate: racism in the wake of Brexit**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14594945.After\\_the\\_vote\\_the\\_hate\\_racism\\_in\\_the\\_wake\\_of\\_Brexit/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14594945.After_the_vote_the_hate_racism_in_the_wake_of_Brexit/)

**'Some of the rhetoric here in Hastings sounds like 1930s Germany and as a Jewish woman, that's terrifying'**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14594906.\\_39\\_Some\\_of\\_the\\_rhetoric\\_here\\_in\\_Hastings\\_sounds\\_like\\_1930s\\_Germany\\_and\\_as\\_a\\_Jewish\\_woman\\_that\\_39\\_s\\_terrifying\\_39/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14594906._39_Some_of_the_rhetoric_here_in_Hastings_sounds_like_1930s_Germany_and_as_a_Jewish_woman_that_39_s_terrifying_39/)

**Incidents of anti-Muslim abuse up by 326% in 2015, says Tell MAMA**

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2016/jun/29/incidents-of-anti-muslim-abuse-up-by-326-in-2015-says-tell-mama>

**UK entering 'unchartered territory' of Islamophobia after Brexit vote**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/brexit-muslim-racism-hate-crime-islamophobia-eu-referendum-leave-latest-a7106326.html>

**Emergency campaign launched as racist attacks rise after Brexit**

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/emergency-campaign-launched-as-racist-attacks-rise-after-brexit>



## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### News (continued)

**Anti-Semitism compensation and apology for student**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/education-36639000>

**York University student gets public apology and £1,000 payout after making anti-Semitism complaints**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/student/news/york-university-students-union-public-payout-zachary-confino-anti-semitism-complaint-jewish-a7105971.html>

**Student union pays £1,000 and offer public apology to Jewish graduate who suffer anti-semitism while studying at York University**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3661400/Student-union-pays-1-000-offer-public-apology-Jewish-graduate-suffer-anti-semitism-studying-York-University.html>

**Radio 4 journalist racially abused in her home town**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-06-28/news/radio-4-journalist-racially-abused-in-her-home-town-qf0jmwmmq>

**BBC presenter subjected to racism and told to 'go home' days after Brexit vote**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/06/30/bbc-presenter-subjected-to-racism-and-told-to-go-home-days-after/>

**The Old Firm story: How sectarianism came to define a derby**

<http://www.scotsman.com/sport/football/teams/celtic/the-old-firm-story-how-sectarianism-came-to-define-a-derby-1-4166492>

[TOP](#)

## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### First Minister's Statement

**European Union Referendum (Implications for Scotland)**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10480&i=96521#ScotParlOR>

### Debate

**European Union Referendum (Implications for Scotland)**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10480&i=96522#ScotParlOR>

### Parliamentary Motions

**S5M-00601 Nicola Sturgeon: Implications of the EU Referendum for Scotland**—That the Parliament welcomes the overwhelming vote of the people of Scotland to remain in the European Union; affirms to citizens of other EU countries living here that they remain welcome and that their contribution is valued; mandates the Scottish Government to have discussions with the UK Government, other devolved administrations, the EU institutions and member states to explore options for protecting Scotland's relationship with the EU, Scotland's place in the single market and the social, employment and economic benefits that come from that, and instructs the Scottish Government to report

## Other Scottish Parliament and Government Parliamentary Motions (continued)

back regularly to parliamentarians, to the European and External Relations Committee and the Parliament on the progress of those discussions and to seek Parliament's approval of the outcome of that process.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00601&ResultsPerPage=10>

**S5M-00601.1 Ruth Davidson: Implications of the EU Referendum for Scotland**—As an amendment to motion S5M-00601 in the name of Nicola Sturgeon (Implications of the EU Referendum for Scotland), leave out from "welcomes" to end and insert "acknowledges that the majority of people in Scotland voted for the UK to remain in the EU; recognises the result of the referendum both in Scotland and across the rest of the UK; affirms to citizens of other EU countries living here that they remain welcome and that their contribution is valued; mandates the Scottish Government to have discussions with the UK Government and other devolved administrations in the UK to explore options for protecting and maximising Scotland's trade with the EU and securing access to the single market; instructs the Scottish Government to report back regularly to parliamentarians, to the European and External Relations Committee and the Parliament on the progress of those discussions and to seek the Parliament's approval of the outcome of that process; acknowledges that the result of the Scottish independence referendum must be respected and the 1.6 million votes cast in the EU referendum in favour of remain do not overturn the two million votes in support of Scotland remaining part of the UK less than two years ago and do not in themselves demonstrate demand for a second independence vote, and believes that the challenges of leaving the EU are not addressed by leaving the UK, Scotland's own union of nations, biggest market and closest friends."

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00601.1&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Press Releases

**First Minister Speech for the Official Opening of Scottish Parliament**

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/First-Minister-Speech-for-the-Official-Opening-of-Scottish-Parliament-25e6.aspx>

**Protecting Scotland's EU interests**

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Protecting-Scotland-s-EU-interests-25d1.aspx>

## New Publication

**Following the EU Referendum – Frequently Asked Questions**

[http://www.parliament.scot/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S5/SB\\_16-60\\_Following\\_the\\_EU\\_Referendum- Frequently\\_Asked\\_Questions.pdf](http://www.parliament.scot/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S5/SB_16-60_Following_the_EU_Referendum- Frequently_Asked_Questions.pdf)

[TOP](#)

## Other UK Parliament and Government

### Parliamentary Questions

#### Female Genital Mutilation

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Sarah Champion** [40632] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps the Government is taking to ensure that survivors of female genital mutilation are better protected from cervical cancer.

**Sarah Champion** [40641] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps his Department is taking to ensure that medical personnel are trained to carry out appropriate smear tests for female genital mutilation survivors.

**Reply from Jane Ellison:** The National Health Service will support women who have had female genital mutilation (FGM) and will provide them with appropriate care to ensure that cervical screening can be done as comfortably as possible, as for all women invited for cervical screening. FGM survivors may feel anxious about the procedure, and NHS staff are encouraged to have sensitive conversations with women about their worries.

It is important that all women invited for screening attend appointments. Taking a cervical sample may not always be possible for women with FGM, and in such cases women can be referred to specialist gynaecological services who are trained in treating complications that can be caused by FGM.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-14/40632/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-14/40641/>

#### Female Genital Mutilation

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Baroness Tonge** [HL625] To ask Her Majesty's Government who is responsible for follow-up health and welfare checks of newborn female babies whose mothers have been victims of female genital mutilation.

**Baroness Tonge** [HL627] To ask Her Majesty's Government at what intervals female newborn babies born to mothers who have been victims of female genital mutilation will receive follow-up health and welfare checks.

**Lord Prior of Brampton:** Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is illegal, extremely harmful and it is child abuse. Girls born to mothers who have had FGM are offered the same range of newborn and infant health checks as offered to all families.

In addition to the routine newborn and infant health checks offered to all families as part of the Healthy Child Programme, professionals have safeguarding responsibilities meaning that if they have any concerns about FGM they should take appropriate safeguarding actions, including sharing this with key professionals within the child's life as part of local safeguarding procedures. In addition, any concerns about potential risk of FGM must be recorded within the child's Red Book.

A multi-agency approach is essential to protect girls from harm and as such, midwives, health visitors, general practitioners and school nurses amongst others are all responsible for the health and welfare of all children they see, irrespective of whether the mother has had FGM or not.

The document *Female Genital Mutilation Risk and Safeguarding Guidance for professionals* (Department of Health, May 2016) provides information for health professionals on the specific issues frequently encountered when dealing with FGM. A copy of this document is attached.

## Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### [FGM Safeguarding Report](#)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-13/HL625/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-13/HL627/>

### **Female Genital Mutilation**

**Baroness Tonge** [HL682] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of whether female genital mutilation campaigns are reaching communities outside London.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** 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.

We will not stop FGM until we have changed attitudes within communities. The Government works closely with a range of community organisations, faith groups and survivors through the Government's FGM Unit. The FGM Unit carries out an ongoing programme of outreach with local community groups and professionals across England and Wales.

In 2014 we funded 29 community engagement projects across England and Wales, including a network of community champions, who are reaching thousands of women and girls who may be affected by FGM, and, importantly, their families.

In addition, the Department of Health's £4m prevention programme is carrying out a range of work to improve the NHS response across England, and the Department for Education is providing up to £2m through its Innovation fund for work by the National FGM Centre to improve the social care response throughout England.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-14/HL682/>

[TOP](#)

## New Publications

### **Annual Report and Accounts**

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/media/2297/2016-06-30-oscr-annual-report-and-accounts-2015-16.pdf>

### **Scottish Charity Surveys 2016 – General Public**

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/media/2290/2016-06-27-oscr-charity-surveys-general-public-report.pptx>

### **Scottish Charity Surveys 2016 – Stakeholders**

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/media/2289/2016-06-27-oscr-charity-surveys-stakeholder-report.pptx>

[TOP](#)

## Other News

### **BEMIS response to the EU referendum result**

BEMIS Scotland are the national intermediary umbrella body for the ethnic minority voluntary sector in Scotland. While acknowledging that a majority of citizens in the UK—who had the democratic franchise in this referendum—have voted to leave the European Union we must similarly acknowledge that the majority of people in Scotland voted to remain.

BEMIS as an organisation highly value our pro-active relationship with partners across the European Union. These continual, sustained, vigorous and beneficial partnerships have enabled us to develop policy, share good practice and increase cooperation between minority communities, governments, agencies, institutions and councils across the continent.

Domestic policy in Scotland, reflected in our NGO, cross-party and Governmental collaboration in progressing our shared Equality and Human Rights objectives has been utilised to promote Scotland as an example of good practice within the European community.

The European citizenship of the people of Scotland was endorsed overwhelmingly by the electorate in Scotland.

Any future UK negotiations in relation to our constitutional arrangements with the EU must acknowledge the unique demographics and democratic wishes of the people of Scotland.

Our diverse communities reflected in our Scottish-based European citizens provide an immeasurable benefit to Scotland's social, economic and cultural life and we are committed to ensuring that this positive, engaging and highly beneficial relationship is maintained, valued and celebrated.

We acknowledge First Minister Nicola Sturgeon's commitment to ensuring that Scotland's place in the European Union and fundamental value of European citizens who now call Scotland home forms the cornerstone of their response to forthcoming discussion on Scotland's relationship with Europe and the UK.

<http://bemis.org.uk/bemis-response-to-the-eu-referendum/>

### **Surveys show strong support for charities in Scotland**

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/hot-topics/surveys-show-strong-support-for-charities-in-scotland>

### **Scotland sets up independent fundraising regulation**

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/scotland-sets-up-independent-fundraising-regulation>

### **'Sometimes the pain is so bad I can't walk': Women who fled torture and abuse to make new lives in Scotland reveal horror of female genital mutilation**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/sometimes-pain-bad-cant-walk-8314313#cW5lQluKSwiAuiLY.97>

[TOP](#)

## Bills in Progress

\*\* new or updated this week

### **Bills in Progress UK Parliament**

#### **Ethnicity Pay Gap Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/ethnicitypaygap.html>

## Bills in Progress

### UK Parliament (continued)

#### **Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/modernslaverytransparencyinsupplychains.html>

#### **Student Support (Non-Interest-Bearing Finance) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/studentsupportnoninterestbearingfinance.html>

[TOP](#)

## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

#### **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>

#### **Sharia Councils** (closing date 20 July 2016)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2015/160623-new-inquiry-sharia-councils/>

#### **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>

#### **Draft Strategic Police Priorities for Scotland** (closing date 16 August 2016)

[https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/police-division/strategic-police-priorities/user\\_uploads/430839\\_consultation\\_p2--2-.pdf](https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/police-division/strategic-police-priorities/user_uploads/430839_consultation_p2--2-.pdf)

#### **Developing black and minority ethnic talent: issues faced by businesses** (closing date 22 August 2016)

<https://bisgovuk.citizenspace.com/lm/baroness-mcgregor-smith-review>

#### **Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) review on teacher shortages** (closing date 16 September 2016)

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/527653/Teachers\\_Call\\_for\\_evidence.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/527653/Teachers_Call_for_evidence.pdf)

#### **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 listed)

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

#### **Suicide and BME Communities in North East Glasgow** (closing date not listed)

[https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BME\\_suicide\\_NorthEastGlasgow](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BME_suicide_NorthEastGlasgow)

[TOP](#)

## Job Opportunities

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

### **Ethnic Minority Communities Encouraged To Take Up Apprenticeships**

A new partnership aimed at encouraging more ethnic minority groups to undertake Modern Apprenticeships has been launched during Scottish Apprenticeship Week.

Skills Development Scotland (SDS) and BEMIS Scotland have joined forces in a bid to raise awareness of Modern Apprenticeships (MAs) among ethnic minority communities and increase their participation in the programme.

BEMIS Scotland CEO Dr. Rami Ousta said: The Modern Apprenticeship programme is valued by apprentices as well as by employers across Scotland as it offers new pathways into wider employment opportunities and helps build employability skills and knowledge for young people while in paid employment. It is crucial that all of Scotland's people are aware of the benefits of the programme and have the opportunity to undertake an apprenticeship.

That is why BEMIS Scotland welcomed a partnership with SDS. We look forward to working together to ensure ethnic minority communities feel empowered to undertake a Modern Apprenticeship and fulfil their potential through this training programme.

<http://bemis.org.uk/project/modern-apprenticeships-for-all/>

[TOP](#)

## Funding Opportunities

\*\* new or updated this week

### **Scottish Winter Festivals**

***All applications will be considered until all available funds have been distributed.***

Scotland's Winter Festivals aim to mobilise the people of Scotland and those with an affinity to Scotland to join in the St Andrew's Day, Hogmanay and Burns celebrations, boosting Scotland's key tourism and events sectors and the wider economy, enhancing community engagement and raising Scotland's international profile. Our diverse ethnic and cultural minority communities are key elements of Scotland's past, present and future so the Scottish Government, BEMIS Scotland, and other national partners are committed to ensuring that our diverse ethnic and cultural minority communities participate fully within this year's Winter Festival celebrations. For information see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/swf-grant-guidelines.pdf>, and an application form is available at <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/swf-grant-application.docx>

### **Year of Innovation, Architecture & Design**

***All applications will be considered until all available funds have been distributed.***

Our diverse ethnic and cultural minority communities are key elements of Scotland's past, present and future so we want to ensure that your story, history, innovation and narrative plays a full part in the celebration of the themed year.

The Scottish Government and BEMIS Scotland, and other national partners are committed to ensuring that our diverse ethnic and cultural minority communities participate fully within this year's celebrations. We believe that in order to fulfil our potential as individuals and communities of place, culture and ethnicity that we should celebrate and promote our diversity. This reflects our shared objective to build an 'Inclusive National Identity' which celebrates Scotland's vibrant, diverse, confident and dynamic people. For information see

<http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/yiad-grant-guidelines.pdf> and the application form is available at <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/yiad-grant-application.docx>

[TOP](#)

## Events/Conferences/Training

\*\* new or updated this week

### **Scottish Solutions to the Refugee Crisis**

18 August 2016 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh (4.30-6.00)

Panel discussion about how Scotland should respond to the refugee crisis that has seen over 60 million people displaced from their homes and countries by conflict, disaster and destitution. For information see <http://festivalofpolitics.scot/events/scottish-solutions-to-the-refugee-crisis/>

[TOP](#)

## 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](http://www.acas.org.uk)

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

**Volunteer Development Scotland** [www.vds.org.uk](http://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](http://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](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/>

The copyright of each article belongs to the publisher on whose website it appears, and it may only be copied or reproduced in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions. Full details of these, and the publisher's contact information, are available on each website.