

*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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Useful Links

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

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The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 4 September 2016, and the UK Parliament until 5 September, and again from 15 September to 10 October.

During recess MEMO will be published on 29 August, 12 and 26 September, and 10 October 2016.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Questions

Asylum support

Linda Fabiani: To ask the Scottish Government what progress it has made with the UK Government in relation to recommendations made in the Smith Agreement regarding devolving the operation of asylum support. (S5W-979)

Reply from Angela Constance: In the period since the Smith Commission's report was published, the Scottish and UK Governments have sought to progress the recommendation on issues relating to asylum seekers. This has been done through meetings and a visit to the Home Office in Glasgow for a demonstration of

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

the asylum process. This inter-government work with the UK Government on asylum issues is ongoing, and Scottish Government and Home Office officials are in close contact to take forward further discussion on the Smith Commission's recommendations.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-00979&ResultsPerPage=10>

Syrian Resettlement Programme

Ben Macpherson: To ask the Scottish Government how many people have arrived in Scotland through the Syrian Resettlement Programme. (S5W-01710)

Reply from Angela Constance: As of 31 July 2016, Scotland has received over 900 people through the Syrian Resettlement Programme since October 2015. The most recent official statistics, published by the Home Office on 26 May 2016, showed that, of the 1,602 people accepted by the UK under the Programme up to 31 March 2016, 610 (38%) were received by Scottish local authorities.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-01710&ResultsPerPage=10>

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-000963 Mary Fee: Scotland Leads the Way in Rehoming Syrian Refugees – That the Parliament congratulates the work being carried out by Scottish local authorities to rehome Syrian refugees who are fleeing warfare in Syria; understands that Renfrewshire Council has led the way in Scotland by rehoming 68 Syrian refugees in the last year, which is more than any other local authority in Scotland; notes that, according to new figures released by the Home Office, Scotland has welcomed 610 Syrian refugees to the country in the last year, which corresponds to 38% of all Syrian refugees who have been rehomed in the UK; considers that, although the UK Government's commitment to rehoming 20,000 Syrian refugees by 2020 is welcome, this commitment does not nearly go far enough; acknowledges that refugees who flee their country in the most horrific and dangerous circumstances deserve compassion and considers that Scotland should celebrate the culture, diversity and skills that refugees bring to the country, all of which enhances the rich fabric of society, and urges the UK Government to redouble its efforts in relation to rehoming Syrian refugees across the whole of the UK.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-000963&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Question

Refugees: Children

Lord Pearson of Rannoch [HL1383] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the average age of the child refugees they propose to take in from the conflicts in Syria and North Africa; what assessment they have made of the dominant religion of those children; whether it is their policy that priority should be given to Christian children; and, if not, why not.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Syrian Vulnerable Person's Resettlement Scheme prioritises the most vulnerable Syrian refugees, including families with dependent children of any age. Of the 1,602 Syrians who arrived between October 2015 and March 2016, around half were aged under 18. The Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme, announced in April, will resettle

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Question (continued)

vulnerable children under the age of 18 from the Middle East and North Africa region, with their families or carers where appropriate. One of the reasons for creating the scheme was to allow the inclusion of children at risk from nationalities other than Syrian, including, for example, Yazidis from Iraq.

For both schemes, we work closely with the UNHCR, who identify refugees for resettlement using their established vulnerability criteria rather than seeking to include children of a particular age. While membership of a minority religion is not in itself one of the vulnerability criteria, members of minority religions may qualify under one of the vulnerability headings. It is important that we base our selection criteria on those most in need, rather than on the basis of membership of a particular religious group.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-20/HL1383/>

Press Releases

Celebrating Scotland's diversity

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Celebrating-Scotland-s-diversity-28b2.aspx>

Equality and Human Rights Commission calls on Government to protect unaccompanied migrant children

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/commission-calls-government-protect-unaccompanied-migrant-children>

TUC calls for immediate action to manage migration better

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/international-issues/migration/tuc-calls-immediate-action-manage-migration-better>

Migration crisis: 74% of Europeans want EU to do more

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20160707STO36236/Migration-crisis-74-of-Europeans-want-EU-to-do-more>

New Publications

House of Commons Home Affairs Committee Report: Migration Crisis

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201617/cmselect/cmhaff/24/24.pdf>

Managing migration better for Britain

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/sites/default/files/ManagingmigrationbetterforBritain.pdf#overlay-context=international-issues/europe/eu-referendum/migration/managing-migration-better-britain>

Immigration & Integration after Brexit

<http://www.policyexchange.org.uk/images/publications/immigration%20and%20integration%20after%20brexit%20-%20aug%2016.pdf>

News

Keith Vaz: Scotland 'leading the way' in resettling refugees

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-36956721>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Scotland accepts almost 4 in 10 Syrian refugees, new figures show

http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/14657842.Scotland_accepts_almost_4_in_10_Syrian_refugees_new_figures_show/

Scotland made room for refugees but new report reveals Tory bigwigs kept door shut in their own areas

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/scotland-made-room-refugees-new-8549684#4iPuky3vk3g8Kl4Y.97>

Eight in 10 UK councils - including many in affluent areas - fail to accept a single vulnerable Syrian refugee

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/08/02/eight-in-10-uk-councils---including-many-in-affluent-areas---fai/>

Home Office wins Syrian refugee appeal in Court of Appeal

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-36952013>

Home Office wins appeal against ruling allowing Calais 'jungle' refugees into UK

http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/14657723.Home_Office_wins_appeal_against_ruling_allowing_Calais_jungle_refugees_into_UK/

Home Office wins appeal against ruling on four Syrian refugees

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/02/uk-home-office-wins-appeal-against-ruling-four-syrian-refugees-calais-camp>

Home Office wins appeal against ruling on Jungle children

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-08-03/news/home-office-wins-appeal-against-ruling-allowing-child-migrants-to-join-family-in-britain-69zmnj9m0>

Home Office wins immigration appeal to reverse ruling that let vulnerable migrants in the Calais Jungle live with relatives in the UK (...but those already here can stay)

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3719605/Home-Office-WINS-immigration-appeal-reverse-ruling-let-unaccompanied-migrant-children-Calais-Jungle-live-relatives-UK.html>

'One million' migrants in UK illegally

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-08-03/news/a-million-migrants-in-uk-illegally-twn2mhjh7>

Workers slip under the radar after visas expire

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-08-03/news/workers-slip-under-the-radar-after-visas-expire-zbqkg7q8c>

One million migrants are living in Britain illegally and will never be deported, claims former Border Agency chief

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3721148/One-million-migrants-living-Britain-illegally-never-deported-claims-former-Border-Agency-chief.html>

Registering EU nationals in UK could take 140 years at current rates

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/aug/02/new-uk-commissioner-julian-king-to-head-up-eus-security-brief>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Labour MP says male refugees arriving in Britain should be given lessons on women's equality

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/labour-mp-says-male-refugees-arriving-in-britain-should-be-given-lessons-on-womens-equality-a7165856.html>

Give refugees lessons in how to treat women, says MP

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-08-01/news/give-refugees-lessons-in-how-to-treat-women-lzhwqhnc>

How legitimate marriages have become Home Office honey traps

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2016/aug/04/how-legitimate-marriages-have-become-home-office-honey-traps>

Dozens of asylum seekers crammed into single Home Office property

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/02/dozens-of-asylum-seekers-crammed-into-single-home-office-property>

Immigration centre staff told: Put 'disobedient' detainees in solitary confinement - even if it could kill them

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/government-s-new-charter-for-cruelty-at-immigration-detention-centres-a7168991.html>

Hungry, scared, and no closer to safety: child refugees failed by Britain

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/aug/02/child-refugees-calais-failed-by-britain>

"People are kind though weather is bad!" – Syrian refugees enjoy soggy welcome in Arbroath

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/local/angus-mearns/229597/people-kind-though-weather-bad-syrian-refugees-enjoy-soggy-welcome-arbroath/>

Concert for Syrian refugees on Bute

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-08-03/scotland/concert-for-syrian-refugees-on-bute-x20zhtm7>

Hands-on help for Syrians in Scotland

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/lesley-riddoch-hands-on-help-for-syrians-in-scotland-1-4196791>

Edinburgh could open doors to hundreds of asylum seekers

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/edinburgh-could-open-doors-to-hundreds-of-asylum-seekers-d82ckmst9>

Block on 78 sham marriages

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/block-on-78-sham-marriages-fxbg63cv2>

Brain family urged to leave UK voluntarily

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-36963050>

Australian Brain family told to leave Scotland

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/australian-brain-family-told-to-leave-scotland-1-4193022>

Immigration and Asylum News (continued)

Common sense dictates a relaxation of the rules

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/leaders-common-sense-dictates-a-relaxation-of-the-rules-1-4193499>

It's time for humanity to break out

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/paris-gourtsoyannis-it-s-time-for-humanity-to-break-out-1-4195846>

Australians living a Scottish dream are facing deportation

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/australians-living-a-scottish-dream-are-facing-deportation-gxqwz6h7h>

MP attacks Home Office over family's battle to stay

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/mp-attacks-home-office-over-familys-battle-to-stay-vwv0bg3nf>

Family defiant as deportation looms

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-08-02/scotland/family-defiant-as-deportation-looms-nw293j3x5>

Australian family fighting deportation get flurry of job offers

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/04/australian-family-gregg-kathryn-lachlan-brain-fighting-deportation-get-flurry-of-job-offers>

Australian family fighting deportation ordered to leave UK

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/03/australian-family-fighting-deportation-ordered-to-leave-uk>

Deadline runs out for Australian family facing deportation from UK

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/01/australian-family-facing-deportation-from-uk-vow-to-keep-fighting>

MP urges Home Office to allow Australian family to stay in Scotland

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/01/mp-urges-home-office-to-allow-australian-family-to-stay-in-scotland>

Australian Brain family told to leave the UK after public appeal against deportation fails

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/australian-family-brain-deported-leave-uk-immigration-home-office-appeal-a7169716.html>

Australian Brain family faces deportation from Scotland as deadline passes to secure job contract

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/australia-brain-family-deportation-deported-scotland-home-office-rule-change-midnight-deadline-a7165736.html>

Australian family desperate to stay in Scotland are told they MUST leave the UK after their hopes of a visa extension are dashed but they have vowed to keep on fighting

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3721388/Australian-family-fighting-stay-Scotland-told-leave-UK-hopes-visa-extension-dashed.html>

I'm an immigrant and a Muslim. And I'm here to cure cancer

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/aug/01/immigrant-muslim-cancer-research>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Squalid property used to house asylum seekers receives second inspection

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/04/squalid-property-used-to-house-asylum-seekers-receives-second-inspection>

Welsh universities consider scholarships for refugees

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-36977181>

Thirty-one migrants in this house, a woman living in its shack, and rogues raking in £100,000 a year

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3726328/Thirty-one-migrants-house-woman-living-shack-rogue-landlords-raking-100k-year.html>

Irish life is Poles apart for migrants

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/irish-life-is-poles-apart-for-migrants-shvrg2mxj>

Scotland's population swelled by migration

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-37031666>

Migrants push up population to 5.3 million

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/migrants-push-population-to-5-3m-lt2msnj8x>

Majority concerned about terrorists posing as refugees as immigration worries increase

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/08/11/majority-concerned-about-terrorists-posing-as-refugees-as-immigr/>

Six in ten say migrants put pressure on NHS, schools and housing: Poll finds UK is one of the countries most worried about rising immigration

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3734099/Six-ten-say-migrants-pressure-NHS-schools-housing-Poll-finds-UK-one-countries-worried-rising-immigration.html>

Prisons inspector praises immigration centre for families set for closure

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/11/cedars-immigration-detention-centre-for-families-closure-prisons-inspector-peter-clarke>

Axed deportation center is 'little used' and costs taxpayer £6.4m a year to run

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/08/11/axed-deportation-center-is-little-used-and-costs-taxpayer-64m-a/>

Inspectors praise 'groundbreaking' family immigration detention centre

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-3733978/Inspectors-praise-groundbreaking-family-immigration-detention-centre.html>

Two suspended at asylum seeker housing company

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/two-suspended-at-o-s-in-glasgow-rv527w9k0>

Citizens or bargaining chips? Scotland's Europeans on their Brexit fears

http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/political_news/14680423.Citizens_or_bargaining_chips_Scotland_s_Europeans_on_their_Brexit_fears/

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Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-00936 Michael Russell: What's Changed about Being Jewish in Scotland? – That the Parliament notes the publication of the study, *What's Changed about Being Jewish in Scotland?* by the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities supported by the Scottish Government and following on from the original study on the issue undertaken in 2012; is concerned that the outcomes of the study indicate that much anxiety, discomfort and vulnerability is being experienced by Scotland's Jewish population and a considerable worsening of the situation since 2012; recognises that four out of every five respondents believe that events in the Middle East have affected how they are treated as Jews in Scotland; is mindful of the long tradition of tolerance and mutual respect that has existed in Scotland with regard to all religious and ethnic minorities; is pleased that the First Minister has made it clear that "there is nothing that happens in Israel or Palestine that can be justification for antisemitism or any racial or religious hatred" and that she "does not want to live in a country where Jewish people want to leave or hide their identity"; welcomes the strong reassurances from the Cabinet Secretary for Justice, the Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Security and Equalities, the Lord Advocate and the Chief Constable regarding zero tolerance of hatred, racism and antisemitism, and expresses the hope that every person in Scotland will also take that approach to all discrimination and intolerance.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00936&ResultsPerPage=10>

S5M-00940 Kenneth Gibson: Scotland's Jewish Community and the Church of Scotland to Work More Closely Together – That the Parliament welcomes the agreement between the Jewish community in Scotland and the Church of Scotland to establish a concentrated dialogue between their two communities; understands that this will include discussions on possible collaboration between the groups in areas such as shared social action, theological similarities and differences, anti-Semitism and joint action to respond to it, education and geopolitical matters that affect Jewish-Christian relations, such as Israel and Palestine; further understands that the group will have around 10 members representing a wide range of views within these communities, seeking to address issues such as those coming from the publication of *The Inheritance of Abraham? A report on the 'promised land'* and the Church of Scotland's involvement in the Balfour Project, which led to a strain in the relationship, and welcomes the move to re-establish a close rapport between the Church of Scotland and Scotland's Jewish community.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00940&ResultsPerPage=10>

S5M-00952 Angus MacDonald: Falkirk District's First Eid in the Park Hailed a Resounding Success – That the Parliament recognises the success of Falkirk's first Eid in the Park, which was held on 9 July 2016 and organised by the newly established Falkirk Muslim Forum; notes that the purpose of the Falkirk Muslim Forum, consisting of Falkirk Islamic Centre, Falkirk Central Mosque, Falkirk Muslim Community Club 55 & Over, the Rainbow Muslim Women's Group and Al Masaar, is to act on behalf of the Muslim community to promote community relations and to be a unifying influence in the promotion of multiculturalism throughout Falkirk district and the surrounding areas; commends the organisers of Eid in the Park for what was a well thought out, well attended and well received event, giving people an opportunity to attend, take part and learn about the Islamic faith, and further notes that working together across key stakeholders including Falkirk Council, Falkirk Community Trust, CVS Falkirk and Falkirk Muslim Forum ultimately contributed to the overall success of Eid in the Park resulting in

Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motions (continued)

the demand that it become an annual event.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00952&ResultsPerPage=10>

News

Jewish Community launches Joint Theology Initiative with Church of Scotland

http://www.scojec.org/news/2016/16viii_cos.html

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Equality

Scottish Parliament Questions

Poverty

Alex Rowley: To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the finding of the Independent Advisor on Poverty and Inequality's report, *Shifting the Curve*, that some services perceive themselves as "race blind" and "unlikely to deliver a high quality service", whether it will introduce anti-poverty initiatives that are focused on minority ethnic communities. (S5W-01453)

Reply from Angela Constance: The Scottish Government has committed to consider measures to tackle poverty across all ethnicities, reflecting our approach to social justice and our response to the report from the Independent Advisor on Poverty and Inequality. In the Race Equality Framework, we committed to filling evidence gaps on how and to what extent people from minority ethnic groups are accessing the benefits they are entitled to and to ensuring that all relevant policy and programme areas – such as benefits take-up policy and access to advice services (including financial advice) - are fully impact-assessed for equality, as is our legal duty. Our starting point is that services must be accessible and work for all. However, in some instances, there may be a need for targeted action that focuses specifically on minority ethnic communities. For example, we are aware that people from minority ethnic groups may be under-represented as applicants of the Scottish Welfare Fund: we are therefore looking to work with relevant organisations and to target publicity for these communities, so as to improve their access to the fund across Scotland. We will continue to look for opportunities to support people from minority ethnic groups, particularly those on low incomes, in all our work going forward.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-01453&ResultsPerPage=10>

Equality training

Alex Rowley: To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the finding in the Equal Opportunities committee report in session four, *Removing Barriers: race, ethnicity and employment*, (SP paper 890), that "initiatives such as 'unconscious bias' training are not the solution and can serve to mask underlying negative attitudes towards people from an ethnic minority background", whether it continues to provide such training for (a) ministers, (b) its officials and (c) its directorates. (S5W-01455)

Reply from Derek MacKay: The Scottish Government offers "unconscious bias" training for all its staff. This is part of comprehensive range of measures

Equality

Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

implemented to help us provide a fair and inclusive workplace and complement our fair and open approach to resourcing.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-01455&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Questions

Judges: Ethnic Groups

The following two questions both received the same answer

Lord Ouseley [HL1330] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Keen of Elie on 18 July (HL948 and HL949), how many judges in HM Courts and Tribunals service who are over 50 years of age are from black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds.

Lord Ouseley [HL1331] To ask Her Majesty's Government further to the Written Answer by Lord Keen of Elie on 18 July (HL948 and HL949), what assessment they have made of the factors contributing to the low number of black, Asian and ethnic minority candidates being recommended for judicial appointments; how those factors are being addressed; and whether they plan to support the development and introduction of pre-appointment training for those from under-represented groups seeking judicial appointments.

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: The Government recognises that judges from a Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic (BAME) background are under-represented in the judiciary in England and Wales when compared with the general population. We are committed to continue working with the judiciary and all others concerned to make sure that, while appointments will always be made on merit, the pool of candidates is as diverse as possible.

On average over the last 5 years, 11 per cent of candidates recommended for judicial appointment were from BAME groups. Meanwhile, 10 per cent of appointed judges aged over 50 were from BAME backgrounds on 1 April 2015.

The Government is committed to working with other members of the Judicial Diversity Forum, including the Judicial Appointments Commission, the judiciary and the legal professions, to explore ways of increasing the percentage of judges from under-represented groups, including individuals from a BAME background, whilst continuing to safeguard the fundamental principle of appointment on merit. The Forum is considering the feasibility of proposals around pre-application training. The Government fully supports such work and is strongly committed to the judicial diversity agenda.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-19/HL1330/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-19/HL1331/>

New Publication

Employment opportunities for Muslims in the UK

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201617/cmselect/cmwomeq/89/89.pdf>

Equality (continued) News

Muslim women most disadvantaged, say MPs

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-37041301>

Muslim women at 'disadvantage' in workplace

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-37042942>

How Theresa May's anti-extremism policies are making Muslims poorer – in 6 charts

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/muslims-more-likely-to-be-unemployed-than-any-other-social-group-in-the-uk-mps-warn-a7185451.html>

UK confusion between integration and counter-terrorism hinders Muslims

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/11/uk-confusion-integration-counter-terrorism-hinders-muslims>

For Muslim women life had been getting better. No longer

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/aug/11/muslim-women-excluded-society-employment-communities>

6 charts which show the employment barriers faced by British Muslims

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/muslims-more-likely-to-be-unemployed-than-any-other-social-group-in-the-uk-mps-warn-a7185451.html>

Hijab-wearing Muslim women being passed over for jobs in last form of acceptable discrimination – MPs

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/08/11/hijab-wearing-muslim-women-being-passed-over-for-jobs-in-last-fo/>

Police watchdog IPCC 'favours black complainants'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-36936264>

White Scots 'die younger than other ethnic groups'

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14660455.White_Scots_39_die_younger_than_other_ethnic_groups_39/

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Questions

Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion

Mary Fee: To ask the Scottish Government when it will publish the findings of the Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion. (S5W-1359)

Reply from Angela Constance: We received the findings of the Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion at the end of July. We expect the findings will be published in the autumn, once Parliament has returned from recess.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-01359&ResultsPerPage=10>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Mary Fee: To ask the Scottish Government what contribution it made to the most recent UK state party report to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination regarding the representation of black and minority ethnic communities in (a) the police service, (b) employment, (c) health and (d) mental health. (S5W-1360)

Reply from Angela Constance: The UK Government is responsible for providing the State Party report to the UN CERD. The Scottish Government provided an update to the UK Government in relation to the race equality work being carried out. This input was informed by its on-going work around race equality, including dialogue with communities, and drew on the relevant available data and information. Our 'Race Equality Framework for Scotland' published on 21 March 2016, sets out clear goals to support minority ethnic communities in representation across a range of areas, including the police service, employment, health and mental health.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-01360&ResultsPerPage=10>

United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Alex Rowley: To ask the Scottish Government whether it will be represented at ministerial level at the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination's review of the UK's 21st to 23rd periodic reports in August 2016 and, if so, by whom. (S5W-1454)

Reply from Angela Constance: The Scottish Government will participate fully in the examination of the UK's record by the UN Committee. The Scottish Government provides a contribution to formal UK written submissions to United Nations Committees as part of the reporting cycle under international human rights treaties. Normal practice is for the UK delegation at the oral session in Geneva to be headed by a senior UK official and Scotland will be represented, by a Scottish Government official with appropriate policy knowledge and experience. In this instance the relevant official will be the Scottish Government's Head of Equality Strategy.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-01454&ResultsPerPage=10>

Hate Crime

Monica Lennon: To ask the Scottish Government what information it has on the recent incidence of misogynistic hate crime; whether it will publish all relevant data, and whether it considers that Police Scotland has sufficient powers to identify and act against such crimes. (S5W-1460)

Reply from Angela Constance: The Scottish Government is committed to preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls, which includes ensuring a strong Justice response to protect victims and tackle perpetrators. Women and girls are protected from harassment and abuse through the criminal law, such as the general offence of threatening and abusive behaviour. Our courts do take into account all the facts and circumstances of a case before deciding an appropriate sentence in a given case. This means that where an offence is committed against a backdrop of misogynistic behaviour, the court can take this into account if they so choose. We regularly publish data, including the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey which provides details of people's experiences of harassment and abuse. Under Equally Safe, our violence against women girls strategy, officials have had discussions with women's organisations regarding the issue of misogynistic hate. We will consider carefully what more can be done to tackle this, and we will continue to liaise with Police Scotland and

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

others on how we can work together to tackle all forms of violence against women and girls. We anticipate that the findings of the Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion will be published in the autumn, once Parliament returns from recess.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-01460&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Questions

Hate Crime

Greg Mulholland [43382] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many incidents of hate crime were reported in each region in the last 12 months.

Reply from Sarah Newton: The Home Office collects information on the number of hate crimes recorded by the police on an annual basis. The most recently published data are for 2014/15 and are shown in the attached table.

Data for 2015/16 are due to be published in October 2016.

This Government is committed to tackling hate crime. The UK has one of the strongest legislative frameworks in the world to tackle hate crime. We are working across Government with police, (including National Community Tensions Team), the Crown Prosecution Service and community partners to send out a clear message that hate crime will not be tolerated and we will vigorously pursue and prosecute those who commit these crimes.

Table: Hate crimes^{1,2} in England and Wales by region, 2014/15	
<i>Numbers</i>	England and Wales, recorded crime
Region	Total number of offences
North East	1,668
North West	7,687
Yorkshire and the Humber	3,663
East Midlands	3,025
West Midlands	5,020
East of England	4,012
London	13,954
South East	5,798
South West	3,485
Wales	2,259
British Transport Police	1,957
England and Wales	52,528

Source: Police recorded crime, Home Office

1. Hate crimes are taken to mean any crime where the perpetrator's hostility or prejudice against an identifiable group of people is a factor in determining who is victimised. For the agreed definition of hate crime see: <http://www.report-it.org.uk>. The figures in this table do not constitute all hate crime recorded by forces; these figures represent recorded hate crime data for the 5 monitored hate crime strands only.

2. Data were collected from 44 police forces in England and Wales and cover notifiable offences only (see the [User Guide](#) for more information).

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-19/43382/>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Universities: Antisemitism

Lord Turnberg [HL1444] To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of reports of increasing anti-Semitism in the UK, whether they will consult university Vice-Chancellors about what action they can take on the decision of the National Union of Students (NUS) to prevent the Union of Jewish Students from recommending a representative on the NUS Anti-Racism, Anti-Fascist Task Force.

Reply from the Earl of Courtown: 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 2010 Equality Act to provide a safe and inclusive environment.

Student clubs, societies and associations, with a membership of over 25, are covered by the applicable requirements of the Equality Act 2010. This means they cannot discriminate, harass or victimise protected groups, as an employer, or in the provision of goods services and facilities, or as members or guests.

We would expect all bodies representing students in English universities to be clear that there is no place for anti-Semitism in higher education. They should be doing everything they can to tackle anti-Semitism as they would all forms of racism.

In response to growing concerns over hate crime Universities UK have established a Harassment Taskforce to consider further measures to address harassment on campus including religion and belief. Government has asked the UUK Taskforce to consider a number of specific actions in relation to anti-Semitism:

- The need for an improved data collection of incidents by institution, to ensure Universities are recording incidents effectively;
- The importance of a complaints process that protects the identity of students who are fearful of coming forward;
- The need for better training to help University staff understand the different forms anti-Semitism can take.

The taskforce will provide a range of recommendations and actions in its report to ministers in the autumn.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-21/HL1444/>

Religious Hatred

Martyn Day [905996] To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, what recent discussions she has had with the Home Secretary on steps to tackle Islamophobia.

Reply from Caroline Dinenage: Anti-Muslim hatred is completely abhorrent and this Government is committed to preventing and tackling it.

We have set up the first ever cross-government working group on anti-Muslim hatred, and we have published a new Hate Crime Action Plan to help us ensure nobody in this country lives in fear because of who they are.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-18/905996/>

Press Releases

Life Term For Murder Of Shawlands Shopkeeper

<http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk/media-site/media-releases/1381-life-term-for-murder-of-shawlands-shopkeeper>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Press Releases (continued)

Equality and Human Rights Commission Scotland raises identity based bullying in Scottish schools with UN

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/ehrc-scotland-raises-identity-based-bullying-scottish-schools-un>

Antisemitic Incidents Report January - June 2016 published

<https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2016/08/04/cst-antisemitic-incidents-report-january-june-2016-published-today>

Roma Holocaust Memorial Day: Statement by European Commission First Vice-President Timmermans and Commissioner Jourová

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-is-new/news/news/2016/20160802_2_en.htm

Council of Europe honours victims and survivors of Roma Holocaust (Pharrajimos)

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/council-of-europe-honours-victims-and-survivors-of-roma-holocaust-pharrajimos->

UN experts call on all governments to recognise the right to remembrance for the Roma people

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=20327&LangID=E>

ODIHR Director Link and IHRA Chair Constantinescu, on day to commemorate genocide against Roma and Sinti, say greater efforts needed to protect endangered memorial sites and ensure dignity of victims

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/257421>

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination considers the report of the United Kingdom

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=20345&LangID=E>

New Publications

Causes and motivations of hate crime

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/research-report-102-causes-and-motivations-of-hate-crime.pdf>

Prejudice and unlawful behaviour, exploring levers for change

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/research-report-101-prejudice-and-unlawful-behaviour.pdf>

Antisemitic Incidents Report January – June 2016

https://cst.org.uk/public/data/file/4/f/Incidents_Report_-_Jan-June_2016.pdf

Challenging racism after the EU referendum

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/sites/default/files/ChallengingracismaftertheEUreferendum2.pdf>

Combatting racist abuse in the workplace

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/sites/default/files/CombattingracistabuseTUCguide.pdf>

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

Hate crime shows 16% rise compared to June 2015

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-3718191/Hate-crime-shows-16-rise-compared-June-2015.html>

In numbers: Has Britain really become more racist?

<http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-36964916>

Muslims bear brunt of rise in racist attacks

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/muslims-bear-brunt-of-rise-in-racist-attacks-wgqvl093w>

'Worrying' rise in anti-Semitic incidents, charity says

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-36971865>

Antisemitic incidents in UK rise 11% in first six months of 2016

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/04/antisemitic-incidents-rise-2016-jewish-labour>

Rise in anti-Semitic hate incidents as 557 cases reported from January to June

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-3722649/Rise-anti-Semitic-hate-incidents-557-cases-reported-January-June.html>

News: Asad Shah

Asad Shah killing: 'Disrespecting Islam' murderer jailed

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-37021385>

Asad Shah murder prompts Scots law review

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-37029823>

How Pakistan inspired the Glasgow shopkeeper killer

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-37032419>

Man who killed Glasgow shopkeeper Asad Shah jailed for 27 years

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/man-who-killed-glasgow-shopkeeper-asad-shah-jailed-for-27-years-1-4198001>

Law on religiously aggravated crimes to be reviewed

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/law-on-religiously-aggravated-crimes-to-be-reviewed-1-4199064>

Asad Shah: Glasgow shopkeeper's killer remains defiant with a clenched-fist raised as he is led to jail

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14671000.Glasgow_shopkeeper_s_killer_remains_defiant_with_a_clenched_fist_raised_as_he_is_led_to_jail/

Asad Shah: Law surrounding religiously aggravated crimes to be reviewed in wake of murder

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14671862.Asad_Shah_Law_surrounding_religiously_aggravated_crimes_to_be_reviewed_in_wake_of_murder/

Leaders of the Ahmadiyya mosque in Glasgow have vowed not to "let hate prevail"

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14670985.Leaders_of_the_Ahmadiyyamosque_in_Glasgow_have_vowed_not_to_let_hate_prevail/

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News: Asad Shah (continued)

Asad Shah: Glasgow shopkeeper's killer remains defiant with a clenched-fist raised as he is led to jail

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14670990.Glasgow_shopkeeper_s_killer_remains_defiant_with_a_clenched_fist_raised_as_he_is_led_to_jail/

Taxi driver jailed for at least 27 years over 'barbaric' murder of Glasgow shopkeeper Asad Shah

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/taxi-driver-jailed-least-27-8592177#U5DFrtRRcO7OTjTg.97>

Why were they here? Outrage as hate preachers visit Scotland on day Asad Shah's killer is sentenced

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/were-here-outrage-hate-preachers-8628633>

27 years for man who murdered shopkeeper Asad Shah for 'disrespecting the prophet'

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/scotland/255898/27-years-man-murdered-shopkeeper-asad-shah-disrespecting-prophet/>

Asad Shah murder verdict: Man who killed shopkeeper for 'disrespecting Islam' jailed for minimum of 27 years

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/asad-shahkiller-jailed-for-27-years-for-shopkeeper-murder-a7180301.html>

Uber driver salutes his supporters and shouts: 'praise for the Prophet Muhammad' as he is jailed for stabbing a fellow Muslim shopkeeper to death for 'disrespecting Islam'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3731076/Uber-driver-jailed-despicable-murder-Glasgow-shopkeeper.html>

Man who murdered Glasgow shopkeeper Asad Shah in sectarian attack jailed

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/09/tanveer-ahmed-jailed-for-murder-glasgow-shopkeeper-in-sectarian-attack>

Glasgow murder of Asad Shah spurred by sectarianism in Pakistan

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/09/glasgow-of-asad-shah-spurred-by-sectarianism-in-pakistan>

Muslim taxi driver jailed for 27 years for 'barbaric' murder of Glasgow shopkeeper

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/08/09/muslim-taxi-driver-jailed-for-27-years-for-barbaric-murder-of-gl/>

Defiant killer of shopkeeper praises Prophet as he is jailed for 27 years

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-08-10/scotland/defiant-killer-of-shopkeeper-praises-prophet-as-he-is-jailed-for-27-years-shvwww607>

Supporters cheer Muslim taxi driver jailed for killing shopkeeper

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/supporters-cheer-muslim-taxi-driver-jailed-for-killing-shopkeeper-z9wjw0qbl>

Shah killing exposes radical Islam in UK

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/shah-killing-exposes-radical-islam-in-uk-h0q972q0w>

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

Labour HQ hushed up reports of antisemitism at Oxford

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/labour-hq-hushed-up-reports-of-antisemitism-at-oxford-5z9shllhh>

Bigot brands Celtic star Nir Bitton a 'subhuman Zionist rat scumbag' in vile online attack as police launch probe

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/bigot-brands-celtic-star-nir-8605486#4WYp7JYWa9EcTjtC.97>

Students slam bigot who made vile comments about Celtic star Nir Bitton

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/students-slam-bigot-who-made-8614055#YlwQij7KkLmZWOY7.97>

Judge tells man 'you're a bit of a c* yourself' as she jails him for vile racist insults**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/judge-tells-man-youre-bit-8600651#1kK4DDMAGeojzTsb.97>

Judge solemnly swears at racist lout

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/judge-solemnly-swears-at-racist-lout-vcxv00nnw>

Judge to be investigated after complaints made over her use of c-word in court exchange with racist thug

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/08/11/judge-to-be-investigated-after-complaints-made-over-her-use-of-c/>

Bigot launches disgusting attack on Bloody Sunday hero priest Edward Daly just days after his death

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/bigot-launches-disgusting-attack-bloody-8598604#69RSscgTUj5rSap8.97>

Nadiya Hussain: The Great British Bake Off winner reveals racial abuse

<http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-37058043>

Bake Off winner Nadiya Hussain says racist abuse is part of her everyday life

<https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2016/aug/14/bake-off-winner-nadiya-hussain-racist-abuse-is-part-of-her-everyday-life>

Bake Off star expects racists to shove her

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/bake-off-star-expects-racists-to-shove-her-0r9c050xt>

Great British Bake Off winner Nadiya Hussain says she 'expects to be on the receiving end of racism'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/08/14/great-british-bake-off-winner-nadiya-hussain-says-she-expects-to/>

Racist abuse is part of my life, says Bake Off's Nadiya Hussain

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-3739483/Racist-abuse-life-says-Bake-Offs-Nadiya-Hussain.html>

Low uptake for anti-sectarian scheme

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-36996351>

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

Surge of racist incidents in schools sees 20 children excluded every day for discrimination

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/racism-schools-stats-children-excluded-per-day-rises-racist-incident-a7178746.html>

Schools ban 20 pupils a day for racism

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-08-08/news/schools-ban-20-pupils-a-day-for-racism-hrfk9wpv3>

Anti-sectarian scheme slammed after only 22 people take part despite more than 200 being prosecuted

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14667126.Anti_sectarian_scheme_slammed_after_only_22_people_take_part_despite_more_than_200_being_prosecuted/

Teachers' leaders attack spate of racist incidents

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14655713.Teachers_39_leaders_attack_spate_of_racist_incidents/

Before you make another offhand remark about Roma and Travellers in the UK, we'd like to tell you this

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/before-you-make-another-offhand-remark-about-roma-and-travellers-in-the-uk-wed-like-you-to-consider-a7168506.html>

Dundee landlord reported to police over "hate speech"

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/local/dundee/268527/dundee-publican-reported-to-police-over-hate-speech/>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Releases

£200k to help disabled people stand for election

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Fund-for-aspiring-politicians-27e5.aspx>

Scotland's Changing Population

<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/news/2016/scotlands-changing-population>

New Publications

The Registrar General's Annual Review of Demographic Trends

<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//statistics/rgar/2015/rgar-2015.pdf>

Scotland's Population 2015 Infographic report

<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//statistics/nrs-visual/rgar-2015-infog-booklet.pdf>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Press Release

Armed Forces and Hindu communities celebrate Raksha Bandhan

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/armed-forces-and-hindu-communities-celebrate-raksha-bandhan>

New Publication

Securing the ballot: Report of Sir Eric Pickles' review into electoral fraud

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/545416/eric_pickles_report_electoral_fraud.pdf

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New Publication

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator Briefing Note: Scottish Government Water Charges and Sewerage Exemption Scheme

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/media/2321/2016-08-10-exemption-scheme-article-3.pdf>

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Other News

Teachers are over-estimating the A Level grades of ethnic minority students by two or more grades, research finds

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2016/08/03/teachers-are-over-estimating-the-a-level-grades-of-ethnic-minori/>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

UK Parliament

Ethnicity Pay Gap Bill

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

EU Citizens Resident in the United Kingdom (Right to Stay)

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

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/studentssupportnoninterestbearingfinance.html>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Enterprise and Skills Review (closing date 15 August 2015)

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/enterprise-and-skills/call-for-evidence>

**** closes this week!**

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

**** closes this week!**

Independent review into the application of sharia law (closing date 19 August)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/sharia-law-review-issues-calls-for-evidence>

**** closes next week!**

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

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

**** closes next week!**

Scottish Social Housing Charter (closing date 24 August)

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/social-housing-services/scottish-social-housing-charter>

Hate crime and its violent consequences (closing date 1 September 2016)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2015/160704-new-inquiry-hate-crime/>

**** Scotland's relationship with the EU** (closing date 5 September 2016)

http://www.parliament.scot/Inquiries/Written_Call_for_Evidence_-_FINAL_VERSION.pdf

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

**** Mental Health in Scotland – a 10 year vision** (closing date 16 September 2016)

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/mental-health-unit/mental-health-in-scotland-a-10-year-vision>

Refugees Welcome Inquiry (closing date 1 October 2016)

http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0003/8247/Refugee_Welcome_APPG_inquiry_ToR_for_website.pdf

Scotland's place in Europe (closing date not listed, but responses received by 31 August will inform the Committee's work in October)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/scottish-affairs-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/scotland-place-europe-16-17/>

**** Proposed Football Act (Repeal) (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 23 October 2016)

http://www.parliament.scot/S4_MembersBills/20160628_FINAL_CONSULTATION_Word_-_version_for_publication.pdf

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

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

Consultations (continued)

**** Why me? experiences of individuals from diverse equality backgrounds who have experienced hate crime** (closing date not listed)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/whymesurvey>

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

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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

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>.

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>

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**** this week!**

Overview of the Universal Periodic Review

16 August 2016 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.30)

Scottish Human Rights Commission event to provide an overview and explanation of the Universal Periodic Review process, which provides an opportunity for non-governmental organisations in Scotland have to communicate key human rights issues to the United Nations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/hs9kj2k> or contact Chloë Trew 0131 244 3550 / chloe.trew@scottishhumanrights.com

**** this week!**

Ask the FM and Cabinet: EU nationals event

17 August 2016 in Edinburgh (11.30-1.00)

Opportunity for EU nationals living, working, and studying in Scotland to meet and question the First Minister and members of the Cabinet. For information contact 0300 244 2138 or see <https://askthefmandcabineteunationalsevent.eventbrite.com> (NB advance registration is essential)

**** 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/>

**** Community Cohesion Discussion**

31 August 2016 in Glenrothes (11.30 – 1.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities round-table discussion with the Scottish Government Equality Unit about community cohesion in Fife. For information, and to book a place, contact Nina nina@centreforequalities.org.uk

**** Tolerance or Inclusion**

5 September 2016 in Lower Methil (10.00-1.30)

6 September 2016 in Cardenden (1.30-5.00)

8 September 2016 in Glenrothes (9.30-12.00)

9 September 2016 in High Valleyfield (9.30-12.00)

WEA workshops to explore the difference between tolerance and inclusion, and different perspectives on diversity. For information contact bookingfife@weascotland.org.uk / 01383 510 774 or click on the relevant venue: [Methil](#), [Cardenden](#), [Glenrothes](#), [High Valleyfield](#)

**** Flourishing into the future**

7 September 2016 in Glasgow (6.00-8.30)

Interfaith Glasgow workshop to shape the future of interfaith engagement in Glasgow. For information contact development@interfaithglasgow.org / 0141 558 0778 or see <http://flourishingfuture.eventbrite.com> (NB registration essential)

**** Scotland without Prejudice?**

12 September 2016 in Edinburgh (11.00-2.00)

Equality and Human Rights Commission seminar on prejudiced attitudes and behaviour, hate crime, and community cohesion. For information contact 0141 228 5910 / scotland@equalityhumanrights.com

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Disparity in Britain, Changing Europe - The real experience of women subjected to Domestic Abuse

14 September 2016 in Edinburgh (9.00 – 4.30)

Shakti conference to more about the negative impact of government policy on migrant women who are being denied safe ways to end domestic abuse due to their immigration status. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zvw4ajy>

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

28 September 2016 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

30 November 2016 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

22 February 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

23 May 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine why people might need to flee their own country, how they seek asylum in the UK and what opportunities they have for rebuilding their lives here in Scotland. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/z68a5k8> or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

**** Holocaust Memorial Day Workshop**

5 October 2016 in Aberdeen (1.00-4.00)

6 October 2016 in Edinburgh (1.00-6.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust workshop to discuss importance of Holocaust Memorial Day in Scotland, network with local activity organisers, and find out about support and resources. For information contact Rhys Prosser enquiries@hmd.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/jugarfu> (Aberdeen) or <http://tinyurl.com/jb8yadl> (Edinburgh)

The changing story of religion and human rights

5 October 2016 in Edinburgh (6.00 – 8.30)

Interfaith Scotland and Equality and Human Rights Committee event to discuss the current situation regarding Religion and Human Rights in Scotland, and to then explore together the importance of freedom of conscience and belief to the different faith traditions. For information contact Maureen Sier maureen@interfaithscotland.org

**** Working with Interpreters**

6 October 2016 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

1 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine the process of using an interpreter, where the responsibility lies for the success of the interpreted session, examines the pitfalls and their consequences, and sets out best practice for using interpreters. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/jt93fog> or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

**** Integration and Working with Syrian Families**

7 October 2016 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

2 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the issues facing Syrian refugees as they move from countries around Syria to the UK, and highlights the challenges and opportunities for them as they build a new life here in Scotland. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zy436gr> or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** Cultural Competence**

19 October 2016 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

31 January 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

25 April 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course focusing on how culture affects all our lives, and examines the extent to which culture influences and governs our beliefs, attitudes, behaviours and decision-making. It explores our own practice and attitudes to cultural differences, and examines different worldviews, so that participants can confidently work with people no matter where they come from. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/jdfkkz2> or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

**** Refugee Rights to Housing**

10 November 2016 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

30 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council Course about refugee housing rights. For information contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

Launch of Scottish Interfaith Week

13 November 2016 in Paisley

The theme of the launch will be "Religion and the Media". For information please contact Frances Hume frances@interfaithscotland.org

**** Separated Children**

17 November 2016 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

9 February 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

11 May 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course about supporting separated child refugees. For information contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

**** Engaging hard to reach groups**

13 December 2016 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

8 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course about engaging with hard to reach groups. For information please contact Frances Hume frances@interfaithscotland.org

**** Community Sponsorship – What Do You Need to Know?**

15 December 2016 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

5 April 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course about the new UK Government scheme to enable community groups to sponsor refugee families. For information contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

National Holocaust Memorial Day

26 January 2017 in Bishopbriggs (6.00 – 8.30)

The theme of this year's memorial event is "How can life go on?" For information please contact Maureen Sier maureen@interfaithscotland.org

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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

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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