

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month, and that the Scottish Parliament website has recently been redesigned, so that links published in previous issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on the Scottish Parliament website, copy the details from MEMO into the search facility at <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/help/searchadvanced.aspx>.

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

The UK Parliament is in recess until 11 June 2012.

Immigration and Asylum

Press Releases

New report and survey give a snapshot of migration, asylum and free movement in the EU

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/552&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Financial assistance to non-EU countries in the area of migration and mobility

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/12/399&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Immigration and Asylum Press Releases (continued)

EURODAC proposal: completing the Common European Asylum System

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/522&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

New Publications

Refused: the experiences of women denied asylum in the UK

<http://www.refugeewomen.com/images/refused.pdf>

3rd Annual Report on Immigration and Asylum (2011)

http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/doc_centre/immigration/docs/COM%202012%20250%20final%201_EN_ACT_part1_v5.pdf

Borderline – EU Border Surveillance Initiatives: An Assessment of the Costs and Its Impact on Fundamental Rights

http://www.boell.de/downloads/DRV_120523_BORDERLINE_-_Border_Surveillance.pdf

News

Immigration: Damian Green rejects call to exempt foreign students from figures

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-18259626>

Student immigration policy will not harm UK, says government

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-18259626>

Minister rejects claim that immigration curbs will damage higher education

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2012/may/30/government-rejects-immigration-higher-education>

Universities warn of loss under immigration rules

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/universities-warn-of-loss-under-immigration-rules.17742113>

Scottish population reaches record high

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-18278974>

Scotland's population reaches 'highest level ever' thanks to rise in foreign immigrants

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2012/05/31/scotland-s-population-reaches-highest-level-ever-thanks-to-rise-in-foreign-immigrants-86908-23880525/>

Scotland's population reaches a record high

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/scotlands-population-reaches-a-record-high.17752603>

Judge halts deportation of Tamils in fear of torture

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/judge-halts-deportation-of-tamils-in-fear-of-torture-7811564.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Stop Sri Lanka deportation flights, says Human Rights Watch

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/may/31/sri-lanka-deportation-torture>

Asylum seekers: When the questions tell us so much more than the answers

<http://blogs.independent.co.uk/2012/05/29/asylum-seekers-when-the-questions-tell-us-so-much-more-than-the-answers/>

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Race Relations

Westminster Debate

Faith Communities

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120529-0001.htm#12052947000346>

Press Release

Multi-cultural colleges highlighted

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/05/colleges30052012>

News

Jubilee weekend: a time to celebrate the joys of multicultural Britain

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/theguardian/2012/jun/01/zoe-williams-jubilee-weekend-multiculturalism>

Private Muslim schools told to promote British values

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/9305957/Private-Muslim-schools-told-to-promote-British-values.html>

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Equality

New Publication

Human rights of Roma and Travellers in Europe

http://www.coe.int/t/commissioner/source/prems/prems79611_GBR_CouvHumanRightsOfRoma_WEB.pdf

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Press Releases

Funding announced to tackle bigotry

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/05/sectarianism31052012>

"Discrimination hampers development" – launch of a new initiative to fight discrimination in developing countries

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/547&format=HTML&age=d=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

News

Police censured over ethnic checks in Glasgow Airport

<http://www.scotsman.com/scotland-on-sunday/scotland/police-censured-over-ethnic-checks-in-glasgow-airport-1-2335455>

I was fired for being a white Christian, claims professor

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/education/i-was-fired-for-being-a-white-christian-claims-professor-1-2331635>

Racist Britain?

<http://digitalhub.72point.com/2012/05/racist-britain/>

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Other Holyrood

Debates

Scotland's Future

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7057&mode=html#iob_64294

Diamond Jubilee

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7053&mode=html#iob_64194

Press Releases

Holyrood's new sitting patterns and reform measures set out for Parliament's endorsement

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/51450.aspx>

Parliament Marks Diamond Jubilee

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/51465.aspx>

'Queen of Scots' app launched for Jubilee weekend

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/06/jubileeapp02062012>

Other Holyrood Press Releases (continued)

Freedom of Information legislation to be strengthened

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/05/Freedom-of-information31052012>

Communities to be given more say

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/06/CERB>

News

MSPs to increase Scottish Parliament sitting days

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-18250851>

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Other Westminster

News

Tax relief limit on charity to be axed in fresh U-turn

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-18278253>

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Other News

UK Volunteers' Week – 9,000 opportunities in Scotland

<http://www.vds.org.uk/NewsEvents/News/tabid/145/Default.aspx?newsItemID=4284>

Hindus withdraw from government's Diamond Jubilee faith initiative

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/the_queens_diamond_jubilee/9308011/Hindus-withdraw-from-governments-Diamond-Jubilee-faith-initiative.html

Polygamy in Islam: The women victims of multiple marriage

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-berkshire-18252958>

Parents who force their children into marriage to face up to five years in jail in new crackdown

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2153768/Parents-force-children-marriage-face-years-jail-new-crackdown.html>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Holyrood

**** Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/51531.aspx>

Bill as introduced

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Freedom%20of%20Information%20\(Amendme nt\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b14s4-introd.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Freedom%20of%20Information%20(Amendme nt)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b14s4-introd.pdf)

Explanatory Notes

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Freedom%20of%20Information%20\(Amendme nt\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b14s4-introd-en.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Freedom%20of%20Information%20(Amendme nt)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b14s4-introd-en.pdf)

Policy Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Freedom%20of%20Information%20\(Amendme nt\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b14s4-introd-pm.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Freedom%20of%20Information%20(Amendme nt)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b14s4-introd-pm.pdf)

Delegated Powers Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Freedom%20of%20Information%20\(Amendme nt\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/FOI\(A\)_DPM.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Freedom%20of%20Information%20(Amendme nt)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/FOI(A)_DPM.pdf)

**** Police and Fire Reform Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/45701.aspx>

Proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/51670.aspx>

Social Care (Self-directed Support) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/48001.aspx>

Welfare Reform (Further Provision) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/48804.aspx>

Westminster

**** Crime and Courts Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/crimeandcourts.html>

Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee Report

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldselect/lddelreg/12/12.pdf>

Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Further Provisions and Support for Victims) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/humantraffickingandexploitationfurtherprovisionsandsupportforvictims.html>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Personal beliefs and medical practice (closing date 13 June 2012)

https://gmc.e-consultation.net/econsult/consultation_Dtl.aspx?consult Id=268&status=2&criteria=

Consultations (continued)

International Migration Statistical Outputs (closing date 5 July 2012)

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/about-ons/consultations/open-consultations/international-migration/international-migration-statistical-outputs---consultation-document.pdf>

Where Gypsy/Travellers Live (closing date 13 July 2012)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/49027.aspx>

Making Justice Work for Victims and Witnesses (closing date 20 July 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00393452.pdf>

Responsible officers in the new health architecture: Amendments to the Medical Profession (Responsible Officers) 2010 Regulations (closing date 25 July 2012)

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_133601

Equality Act 2010: employer liability for harassment of employees by third parties (closing date 7 August 2012)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/third-party-harassment/consultation-document?view=Binary>

Equality Act 2010: repeal of two enforcement provisions (closing date 7 August 2012)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/equality-act-wider-enforcement/consultation-document?view=Binary>

Your rights, your future (closing date 9 September 2012)

<http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=EUCitizenship3&lang=en>

Here to Stay: People with learning disabilities from ethnic minority communities including new migrants (no closing date given)

<http://www.snapsurveys.com/swh/surveypreview.asp?k=132127029508>

Facing Facts: EU project to improve monitoring and recording of hate crimes and incidents throughout the European Union (no closing date given)

http://www.ceji.org/facingfacts/?page_id=158

Runnymede Equality Survey (no closing date given)

<http://rminight.co.uk/surveys/runnymede/>

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Job Opportunities

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

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Funding Opportunities

Community Grant Programme

Applications for the Community Grant programme will be considered 3 times a year. Applications should be submitted by 16 July 2012, 17 September 2012 and 14 January 2013.

Funding Opportunities (continued)

Aimed at Scotland's smaller community groups and voluntary organisations, the Community Grant will provide grants of up to £1,000 and free training to groups with an annual income under £25,000. ...

Groups can apply for funding for a wide range of activities or operational costs. However, VAF is particularly keen to fund activities that will help build and develop strong organisations, for example; training for committee members and volunteers; visits to other organisations and conferences or professional support and consultancy.

http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/5,1356/grants/community_grants/

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** This week!**

Scottish Community Development Network

7 June 2012 in Glasgow

Re-launch of the Scottish Community Development Network, and opportunity to discuss current policy and practice contexts and set an agenda for SCDN for the forthcoming year. To register for the event see <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RSRLWNC>

Migration in times of economic crises

11 June 2012 in Glasgow (time tbc)

GRAMNet postgraduate colloquium to reflect on the challenges facing those who take part in any form of transnational migration, during times of economic crisis. For information see <http://migrantsrightsscotland.org.uk/?p=2800> or contact gramnet.pg@gmail.com.

Human Rights, 'personalisation' and welfare reform

11 June 2012 in Glasgow (2.00 – 4.30)

The first in a series of three SCVO debates on human rights in relation to topical issues. To book a place see <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SCVOhumanrights>

The Asylum Process

14 June 2012 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.45)

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the UKBA asylum process and its current implementation in Scotland, including the interviews, reporting and the decision to grant or refuse asylum. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/1568_the_asylum_process.

Forced labour and exploitation in the UK food industry

14 June 2012 in the Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh (6.00 – 7.30)

Joseph Rowntree Foundation discussion of research into the experiences of forced labour and exploitation in the UK food industry, based on interviews with migrant workers from Poland, China, Latvia and Lithuania. For information see <http://migrantsrightsscotland.org.uk/?p=2792> or contact Beth Hurrell 01904 615946 / beth.hurrell@jrf.org.uk.

Refugee Week

18-24 June, Scotland-wide

For a full programme of events throughout Scotland see

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/4300/RWS_programme_2012.pdf

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** Supporting Asylum Seekers and Refugees: A Seminar for Faith Communities**

20 June 2012 in Glasgow (10.30 – 1.30)

Scottish Interfaith Council seminar to explore ways in which faith communities can provide help and support for asylum seekers and refugees. For information contact Frances Hume: fhume@scottishinterfaithcouncil.org / 0141 420 6982.

Human Rights and citizenship

26 June 2012 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 12.30)

The second in a series of three SCVO debates on human rights in relation to topical issues. To book a place see <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SCVOhumanrights>

UKBA Asylum Support

28 June 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the support arrangements available to asylum seekers from the beginning to the end of the asylum process. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/1576_ukba_asylum_support or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Human Rights, poverty, and the economy

28 June 2012 in Glasgow (2.00 – 4.30)

The third in a series of three SCVO debates on human rights in relation to topical issues. To book a place see <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SCVOhumanrights>

The needs and experiences of refugee women

20 July 2012 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an understanding of fundamental issues affecting women seeking asylum in Scotland. It is appropriate for those working in social work, housing, welfare, education, employment, health, community development or the justice system. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/7osl6r5>.

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

24 July 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council training to identify fundamental issues facing asylum seekers and refugees today, and highlighting current legislation and entitlements. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/1577_an_introduction_to_working_with_asylum_seekers_and_refugees or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

The Essentials of Asylum: understanding what causes refugees to flee and the process of seeking protection

21 August 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with people seeking asylum and refugees to provide an introduction to core issues affecting those seeking sanctuary in Scotland. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/bmb7pll>.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Working with Interpreters

31 August 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with non-English speaking service users, including asylum seekers and refugees, who need a comprehensive understanding of how to work with interpreters. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/1574_working_with_interpreters

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Useful Links

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

Scottish Government <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Home>

Westminster Parliament <http://www.parliament.uk/>

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

http://www.direct.gov.uk/DI1/Directories/AToZOfCentralGovernment/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=10013528&chk=8b2gQw

European Parliament <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/>

One Scotland Many Cultures <http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/>

Scottish Refugee Council www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Scottish Inter Faith Council <http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org/>

Equality and Human Rights Commission <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/>
Scotland Helpline 0845 604 5510

Scottish Human Rights Commission <http://scottishhumanrights.com/>

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

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) <http://www.crbs.org.uk/>

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

BBC News24 <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/default.stm>

Useful Links (continued)

BBC Parliament online

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/index.html>



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://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/>

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