

# Political Affairs Digest

*A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community*

Scottish Council of Jewish Communities

SCoJeC

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## Home Affairs

### House of Commons Written Answer

#### Antisemitism

**Kirsten Oswald** [60505] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps her Department is taking to work with the devolved administrations to combat anti-Semitism and holocaust denial in schools, colleges and on university campuses.

**Caroline Dinenage:** The Department for Education takes antisemitism extremely seriously. There is no place in any education institution for hatred or any form of harassment, discrimination or racism, including antisemitism.

In particular, we believe that young people should be taught the history of the Holocaust and the lessons it teaches today. We are committed to supporting and funding Holocaust education in schools.

The department's responsibilities extend to England only.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60505/>

### Home Office

#### Baroness Williams of Trafford speech to Tell MAMA conference

... Crimes committed against people because of a particular characteristic are pernicious and can eat away at the very fabric of our society leading to mistrust, isolation, fear and anger. And nobody in this country should live in fear because of who they are.

We know from Tell MAMA data that from 1 January to 31 December 2015, there were 2622 anti-Muslim hate incidents reported to the organisation by victims, witnesses, third parties or the police, compared to 599 in 2014.

A further 3179 incidents were reported during the first eleven months of 2016. ...

Britain has a proud tradition of religious tolerance and this government is committed to creating a strong and integrated society in which hate and prejudice are not tolerated and in which all people are free to express themselves and live without fear of harassment, abuse or harm because of their identity. ...

We value the contributions made by the Muslim community and we are determined to stamp out hate crime, protect the communities that are subject to it and to ensure that those who engage in such reprehensible acts are brought to justice. ...

No one should have to live in fear or feel marginalised in a country that they love and contribute so much to. ...

Freedom of speech, freedom of worship, democracy, the rule of law, and equal rights define us as a society. We are determined to promote these values, working in partnership and alongside Muslim and indeed all faith communities to demonstrate what we have in common as the best defence against extremists who would seek to divide us. The government is committed to supporting the vital work carried out by numerous faith and community organisations to challenge hatred and intolerance.

We must stand together and with one voice and send a clear unequivocal message - Hate will not be tolerated. ...

**To read the full transcript see**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/baroness-williams-of-trafford-speech-to-tell-mama-conference>

## Scottish Parliament Ministerial Statement and Q&A

### Hate Crime

**The Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs (Annabelle Ewing):**

Recent news coverage of events around the globe has starkly demonstrated that hatred and prejudice continue to have very serious consequences for people and communities across society. In recent times, we have seen racism and religious bigotry on the rise around the world. Those reports, and the subsequent and increasingly frequent online furore that they generate, can lead to increased attacks on everyone, from people from ethnic minority communities to people with disabilities and every other vulnerable community that is easy prey for bigots and bullies. ...

Scotland is an open and inclusive nation, but we are not immune from such hateful behaviour. Our communities sometimes face prejudice and abuse through direct physical confrontation and through cowardly online hate abuse. ...

Prejudice and hate have huge impacts on the quality of life of individuals and the communities to which they belong. Trust becomes more difficult and whole families and groups withdraw into smaller circles of safety, with significant consequences for the overall levels of trust and social capital across the whole of society. ...

... I am announcing today that the Scottish Government has commissioned an independent review of hate crime legislation. The review will be led by one of the most senior members of the Scottish judiciary—Lord Bracadale. He will make recommendations on how we can ensure that the hate crime legislation that is applied to protect Scottish communities is fit for purpose in the 21st century. ...

The current legislation that relates to hate crime has developed piecemeal over decades. The review presents us with an opportunity to take stock and to look at all the legislation holistically. That means that the review will consider the wide range of legislation that has an impact on tackling hate crime ...

**To read the full statement and subsequent Q&A see**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10752&i=98648#ScotParlOR>

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## Holocaust

### Department for Communities and Local Government

**Holocaust Memorial Day 2017**

Communities Secretary Sajid Javid speaks at the national event marking Holocaust

Memorial Day.

72 years ago the world learned of the liberation of Auschwitz and the full horror of the death camps.

And as we looked at the devastation wrought on the Jews of Europe, we swore that we would never let genocide happen again.

We failed.

Genocide happened in Cambodia.

It happened in Rwanda.

The 20th century ended with genocide in Bosnia.

The 21st century began with genocide in Darfur.

Faced not only with such unimaginable evil, but also with our repeated failure to learn from it, it's easy to ask "How can life go on?"

I find the answer in the words that one young victim of the Holocaust wrote in her diary.

"I still believe people are really good at heart".

Anne Frank was right.

People can be good.

We can be better.

We just need to be reminded of our failings, and not permitted to forget what happens when hatred is left to grow unchecked.

So, life can go on because life must go on.

Because we must remember.

That's why Holocaust Memorial Day is so important.

And that's why I'm so proud to be leading the work on the new [National Holocaust Memorial](#).

It's going to be built right outside Parliament, and concept designs will be unveiled at 10 Downing Street later on today.

The memorial will remind us of those who died and those who survived.

But it will also remind us that the Holocaust did not begin in the gas chambers.

It began with words.

With discrimination.

With ordinary people not standing up to hatred.

And that's a message that's as relevant today as at any time in our history.

A message that must be shared, that must be passed on to our children and our children's children.

Because in the words of Zigi Shipper, one of 112 Holocaust survivors whose testimony has been recorded for the memorial project:

"I beg the young people, whatever you do, do not hate.

"Hate will ruin your life."

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/holocaust-memorial-day-2017>

### **"People are really good at heart": speech to the Anne Frank Trust**

Communities Secretary Sajid Javid talks about the importance of education in tackling hate crime ...

In recent months and years, hatred, bigotry and sometimes violent intolerance of others has crept back into popular consciousness.

It springs from and targets all communities, and it manifests itself in a variety of ways.

We've seen vicious abuse doled out online, going way beyond the boundaries of legitimate debate.

We've seen a spike in hate crime on the streets of Britain, including a significant surge in reports of anti-Semitic abuse.

And of course we've seen the shocking, disgusting murder of a bright young Member of Parliament at the hands of a hate-fuelled extremist. ...

Of course, hatred of people who are different is nothing new.

What's different today is that we have no excuses for not tackling it.

We have all seen, too many times, where hatred leads if left unchecked. ...

Each of us has a moral duty to tackle hatred and prejudice.

And the Anne Frank Trust is undoubtedly leading from the front in doing just that.

Every year the Trust reaches out to 30,000 schoolchildren, shaping and changing attitudes in the next generation.

It has delivered more than 100 projects in 70 prisons, bringing its vital message to people who are too often overlooked in the fight against bigotry.

And its touring exhibitions have taken the lessons of Anne's life and death into the heart of communities right across the UK. ...

There's one incident that stands out, when I was at school and a fellow pupil called me a "Paki" to my face.

I should have taken the moral high road and challenged his behaviour.

Instead, I did what you probably wouldn't expect of a future Cabinet Minister.

I punched him.

In the face.

And then he hit me back...

And all that happened was that we both got in trouble with the head.

20 years later I was in a lift in a Bristol shopping centre, when the doors opened and this guy stepped in.

I recognised him instantly.

And he recognised me.

And then, out of nowhere, he said:

"Saj, I'm sorry for what I did. I'm so sorry."

He'd changed.

He'd learned that the way he treated me back then was wrong.

He'd learned the damage that abusive language could do.

And he was raising his own kids to see that racism was unacceptable.

For me, it showed that, yes, "people are really good at heart".

We are capable of changing.

We can see the error of our ways.

That's why it's so important that we educate young people about where hatred can lead.

...

**To read the full transcript see**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/people-are-really-good-at-heart-speech-to-the-anne-frank-trust>

## Foreign and Commonwealth Office

### **Foreign Secretary statement on Holocaust Memorial Day**

Boris Johnson, the Foreign Secretary, said Today we mark Holocaust Memorial Day, the date to mark the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz concentration camp. This year's theme, 'how can life go on?', encourages us to pause and reflect, not only on the terrible truth of the Holocaust, and the innocent lives that were so cruelly wiped out, but to also to draw inspiration from the survivors, who found strength and courage to carry on.

It is important that survivor stories are heard. And as time goes by, it becomes ever more important that we listen, learn, remember, and educate future generations about the causes of the Holocaust, in particular antisemitism. Sadly, this remains an ever-present concern today. We will continue to tackle it head on wherever it is found and stand with our Jewish friends and neighbours around the world in defence of their right to live free from hatred and prejudice.

The UK Government is committed to strengthening international collaboration to promote Holocaust education, remembrance and research. We will continue to honour this commitment, not only through our work with international partners, but also with civil

society organisations who are dedicated to these efforts. Together we can put the lessons into practice and so educate the next generation that anti-semitic prejudice is consigned to the past.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-statement-on-holocaust-memorial-day>

## UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation

### **UK Holocaust memorial design competition: tell us what you think**

The UK's National Holocaust Memorial and learning centre will stand in the shadow of Parliament, at the heart of our democracy, in Victoria Tower Gardens. This striking new structure will honour victims and survivors of Nazi persecution. It will also educate future generations about the dangers of prejudice and hatred, and serve as a powerful statement of our values as a nation.

The UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation launched a [memorial international design competition](#) in September 2016. It sought to identify the very best architectural talent to create an emotionally powerful and sensitively designed memorial. Ninety-two teams expressed an interest in the project, with a [shortlist of 10 invited to submit concept designs](#). These designs are being displayed publically at a number of venues across the UK as well as online.

We are consulting on the shortlist with the public, those working in the field of Holocaust remembrance and education, and technical experts. This consultation will play a crucial role in informing the jury's final decision on the memorial.

View the [10 shortlisted designs](#) and submit your feedback by email:

[ukhmf@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:ukhmf@cabinetoffice.gov.uk). ...

**To read the full press release see**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-holocaust-memorial-design-competition-tell-us-what-you-think>

## Scottish Parliament Debate

### **Holocaust Memorial Day 2017**

**12.45 Jackson Carlaw:** ... Jews arrived by train at Auschwitz-Birkenau, were processed, were marched to their execution and were gassed. Their bodies were then roughly stacked before cremation. From their arrival to their death in less time than the length of this debate—that was industrialised murder on a scale never hitherto seen.

The origins of the Holocaust began in Hitler's pre-war Germany. The Holocaust, as a term, came into being after the events; no one person ever saw the Holocaust in its entirety. Over the years, in different ways and in multiple countries, it was a series of outrages that led to the murder of 6 million Jews. ...

Today, extraordinarily, as many as 1 million visit Auschwitz-Birkenau annually to see and learn—ironically, as many as were murdered there during the war. ...

We all ask now: why; how; who? The easiest answer is Hitler and Nazi Germany, but that is a convenient truth. Anti-Semitism existed long before the Nazis. Although, in many cases, the populations of countries throughout Europe made efforts to defy and thwart the Nazi persecution of Jews, others all too readily conspired to make it possible. The stain of anti-Semitism remains, and for all that we say "Never again", the genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda and Darfur stand as evidence of our collective failure to match that ideal. ...

... we cannot be complacent. The whispers of anti-Semitism that started all this can be heard again. ...

On 22 November last year, Rabbi Yossi Bodenheim proudly addressed the Scottish

Parliament at our weekly time for reflection. Later that afternoon, as he walked back to Waverley station along the Royal Mile, he was, astonishingly, the victim of a minor anti-Semitic assault in front of his young son and heavily pregnant wife, who were left distressed and, naturally, horrified. ...

**12.55 Kenneth Gibson:** ... Continued tensions between Israel and the Palestinians feed anti-Semitic rhetoric, and some Arab states do not allow Jews to live there, ironically strengthening Zionism. Of course, Israel itself is measured differently and to a higher standard of probity than its neighbours—"the Jew amongst nations", Alan Dershowitz calls Israel. Witness the number of motions in the Parliament relating to the last Gaza conflict compared with the number on Isis or the Syrian bloodbath.

In Scotland, we celebrate Holocaust survivors, and our vibrant Jewish community is part of our rich diversity. Last year, pupils from Largs academy, in my constituency, visited Auschwitz and Dachau to understand the brutality of Nazism ...

Educating future generations about the Holocaust must be combined with confronting those who deny it ...

**13.00 Adam Tomkins:** ... I visit Israel frequently. It is the only country in the world that was founded to give the Jewish people that which everyone else takes for granted: a community of our own—a home. A couple of years ago, I went for the first time to Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust museum ... It is at once a place of calm dignity and outraged defiance.

No matter how much you think you know about the Holocaust and the suffering of the Jewish people, you realise within a few minutes at Yad Vashem that you will only ever be able to scratch the surface of its unimaginable pain. One resolution burns through you as you walk through the museum, aghast and appalled at what European evil did to the Jews: never again. ...

**13.04 Elaine Smith:** ... Remembering atrocities is necessary to try to prevent them from happening again, and ensuring that the facts cannot be denied is absolutely vital. That is why Holocaust memorial day survivor testimonies, the lessons from Auschwitz project and voices speaking out everywhere, including in this Parliament, are so important. ...

... members of the Scottish Parliament must be encouraged to go to Auschwitz as part of the Holocaust project and that they should be supported by the Parliament to do so. ...

**13.09 Ross Greer:** ... On this day, we mark the worst atrocity in human history—a crime beyond comprehension, as other members have already said. It involved the industrial, political and military capacity of a world superpower being directed to the annihilation of the Jewish people and other perceived enemies and those who did not fit its horrifying plans for a master race. ...

The actual mass murders of the Holocaust took place between 1941 and 1945, but before that could happen, there was a long process—over a decade—of dehumanisation and of propaganda being targeted against the Jewish people in Germany in order to set the political context that would permit this mass murder and give it passive, if not active, acceptance. The propaganda was not rational. It was not true. It was lies about the Jews being responsible for losing the first world war and lies about Jews plotting world domination. The fact that those were lies did not halt the advance of fascism.

Although we must be careful and it is rarely appropriate to do this, there are comparisons to be drawn with events that are happening today. Across Europe and America, we once again see lies and propaganda dominating news coverage, and that has fuelled the rise of the neo-Nazi movement, of the far right. Views that were once unacceptable have come back. Here in the UK, we have a columnist in a national newspaper describing refugees as "cockroaches" who should be met with gunboats. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights described that as "pro-genocide propaganda". ...

When we treat fascism as simply another political point of view, we have conceded legitimacy to that point of view and it becomes acceptable to discuss it in the mainstream. But genocide is not an acceptable point of view, and believing that we can win the argument by giving these people a platform for debate misunderstands the

problem. Fascism and anti-Semitism are not rational. ...

**13.19 Annie Wells:** ... I was pleased to see statistics from a survey of last year's participants [in Holocaust Memorial Day events], in which 66 per cent reported that the day had made them feel more sympathetic towards people from different backgrounds. ...

**13.22 Neil Bibby:** ... I commend the work of the Holocaust Educational Trust, which works in partnership with schools, universities, local authorities and other institutions to educate children and young people about the Holocaust and its contemporary significance. ...

We know that genocide never just happens. There is always a set of circumstances that occur or are created and which build the climate in which genocide can take place. We need to provide future generations with the knowledge that they need to understand how those events came to pass and prevent them from happening again. ...

**13.27 Richard Lyle:** ... Over the years, many religious peoples have faced persecution in all parts of the world—none more than the Jews. Today, we remember the suffering to which that proud people were subjected by Adolf Hitler and his gang of Nazi thugs. At the end of the first world war, Hitler blamed the Bolsheviks and the Jews for Germany's defeat. His first utterance on political questions emphasised what he called "the anti-Semitism of reason", and his ultimate goal was total removal of the Jews. ...

**13.32 The Minister for International Development and Europe (Alasdair Allan: ...**

When we look back to that time, the scale of the atrocities and the depth of—to use Robert Burns's phrase—"Man's inhumanity to man", remain difficult to truly comprehend. Many of us in this chamber, myself included, have had the privilege of visiting Auschwitz and have come away from that experience lost for words, because of both the individual acts of immense cruelty and the scarcely imaginable scale of the crime.

During the Holocaust, 11 million lives were extinguished—the equivalent of the population of Scotland twice over. The tragedy and the crime that occurred provide us with the opportunity to reflect that those lives were lost due to the denial of basic human rights and freedoms—the rights that each one of us has to our own culture and heritage, to freedom of expression and thought, and to peaceful coexistence as part of a multicultural society. ...

... it is right to confront the reality of events—events from which we would often prefer to avert our eyes. It is right that we confront anyone who would deny or belittle the reality of those events. ...

The Scottish Government works in partnership with the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, along with our intermediary partner, Interfaith Scotland, to deliver Scotland's national Holocaust memorial day event each year. ...

We are actively engaging with our communities. The First Minister and the Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Security and Equalities hosted the second interfaith summit in November 2016, which discussed the shared ambitions and challenges of Scotland's diverse faith communities.

One of the issues that we must talk about is faith-based prejudice. Let me be very clear: anti-Semitism, in any form, has absolutely no place in Scotland. ...

We appreciate the significant contribution that our Jewish communities make to this country. Scotland is and long has been their home. We are committed to working with communities who experience hate crime to ensure that a zero-tolerance approach is taken and that the ignorance and inequalities that create the conditions of hatred are robustly tackled. That is why the Government is very willing to support—and does support—the work of the Holocaust Educational Trust, for example, in taking Scottish senior school pupils to visit Auschwitz. ...

We want a Scotland in which everyone, regardless of their background, is able to live and raise their family in peace. If we can aim to do that in Scotland—if we can aim for a Scotland where all can live as part of a modern forward-looking society that is built on respect and mutual trust—we will perhaps at least be able to respond, in our own modest

way, to the terrifying accusation that the Holocaust represents against humans and human history.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10752&i=98647#ScotParlOR>

## Scottish Government

### **Holocaust Memorial Day**

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said: As we mark national Holocaust Memorial Day one way of working to ensure that nothing like the Holocaust ever happens again, is to ensure that it is never forgotten.

The Scottish Government supports work to tackle religious hatred and intolerance, working with the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust to support Scotland's national commemoration of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides. This ensures that lessons are learned about what can happen if hatred remains unchecked.

By learning and reflecting on the horrors of the past it will spur us on to create a better future and a society where people respect each other no matter what their differences."

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/holocaust-memorial-day/>

### **Remembering the Holocaust**

Deputy First Minister John Swinney has warned of the dangers of denying fundamental human freedoms and allowing bigotry and intolerance to flourish. ...

"Eleven million lives were extinguished during the Holocaust, the equivalent of twice the population of Scotland. Since then human rights have been denied and atrocities have been committed in places across the world, including Rwanda, Srebrenica and Darfur.

"Such tragedies are the consequence of the denial of basic human rights and freedoms. We must never forget the Holocaust as an example of what human beings can do when fundamental human rights are abandoned, and bigotry and intolerance are allowed to flourish.

"There is absolutely no place for bigotry and prejudice in Scotland and the Scottish Government is committed to doing all that we can to prevent and eradicate hate crime and intolerance.

"Later this year, I intend to accompany a school visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau through the Lessons from Auschwitz Project. It is only through learning the lessons of the past that we can create a future in which all our communities can prosper together in peace."

**To read the full press release see**

<http://news.gov.scot/news/remembering-the-holocaust-1>

## Northern Ireland Executive

### **Fearon and Ross mark Holocaust Memorial Day**

Junior Ministers Megan Fearon and Alastair Ross today hosted an event to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. ...

Junior Minister, Megan Fearon said: "... The scale of the atrocity can be difficult to comprehend. That there existed concentration and extermination camps which wiped out entire swathes of the population on an industrial scale is chilling, and yet it is a fact we must not forget. Sadly, subsequent decades have seen further genocides take place, such as those in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda and, in recent years, the Darfur region of Sudan. They all serve as a reminder such crimes against humanity can occur if we stand by and allow it. ...

Junior Minister Alastair Ross said: "... It also serves as a stark reminder of the dangers of resentment, hatred and exclusion. On Holocaust Memorial Day we honour the survivors

of genocide and challenge ourselves to use the lessons of their experience to inform our lives today. ...

The event included prayers in Hebrew and English, music and verse recital, and a Statement of Commitment delivered by a range of community representatives. There was also a formal screening of the Holocaust Memorial Day film for 2017 and a video about Holocaust survivor Walter Kammerling entitled 'Strangers Smiled At Me'. ...

**To read the full press release see**

<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/news/fearon-and-ross-mark-holocaust-memorial-day>

## Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe

**On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, OSCE officials call for reflection, renewed efforts for better education and strong messages against intolerance**

... "There is no place for anti-Semitism or other forms of hate in our societies. More than ever, we must vehemently oppose such tendencies. Today, we commemorate the victims of the Holocaust. This day reminds us of the importance of promoting tolerance and non-discrimination and combatting extremism and radicalization," said Minister Kurz. ... "We all bear a responsibility in this regard – we must ensure that the atrocities of the Holocaust remain in our collective memory and that they will never be repeated. This consciousness is the foundation and basis for our thoughts and actions today, and every day," ...

Director Link said: "Today we commemorate the victims of this planned act of unbridled violence and crime against humanity. Each of us must internalize the lessons from the Holocaust to ensure that these are passed on to future generations. ...

"Intolerance must be denounced at every opportunity by every member of society," he said. "But political and community leaders have a particular obligation to reject those who aim to promote hate, undermining the security and well-being of our societies. ...

**To read the full press release see**

<http://www.osce.org/cio/295826>

## United Nations

**Story of Japan's 'Schindler' offers lessons for tackling contemporary xenophobia**

During World War II, Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat posted as an acting consul in Lithuania, disobeyed instructions from his own Government and issued visas for Jews fleeing Nazi persecution.

Sugihara issued more than 2,000 transit visas to Jewish refugees in 1940, continuing to sign the travel documents even after the Japanese consulate was closed down and until his train pulled away from the station. Many of the visas were for entire families. As a result, it is estimated that Sugihara saved 6,000 Jews. ...

As a result of issuing visas for Jewish refugees, Sugihara became a "persona non grata" ... to his own Government, which has since recognized his heroism. ...

**To read the full press release see**

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56052#.WIs7ubZ96nY>

## UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

**Statement by UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein ahead of the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust**

"This painful day of remembrance for the victims of the Holocaust forces us to

contemplate the horrors to which bigotry, racism and discrimination ultimately lead. The sadistic brutality of the atrocities inflicted by the Nazi regime on Jews, Roma, Slavs, disabled people, political dissidents, homosexuals and others was nourished by layer upon layer of propaganda, falsifications and incitement to hatred. They were denigrated and smeared; one after another, their rights were refused, and finally, even their humanity was denied.

'It happened, therefore it can happen again,' wrote Primo Levi, who endured and survived the concentration camp at Auschwitz Birkenau. As we honour the victims of the Holocaust, we must also acknowledge the need to prevent the recurrence of anti-Semitism and all forms of racial and religious hatred and discrimination today.

It is essential to uphold independent rule of law institutions and a free press, which can hold leaders to account and establish a truthful record of the facts. It is crucial to maintain respect for human rights, especially in respect of the right to life and wellbeing of all people regardless of their origin or ethnicity. Above all, education must be at the core of all efforts to combat anti-Semitism, racism, and all forms of discrimination. Although an important part of that work must be centred on schools and other academic fora, education in this sense must extend far more broadly, so that we can undo the stereotypes which generate so much injustice and prejudice throughout society.

In honouring the victims of the Holocaust, we must recognise that only if we regard each other as fully equal in dignity and rights will we be able to come together to overcome the many challenges facing humanity.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21124&LangID=E>

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## [Israel](#)

### House of Commons Business

**Ian Mearns:** ... Earlier this week, the Backbench Business Committee determined that a debate on Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories would be scheduled for the next available date. That will be on 9 February. ...

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-26/debates/41081FB5-0613-40DF-9678-6137334BC015/BusinessOfTheHouse#contribution-2B385E17-CA1F-4FE3-A40D-C927BFBE15DC>

### House of Commons Written Answer

#### UN Resolutions: Israel

**Matthew Offord** [60521] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, pursuant to the Answer of 16 January 2017 to Question 58877, which Ministers were made aware of the text of the UN Security Council Resolution 2334 (2016) before the vote on that resolution took place.

**Tobias Ellwood:** As with all policy decisions, Ministers were consulted on the UK's position. We supported UN Security Council Resolution 2334 because it is in line with UK policy.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60521/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-06/58877/>

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## Relevant Legislation \*\* new or updated today

### UK Parliament

#### **Arbitration and Mediation Services (Equality) Bill**

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

#### **Assisted Dying Bill**

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

#### **Cultural Property (Armed Conflicts) Bill**

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

#### **Lobbying (Transparency) Bill**

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

#### **Organ Donation (Deemed Consent) Bill**

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

#### **Promotion of Israeli-Palestinian Peace (United Kingdom Participation)**

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

#### **Wales Bill**

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

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## **Consultations** \*\* new or updated today

### **\*\* closes in 4 days**

#### **Welsh Assembly Inquiry into Lobbying** (closing date 31 January 2017)

<http://senedd.assembly.wales/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?id=236&RPID=1507974161&cp=yes>

#### **Consolidation and revision of the school governance regulatory framework in Wales** (closing date 17 February 2017)

<https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/consolidation-and-revision-school-governance-regulatory-framework-wales>

#### **Racism at work** (closing date 27 February 2017)

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

#### **Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation: increasing numbers of successful donations (Scotland)** (closing date 14 March 2017)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0051/00511160.pdf>

#### **Adoption and Children (Northern Ireland) Bill** (closing date 10 April 2017)

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/adoption-and-children-northern-ireland-bill>

#### **Workplace Diversity (Wales)** (closing date not stated)

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

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