

## Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

### Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Race Relations](#)

[Equality](#)

[Racism and Religious Hatred](#)

[Other Holyrood](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

[Events/Conferences/Training](#)

[Useful Links](#)

**Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month.**

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

**The UK Parliament is in recess until 11 October 2010.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### Holyrood Committee

#### **Equal Opportunities Committee Inquiry into migration and trafficking**

Evidence from the UK Border Agency, Jobcentre Plus, and Glasgow Community & Safety Services

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/equal/or-10/eo10-1502.htm#Col1973>

### Press Release

#### **Minister defends immigration limit**

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2010/sept/66-immigration-limit>

### New publications

#### **Being children and undocumented in the UK: A background paper**

[http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/news/WP1078\\_Sigona\\_Hughes.pdf](http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/news/WP1078_Sigona_Hughes.pdf)

## Immigration and Asylum New publications (continued)

**Alternatives to Child Immigration Detention: What are the options for the Coalition government?**

[http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=/ecomm/files/alternatives-to-child-immigration-detention\\_Sep2010.pdf&a=skip](http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=/ecomm/files/alternatives-to-child-immigration-detention_Sep2010.pdf&a=skip)

## News

**PM urged to sign trafficking directive**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/politics/pm-urged-to-sign-trafficking-directive-1.1056399>

**Two-thirds of detainees are never deported**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/twothirds-of-detainees-are-never-deported-2089980.html>

**Ministers face high court battle over cap on immigration**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/sep/23/ministers-high-court-battle-cap-immigration>

**How can the UK be the 'first safe country' in which to claim asylum?**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/libertycentral/2010/sep/21/claim-asylum-uk-legal-position>

**African doctors afraid of leaving NHS to help their home countries**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/health/news/article2740427.ece>

[TOP](#)

## Race Relations

### Press Releases

**Theresa May speaks at Muslim festival celebrations**

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/eid-festival-speech>

**Eid-ul-Fitr celebrated at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office**

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/news/latest-news/?view=News&id=22903748>

### News

**We need a multiculturalism of hope**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2010/sep/24/multiculturalism-hope-secularism-religion>

[TOP](#)

## Equality

### News

**Minorities do not have a pecking order**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/paul-vallely-minorities-do-not-have-a-pecking-order-2089889.html>

[TOP](#)

## Racism and Religious Hatred

### News

**Six held after allegedly burning Qur'ans**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/sep/23/six-arrested-alleged-burning-qurans>

**'Koran burning': men expect to be charged with inciting racial hatred**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/religion/8022047/Koran-burning-men-expect-to-be-charged-with-inciting-racial-hatred.html>

[TOP](#)

## Other Holyrood

### Press Release

**Committee publishes report on Calman Commission procedural recommendations**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/nmCentre/news/news-comm-10/sppa10-s3-002.htm>

### New publications

**The recommendations of the Commission on Scottish Devolution regarding Scottish Parliament procedures**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/stanproc/reports-10/stpr10-05.htm>

**Evaluation of Third Sector Investment and Support**

Report <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/324931/0104723.pdf>

Summary <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/324944/0104724.pdf>

[TOP](#)

## Bills in Progress \*\* New or updated this week

### Holyrood

**Commissioner for Victims and Witnesses Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/46-ComVic/index.htm>

## Bills in Progress

### Holyrood (continued)

#### **\*\* End of Life Assistance Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/38-EndLifeAssist/index.htm>

Stage 1 oral evidence session

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/endLifeAsstBill/or-10/ela10-0502.htm#Col77>

#### **Palliative Care Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/50-PalliativeCare/index.htm>

#### **House of Lords Reform Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/houseoflordsreformhl.html>

#### **Face Coverings (Regulation) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/facecoveringsregulation.html>

## Bills in Progress

### Westminster

#### **Human Trafficking (Border Control) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/humantraffickingbordercontrol.html>

#### **Fixed Term Parliaments Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/fixedtermparliaments.html>

#### **\*\* Identity Documents Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/identitydocuments.html>

#### **Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/parliamentaryvotingsystemandconstituencies.html>

#### **Return of Asylum Seekers (Applications from Certain Countries) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/returnofasylumseekersapplicationsfromcertaincountries.html>

[TOP](#)

## Consultations

(closing date)

\*\* new or updated this week

#### **\*\* closes this week!**

**Taking action on rights, support and protection of victims of crime and violence**  
(30 September 2010)

[http://ec.europa.eu/justice\\_home/news/consulting\\_public/news\\_consulting\\_0053\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/news/consulting_public/news_consulting_0053_en.htm)

#### **\*\* closes this week!**

**Single Equality Scheme: NHS Quality Improvement Scotland** (30 September 2010)

<http://www.nhshealthquality.org/nhsqis/8098.html>

## Consultations (continued)

**Data protection legislative framework** (6 October 2010)

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/dpa-call-evidence-02-07-2010.pdf>

**Administration of Future Elections in Scotland** (15 October 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/323358/0104134.pdf>

**General Medical Council (GMC) Equality Scheme 2011 – 2014** (15 October 2010)

[https://gmc.e-consultation.net/econsult/consultation\\_Dtl.aspx?consult\\_id=140&status=2&criteria=](https://gmc.e-consultation.net/econsult/consultation_Dtl.aspx?consult_id=140&status=2&criteria=)

**Consultation on the change to policy direction for the Big Lottery Fund**

(29 October 2010)

<http://www.culture.gov.uk/consultations/7313.aspx>

**Equality Act 2010: The public sector Equality Duty: Promoting equality through transparency** (10 November 2010)

[http://www.equalities.gov.uk/pdf/402461\\_GEO\\_EqualityAct2010ThePublicSectorEqualityDuty\\_acc.pdf](http://www.equalities.gov.uk/pdf/402461_GEO_EqualityAct2010ThePublicSectorEqualityDuty_acc.pdf)

**Equality Duty: Detailed Proposals - Consultation on Public Sector Equality Duty Draft Regulations and Order** (26 November 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/324431/0104438.pdf>

[TOP](#)

## Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities advertised in MEMO+ Recruitment

[TOP](#)

## Events/Conferences/Training

\*\* New or updated this week

**\*\* this week!**

**Black History Month**

29 September -31 October 2010

For the programme of events see <http://www.gara.org.uk/attachments/BHM2010web.pdf>

**\*\* this week!**

**Scottish Mental Health Arts & Film Festival**

1-24 October 2010

<http://www.mhfestival.com/>

**\*\* this week!**

**Understanding and Influencing Your Parliament**

2 October 2010 in Edinburgh

Scottish Parliament conference to provide help, discussion and networking opportunities for local people and groups to engage successfully with MSPs and the Parliament. For information contact Paul Anderson [paul.anderson@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:paul.anderson@scottish.parliament.uk) / 0131 348 5357

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **Holocaust Memorial Day Trust**

4 October 2010 in Edinburgh (1.30-4.30)

Introduction to Holocaust Memorial Day for those planning an event, including a chance to hear directly from an eye witness to genocide, and the opportunity to network with other event organisers. For information see <http://www.hmd.org.uk/about/hmd-workshops/hmd-2011-workshops> or contact 0845 838 1883 / [enquiries@hmd.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hmd.org.uk)

### **Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator**

5 October 2010 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 2.30)

Annual conference providing an overview of OSCR's work during the past year and priorities for the future. For information see <http://www.oscr.org.uk/EventItem.aspx?ID=fd67b6a2-18b0-4fd0-98a1-c046ecff5732>

### **\*\* Launch of Human Rights Education film series**

6 October 2010 in Glasgow (5.30)

BEMIS and GRAMNet (Glasgow Refugee, Asylum & Migration Network) will be hosting a series of films and discussions about Human Rights and Social Justice including human trafficking, women's struggles, child poverty, migration challenges, cultural conflicts and diversity, child soldiers, refugee communities, and Holocaust survivors' stories. The opening session features two documentaries, including the premier of *Visible Human Beings*. For information contact [mail@bemis.org.uk](mailto:mail@bemis.org.uk)

### **\*\* Action for Refugee and Migrant Rights**

9 October 2010 in Glasgow (10.00 – 2.00)

Conference jointly organised by the National Coalition of Anti-Deportation Campaigns, Church Action on Poverty, and the STUC. The full programme will shortly be available at <http://www.ncadc.org.uk/october9/>

### **Gender and Gender Identity**

12 October 2010 in Edinburgh (9.00 – 4.00)

EveryoneIN training on making services more inclusive for minority ethnic people who may identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender. EveryoneIN is a partnership project between BEMIS and the Equality Network. For information contact Sam Rankin [sam@equality-network.org](mailto:sam@equality-network.org) / 0774 704 0355 or Emma Boyd [emma@lgbthealth.org.uk](mailto:emma@lgbthealth.org.uk) / 0131 652 3281

### **The needs and experiences of refugee women**

22 October 2010 in Glasgow

Guest speaker: Kirsty Thomson, Solicitor, Women and Children's Department at Legal Services Agency. Scottish Refugee Council course for people working with asylum seekers and refugees who need a comprehensive understanding of the core issues affecting women seeking sanctuary in Scotland. For information contact Jamie Spurway [jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) / 0141 248 9799 or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=77>

### **Localism and the Third Sector**

25 October 2010 in Edinburgh

SCVO conference on the future for localism with speakers from all the Holyrood parties, Local Government, and leading third sector organisations. For information contact Helen Swatton 0141 225 8019 / [helen.swatton@scvo.org.uk](mailto:helen.swatton@scvo.org.uk) or see <http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/SCVOEvents/ViewSCVOEvents.aspx?al=t&EID=1276&from=EventHome>

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **\*\* How do services acknowledge LGBT identities in BME communities?**

25 October 2010 in Glasgow (9.30-1.30)

EveryoneIN discussion on improving access to services for people from black and minority ethnic (BME) backgrounds who may identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender. EveryoneIN is a partnership project between BEMIS and the Equality Network. For information contact Sam Rankin [sam@equality-network.org](mailto:sam@equality-network.org) / 0774 704 0355.

### **Scottish Refugee Council annual conference**

29 October 2010 in Glasgow

The conference will focus primarily on the new Coalition Government's stated agenda for asylum seekers and refugees - including: speeding up the asylum process; ending child detention and treatment of LGBT people seeking asylum. For information contact Graeme Corbett [events@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:events@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **Make a Difference Day**

30 October 2010

Make a difference to your community by participating in a volunteer activity on CSV "Make a Difference Day". For information see <http://www.csv.org.uk/campaigns/csv-make-difference-day> or contact 0800 284 533/ [difference@csv.org.uk](mailto:difference@csv.org.uk)

### **An Introduction to Working with Asylum Seekers & Refugees**

2 November 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for people whose work involves asylum seekers and refugees and who need a comprehensive understanding of the core issues affecting those seeking sanctuary in Scotland. For information contact Jamie Spurway [jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) / 0141 248 9799 or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=89>

### **Judge a book by its cover? Not me!**

3 November 2010 in Inverness (9.30 – 12.30)

SCVO training course to find out more about the processes of stereotyping, and how misinformed judgements can lead to prejudice and discrimination. For more information contact Jane Baillie [jane.baillie@scvo.org.uk](mailto:jane.baillie@scvo.org.uk) / 0131 474 8019.

### **LGBT Asylum Seekers and Refugees**

5 November 2010 in Glasgow (9.00 – 2.00)

EveryoneIN training on making services more inclusive for minority ethnic people who may identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender. For information contact Sam Rankin [sam@equality-network.org](mailto:sam@equality-network.org) / 0774 704 0355 or Emma Boyd [emma@lgbthealth.org.uk](mailto:emma@lgbthealth.org.uk) / 0131 652 3281

### **Working with Interpreters**

25 November 2010 in Glasgow

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. For information see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=94> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) / 0141 248 9799

### **Scottish Interfaith Week**

28 November – 5 December 2010

The theme for Scottish Interfaith Week 2010 is *Faith in Action*. Details of events will be posted at <http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org/22.html> as they become available.



## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### Youth Interfaith Connect Conference

2 December 2010 (10.00 – 3.00)

ACPOS conference for young people to discuss issues such as the impact of faith in Scotland today, the impact of religious and sectarian hate crime on our communities, the role of the media in representing faith communities, religious education in schools, identity faith and belief, and faith and social action. For information contact Fiach OBroin-Molloy 01786 456000 / 07769 920 462 or see <http://www.interfaithconnect.org/> and discussion forum <http://www.interfaithconnect.org/forum/>

### Third Sector Research Conference

3 December 2010 in Edinburgh

SCVO conference to bring together Scottish Government, local government, third sector and academic researchers, to showcase their work and discuss a range of findings of relevance to public policy in Scotland. For information contact Helen Swatton 0141 225 8019 / [helen.swatton@scvo.org](mailto:helen.swatton@scvo.org)

[TOP](#)

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

**European Parliament** <http://www.europarl.eu.int/parliament/public.do?language=en>

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

**Scottish Refugee Council** [www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](http://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](http://www.acas.org.uk)

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

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

**Social Economy Scotland** <http://www.socialeconomyscotland.info/content/index.asp>

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



## Useful Links (continued)

**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>

**BBC Parliament online**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc\\_parliament/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc_parliament/default.stm)

[TOP](#)



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