

## Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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## Immigration and Asylum

### Westminster Parliamentary Questions

#### Visas

**The Earl of Clancarty:** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many creative workers have been refused visas since tier five was introduced.[HL2462]

**Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones):** Since the introduction of tier five of the points-based system (temporary workers) on 27 November 2008, a total of 594 visa applications for entry in the creative and sporting category have been refused (to June 2010). From its central records the UK Border Agency is unable to disaggregate this figure into applications from creative workers and sportspersons. It could only do this by checking individual records which would incur a disproportionate cost.

This information is based on management information and is therefore provisional and subject to change.

**Lord Hunt of Kings Heath:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what monitoring arrangements they have put in place to measure the impact of the interim cap on work visas for non-European Union citizens on the United Kingdom's ability to attract leading scientists.[HL2568]

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

**Reply from Baroness Neville-Jones:** The UK Border Agency is monitoring the take-up of the interim limit for both the tier one and tier two categories of the points-based system. Sponsoring employers under tier two may ask to sponsor additional migrants in exceptional circumstances. These requests are assessed by a monthly panel of senior officials which notes any sector trends.

Each sponsor's usage of the tier two system is being monitored closely during the period of the interim limit and is being reviewed in October 2010 and January 2011. A sponsor's interim allocation may be recalibrated at these review points depending on the overall trajectory of the limit.

**Lord Hunt of Kings Heath:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will extend the exemption scheme for Premier League footballers in respect of work visas to leading scientists.[HL2569]

**Reply from Baroness Neville-Jones:** The Government have no plans to extend the category for elite sportspeople which was introduced by the previous Administration.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101022w0001.htm#1010225000311>

### Visas

**The Earl of Clancarty:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the exact fall in temporary employment in the United Kingdom from December 2005 to June 2010, as displayed in the graph in figure 3.1 on page 14 of the Migration Statistics Quarterly Report of August 2010; and why this fall occurred.[HL2751]

**Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones):** The number of visas issued to non-EEA nationals for temporary employment in the UK has steadily fallen since 2005, as shown in the attached table.

Year	Visas issued for Temporary Employment
2005	119,000
2006	108,790
2007	90,540
2008	79,140
2009	57,595
2010 (6 months)	34,415

Visas issued for main applicants in temporary employment categories include all visas issued under point-based system (PBS) Tier 5 and pre PBS categories of working holiday maker and permit free employment but exclude those issued for employment under PBS Tiers 1 and 2, and under the former work permit system, as entry in these categories can lead to permanent settlement;

This information is based on Management Information and is therefore provisional and subject to change.

A number of factors will have led to the decrease in the number of visas issued for temporary employment during this period. These would include changes to the immigration system, such as the phased closure of the seasonal agricultural workers scheme and sectors based scheme to non-EU nationals between 2006 and 2008, the accession to the EU of Romania and Bulgaria in 2007 and the introduction of the points based-system in November 2008. The latter led to the recategorisation of some of the immigration categories. External factors such as the global economic downturn may also have led to a decrease in the number of temporary workers coming to the UK.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101025w0001.htm#1010258000383>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Visas

**Lord Laird:** To ask Her Majesty's Government further to the Written Answer by Baroness Neville-Jones on 29 October (WA 265), by what criteria they judge there is a shortage of certain butchers, meat cutters, chefs and cooks sufficient to bring those trades on to the shortage occupation list for Tier 2 of the points-based system for entry visas to the United Kingdom from non-European Union countries; and whether they will review those criteria.[HL2820]

**Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones):** The independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) advises Government on shortage occupations. Meat cutters and chefs were included in the shortage occupation list under the previous Administration. The Government's consultation on the introduction of an annual limit on those admitted to work in the UK from outside the European Union-including the future of the shortage occupation list-closed in September. The Government will bring forward their proposals in due course.

**Lord Laird:** To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Neville-Jones on 13 October (WA 83), whether they consider that the 2,812 certificates of sponsorship assigned to non-European Economic Area nationals for employment as medical practitioners under tier 2 of the points-based system in 2009, and the 1,423 certificates assigned in 2010 (January-June), suggest a shortage of doctors in the United Kingdom; and whether medical training capacity in universities will be reviewed.[HL2821]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health (Earl Howe):** The medical profession is internationally mobile and the number of non-United Kingdom trained doctors finding employment in the UK will vary by specialty and geography, reflecting service demands and the flows of UK doctors. The department is working with the UK Borders Agency on its proposals to limit net migration to the UK.

There are no immediate plans for a review of medical training capacity in universities. Overall, the supply and demand for specialty training programmes appears to be well balanced and there are sufficient training opportunities to match the numbers coming through from foundation programme.

**Lord Laird:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether companies and educational institutions are given quotas of people they can hire from outside the European Union and for whom they can obtain work permits; and how current rules affect the issuing of visas to highly skilled specialist staff or research students.[HL2823]

**Reply from Baroness Neville-Jones:** The work permit arrangements were replaced in November 2008 as part of the introduction of the points-based system (PBS). Since that time, employers have issued certificates of sponsorship to workers they wish to sponsor from outside the European Economic Area (EEA).

On 28 June this year the Home Secretary announced the Government's intention to limit the number of workers entering the UK from outside the EEA from April 2011. On 19 July we introduced an interim limit on the highly skilled (tier 1 general) and skilled (tier 2 general) worker routes of the PBS. The interim limit has been set at 2009 levels for tier 1 (general) applications from outside the UK. There is no limit on the number of tier 1 (general) applications made within the UK. The interim limit for tier 2 (general) has been set at 6 per cent below 2009 levels. In implementing the interim limit, the UK Border Agency reduced the number of certificates of sponsorship (CoS) available to each sponsor. There is currently no limit on tier 4, the student route of the PBS. We have, however, committed to undertake a thorough review of all student routes including tier 4.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101026w0001.htm#10102627000573>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Immigration: Detention Centres

**Andrew Smith:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many (a) children and (b) families have been held in (i) immigration detention, (ii) short-term holding units and (iii) mother-and-baby units in prisons in each month of 2010 to date. [19110]

**Reply from Damian Green:** Local management information shows children and families entering detention held solely under Immigration Act Powers (excluding Harwich), January to June 2010<sup>(1,2,3,4,5)</sup>, as follows:

2010	UK Border Agency removal centres		UK Border Agency short-term holding facilities <sup>(6)</sup>		HM Prison mother and baby units	
	Children	Families	Children	Families	Children	Families
January	85	45	10	-	-	-
February	70	40	-	-	-	-
March	65	25	-	-	-	-
April	50	30	-	-	-	-
May	40	15	-	-	-	-
June	25	15	*	*	*	*

**Notes:**

1. These figures are based on management information and are not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics. They are provisional and may be subject to change
2. Some detainees may be recorded more than once if, for example, the person has been detained on more than one separate occasion in the time period shown, such as a person who has left detention, but has subsequently been re-detained.
3. Figures rounded to the nearest five ('-' = 0, \* = one or two)
4. Figures exclude persons recorded as entering Harwich short-term holding facility, police cells and those recorded as detained under both criminal and immigration powers and their dependants.
5. Figures will overstate if any applicants aged 18 or over claim to be younger.
6. Dover Harbour, Colnbrook Short Term, Pennine House

Information on children detained solely under Immigration Act powers Q3 2010 will be available on 25 November in the Control of Immigration: Quarterly Statistical Summary, United Kingdom, July to September 2010 on the Home Office's Research, Development and Statistics website at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101027/text/101027w0001.htm#10102763000007>

### Immigration: Detention of Children

**Lord Hunt of Kings Heath:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether their policy is to end the detention of children for immigration purposes, or to minimise it.[HL2625]

**Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones):** The coalition agreement set out the Government's commitment to end the detention of children for immigration purposes. That commitment remains. We are currently conducting a review to consider how this can be done in a way which protects the welfare of children while ensuring the return of families who have no right to be in the UK.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101022w0001.htm#1010225000308>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Human Trafficking

**Keith Vaz:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps her Department is taking to ensure that the UK Border Agency works together with (a) police officers and (b) local authorities to identify individuals who may have been trafficked. [19474]

**Reply from Damian Green:** The UK Border Agency (UKBA) works together with police officers and local authorities within the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). The NRM is designed to make it easier for all the different agencies that could be involved in a trafficking case such as the police and local authorities to co-operate; to share information about potential victims and facilitate their access to advice, accommodation and support. The NRM Strategic Monitoring Group, which includes local authority and law enforcement representatives, oversees the NRM and looks to resolve issues as they arise.

Detailed trafficking guidance that highlights the importance of working with the police and local authorities has been issued to all UKBA staff:

*Guidance for Competent Authorities available at:*

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/policyandlaw/asylumprocessguidance/specialcases/guidance/competent-guidance>

*Guidance for front-line staff available at:*

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/policyandlaw/asylumprocessguidance/specialcases/guidance/trafficking-guidance?view=Binary>

UKBA also has strong regional partnership arrangements in place. Regional immigration crime teams, for example, are comprised of both UKBA staff and seconded police officers. The agency also has local immigration teams across the country that work alongside the police, HM Revenue and Customs, local authorities and other local partners to ensure compliance with, and enforce, our immigration laws.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101025/text/101025w0004.htm#10102529000031>

### Human Trafficking

**Grahame Morris (Easington) (Lab):** What his policy is on prosecution of victims of human trafficking who are suspected of having committed a criminal offence. [19331]

**Reply from the Attorney-General (Mr Dominic Grieve):** The policy of the Crown Prosecution Service is to consider the extent to which the suspects who might be victims of trafficking were compelled to undertake the unlawful activity alleged. That is compatible with our common law defence of duress. Where there is clear evidence of duress, the case should be discontinued on evidential grounds. Where it is not clear whether the suspect was acting under duress, consideration will be given to whether the suspect was in a coerced situation. In such circumstances, there will be a strong public interest to stop the prosecution.

**Grahame Morris:** Will the Attorney-General explain the coalition Government's strategy to contain the growing criminal and completely abhorrent practice of human trafficking, particularly with regard to the trafficking of prostitutes and press reports that human traffickers aim to exploit opportunities presented by the 2012 Olympic games and the large number of people coming to London for them?

**Reply from the Attorney-General:** The Crown Prosecution Service works closely with the police and other related organisations to try to improve its ability to prosecute human trafficking cases. It has, for example, only very recently sent a senior prosecutor to Vietnam to discuss the issue of child trafficking into this country from that country. In addition, we are adherent to the EU directive on trafficking, which we ratified and implemented. It provided that all member states

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

should, in accordance with the basic principles of its legal system, provide for the possibility, as I have just said, of not imposing penalties on victims for their involvement in unlawful activities. One of the reasons for that is to facilitate their coming forward so that a prosecution of the traffickers can take place.

**Peter Bone (Wellingborough) (Con):** How does the Attorney-General square that statement with the fact that the Court of Appeal recently released three young women from prison who had been trafficked into this country and forced into prostitution but were prosecuted by the CPS against the advice of the police and the POPPY project?

**Reply from the Attorney-General:** It is difficult for me to comment on an individual case, although if my hon. Friend wishes to draw the particular circumstances to my attention I am more than happy to write to him about it. As I said a moment ago, the policy of the CPS and the principles it follows under the code of Crown prosecutors put the public interest at the forefront of a prosecution. Where the public interest is thought not to require a prosecution, no prosecution will be brought.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101026/debtext/101026-0001.htm#10102622000027>

### Human Trafficking

**Andrew Selous (South West Bedfordshire) (Con):** What discussions he has had with the Crown Prosecution Service on steps to increase the proportion of prosecutions for offences of human trafficking which result in conviction. [19336]

**Reply from the Attorney-General:** I have had no recent discussions with the CPS regarding the effectiveness of prosecution policy in human trafficking cases, but the CPS has comprehensive guidance for prosecutors to ensure that decisions in human trafficking cases are taken in line with the principles in the code for Crown prosecutors, taking account of the particular factors that are relevant in such cases. However, if my hon. Friend has specific concerns, I invite him to write to me. I have regular meetings with the DPP during which we discuss a range of issues and this topic can and will be included when necessary.

**Andrew Selous:** Will my right hon. and learned Friend get together the CPS, the police and the judiciary to see what we can do to increase the lamentably low number of convictions that we are currently securing for human trafficking?

**Reply from the Attorney-General:** I certainly share my hon. Friend's desire to see the number of prosecutions increase. Of course, the CPS is ultimately a referral organisation—it takes the cases that are offered to it. There is some comfort in the latest figures: there is an indication that in the first six months of this year since April there were 17 prosecutions for trafficking under the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Act 2004, compared with only 19 in the previous 12-month period, and similar figures can be found for prosecutions under the Sexual Offences Act 2003. However, I will bear the matter in mind. There is already a lot of close working between the CPS, the Association of Chief Police Officers and the Gangmasters Licensing Authority. Of course, these matters are also discussed when necessary with the judiciary.

**Emma Reynolds (Wolverhampton North East) (Lab):** Does the Attorney-General recognise that in cases in which victims of trafficking are afforded better protection, such as safe accommodation, they are more willing to come to court as witnesses? If he recognises that, will he work with his colleagues across Government to make sure that victims of trafficking are encouraged to come forward as witnesses and therefore increase the prosecution rate?

**Reply from the Attorney-General:** As I hope I indicated in my answer to the first question, those are precisely the sort of criteria put forward to encourage people to

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

come forward without fearing that they will suffer consequences in doing so. For those reasons, I assure the hon. Lady that this is a priority issue. As human trafficking is regarded as a very serious offence, every effort will be made to encourage victims to come forward.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101026/debtext/101026-0001.htm#10102622000031>

### People Trafficking

**Lord Hunt of Kings Heath:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the ECPAT Report on child trafficking in the United Kingdom.[HL2984]

**Reply from Earl Attlee:** ECPAT's latest report raises a number of issues related to child trafficking, some of which were also raised as part of the review of the national referral mechanism (NRM). The Government will consider these issues to ensure that the best arrangements are in place to protect child-trafficking victims.

**Lord Hunt of Kings Heath:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what impact the reduction in the Home Office budget will have on that department's ability to combat child trafficking. [HL2985]

**Reply from Earl Attlee:** While the full impact of the Home Office spending review settlement is currently being considered across a range of spending priorities, combating trafficking is part of core policing business and the Government remain committed to tackling this terrible form of child exploitation.

**Lord Hunt of Kings Heath:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will destructure the national referring mechanism to create a separate system to deal with cases of children who may have been trafficked.[HL2986]

**Reply from Earl Attlee:** This issue has been raised as part of the continuing national referral mechanism (NRM) review. While there are no plans to create a separate NRM system for children, the review highlighted the need to raise awareness of the NRM among front-line staff working with children and work is under way to consider the best way of achieving this.

**Lord Hunt of Kings Heath:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will give overall responsibility for policy on safeguarding child victims of trafficking to the government department with lead responsibility for child protection. [HL2987]

**Reply from Earl Attlee:** The Home Office holds the lead on human trafficking (including child trafficking) and there are currently no plans to move policy responsibility for this function elsewhere within government.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101028w0001.htm#10102831000687>

### Human Trafficking

**Alison McGovern** (Wirral South) (Lab): What discussions she has had with her EU counterparts on the co-ordination of member states' action against human trafficking of women. [19943]

**Reply from the Minister for Equalities (Lynne Featherstone):** Policy responsibility for human trafficking rests with my hon. Friend the Minister for Immigration. There have been no ministerial discussions with other EU member states on human trafficking. The UK plays an active role in combating this horrendous crime and will co-ordinate activities with our European partners where it is in the UK's interests to do so.

**Alison McGovern:** Nothing undermines the dignity of women more than human trafficking and this modern-day slavery. Article 10 of the EU directive on trafficking requires all member states to provide necessary medical treatment to trafficking survivors. When will Britain set an example and sign the EU directive?

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

**Reply from Lynne Featherstone:** We have decided not to opt in to the European directive at the moment, but we are keeping a watching brief. When it is implemented, we might well decide to do so, but we are already doing most of the things required by the directive to a good standard and we do not want to be inhibited by introducing laws in this country. Several things that we do already would need transposing into legislation, but we do not need to make legislation to prove to the Commissioners what we are doing already.

**Peter Bone** (Wellingborough) (Con): May I urge the Minister not to opt in to the EU directive? I know that human trafficking is one of the Prime Minister's priorities, but before we opt in we must consider whether we can do things better; I urge caution in this matter.

**Reply from Lynne Featherstone:** I thank my hon. Friend for his question. That is exactly the position that we have taken.

**Keith Vaz** (Leicester East) (Lab): The question is about co-ordination. By which mechanism can the origin, transition and destination countries get together to deal with the problem of human trafficking?

**Reply from Lynne Featherstone:** We do that already without legislation. We have been very involved in Europe in terms of trafficking. Human trafficking is a key area under the Stockholm programme, which sets out the EU justice and home affairs priorities. We also helped to shape the draft EU trafficking directive and helped with the first Schengen evaluation on human trafficking. We are working closely with European colleagues. Quite frankly, it is better that we work in the countries of origin, as the right hon. Gentleman suggests, so that we stop trafficking at source by working with the Serious Organised Crime Agency, after which we should work at our borders and then in-country.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101028/debtext/101028-0001.htm#10102837000028>

## Press Releases

**Highly skilled migrants should do highly skilled jobs, says Immigration Minister**

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2010/oct/79-highly-skilled-jobs>

**Protect asylum seekers and refugees**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/latest\\_news/785\\_protect\\_asylum\\_seekers\\_and\\_refugees\\_say\\_speakers\\_at\\_our\\_autumn\\_conference](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/785_protect_asylum_seekers_and_refugees_say_speakers_at_our_autumn_conference)

**New contract for escorting detainees**

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/escort-detainees>

## New publications

**Points-based system Tier 1: an operational assessment**

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/pbs-tier-1.pdf>

**Migration and the Economic crisis in the European Union: Implications for Policy**

[http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/Migration\\_and\\_the\\_Economic\\_Crisis.pdf](http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/Migration_and_the_Economic_Crisis.pdf)

**Integration Rules in Immigration and Nationality Law: The Case of the United Kingdom**

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/law/research/documents/ryan-UK-final-1.pdf>



## **Immigration and Asylum** (continued) **News**

### **Child detention in immigration centres faces legal challenge**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/oct/26/child-detention-immigration-centres-challenge>

### **David Cameron tries to reassure business over immigration cap**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2010/oct/25/david-cameron-reassure-business-immigration-cap>

### **Romanian children found working in Worcestershire field**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-hereford-worcester-11615766>

### **Child onion pickers highlights exploitation problem**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-11617664>

### **Migrant workers are ripe for exploitation**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/oct/26/romanian-workers-ripe-exploitation-migrant>

### **Pope Benedict says migrants have duty to integrate**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-11629857>

### **UK's 'brightest and best' migrants take unskilled jobs**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-11647258>

### **Chaos over restraint rules for deportees**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/oct/27/deportation-restraint-rules-chaos>

### **Investigation reveals thousands of bogus church weddings may have taken place**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/8099364/Investigation-reveals-thousands-of-bogus-church-weddings-may-have-taken-place.html>

### **Cleric accuses Church leaders of ignoring his warnings over sham marriages**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/8098880/Cleric-accuses-Church-leaders-of-ignoring-his-warnings-over-sham-marriages.html>

### **Cameron urged to sign EU ban on slave trafficking**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/cameron-urged-to-sign-eu-ban-on-slave-trafficking-2121213.html>

### **Cameron softens stance on blocking immigration**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/cameron-softens-stance-on-blocking-immigration-2116449.html>

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## **Race Relations**

### **Press Release**

#### **Congress adopts two resolutions on integration of Muslim women and young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods**

[http://www.coe.int/t/dc/av/allreleases\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dc/av/allreleases_en.asp)

## Race Relations (continued)

### New publication

#### Intercultural policies in European cities

<http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/pubdocs/2010/32/en/1/EF1032EN.pdf>

### News

#### Reformation conference helps us to put our differences aside

<http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news/nr691010.htm>

#### Christians' freedom to express beliefs is at risk, warn bishops

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/religion/8098796/Christians-freedom-to-express-beliefs-is-at-risk-warn-bishops.html>

#### Engaging Muslims in British society

<http://www.commongroundnews.org/article.php?id=28691&lan=en&sid=1&sp=0&isNews=1>

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## Equality

### New publications

#### The Single Equality Act in Britain: a good practice example

<http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/publications/FS43%20-%20ERT-ENAR%20british%20equality%20act%20final%20EN.pdf>

#### Improving the outcomes for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils

<http://publications.education.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DFE-RR043.pdf>

#### What more can we takeaway from the Chinese community?

[http://www.bteg.co.uk/index.php?option=com\\_k2&view=item&task=download&id=2&Itemid=125](http://www.bteg.co.uk/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&task=download&id=2&Itemid=125)

### News

#### Hideously diverse Britain: School success – the Chinese way

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/oct/27/diverse-britain-school-success-chinese>

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# Racism and Religious Hatred

## Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

**S3M-7232 Bill Butler: Show Racism the Red Card Fortnight of Action 2010**—That the Parliament notes that 15 until 31 October 2010 marks Show Racism the Red Card's 7th annual Fortnight of Action, which will feature 30 anti-racist community events across Scotland and includes Islamophobia workshops at Knightswood Secondary School in Glasgow; welcomes the support of Scotland's football clubs for the campaign with activity at Scottish Football League, Scottish Women's Premier League, Scottish Women's Football League and Scottish Cup second round matches on 23 and 24 October and at Scottish Premier League matches on the weekend of 30 and 31 October; believes that Scottish football, both at club and international level, has benefited hugely from the participation of players born outside of Scotland; abhors the treatment of players who have been racially abused at grounds across Scotland, and unequivocally affirms that racism has no place in Scottish society.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/business/motions/Default.aspx?motionid=20017>

## Westminster Parliamentary Questions

### **Crime: Race and Criminal Justice Statistics**

**Lord Avebury:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will provide that the annual Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System include all available information about the religion or beliefs of the defendants and victims; and that separate tables are given for racially and religiously aggravated offences. [HL2655]

**Reply from the Minister of State, Ministry of Justice (Lord McNally):** The Ministry of Justice Head of Profession for Statistics is responsible for the content and timing of Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System, and takes very seriously the view of users of the publication. Police data on racially or religiously aggravated offences have been published in the report since 2002 and tables showing the figures for individual police force areas have been published since 2003. Due to the way in which police figures are recorded, it is not possible to separate offences that are racially aggravated from those that are religiously aggravated.

The religion and belief of defendants and victims has been collected by the CPS since April 2007, and we are assessing data quality for inclusion in the next publication. The Ministry of Justice's chief statistician is responsible for the timing and content of statistical releases and will ensure that if the data are of sufficient quality it will be published.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101022w0001.htm#10102225000296>

### **Prisons: Racial Hatred**

**Helen Grant:** To ask the Secretary of State for Justice what steps his Department has taken to counter racism in establishments on the prison estate. [18327]

**Reply from Crispin Blunt:** The National Offender Management Service (NOMS) has overseen a sustained programme of work to tackle racism in prisons. The most recent published assessment is contained in "Race Review 2008", and is available from the House Library. The review, overseen by an independent advisory group and described as 'honest and rigorous' by the Equality and Human Rights Commission, concluded that good systems and processes are in place in prisons and that blatant forms of racism have been largely eradicated. However it also concluded that the experiences of black and minority ethnic prisoners and staff have not been transformed and that there remained evidence of differential

## Racism and Religious Hatred Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

treatment of black and minority ethnic prisoners. A further programme of work is set out in "Promoting Equality in Prisons and Probation: the NOMS Single Equality Scheme 2009-2012", also available in the Library, and progress on this will be reported in the 2009-10 annual equalities report which will be published later this year.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101022/text/101022w0002.htm#1010227000080>

## Press Release

**European Muslims are stigmatised by populist rhetoric**

[http://commissioner.cws.coe.int/tiki-view\\_blog\\_post.php?postId=99](http://commissioner.cws.coe.int/tiki-view_blog_post.php?postId=99)

## New publications

**Experience of discrimination, social marginalisation and violence: A comparative study of Muslim and non-Muslim youth in three EU Member States**

[http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/Pub-racism-marginalisation\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/Pub-racism-marginalisation_en.pdf)

**Racism, ethnic discrimination and exclusion of migrants and minorities in sport: A comparative overview of the situation in the European Union**

[http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/Report-racism-sport\\_EN.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/Report-racism-sport_EN.pdf)

**Summary**

<http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/FRA-report-Racism-in-sports-summary-EN-2010-10-28.pdf>

## News

**Police officer in 'racist' email row dealt with by direct measure**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/News/Dundee/article/6629/police-officer-in-racist-email-row-dealt-with-by-direct-measure.html>

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## Other Holyrood

### News

**Holyrood election ballots to be counted by hand**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-11627387>

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## Other Westminster

### Parliamentary Questions

#### Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme

**Philip Hollobone** (Kettering) (Con): If he will discuss with the Chancellor of the Exchequer the merits of extending the listed places of worship grant scheme beyond 2011. [18946]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport (John Penrose):** I am sure that my hon. Friend will remember that the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in his comprehensive spending review statement last week that the listed places of worship grant scheme is to continue. I am delighted, as I am sure all hon. Members are, that that is the case. We have had to make some small reductions, and it will now go back to its pre-2006 status, but other than that, it will continue. I hope that my hon. Friend and others will join me in praising that decision.

**Philip Hollobone:** I congratulate my hon. Friend the Minister on doing his bit to save the scheme, which many of my constituents were worried was going to be cut altogether. Will he expand on what "pre-2006" actually means for those churches applying for funds?

**Reply from John Penrose:** I would be delighted to. Basically, it means that local community groups raising money to repair the fabric of their church will continue effectively to be able to claim grants equivalent to the value of the VAT on the works that are done. The only difference will be that some categories of work—primarily, professional fees, bells, organs and the like—will be excluded in the way they were before 2006, but everything else will continue to be claimable.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101025/debtext/101025-0001.htm#1010254000024>

#### Circumcision

**Andrea Leadsom:** To ask the Secretary of State for Health what recent assessment his Department has made of the likely effects on health of circumcision of male infants. [19052]

**Reply from Paul Burstow:** The Department has made no recent assessments of the likely effects on health of circumcision of male infants.

**Andrea Leadsom:** To ask the Secretary of State for Health what guidance his Department issues to GPs and health care professionals on the circumcision of male infants. [19053]

**Reply from Paul Burstow:** The Department has not published guidance on male circumcision. General guidance is that doctors should communicate treatment options, outcomes and risks with the patient and gain consent for any procedure. Doctors should make every effort to discuss with parents what is in the best interests of the child. The welfare of infants must be paramount, whatever the reason for undertaking the procedure. Any medical procedure must be undertaken in hygienic conditions, with appropriate pain relief and aftercare.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101022/text/101022w0001.htm#1010227000062>

#### Female Genital Mutilation

**Valerie Vaz:** To ask the Attorney-General how many prosecutions have been brought in respect of offences relating to female genital mutilation in each of the last five years. [18442]

**Reply from the Attorney-General:** There have been no prosecutions in respect of offences relating to female genital mutilation in the last five years.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101025/text/101025w0003.htm#10102529000019>

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## New Publication

### **Disclosure Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2009-2010**

<http://www.disclosurescotland.co.uk/publications/documents/DSAnnualReportandAccounts20092010.pdf>

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## Other News

### **New website allows police to engage with the public**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/new-website-allows-police-to-engage-with-the-public-1.1063765>

### **Kirk selects Moderator-Designate**

<http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news/nr701010.htm>

### **Scotland's Baha'i community calls for support**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/scotland-s-baha-i-community-calls-for-support-1.1063752>

### **West Scottish councils to share services**

<http://www.publicfinance.co.uk/news/2010/10/west-scottish-councils-to-share-services/>

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

### **Holyrood**

#### **Certification of Death Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/58-CertDeath/index.htm>

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

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

#### **Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/53-forcedMarriage/index.htm>

#### **Local Electoral Administration Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/57-LocalElecAdmin/index.htm>

#### **\*\* Palliative Care Bill**

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

#### **Finance Committee Report on the Financial Memorandum**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/finance/reports-10/fir10-pallicare.htm>

#### **Subordinate Legislation Committee**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/subleg/or-10/su10-2802.htm#Col1132>

#### **Subordinate Legislation Committee Report**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/subleg/reports-10/sur10-52.htm>

## **Bills in Progress**

### **Holyrood** (continued)

#### **Public Records Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/56-PublicRecords/index.htm>

## **Bills in Progress**

### **Westminster**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldbills/019/amend/am019-a.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldbills/019/amend/ml019-i.htm>

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

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

notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/063/amend/pbc0632510m.745-751.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/063/amend/pbc0632510a.889-890.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/098/amend/pbc0982610a.891.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/098/amend/pbc0982710a.893-899.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/098/amend/pbc0982810a.925-931.html>

Committee Stage, House of Commons

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101025/debtext/101025-0001.htm#1010254000002>

Bill as amended in Committee

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/098/2011098.pdf>

and showing changes made in Committee

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/098/2011098.pdf>

## **Bills in Progress**

### **Westminster** (continued)

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

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

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## **Consultations**

(closing date)

\*\* new or updated this week

#### **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)

#### **Certification of Death (Scotland) Bill** (closes 18 November 2010)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/hs/inquiries/CertificationOfDeathBill/CallForEvidence.htm>

#### **The Forced Marriage (Protection and Jurisdiction) (Scotland) Bill** (25 November 2010)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/equal/inquiries/Call.htm>

#### **Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIO) Draft Regulations Discussion Paper** (26 November 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/48453/0105742.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>

#### **Shaping Bereavement Care** (2 December 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/327965/0105922.pdf>

#### **Equality and Human Rights Commission: Draft Code of Practice on Further and Higher Education** (closes 31 December 2010)

[http://live.ehrc.precedenthost.co.uk/cgi-bin/generate.pl?page\\_id= sx0666i4b&save=screen](http://live.ehrc.precedenthost.co.uk/cgi-bin/generate.pl?page_id= sx0666i4b&save=screen)

#### **Introducing fee charges for appeals in the Immigration and Asylum Chambers of the First-Tier Tribunal and the Upper Tribunal** (21 January 2010)

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## **Job Opportunities**

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

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**\*\* this week!**

**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.

**\*\* this week!**

**Roadkill/child trafficking**

5 November 2010 9.00pm

Performance of "Roadkill" followed by panel discussion about the issue of child trafficking in Scotland. For information contact Belinda McElhinney 0141 248 9799 / [arts@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:arts@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) or see

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/events\\_calendar/370\\_post\\_s\\_how\\_panel\\_discussion\\_on\\_roadkill\\_and\\_child\\_trafficking\\_in\\_scotland](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/events_calendar/370_post_s_how_panel_discussion_on_roadkill_and_child_trafficking_in_scotland)

**\*\* this week!**

**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

**An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees**

9 November 2010 in Glasgow

17 December 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore immigration terminology, main refugee nationalities, why people flee and factors affecting migration, the Refugee Convention - its history and interpretation, the UK asylum process and current implementation in Scotland, how to develop culturally sensitive services, and issues facing practitioners and possible solutions; best practice for support and advocacy. 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/553\\_an\\_introduction\\_to\\_working\\_with\\_asylum\\_seekers\\_and\\_refugees](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/553_an_introduction_to_working_with_asylum_seekers_and_refugees)

**\*\* Violence Against Women Faith, Culture and Practice Training**

11 November 2010 in Stirling (10.00 – 4.00)

23 February 2011 in Stirling (10.00 – 4.00)

Amina training to explore the faith and cultural dimensions associated with the perpetration of violence against women in the Muslim and other Communities. For information contact [pdu@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:pdu@stirling.gov.uk) / 01786 442 562.

**Still not easy being British**

12 November 2010

Webchat and Q&A about multiculturalism and developments in Muslim identity politics with Tariq Modood, Catherine Fieschi, and Sunny Hundal discussing. For information see <http://www.runnymedetrust.org/events-conferences/econferences/still-not-easy-being-british.html>

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **Asylum law, beyond the first tier tribunal**

23 November 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council legal seminar for immigration advisers, solicitors and advocates to examine representation of asylum claims to the Upper Tribunal and Court of Session. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / [jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) or see [http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/745 asylum law beyond the first tier tribunal](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/745_asylum_law_beyond_the_first_tier_tribunal)

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

### **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.

### **UKBA (formerly NASS) asylum support - the essentials**

30 November 2010 in Glasgow

3 February 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for people supporting those going through the asylum process. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / [jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) or see [http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/325 ukba formerly nass asylum support - the essentials](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/325_ukba_formerly_nass_asylum_support_-_the_essentials)

### **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/>

### **\*\* Equality Act 2010: What does it mean for you?**

2 December 2010 in Stirling

19 January 2011 in Edinburgh

17 February 2011 in Inverness

Equality and Human Rights Commission conferences to provide information about how the Act works and how to use it, what discrimination means and who is protected. For information contact David Reilly [David.Reilly@equalityhumanrights.com](mailto:David.Reilly@equalityhumanrights.com) / 0141 228 5967 or see [http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/11ii\\_ehrc.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/11ii_ehrc.pdf)

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **Demands, Challenges, Opportunities: the changing third sector-public policy relationship**

3 December 2010 in Edinburgh

SCVO Third Sector Research 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) or see

<http://microsites.scvo.org.uk/scvo/SCVOEvents/ViewSCVOEvents.aspx?al=t&EID=1176&from=EventHome>

### **\* Home Sweet Home?**

10 December 2010 in Falkirk (9.30 – 1.00)

Seminar to explore particular issues faced by black and minority ethnic (BME) women and children. These include – Forced Marriage; Honour Violence; FGM; Domestic Abuse; No Recourse to Public Funds. For information contact Alicia Kirkwood [Alicia.kirkwood@falkirk.gov.uk](mailto:Alicia.kirkwood@falkirk.gov.uk) or see [http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/10x\\_home.doc](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/10x_home.doc)

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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](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>

## Useful Links (continued)

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

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)

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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 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/>