

## Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

*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)*

**Don't forget to vote in the  
Scottish Parliament elections and UK Parliament referendum  
on  
Thursday 5 May**

**For information about voting see**

**About My Vote**

[http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/5\\_may\\_scotland.aspx](http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/5_may_scotland.aspx)

**MEMO+ Scottish Parliament Election 2011: The Parties and their Policies**

[http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2011/11iv\\_election\\_manifestos.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2011/11iv_election_manifestos.pdf)

**MEMO+ Voting in the Scottish Parliament Election and the UK Parliament Referendum**

[http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2011/11iv\\_election\\_and\\_referendum.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2011/11iv_election_and_referendum.pdf)

**Electoral Commission: Scottish Parliamentary election and Referendum on the voting system used to elect MPs to the House of Commons**

[http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/referendum\\_2011/PDF/Scotland-accessible.pdf](http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/referendum_2011/PDF/Scotland-accessible.pdf)

# Immigration and Asylum

## Ministerial Statement

### **Immigration Policy (Marriage of non-EEA Nationals)**

**The Minister for Immigration (Damian Green):** Tackling abuse of the system is a significant element of the Government's immigration policy. This includes preventing marriage in the UK being used solely to gain an immigration advantage. The Government have been working with partners to look at ways in which the problem of sham marriages can be addressed. I am therefore pleased to welcome procedural changes which have been made by the Church of England which will afford closer scrutiny and help to deter or prevent those seeking to marry in order to gain an immigration advantage. The Church of England has issued new guidance to allow for greater scrutiny for applications for marriage where one or both parties is a non-EEA national (that is, not a national of a country that belongs to the European economic area or a British citizen).

This will allow the clergy greater opportunity to satisfy themselves, prior to the ceremony, that the marriage is a genuine one and, where they have concerns, to refer the matter to the UK Border Agency.

In order to enable the Church of England to introduce its new procedures in respect of non-EEA nationals, I have agreed that use can be made of an exception under the Equality Act 2010 for differential treatment on the basis of nationality.

These measures took effect from 11 April and a copy of the ministerial approval and guidance have been placed in the Library of the House.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110426/wmstext/110426m0001.htm#1104263000012>

## Press Releases

**Free movement: workers from eight Member States that joined EU in 2004 finally enjoy full rights**

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/506&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

**Protecting workers' rights can prevent human trafficking**

<http://www.osce.org/cthb/77270>

## New Publications

**House of Bishops: Marriage of Persons from outside the European Economic Area**

<http://www.parliament.uk/deposits/depositedpapers/2011/DEP2011-0688.zip>

**Engagement toolkit for migrant and refugee community organisations**

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/53248812/EOU-Engagement-and-Communication-Toolkit>

## News

**Scottish immigration at record levels**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/scotland/8478223/Scottish-immigration-at-record-levels.html>

**Eastern European migrants 'add £5bn' to Britain's GDP**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-13251614>

## Immigration and Asylum

### News (continued)

**The NHS hospital where 80 per cent of babies have foreign mothers**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1382374/The-NHS-hospital-80-cent-babies-foreign-mothers.html>

**UK Border Agency officials 'in bribes for visas' racket**

[http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk\\_news/National/article616254.ece](http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article616254.ece)

**Efforts to integrate Roma people are under threat from cuts**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2011/apr/27/roma-manchester-tensions-big-issue>

**Immigration officials have turned HIV patients into prisoners, claims hospital**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/apr/29/hiv-patients-prisoners-immigration-detainees>

**UK migrant workers may flee to German companies**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/jobs/8484082/UK-migrant-workers-may-flee-to-German-companies.html>

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## Race Relations

### News

**Muslim women: beyond the stereotype**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2011/apr/29/muslim-women-fighting-islamic-extremism>

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## Equality

### News

**Why Britain needs more black headteachers**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/apr/25/black-headteachers-schools>

**Black and minority ethnic arts: the unfairest funding cuts of all?**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/stage/2011/apr/27/black-minority-ethnic-funding-cuts-theatre>

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## Racism and Religious Hatred

### Westminster Early Day Motion

**Gregory Campbell 1744) Tackling sectarianism in football** - That this House notes recent events in Scottish football; deplors the sending of explosive devices in the post to those connected with Celtic Football Club, including to the manager, Neil Lennon; also

## Racism and Religious Hatred Westminster Early Day Motion (continued)

condemns all threats sent to those connected to both Rangers FC and Celtic FC; strongly commends the continuing work done by both clubs in trying to eradicate sectarianism; and calls on the UEFA footballing authorities to actively assist both clubs in this regard rather than exacerbating the problems by considering politically-motivated complaints such as those lodged recently against Rangers FC.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2010-11/1744>

### News

**Christian Legal Centre has more than 50 cases in religious discrimination fight**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/may/01/christianity-rights-colin-atkinson>

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## Other Westminster

### Debate

**Sikh Turbans (Airport Searches)**

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110426/halltext/110426h0002.htm#1104266000003>

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## Other News

**REACH Community Health Project** will be carrying out a research project entitled "Knowledge, understanding and experience of NHS24 services among black and minority ethnic populations living in Scotland: perceived opportunities and challenges for accessing these services", and will hold focus groups with members of minority ethnic communities, NHS24 staff and third sector organisations that work with minority ethnic communities. To find out more, and to participate in a focus group, see [http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/11v\\_reach\\_health.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/11v_reach_health.pdf) or contact Dr. Inalegwu Oono 0141 585 8024 / [Inalegwu@reachhealth.org](mailto:Inalegwu@reachhealth.org)

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

### Bills in Progress Westminster

**\*\* Fixed Term Parliaments Bill**

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

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2010-2011/0060/amend/am060-d.htm>

## Bills in Progress

### Westminster (continued)

#### Scotland Bill

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

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

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

#### Changes to Immigration-Related Home Office Statistical Outputs (4 May 2011)

[http://uk.sitestat.com/homeoffice/rds/s?rds.immigration-consultation-2011-pdf&ns\\_type=pdf&ns\\_url=\[http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs11/immigration-consultation-2011.pdf](http://uk.sitestat.com/homeoffice/rds/s?rds.immigration-consultation-2011-pdf&ns_type=pdf&ns_url=[http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs11/immigration-consultation-2011.pdf)

#### Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator Corporate Plan (24 May 2011)

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/NewsItem.aspx?ID=e66c5cf8-36b4-421c-93e1-f4aceffa7ec>

#### Reform of the Equality and Human Rights Commission (15 June 2011)

[http://www.equalities.gov.uk/what\\_we\\_do/ehrc\\_reform.aspx](http://www.equalities.gov.uk/what_we_do/ehrc_reform.aspx)

#### Forced Marriage Statutory Guidance Consultation (1 July 2011)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/347416/0115668.pdf>

#### Planning for traveller sites (England and Wales) (6 July 2011)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1886164.pdf>

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## Job Opportunities

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

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## Events/Conferences/Training

\*\* new or updated this week

#### \*\* this week!

#### BEMIS AGM

4 May 2011 in Glasgow (5.30 – 8.00)

The BEMIS AGM will be held at the GO Business and Training Centre, 36 North Hanover Street, Glasgow, G1 2AD. For information contact Sue Barnes 0141 548 8047 / [mail@bemis.org.uk](mailto:mail@bemis.org.uk)

#### OSCR Outreach Programme: Completing OSCR Returns

10 May 2010 in Aberdeen (10.00 – 12.30)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training for charity advisors to enable them to assist charities to complete annual and supplementary monitoring returns. For information see <http://www.oscr.org.uk/EventItem.aspx?ID=41d2239c-6e59-4edb-96ea-cfd052854b50> or contact [communications@oscr.org.uk](mailto:communications@oscr.org.uk)

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **Advancing Scotland as a Learning Society: a Community Learning and Development perspective**

16 May 2011 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 5.00)

Series of seminars to explore views on advancing of Scotland as a Learning Society. We hope that you will all be part of this national conversation. For information see [http://www.cldstandardscouncil.org.uk/CLD\\_Standards\\_Council/The\\_Standards\\_Council\\_Conversations](http://www.cldstandardscouncil.org.uk/CLD_Standards_Council/The_Standards_Council_Conversations) or contact Kirsty Horne [k.horne@ltsotland.org.uk](mailto:k.horne@ltsotland.org.uk).

### **Resource or Roadblock? Faith Community Responses to Violence Against Women**

19 May 2011 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 1.00)

Women's Aid seminar to explore the role that faith communities have in preventative measures to abuse and effective responses to disclosures of abuse. For information contact [info@scottishwomensaid.org.uk](mailto:info@scottishwomensaid.org.uk) / 0131 226 6606

### **\*\* Youth Interfaith Conference**

21 June 2011 in East Kilbride (10.00 – 3.00)

ACPOS conference in partnership with the Scottish Inter Faith Council for 16 to 26 year olds to explore interfaith in Scotland including the role of the media in portraying faith, faith and identity in Scotland, and hate crime. For information contact Anton Stephenson [Anton.Stephenson@centralscotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Anton.Stephenson@centralscotland.pnn.police.uk) / 01786 456 993.

### **BA in Community Development programme**

Applications accepted until mid August 2011, Course begins September 2011

The University of Glasgow's BA in Community Development is sponsored by BEMIS as part of its programme for capacity building strategy for the ethnic minority's voluntary sector. For information see [http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/adds/11iv\\_bemis.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/adds/11iv_bemis.pdf) and [http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/adds/11iv\\_bemis2.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/adds/11iv_bemis2.pdf) or contact Tanveer Parnez [tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk](mailto:tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk) / 0141 548 8047.

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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/>

## Useful Links (continued)

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>

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/>