

Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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Hate Crime

Chris Ruane (Labour) [264340] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the effect of (a) political discourse, (b) the print media and (c) social media on the level of hate crime in the UK in the last five years; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The Home Office and key partners continue to build understanding of the drivers of hate crime through research and evaluation of hate crime programmes, and consultation with subject matter experts including the Independent Advisory Group and local practitioners.

Alongside the Hate Crime Action Plan refresh in October 2018 the Government published a thematic review of the current evidence base – this can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hate-crime-action-plan-2016>.

The review highlighted the complex nature of the drivers and harms of hate crime, including the impact of political and other events, such as the 2017 terrorist attacks, in triggering ‘spikes’ in offending.

In recognition that political discourse, the print media and social media may have a role in hate crime, the Action Plan set out a number of commitments, including work with the Society of Editors and the Independent Press Standards Organisation. More broadly the Government published the Online Harms White Paper on 8 April 2019, and delivered a communications campaign to increase public awareness of the different forms hate crime can take.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-13/264340/>

The hate crime action plan refresh referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/748175/Hate_crime_refresh_2018_FINAL_WEB.PDF

UK Parliament Home Affairs Committee

Inquiry: The Macpherson Report: twenty years on: evidence session

Q184 Jane Deighton (Senior Consultant, Deighton Pierce Glynn Solicitors): The brilliant thing about Macpherson was that it triggered the state taking proactive measures with the potential of reducing racism within state institutions, in contrast to the old, individualised compensation—steps taken after the discrimination had taken place. ... Some things that followed from that were brilliant, such as the race equality duty ... The negatives are that that potential has not been met. Macpherson's focus was of course the point of view of people who are policed. His focus had two main aims. One was to increase the confidence of what he called minority ethnic people in the police. We know that that is behind. ...

His key aim was of course to eliminate racial prejudice and disadvantage, and for all aspects of policing to be fair. ... From the statistics that the Government have published, the only ethnic group that says it suffers less crime than it did is that of white people. Again, that is a failure. ...

Imran Khan QC (Partner, Imran Khan and Partners): ... What Macpherson did was to bring racism to the fore. Now we have these wonderful things in public, with armbands, footballers and banners and so on, so we assume that there is change. Actually, though, there has been change but no change. There is difference but no difference.

What Macpherson was talking about, what he identified, was the key mechanism for change; but it was systemic and institutional. It was not about prejudice; it was about power structures. What has happened is that nobody wants to accept that that label applies to their particular institution ... It is not the failure of Macpherson; it is the failure of institutions to recognise why institutional racism was so important. ...

In a sense, what troubles me is that though we have more visible minorities in adverts, for instance, and there are more mixed-heritage relationships taking place, we have more racism. To me, that indicates that it is not a question about visibility; it is about structures. ...

Matthew Ryder QC (Matrix Chambers): ... the genius, and historic significance, of the Lawrence inquiry report was to embed in our national culture an understanding of racism that was more complex than the superficial understanding of racism that preceded it. Previously, we viewed racism as a concept of antagonism and hatred. Something utterly remarkable about the Stephen Lawrence case was that an act of hatred and violence became a moment of national understanding racism went far beyond overt hatred and violence and into unconscious, institutional, deeply embedded, structural problems.

Q185 Chair (Yvette Cooper, Labour): ... What would you identify as the top obstacle or problem? ... Secondly, what would you identify as the most important issue for us to focus on in this inquiry, and as part of making further progress? ...

Jane Deighton: ... I think the answer is about accountability. I think it would be really helpful if this inquiry could look at the status of police officers. Police officers are not employees. Police officers hold the traditional office of constable. I think they should be made employees, for a number of reasons.

The first practical reason is that they would become more accountable. ... currently, it's quite difficult, for instance, to dismiss police officers. For a police officer to be dismissed, an investigation has to show the police service that, on the balance of probabilities, the act alleged to have been done has been done. For an employee to be dismissed, the investigation has to lead the employer to a reasonable belief that the act alleged has been done. The test for an employer is far, far lower than the test for the police service ...

Another practical example is that employees owe their employers a duty of fidelity, and employers and employees have to have a mutual trust and confidence between them. For instance, employees would not think of lying to their employers or not co-operating with

their employers in an inquiry if the employer asked them to do that, whereas the police service don't have that essential kernel of fidelity, trust and confidence, so police officers have a right of silence in disciplinary proceedings; they have a right not to co-operate with the investigation. ...

... those of us who are policed have a sense, often, that the police consider themselves to be outside the law, to be unaccountable. ...

Imran Khan: ... there has been a failure by public authorities to embrace institutional racism, and to accept that they are institutionally racist.

If I were to say that the Houses of Parliament are institutionally racist, I suspect most of you would say that was not true, and that you do not see that on a daily basis, but it is. I was shocked a few weeks ago to learn that there are certain individuals who work in the Houses who are not allowed to use the facilities—I mean the toilets. Those who are not able to use the facilities primarily come from black and minority ethnic communities. Nobody has sat down and said, “That is a policy that we will implement.” It is the structure that exists that means that is the outcome. I was horrified that in the heart of this Palace, and democracy in the world, we have a form of apartheid ...

Post Macpherson, every chief constable, chief executive and chief officer said, “Well, I'm not institutionally racist, because that means we are all racist individually.” That is not what it is about. ...

Up and down the country, wherever I have been, I have seen and heard chief officers and chief executives say, “Institutional racism—nothing to do with us. It's all gone away. ...

Matthew Ryder: ... the Lammy review ... importantly recommended “explain or change” as a fundamental practice that needs to be embedded in the way we look at race in public institutions. In other words, if there is a disparity of treatment between BAME and white people in an organisation, you need to be able to explain that or to change it. ...

Secondly, how we approach race and racism needs to be data-driven. ...

Thirdly, we need more BAME people in organisations such as the police. It is not sufficient simply to say, “We don't like quotas ... There has to be a much greater determination to single out certain organisations and say that if they do not change how they look and if they do not have people of colour in senior positions by a certain date, we have to take more radical steps. ...

My final point—I may want to revisit this later, so I will be brief—is that we have to understand the concept of racism and discrimination in modern policing. The Lawrence inquiry looks at choices by individual officers or at a policy level by those in management positions, but modern policing relies on artificial intelligence and algorithms that often embed existing racist practices or viewpoints in the algorithm and artificial intelligence in the machine learning that goes on. ...

Q186 Douglas Ross (Conservative): ... Can you explain the type of racism that you have uncovered in the House of Commons or the Houses of Parliament? ...

Imran Khan: There is a report, which I read. I spoke at a meeting in one of the rooms here and I was told that there are certain individuals, depending upon your grade, who are not allowed to use certain facilities in the House of Lords and the House of Commons. ...

As I understood it, depending on your grade of employment within the House, you are not allowed to use certain facilities in the House. Also, as I understand it, those staff in that particular grade are largely from black and minority ethnic communities. I don't particularly like the word “unconsciously,” but a system is now in place, which in effect deprives those individuals of using the facilities in the House. No one sat down to create that effect, but that is the outcome, and that is what institutional racism is all about.

Q189 Douglas Ross: Ms Deighton, you spoke a lot about changing police officers from being Crown servants, effectively, to employees ... What are the negatives of that suggestion?

Jane Deighton: ... The status of the office of constable is one where the individual officer

has individual responsibility for their decisions. They decide to arrest or not, or whatever. A fear has been expressed that if they became employees, they would lose that independence of action. ...

My answer is that they don't have to, because a contract can say whatever the two parties want the contract to say. It can say that that operational independence remains. The other downside—I don't think it is one, but you may—is that currently, because of their status, police officers don't have the right to strike. ...

Q191 Douglas Ross: ... Mr Ryder, you mentioned having more people from BAME backgrounds in senior policing roles. ... My concern ... is not that [a quota] diminishes the quality of the people doing these roles, but whether it will diminish their authority in leading teams. ...

Matthew Ryder: First, there is no data to suggest that it does. ... How they got into that role becomes less important than how they do the role. ...

Q192 Matthew Ryder: What underpins your proposition is not an irrational concern. It is a concern that may be there, but in reality we are in a situation where we have to take choices to improve the situation. ...

Q193 Douglas Ross: ... There were 70 recommendations in the report. When Baroness Lawrence came to our Committee, she said that, 20 years on, it was almost impossible to find any evidence to judge whether or not those recommendations have been met. Yet when a former member of this Committee was able to get a Back-Bench business debate in the House of Commons, the Policing Minister, who was responding, said—I cannot remember the exact figure—“Sixty-three of the 70 recommendations have been met.” Who was correct ...?

Imran Khan: ... If they have been met, they may have been met on paper, but there is a difference between being met on paper and being implemented. ...

Q194 Jane Deighton: ... The problem that runs through it is that the scrutiny and monitoring needs to be entirely independent of the institution. ... Scrutineers who are essentially looking at the position from the point of view of a dominant white culture are not going to be effective ...

It beggars belief that that hasn't happened. ...

Q195 Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op): ... in February *The Guardian* reported that the Commissioner of the Metropolitan police had said that she did not believe that the Metropolitan Police were any longer institutionally racist. Was she right to say that?

Imran Khan: No, absolutely wrong—and she should know. ...

Matthew Ryder: I agree with Mr Khan. I would also say that it is a shocking statement when you look at the disparity of numbers in relation to stop-and-search of, for example, BAME Londoners versus white Londoners, or when you look, for example, at the gangs matrix ...

Imran Khan: ... The message it gives, unfortunately, to rank and file officers is, “We're no longer racist. We can do whatever we want. The leader of our organisation has said that. We have been given a clean bill of health.” ...

Jane Deighton: It is not without the evidence; it is against the evidence. What she said was, “I don't see it.” That is really concerning ...

The attitudes and behaviour are bound up in the white culture, and the essence of the white culture issue has not really been addressed. ...

If you have a Commissioner who cannot see the institutional racism in the face of the statistics ... it is a real worry. ...

Q197 Stephen Doughty: ... When you look at wider political oversight and political leadership of the police force, whether by the Home Office, the Prime Minister or police and crime commissioners, do you worry when you see these sorts of failure to deal with institutional racism within political parties ... or public life in general?

Imran Khan: ... Twenty years ago, we had an inquiry looking at racism in the police and society, and we came to the conclusion that racism existed and that we had to recognise, acknowledge and accept it, yet we are still debating the issue 20 years later. ... Macpherson had the answer. The Stephen Lawrence inquiry had the answer. It is about institutional racism. It is about structures. It is about systems. I am disappointed that I have to sit here and go over the same old ground. ...

Q200 Janet Daby: ... I want to get a sense of why you think more police officers from BAME backgrounds are leaving the police force.

Imran Khan: Because they are treated in a racist fashion. ... I have many clients who are police officers who come from BME communities, and they tell shocking stories of how they are treated. ...

If the leadership says, "We've dealt with racism," then you cannot have a conversation. If a black officer says, "Look—I've been racially abused within the workforce and I've been taken off this particular patch because I'm not liked. It's because of racism," they will say, "No, it's not. It's because of something else." Some other excuse is made up. ...

Jane Deighton: ... the structure is racist, so however the Commissioner or the chief constables are playing around with the process, as long as the structure is discriminatory it does not really matter whether the process is fair or not, because the structure is unfair. ...

Q201 Jane Deighton: ... it is crucial that there be a critical mass of BAME officers in the police service. It has to be a critical mass, because otherwise the culture won't change. ...

Q203 Kate Green (Labour): I would like to ask you about unconscious bias. ...

Imran Khan: I am not sure quite what it means. It is used as an excuse, I'm afraid, to say "I am not racist, but I may be racist." I do not think it is a helpful term, because it allows people to say, "I am not deliberately doing this, and therefore you can forgive me." ...

Q204 Imran Khan: ... It is pointless, because there is a difference between race awareness training and anti-racist training. ... The fundamental thing about racism is not about personal prejudice; it is about power—the power of a dominant white community over a black and minority community. ...

Q205 Jane Deighton: ... There has been a real backsliding in concepts around racism. Macpherson talked about racism and racial prejudices, attitudes and disadvantages. We hear more about unconscious bias and disproportionality now. They are all symptoms of the core wrong that is racism. ...

Another example is inquests into black deaths in custody. On one side of the inquest, you have a grieving, wretched family who just want to know what happened. On the other side, you have barrages of generally white police officers and white police lawyers—solicitors and counsel—who are effectively trying to establish that whatever happened, it was not racism. So long as that defensive attitude is there, the institutions are stuck where they are and cannot progress, and it is unfathomably cruel to the families. ...

Q222 Toby Perkins (Labour): I want to turn to the gangs violence matrix database. ...

Matthew Ryder: ... the gangs matrix is not fit for purpose. The reason it is not fit for purpose is that it is an amalgam of different datasets that were compiled on different criteria over a period of time following the 2011 riots, which do not properly reflect who should be targeted. ...

Jane Deighton: ... what is scary about that matrix is that they have merged victim and suspect, and that is an institutional stereotype of exactly the sort that Mr Brooks faced, as a victim of crime being treated as a suspect, more than 20 years ago. ...

Q227 Matthew Ryder: ... Unfortunately, it is quite commonplace to have policy around young black men with a black man in the room sometimes as the only black person, and if I was not there, then there was no black man in the room at all. The reality is that it is quite common for us to have policy around race where no black people are in the room helping

to explain and develop that policy, or providing a sounding board for those trying to enact that policy. That is to the detriment of everybody. Those trying to enact it feel lost at sea, they are not sure, and they do not have anyone to talk to about it. That is only remedied by having more black people in senior leadership positions within organisations. ...

Q230 Stuart C. McDonald (SNP): ... My final question is about the College of Policing. ...

Imran Khan: I must confess that the College of Policing sounded like a great idea, but—forgive me if this sounds pejorative—it looks like a members’ club ...

Jane Deighton: ... one of the recommendations of the Angiolini report, two years ago, was that police officers’ statements about a serious incident should be honest. It is a measure of how far we haven’t come that it has to be a recommendation in a public report that police officers should be honest. ...

Q235 Chair: ... What would be your short recommendation for the one thing that can make the biggest difference, so that you do not have to give the same evidence again in 10 years’ time?

Jane Deighton: Employment status.

Imran Khan: Positive discrimination.

Matthew Ryder: Discrimination in new policing techniques, including algorithms and machine learning. ...

To read the full transcript see

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/home-affairs-committee/the-macpherson-report-twenty-years-on/oral/103155.html>

TOP

Israel

Westminster Hall Debate

International Humanitarian Law: Protecting Civilians in Conflict

col 27WH Ann Clwyd (Labour): ... IHL [International Humanitarian Law], as detailed in the 1949 Geneva conventions, sets out the specific protection that civilians are entitled to in armed conflict. IHL requires that parties to a conflict must distinguish at all times between combatants and civilians, and must direct attacks only against combatants and other military objects. Constant care must be taken to spare civilians and civilian objects, such as schools, hospitals, and water treatment and sanitation facilities, from the effects of the fighting. IHL also calls on parties to authorise impartial humanitarian assistance to populations affected by the conflict. In addition, a number of key human rights such as the right not to be arbitrarily deprived of life, or the prohibition of torture and slavery, cannot ever be suspended. ...

col 28WH ... armed conflict has changed in many ways, some of which have put civilians in greater danger, such as a massive increase in armed groups, including non-state armed actors. Research by the International Committee of the Red Cross shows that more armed groups have emerged in the past six years than in the previous 60 years. The proliferation of armed groups, backed by a variety of partners, allies and arms providers, often leads to a dilution of responsibility, fragmentation of chains of command, an unchecked flow of weapons, and longer and more intractable armed conflicts. All that results in greater danger to civilians. ...

col 29WH All armed actors must incorporate the protection of civilians into their core military missions and strategies and must actively seek to do everything possible during military operations to ensure civilians are properly protected. ...

col 31WH John Howell (Conservative): ... I was fascinated to read a report by the International Committee of the Red Cross that seemed to take that one stage further. I was actually quite shocked by the report, but it may reflect the reality of the situation. It stated that there is a level of harm to civilians that is acceptable. It set that out by reference to three key principles, including proportionality and precaution, but the idea was that there is a level of civilian casualties that is, as the report described it, acceptable “collateral damage”.

The idea that a civilian building can have a military use as well as a civilian use brings me to my first point, which is related to the situation in Gaza. What do Israeli forces do when Hamas deliberately sets up its rockets in hospitals and schools? Do they simply turn away and do nothing, or do they accept, following the doctrine I have just set out, that they can take retaliatory action, in the full knowledge that there will be collateral damage—that real people will be killed? ...

col 42WH The Minister for Asia and the Pacific (Mark Field): ... the nature of conflict is changing. Too often, the distinction between combatants and civilians, between a target that is legitimate and one that is not, has become blurred. Too often, civilians, including aid workers, are deliberately targeted. ...

Adherence to IHL is a paramount consideration in our approach to conflict, and when we encounter potential violations, we strongly support engaging the appropriate mechanisms to deal with them ...

col 46WH A key approach is that there should be no impunity. Primary responsibility for investigation and prosecution of the most serious international crimes rests with states themselves, but where those states are unable or unwilling to fulfil their responsibilities, other justice mechanisms, such as the International Criminal Court, have an important role to play. ...

To read the full transcript see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-06-18/debates/5C4FC6AD-EC73-4BC7-8943-C61E25BF332B/InternationalHumanitarianLawProtectingCiviliansInConflict>

House of Lords Written Answer

Israel: Palestinians

The Marquess of Lothian (Conservative) [HL16024] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether a UK representative will participate in the Peace to Prosperity economic workshop organised by the Kingdom of Bahrain in partnership with the United States on 25 to 26 June, to discuss the potential for economic investments of a Middle East peace agreement.

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The UK has been invited to the economic workshop in Bahrain and we expect to participate. The UK's longstanding position on the Middle East Peace Process is clear: we support a negotiated settlement leading to a safe and secure Israel living alongside a viable and sovereign Palestinian state; based on 1967 borders with agreed land swaps, Jerusalem as the shared capital of both states, and a just, fair, agreed and realistic settlement for refugees.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-04/HL16024/>

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Foreign Affairs

House of Lords Written Answer

Religious Freedom

The Lord Bishop of Leeds [HL16018] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their strategy for promoting and protecting freedom of religion or belief as an objective of UK foreign policy.

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) is committed to using our influence to defend Freedom of Religion or Belief as a universal human right which should be enjoyed by everyone. That is why the Prime Minister appointed me as her Special Envoy on Freedom of Religion or Belief. The UK regularly raises this topic through Ministers, our diplomatic network and at the Human Rights Council. In recent years we have seen reports of a particular rise in the persecution of Christians. The Foreign Secretary launched the independent review of FCO support for persecuted Christians on 30 January. The Review is led by the Bishop of Truro. It will map levels of persecution and discrimination against Christians around the world, and provide robust recommendations on how the FCO can respond. The Bishop has now submitted his interim report and will submit his final report in the Summer.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-04/HL16018/>

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Other Relevant Information

Equality and Human Rights Commission

Discrimination going unchallenged in legal aid system

Victims of discrimination are being denied their fundamental right to justice and perpetrators are going unchallenged because of the current legal aid system [an Equality and Human Rights Commission] Inquiry has warned.

Access to justice means ensuring that free legal representation is available to those who need it and who cannot afford to pay for it themselves. ...

Between 2013/14 and 2017/18 no workplace discrimination cases received legal aid funding for representation in the employment tribunal, and only 1 in 200 cases taken on by discrimination specialists received funding for representation in court.

Our Inquiry identified a number of barriers to representation, including rules which effectively limit funding to cases with high compensation awards.

This requirement misses the point when it comes to discrimination cases, which are often more about challenging unacceptable behaviour and upholding rights than obtaining financial awards. ...

We also found that Exceptional Case Funding (ECF), which should provide a safety net for cases where legal aid is not usually available but where a victim's fundamental rights are at risk of breach, is not working as it should. Only ten applications were made for ECF for discrimination cases in a five year period and none were granted. ...

To read the full press release see

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/discrimination-going-unchallenged-legal-aid-system>

Access to legal aid for discrimination cases

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/access-to-legal-aid-for-discrimination-cases-our-legal-aid-inquiry.pdf>

United Nations

We Must All Do Better at Looking Out for Each Other, Secretary-General Stresses while Launching United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech

... This Strategy and Plan of Action are brand new, but they are rooted in our oldest commitment. Respect for human rights — without discrimination based on race, sex, language or religion — is a thread running through the United Nations Charter. When the Charter was drafted, the world had just witnessed genocide on an industrial scale. Hate speech had sown the seeds, building on millennia of scapegoating and discrimination against the Jews, and culminating in the Holocaust.

Seventy-five years on, we are in danger of forgetting this lesson. Around the world, we see a groundswell of xenophobia, racism and intolerance, violent misogyny, and also anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim hatred. In some places, Christian communities are attacked. Hateful and destructive views are enabled and amplified exponentially through digital technology, often targeting women, minorities and the most vulnerable. Extremists gather online and radicalize new recruits. In both liberal democracies and authoritarian regimes, some political leaders are bringing the hate-fuelled ideas and language of these groups into the mainstream, normalizing them, coarsening the public discourse and weakening the social fabric.

Hate speech is in itself an attack on tolerance, inclusion, diversity and the very essence of our human rights norms and principles. More broadly, it undermines social cohesion, erodes shared values, and can lay the foundation for violence, setting back the cause of peace, stability, sustainable development and the fulfilment of human rights for all.

Over the past 75 years, hate speech has been a precursor to atrocity crimes, including genocide, from Rwanda to Bosnia [and Herzegovina] to Cambodia. More recently, it has been strongly linked with violence and killings in several regions of the world, including Sri Lanka, New Zealand and here in the United States. ...

As new channels for hate speech are reaching wider audiences than ever at lightning speed, we all ... need to step up our response. The United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action we are launching today is an ambitious programme to coordinate efforts across the United Nations system to identify, prevent and confront hate speech, using all the means in our power. The United Nations System-Wide Strategy and Plan of Action has two overriding objectives.

First, it aims to enhance our efforts to address the root causes of hate speech ... These root causes include violence, marginalization, discrimination, poverty, exclusion, inequality, lack of basic education, and weak State institutions. ... But, this new Strategy goes further, recommending a coordinated response, including efforts to identify those who engage in hate speech and those who are best placed to challenge it. The Strategy promotes education as a preventive tool that can raise awareness and bring about a shared sense of common purpose to address the seeds of hatred.

The second overriding objective is to enable the United Nations to respond effectively to the impact of hate speech on societies. The recommendations include convening individuals and groups with opposing views; working with traditional and social media platforms; engaging in advocacy; and developing guidance for communications to counter hate speech trends and campaigns. ...

Addressing hate speech should never be confused with suppressing freedom of expression. The United Nations supports all human rights, including the freedom to seek,

receive and spread information and ideas of all kinds, as set out in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Addressing hate speech does not mean limiting or prohibiting freedom of speech. It means keeping hate speech from escalating into something more dangerous, particularly incitement to discrimination, hostility and violence, which is prohibited under international law. We should treat it like any other malicious act: by condemning it unconditionally; refusing to amplify it; countering it with the truth; and encouraging the perpetrators to change their behaviour. ...

To read the full transcript see

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sgsm19627.doc.htm>

The Strategy and Action Plan are not yet available online.

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Relevant Legislation ** new or updated today

UK Parliament

Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/divorcedissolutionandseparation.html>

Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) (Amendment) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/holocaustreturnofculturalobjectsamendment.html>

International Development Assistance (Palestinian National Authority Schools) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/internationaldevelopmentassistancepalestiniannationalauthoritieschools.html>

Marriage Act 1949 (Amendment) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/marriageact1949amendment.html>

Online Forums Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/onlineforums.html>

Palestinian Statehood (Recognition) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/palestinianstatehoodrecognition.html>

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Consultations ** new or updated today

**** closes in 9 days**

Scottish Human Rights Commission Draft Strategic Plan (closing date 28 June 2019)

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/media/1860/strategic-plan-consultation-vfinal-eh.docx>

Online Harms White Paper (closing date 1 July 2019)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/online-harms-white-paper>

Opt-out organ donation: organs and tissues excluded from the new system (closing date 22 July 2019)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/opt-out-organ-donation-organs-and-tissues-excluded-from-the-new-system>

Regulation of pre-paid funeral plans (closing date 25 August 2019)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/regulation-of-pre-paid-funeral-plans-consultation-on-a-policy-proposal>

TOP

The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) is Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC029438