



# Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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## Home Affairs

### House of Commons Written Answer

#### Hate Crime

**Matthew Offord (Conservative)** [1441] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what assessment her Department has made of the equity of the protections afforded under the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006 to those on grounds of race and those afforded to religious groups.

**Luke Hall:** The Government takes all forms of hate crime very seriously. We have one of the strongest legislative frameworks in the world to protect communities from hostility, violence and bigotry, and to deal with the perpetrators of hate crime. We have asked the Law Commission to undertake a full review of the coverage and approach of current hate crime legislative provisions. The Commission is due to open a public consultation in early 2020.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1441/>

Information about the review referred to above can be read at

<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/law-commission-review-into-hate-crime-announced/>

### HM Treasury Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation

#### General Notice of Final Designation: Terrorism and Terrorist Financing

*Expands the list of terrorist groups subject to asset freezing to include all sections of Hezbollah*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/858674/170120\\_TAFA\\_changes.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/858674/170120_TAFA_changes.pdf)

### Scottish Parliament Written Answer

#### Promotion of Secular Education

**S5W-26871 John Finnie (Green):** To ask the Scottish Government when it last met groups that promote secular education and what was discussed.

**John Swinney:** Scottish Government officials and Ministers meet with a wide range

of organisations with a role or interest in education issues. This can make it difficult to be completely sure as to the most recent meeting with any single organisation. Following a search of the Scottish Government's records, Scottish Government officials identified a meeting between the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government and the Humanist Society Scotland (HSS) on 19 September 2018. This introductory meeting included discussion of the HSS's key priorities and concerns across a range of policy areas, including their campaign to repeal blasphemy legislation.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-26871>

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## Holocaust

### House of Commons Library Briefing

**General debate on Holocaust Memorial Day 2020**

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CDP-2020-0007/CDP-2020-0007.pdf>

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

### UK Parliament

**Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/divorcedissolutionandseparation.html>

**European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/europeanunionwithdrawalagreement.html>

### Scottish Parliament

**Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/112997.aspx>

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## Consultations \*\* new or updated today

**Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 31 January 2020)

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/113449.aspx>

**Harassment and sexual misconduct in higher education** (closing date 27 March 2020)

<https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/media/76f6bdd3-bb14-4956-b089-cd1598323d55/consultation-on-harassment-and-sexual-misconduct-in-higher-education.pdf>

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