



# Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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## Israel

### House of Commons Written Answers

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Yachad**

**Matthew Offord (Conservative)** [77580] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what discussions he had with Cabinet colleagues on inviting hon. Members to the meeting between her Parliamentary Private Secretary and representatives of Yachad on 21 July 2020.

**Matthew Offord (Conservative)** [77581] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, whether he was consulted on the invitation from her Parliamentary Private Secretary to representatives of Yachad to a meeting on 21 July 2020.

**James Cleverly:** We understand that DFID's Parliamentary Private Secretary's engagement with this event was in a personal capacity, and that she was not representing DFID at this event.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-07-21/77580>  
and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-07-21/77581>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Mahmoud Nawajaa**

**Caroline Lucas (Green)** [81773] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what steps he has taken to help secure the release by the Israeli authorities of Palestinian human rights defender, Mahmoud Nawajaa.

**Patrick Grady (SNP)** [82054] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what representations he has made to his Israeli counterpart on the (a) arrest and (b) detention of the Palestinian political activist Mahmoud Nawajaa.

**James Cleverly:** Our Consulate General in Jerusalem have been monitoring Mr Nawajaa's case. Mr Nawajaa was released on 17 August without charge after 19 days of detention. We remain concerned about Israel's extensive use of administrative detention which, according to international law, should be used only when security makes this absolutely necessary rather than as routine practice, and

as a preventive rather than a punitive measure. We continue to call on the Israeli authorities to comply with their obligations under international law and either charge or release detainees. We repeatedly call on Israel to abide by its obligations under international law and have a regular dialogue with Israel on legal issues relating to the occupation, including the treatment of Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons. Officials from the British Embassy in Tel Aviv raised the issue of treatment of Palestinian detainees on 18 June with both the Israeli Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. We also remain concerned by the continued transfer of Palestinian detainees to prisons inside Israel in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention. We continue to raise our concerns in our engagement with the Israeli authorities.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-08-28/81773>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-08-28/82054>

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

### **UK Parliament**

#### **Assisted Dying Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2592>

#### **Education (Assemblies) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2579>

#### **Genocide Determination Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2621>

#### **Marriage Act 1949 (Amendment) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2608>

#### **Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2584>

### **Scottish Parliament**

#### **Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Bill**

<https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/hate-crime-and-public-order-scotland-bill>

#### **Post-mortem Examinations (Defence Time Limit) (Scotland) Bill**

<https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/post-mortem-examinations-defence-time-limit-scotland-bill>

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## Consultations \*\* new or updated today

**Getting Married: A Consultation Paper on Weddings Law** (closing date 3 December 2020)  
<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/project/weddings/#weddings-consultation-paper>

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