

# Political Affairs Brief

*A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community*

**Scottish Council of Jewish Communities**

**SCoJeC**

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## Home Affairs

### **Home Affairs Committee Anti-Semitism Inquiry**

**New written evidence published:**

**National Union of Students**

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/home-affairs-committee/antisemitism/written/35591.pdf>

**Patrick Darnes**

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/home-affairs-committee/antisemitism/written/35364.pdf>

**Elizabeth Morley**

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/home-affairs-committee/antisemitism/written/35329.pdf>

## **Cabinet Office**

**Securing the ballot: Report of Sir Eric Pickles' review into electoral fraud**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/545416/eric\\_pickles\\_report\\_electoral\\_fraud.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/545416/eric_pickles_report_electoral_fraud.pdf)

## **Charity Commission for Northern Ireland**

**New accounting and reporting guidance for charities**

**Charity reporting and accounting overall summary**

<http://www.charitycommissionni.org.uk/media/127270/ccni-arr01-charity-reporting-and-accounting-overall-summary-v20.pdf>

**Charity reporting and accounting the essentials guidance**

<http://www.charitycommissionni.org.uk/media/127279/arr02-charity-reporting-and-accounting-the-essentials-guidance-v20.pdf>

## **Annual monitoring return guidance**

<http://www.charitycommissionni.org.uk/media/87963/20160523-arr05-amr-screenshots-guidance-how-to-complete-the-annual-monitoring-return-v10.pdf>

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## **Israel**

### **Scottish Parliament Motion**

**S5M-00997 Sandra White: Hamde Abu Rahme** – That the Parliament congratulates the prizewinning Palestinian photographer, Hamde Abu Rahme, on his first solo exhibition in the UK, which opened at Govanhill Baths in Glasgow; notes that he received a warm welcome from those who attended where he spoke of his experiences as a West Bank-based photo journalist; commends him on his work, and welcomes him to Scotland.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00997&ResultsPerPage=10>

## **European Union**

### **Statement by the Spokesperson on the resurgence of demolitions in Area C of the West Bank**

The regrettable significant increase of demolitions of Palestinian structures by the Israeli authorities in 2016 appears to be continuing following the end of Ramadan. Since then, 107 Palestinian structures have been demolished, displacing 136 people, including 60 children.

On 2 August, the EU-funded structures in the community of Um al-Kheir were destroyed by the Israeli authorities, leaving four families homeless. Bedouin communities in the West Bank have faced repeated confiscations and demolitions in recent years, which have put them in grave humanitarian need and risk ending in forced transfers.

The Israeli authorities must halt demolitions of Palestinian houses and property, in accordance with its obligations as an occupying power under international humanitarian law, and to cease the policy of settlement construction and expansion, of designating land for exclusive Israeli use and of denying Palestinian development.

As stated in the recent Quartet report, such a policy, including the recent high rate of demolitions, is steadily eroding the viability of the two-state solution and raises legitimate questions about Israel's long-term intentions.

[http://eeas.europa.eu/statements-eeas/2016/160812\\_05\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/statements-eeas/2016/160812_05_en.htm)

## **United Nations**

### **With long-term strategy, UN protects civilians in Gaza from threat of unexploded munitions**

Hostilities in the Gaza Strip dating back to 2014 and earlier still pose serious threats to life and physical integrity in the tiny enclave as explosive remnants of war (ERW) and other legacy hazards remained littered throughout the strip, said the United Nations humanitarian wing, spotlighting a sustainable strategy to mitigate those risks.

"The full extent of contamination by ERW in Gaza is unknown," said the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in a [news release](#) issued yesterday, which added that although a large number of ERW was cleared shortly after the 2014 conflict by both official and unofficial bodies, suspected remnants remain hidden throughout

Gaza, either among the rubble of destroyed structures or buried below the surface. In that regard, as part of a sustainable strategy to mitigate risks, the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) has focused on protection measures to include removing suspected ERW and providing a holistic risk mitigation framework in support of reconstruction and development efforts. ...

According to OCHA, “the ERW risk mitigation measures deployed in Gaza constitute a responsible and sustainable response to identify and remove ERW, and ultimately protect the lives of civilians.”

Since the end of hostilities in August 2014, 17 people had been killed and 100 more injured by ERW, including 46 children.

**To read the full press release see**

<https://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=54666>

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## Relevant Legislation

\*\* new or updated today

### **UK Parliament**

**Arbitration and Mediation Service (Equality) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/arbitrationandmediationservicesequality.html>

**Assisted Dying Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/assisteddying.html>

**Cultural Property (Armed Conflicts) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/culturalpropertyarmedconflicts.html>

**Lobbying (Transparency) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/lobbyingtransparency.html>

**Wales Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/wales.html>

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## **Consultations**

\*\* new or updated today

**\*\* closes tomorrow**

**Draft Strategic Police Priorities for Scotland** (closing date 16 August 2016)

[https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/police-division/strategic-police-priorities/user\\_uploads/430839\\_consultation\\_p2--2-.pdf](https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/police-division/strategic-police-priorities/user_uploads/430839_consultation_p2--2-.pdf)

**\*\* closes in 4 days**

**Independent review into the application of sharia law** (closing date 19 August)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/sharia-law-review-issues-calls-for-evidence>

**Hate crime and its violent consequences** (closing date 1 September 2016)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2015/160704-new-inquiry-hate-crime/>

**\*\* Proposed Football Act (Repeal) (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 23 October 2016)  
[http://www.parliament.scot/S4\\_MembersBills/20160628\\_FINAL CONSULTATION Word - version\\_for\\_publication.pdf](http://www.parliament.scot/S4_MembersBills/20160628_FINAL CONSULTATION Word - version_for_publication.pdf)

**The rise of anti-Semitism** (closing date not announced)  
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/inquiry2/>

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The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) is Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SCO29438