

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with the **Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure in Scotland**. 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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Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to MEMO@scojec.org and requests to be added to circulation to mail@bemis.org.uk

During the Scottish and UK Parliament summer recess MEMO will be issued fortnightly on 10 and 24 August, and 7 September. The Scottish Parliament returns on 31 August, and the UK Parliament on 12 October.

Immigration and Asylum

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Migrant Workers: Bulgarians and Romanians

Lord Laird [HL5095] : To ask Her Majesty's Government why data on allocation of National Insurance numbers were removed from the UK Border Agency's quarterly Bulgarian and Romanian accession statistics; and where they are now.

[HL5096]: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many National Insurance numbers have been allocated to (a) Bulgarians, and (b) Romanians, since those countries' accessions to the European Union.

Reply from Lord McKenzie of Luton: A new quarterly National Statistics series on "National Insurance Number allocations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK", including Bulgarian and Romanian nationals, was published by the Department for Work and Pensions from August 2008.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

These National Statistics replaced the previously published management information on National Insurance Numbers allocated to accession nationals which were removed from the UK Border Agency report on Bulgarian and Romanian Accession Statistics from August 2008.

Quarterly National Statistics on National Insurance Number Allocations to all adult overseas nationals entering the UK are available via the DWP website: <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>.

Information on the number of National Insurance Numbers that have been allocated to (a) Bulgarians, and (b) Romanians, since those countries' accessions to the European Union, is in the table below.

Number of National Insurance Numbers allocated from January 2007 to December 2008		
	Bulgaria (Thousands)	Romania (Thousands)
Jan-07 to Mar-07	1.43	2.26
Apr-07 to Jun-07	2.96	5.53
Jul-07 to Sep-07	5.05	6.27
Oct-07 to Dec-07	2.81	5.11
Jan-08 to Mar-08	3.14	6.05
Apr-08 to Jun-08	4.42	6.73
Jul-08 to Sep-08	5.87	6.76
Oct-08 to Dec-08	2.46	3.9

Notes:

1. Definitions and conventions: Figures are rounded to the nearest ten and displayed in thousands. Some additional disclosure control has been applied.
2. Registration date is derived from the date at which a National Insurance Number is maintained on the National Insurance Recording System.
3. Bulgaria and Romania both gained entry to the European Union in January 2007.
4. This information is available on the DWP website at <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/>

Source:

1. 100% extract from National Insurance Recording System.

Lord Laird [HL5097]: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many Romanian and Bulgarian nationals who are self-employed in the United Kingdom have registered their business activity with HM Revenue and Customs in (a) Northern Ireland, and (b) Great Britain, since Romania's and Bulgaria's accessions to the European Union.

Reply from Lord Myners: The number of Romanian and Bulgarian nationals who registered with HM Revenue & Customs as self-employed in the period 1 January 2007 to 30 June 2009 inclusive, where their address is recorded as being in Northern Ireland or Great Britain, is shown in the table below.

The figures are estimates based on a sample scan of HM Revenue & Customs' National Insurance Recording System.

	Great Britain	Northern Ireland
Romanian	26,500	400
Bulgarian	15,000	250

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld/ldtoday/writtens/02.htm#hdg_25

Immigration and Asylum (continued) **Press Releases**

Tough new points system for earning citizenship

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2009/august/pbs-for-citizenship?area=allNews>

Report on points based migration

<http://news.parliament.uk/2009/08/report-on-points-based-migration/>

Changes to the points-based system

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2009/august/pbs-sponsor-changes?area=allNews>

New research shows that exodus of immigrants from UK is speeding up

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2009/august/new-research-shows-immigrants?area=allNews>

Certificates of approval - policy for the return of application fees

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2009/july/coa-return-application-fees?area=allNews>

New publications

Managing Migration: The Points Based System

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmselect/cmhaff/217/217i.pdf>

Asylum applicants and decisions on asylum applications in Q1 2009

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-QA-09-030/EN/KS-QA-09-030-EN.PDF

Shall We Stay or Shall We Go? Re-migration trends among Britain's immigrants Executive Summary

http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=/ecomm/files/shall_we_stay.pdf&a=skip

Case Studies

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/publicationsandreports/publication.asp?id=686>

News

Application bonus for immigrants settling in Scotland

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Application-bonus-for-immigrants-.5494982.jp>

Migrants who settle in Scotland will get extra citizenship points

http://www.theherald.co.uk/politics/news/display.var.2522197.0.Migrants_who_settle_in_Scotland_will_get_extra_citizenship_points.php

Asylum seeker cash to be cut

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Asylum-seeker-cash-to-be.5507255.jp>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Celtic kickabout strikes a chord with refugees

http://www.theherald.co.uk/features/otherfeatures/display.var.2523063.0.Celtic_kickabout_strikes_a_chord_with_refugees.php

Dundee welcomes newest citizens

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2009/08/01/newsstory13546529t0.asp>

The pied bagpiper

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/scotland/article6736155.ece>

Migrant workers are still being put in danger

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2523307.0.Migrant_workers_are_still_being_put_in_danger.php

SNP urge end to child detentions

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow_and_west/8179737.stm

Murphy asked to stop Dungavel detention of asylum children

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2523485.0.murphy_asked_to_stop_dungavel_detention_of_asylum_children.php

Immigrants warned over behaviour

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/latestnews/Immigrants-warned-over-behaviour.5515836.jp>

Crackdown on 80,000 immigrant wives with free pass to Britain

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1203724/Crackdown-80-000-immigrant-wives-free-pass-Britain.html>

Home Office: 'Support our wars or you'll be denied a UK passport'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-support-our-wars-or-youll-be-denied-a-uk-passport-1766332.html>

MPs call for changes to points-based immigration system

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/mps-call-for-changes-to-pointsbased-immigration-system-1766128.html>

Home Office to unveil points system for immigrants seeking British citizenship

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2009/aug/02/immigration-passport-points>

New point system for immigrants

http://www.theherald.co.uk/politics/news/display.var.2523753.0.New_point_system_for_immigrants.php

Latest immigration plan: Go home and we'll give you a British passport

<http://thescotsmen.scotsman.com/latestnews/Latest-immigration-plan-Go-home.5519404.jp>

A depressingly predictable attack on asylum-seekers

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/leading-articles/leading-article-a-depressingly-predictable-attack-on-asylumseekers-1764522.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Proposed points system for immigrants is just not cricket

http://www.theherald.co.uk/features/featuresopinon/display.var.2523918.0.Proposed_points_system_for_immigrants_is_just_not_cricket.php

Government's citizenship proposals could undermine migrant integration

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/pressreleases/?id=3663>

New research shows that exodus of immigrants from UK is speeding up

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/pressreleases/?id=3664>

Refugees resort to 'illegal abortions'

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/ireland/article6736282.ece>

Migrant workers face rental block

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/8181486.stm>

Skilled migrant incentives urged

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/8186430.stm

Super-mobile migrants 'should get tax breaks'

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Supermobile-migrants--39should-get.5527812.jp>

Thousands of students in Britain through suspect colleges

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/5984753/Thousands-of-students-in-Britain-through-suspect-colleges.html>

Migrants' gains evaporate

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2009/aug/08/uk-citizenship-migrants>

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Race Relations

Press Release

New guidance to help local councils put community cohesion at the heart of their services

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1303700>

New publications

Guidance for local authorities on how to mainstream community cohesion into other services

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/1303527.pdf>

The economic case for cohesion

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/1303560.pdf>

Race Relations (continued) News

Muslim Europe: the demographic time bomb transforming our continent

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/5994047/Muslim-Europe-the-demographic-time-bomb-transforming-our-continent.html>

Policing under the veil in Yorkshire

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2009/aug/05/police-burqa-veil-muslim-yorkshire>

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Equality

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

Equalities

Jamie McGrigor (Highlands and Islands) (Con) (S3W-25694): To ask the Scottish Executive what mechanisms are in place to measure the equality impact of public funding sponsorship for minority ethnic award ceremonies facilitated through private consultants.

Reply from Alex Neil: Such award ceremonies acknowledge and highlight the valuable contribution made in Scotland by ethnic minority communities and individuals whose efforts may otherwise go unrecognised. By acknowledging these contributions we are promoting race equality for all and promoting good relations within our communities.

Contributions provided in support of awards ceremonies are one-off payments in support of the delivery of a single event to recognise the achievements of minority ethnic individuals and communities. As such there are no structured mechanisms to measure the equality impact of such contributions in place.

However, the Scottish Government does receive feedback from attendees and organisers on the overall impact of these events.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pg=S3W-25694>

Jamie McGrigor (Highlands and Islands) (Con) (S3W-25695): To ask the Scottish Executive what its response is to concerns raised by Black and Ethnic Minorities Infrastructure in Scotland (BEMIS) on the commercialisation of the race equality agenda through award schemes driven by private business ventures.

Reply from Alex Neil: The Scottish Government is committed to achieving race equality and works closely with partners such as BEMIS towards this goal.

The Scottish Government's focus in achieving race equality has always been, and will continue to be, on supporting the contribution of the voluntary sector and driving to achieve change in the public sector. The Scottish Government does not wish to see this agenda commercialised.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pg=S3W-25695>

Jamie McGrigor (Highlands and Islands) (Con) (S3W-25696): To ask the Scottish Executive what post event monitoring exists for stakeholders, including itself, as to the effectiveness of minority ethnic award ceremonies, facilitated through private consultants, in overcoming barriers for diverse communities and in ensuring financial prudence over public money.

Equality

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

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<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pg=S3W-25696>

New publication

Duty to promote democracy: Equality impact assessment

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/1306186.pdf>

News

Harman defends equalities chief

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/8180432.stm

Audit attacking equality czar Trevor Phillips ‘toned down’

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/politics/article6736128.ece>

Parliamentary inquiries pile further pressure on Phillips

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/parliamentary-inquiries-pile-further-pressure-on-phillips-1763233.html>

Under-fire equalities chief is defended by minister

http://www.theherald.co.uk/politics/news/display.var.2523554.0.Underfire_equalities_chief_is_defended_by_minister.php

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Downing Street e-Petition

We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to update harassment laws to prohibit religious bullying aimed at children.

The current laws on harassment are not sufficient to protect children from the sort of bullying that religious groups use every day to coerce children into obedience and belief. Threatening an adult with eternal torture may be distasteful but is not likely to result in psychological damage. This is not the case with children. The effects of religious bullying can be long-term and serious, from nightmares and depression to anxiety disorders and even suicide. The fact that threats of damnation, torture and other extreme punishment

Racism and Religious Hatred

Downing Street e-Petition (continued)

are used routinely is clear evidence that existing laws are insufficient. We call on the Prime Minister to clarify the existing harassment laws by adding clauses outlawing any form of threat, supernatural or otherwise, aimed at children; and to provide guidance to the police and other authorities on the enforcement of these laws.”

Government response

The Government has a range of measures in place already for preventing and addressing bullying in schools and in the community.

Every maintained school by law must provide Religious Education (RE) which helps pupils to learn about the concept of religion and belief and its significance to peoples’ lives and society. Schools are also under a statutory duty to determine measures which promote good behaviour, respect for others and prevent all forms of bullying, including bullying related to race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, disability, gender or gender identity. This provision was enacted in the School Standards and Framework Act in 1998 and was re-enacted in the Education and Inspections Act 2006. In addition the Government has introduced a statutory duty on schools to promote community cohesion, which came into effect from September 2007.

The community cohesion duty requires schools to achieve a situation where children:

- understand others, value diversity, apply and defend human rights and are skilled in participation and responsible action;
- fulfil their potential and succeed at the highest level possible, with no barriers to access and participation in learning and to wider activities, and no variation between outcomes for different groups;
- have real and positive relationships with people from different backgrounds, and feel part of a community, at a local, national and international level.

In terms of discrimination legislation and the expression of religious view in schools, all schools, have a responsibility for the welfare of the children in their care and to adhere to curriculum guidance including that for Religious Education. If religious beliefs are explained in an appropriate way in an educational context that takes into account existing guidance on the delivery of RE, then schools should not be acting unlawfully under discrimination legislation. However, if a school conveyed its belief in a way that involved haranguing or berating a particular pupil or group of pupils then this would be unacceptable in any circumstances and might constitute unlawful discrimination.

More generally, schools need to explain any religious views in an appropriate way bearing in mind that schools should promote respect between pupils and are under a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils at the school.

In their inspections Ofsted will look at whether schools have appropriate systems in place for tackling all forms of bullying and that they meet the duty to promote community cohesion. School Inspectors will routinely seek views from pupils about their experiences, including whether they feel free from bullying and harassment.

The Department of Children Schools and Families (DCSF) has produced a suite of guidance entitled ‘Safe to Learn: embedding anti-bullying work in schools’ which provides schools with information and advice on how to prevent and tackle all forms of bullying. The guidance was published in September 2007 together with specialist advice on homophobic bullying and cyberbullying and it links to existing guidance published in March 2006 on ‘Bullying Around Race Religion and Culture’. In 2008 the Department published additional guidance on how to prevent and tackle the bullying of children with special educational needs and disabilities, and are currently developing new guidance on bullying related to gender and gender identity to ensure schools have information and advice relating to all the equality strands.

Racism and Religious Hatred

Downing Street e-Petition (continued)

In April 2009 DCSF launched guidance to help practitioners prevent and tackle bullying of children and young people in out-of-school settings such as: further education colleges, play and leisure provision, youth activities, Children's Homes, extended services in and around schools and on journeys around the community. These guidance documents – titled 'Safe from Bullying' – sets out how different local services can work together to put a stop to bullying, including racist bullying. It includes guidance for practitioners in each of these settings, along with a guide for local authorities and a set of training resources for staff.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance and the National Strategies advisers are providing support and challenge to LAs and schools, helping them to improve their anti-bullying policies and strategies, and will ensure that the Safe to Learn guidance is effectively embedded in schools. The Anti-Bullying Alliance also will support local areas to tackle bullying in their communities by developing their field force of regional anti-bullying advisers. The Department will monitor the situation closely and provide support and challenge, where necessary.

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/Page20258>

New publications

Stephen Lawrence Inquiry 10 Years On (Home Office)

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/pdfs/SLIGovtResponse-09.pdf>

European Anti-Discrimination Law Review

http://www.migpolgroup.org/public/docs/155.EuropeanAnti-discLawReview_8_27.07.09_EN.pdf

News

'Bully made me suicidal'

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/8170648.stm>

Race hate thug kicked out of his council flat

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2522722.0.race_hate_thug_kicked_out_of_his_council_flat.php

Jailed for racist attack on student

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2009/07/30/newsstory13533744t0.asp>

Mixing children reduces division

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/ireland/article6736287.ece>

Muslim women avoid reporting racism

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/8187259.stm>

Mosque threat man avoids prison

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow_and_west/8190172.stm

Muslim fury after racist avoids jail for bomb threat

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Muslim-fury-after-racist-avoids.5535826.jp>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

No jail for racist who threatened to blow up Scotland's mosques

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2009/08/08/no-jail-for-racist-who-threatened-to-blow-up-scotland-s-mosques-86908-21582384/>

Mass brawl between right-wing group 'linked to BNP' and anti-fascists as race riots spill onto streets of Birmingham

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1205263/Police-arrest-31-demonstration-Islamic-fundamentalism.html>

Labour candidate 'was sent sectarian messages'

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/scotland/article6788783.ece>

'Racist bias' blamed for disparity in police DNA database

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2009/aug/09/police-dna-database-black-children>

Man's face slashed in race attack

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow_and_west/8192235.stm

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Other Holyrood

Press Release

Local Area Labour Market Statistics

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2009/07/29104422>

New publication

Local Area Labour Markets in Scotland: Statistics from the Annual Population Survey 2008

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/280316/0084451.pdf>

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Other Westminster

Downing Street e-Petition

We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to ensure that the UK Government uses all of its powers to reject and, if possible, veto any attempt at the United Nations to limit free speech in relation to religion and any associated attempt to criminalise the criticism of religion and encourage other governments to similarly reject/veto any such attempt.

The Organisation of the Islamic Conference, a voting block within the United Nations, is currently attempting to use its power within that organisation to seek to have a binding resolution made attempting to force governments to criminalise freedom of expression. In pursuing this course of action it seeks to promote the idea that religion can be defamed and that criticism of religion should be outlawed. This is a gross violation of the most basic and fundamental of Human Rights, that of freedom of speech. It must be countered

Other Westminster Downing Street e-Petition (continued)

by all governments wherever possible and properly identified for what it is, a blatant attempt to stifle debate and criticism of religion. Religions do not have rights, people do. Whilst this is being introduced by Islamic countries it is not specific to the religion of Islam. The original non-binding resolution can be found on the UN web site.

Government response

The British Government is committed to protecting the human rights of all, including the rights to freedom of expression, and to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. These rights are guaranteed by the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

The resolution on defamation of religions was first introduced at the Commission of Human Rights in 1999 and again during the 10th session of the Human Rights Council held in March 2009 in Geneva. The United Kingdom, as with all other members of the European Union, has consistently opposed this resolution on the grounds that it limits the right to freedom of expression. The UK does not accept that defamation of religion is a human rights concept. International human rights law protects individuals in the exercise of their freedom of religion or belief: it does not protect beliefs, faiths or philosophies. However, we strongly support the right to freedom of religion or belief, and believe that it is complementary to the right to freedom of expression.

The right to freedom of expression is not absolute and can be subject to certain restrictions that are provided by law and are necessary for respecting the rights or reputations of others, or for the protection of national security or of public order, public health or morals. In line with our domestic legislation, we have argued that that any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence should be prohibited by law, in accordance with the international obligations of States and that these prohibitions are consistent with freedom of opinion and expression.

The United Kingdom will continue to protect and promote freedom of expression internationally, including by opposing attempts to curtail it by deploying the concept of defamation of religions.

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/Page20244>

Press Release

The inaugural Mosaic International Summer School

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/newsroom/latest-news/?view=News&id=20642237>

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New Publications

Scotland's Population 2008 - The Registrar General's Annual Review of Demographic Trends 154th Edition

<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/files2/stats/scotlands-population-2008-the-registrar-generals-annual-review-of-demographic-trends-154th-edition/scotlands-population-2008-the-register-generals-annual-review-154th-edition.pdf>

House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee: Human Rights Annual Report 2008

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmselect/cmfaff/557/557.pdf>

New Publications (continued)

Media4Diversity: Taking the Pulse of Diversity in the Media

http://www.media4diversity.eu/files/Media4Diversity_Publication_Web.pdf

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Other News

Lessons in 'true' Islam to stop youth turning to terrorism

http://www.sundayherald.com/news/heraldnews/display.var.2524586.0.lessons_in_true_islam_to_stop_youth_turning_to_terrorism.php

Reclaiming Islam

http://www.sundayherald.com/oped/opinion/display.var.2524513.0.reclaiming_islam.php

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Bills in Progress ** New or updated this week

Holyrood

Arbitration Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/19-Arbitration/index.htm>

Criminal Justice and Licensing Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/24-CrimJustLc/index.htm>

Bills in Progress Westminster

Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/borderscitizenshipandimmigration.html>

Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/crownemploymentnationality.html>

Equality Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/equality.html>

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Consultations

(closing date)

** new or updated this week

****closes next week**

Cycling Action Plan for Scotland (20 August 2009)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/273788/0081826.pdf>

**** Runnymede Trust: Online Survey on Financial Inclusion and Ethnicity** (no closing date given)

<http://www.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?CEEA869BC7889C9C>

Preventing Violent Extremism (closes 17 September 2009)

http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/clg/clgpn090721pve.cfm

Equality Bill: Policy Proposals for Specific Duties (30 September)

<http://www.equalities.gov.uk/PDF/Specific%20Duties%20Consultation%20DocumentWEB.pdf>

Freedom of Information: Improving Openness (30 September)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/278119/0083564.pdf>

**** Earning the right to stay: A new points test for citizenship** (26 October)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/221878/earning-the-right-to-stay/earning-the-right-to-stay/earned-citizenship-consultation?view=Binary>

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Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities advertised in MEMO+ Recruitment

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Funding Opportunities

Faiths in Scotland Community Action Fund

Closing date for applications: 30 September 2009

The fund works with local faith groups as they build hope and struggle against poverty by providing grants and support in Scotland's most fragile urban and rural communities. Applications of up to £15,000 will be considered. This may be spread over a maximum of three years, with no more than £7,500 being awarded in the first year. For information see <http://www.fiscaf.org/index.htm>

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**** next week!**

Citizens for Sanctuary

19 August 2009 in Glasgow (5.30 – 7.30)

Citizens for Sanctuary event to train people to campaign for the implementation of the Independent Asylum Commission Recommendations. For information contact Jonathan Cox evidence@cof.org.uk or see

http://www.scojec.org/memo//files/09viii_citizens_for_sanctuary.pdf

**** next week!**

Introduction to Working with Asylum Seekers & Refugees

20 August 2009 in Glasgow

8 October 2009 in Glasgow

8 December 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to identify the issues and concerns participants have in relation to working with asylum seekers and refugees, provide information on legal, political, economic and historical factors in relation to people seeking asylum, share ideas for developing good practice, and to identify strategies and resources for work with refugees. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=73>

EveryOne IN: Working towards Equality for Minority Ethnic Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People in Scotland

28 August 2009 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.30)

BEMIS and Equality Network report launch and opportunity discuss issues including how faith and religion can impact on the lives of Minority Ethnic LGBT individuals, problems faced by Minority Ethnic LGBT asylum seekers, refugees & migrants, Minority Ethnic LGBT people's experiences of discrimination and harassment, and the importance of celebrating Minority Ethnic LGBT diversity and cultural heritage. For information contact timc@equality-network.org / 07020 933 952 or see

<http://www.bemis.org.uk/Everyone%20IN%20report%20launch%20INVITE.doc>

**** The Evolving Face of Discrimination Legislation: The Equality Bill**

31 August 2009 in Glasgow (10.00 – 1.00)

Legal Services Agency seminar to provide an insight into the key aspects of the Equality Bill and what this could mean for employers and employees. For information see

<http://www.lsa.org.uk/discriminationlegislationtheequalitybill.aspx>

UKBA (formerly NASS) Asylum Support - The Essentials

3 September 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course covering the asylum process and the legal framework, support arrangements available to asylum seekers from the beginning to the end of the asylum process, and entitlements for refugees and unaccompanied or separated asylum-seeking children. For information contact SRC 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=60>

Postive Action in Housing AGM

4 September 2009 in Glasgow (11.00)

For information contact home@paih.org

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Working with Interpreters

22 September in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to address practical, ethical and professional issues regarding working with interpreters, including briefing on legal obligations and entitlement to services. For information contact 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Scottish Third Sector Research Conference

26 October 2009 in Edinburgh (9.45 – 5.00)

Conference organised by SCVO in conjunction with the Centre for Public Services Research, Edinburgh University Business School to connect researchers, policy-makers and practitioners to ensure Scotland's Voluntary Sector has the latest knowledge and research at its fingertips. For information contact Ian Lees ian.lees@scvo.org.uk

To find out how to submit a paper for the conference see

<http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Information/ViewInformation.aspx?al=t&page=&all=&from=DSR&Info=1946&TCID=30&PageName=Impact>

An Introduction to the Needs and Experiences of Refugee Women

12 November 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for people working with asylum seekers and refugees who need a comprehensive understanding of the core issues affecting women seeking sanctuary in Scotland. For information contact 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Scottish Charity Accounts and Reporting to OSCR

30 November 2009 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 4.30)

SCVO seminar to look at what OSCR expects from charities in terms of compliance. For information contact Jane Baillie 0131 474 8019 / jane.baillie@scvo.org.uk

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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

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

Scottish Inter Faith Council <http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org/>

Equality and Human Rights Commission <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/>
Scotland Helpline 0845 604 5510

Useful Links (continued)

Scottish Human Rights Commission <http://scottishhumanrights.com/>

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

SCVO <http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Home/Home.aspx>

Volunteer Development Scotland 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

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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 the development of the Ethnic Minority Third Sector and communities. **BEMIS** aims: To empower and build the capacity of minority formal and informal community organisations; As a strategic partner with Government, to be proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland; and To help 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/>