

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with **BEMIS - empowering Scotland's ethnic and cultural minority communities**. 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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Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month.

Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to MEMO@scojec.org and requests to be added to circulation to mail@bemis.org.uk

The UK Parliament will return from recess on 6 June 2011.

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S4M-00187 Christina McKelvie: Refugee Week Scotland, 20 to 26 June 2011— That the Parliament celebrates Refugee Week Scotland, co-ordinated by the Scottish Refugee Council, on 20 to 26 June 2011; notes that this year's refugee week will mark the 60th anniversary of the 1951 Refugee Convention, the key international legal document defining who is a refugee, their rights and the legal obligations of states; considers that the convention and its 1967 protocol have saved millions of lives across the world; further celebrates the contribution that refugees who have fled to Scotland from countries such as Hungary, Chile, Vietnam, Kosovo, Iraq, Zimbabwe and Afghanistan have made to the country and the courage that they have shown to flee persecution and rebuild their lives here; welcomes the statements made by Alex Salmond, First Minister of Scotland, on 18 May 2011 in his opening speech to the Parliament that Scotland is "built on an old custom of hospitality" and "it belongs to all who choose to call it home. That includes new Scots who have escaped persecution or conflict in Africa or the Middle East...", and pays tribute to the many dedicated people and organisations across Scotland, such as the members of Hamilton's Justice and Peace

Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Motion (continued)

Group, who have campaigned for fair treatment of refugees and worked to help people forced to flee their own countries make a new home in Scotland.

Direct links to Session 4 Motions are still unavailable on the Scottish Parliament website. The above Motions appear in the Business Bulletin at

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-11/bb-06-03f.htm>

Press Releases

Home Affairs Committee report on immigration and asylum: government response

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2011/june/03-hac-response>

'There is no amnesty'

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/no-amnesty>

Home Affairs Select Committee releases report on the UK Border Agency

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/1163_home_affairs_select_committee_releases_report_on_the_uk_border_agency

Asylum proposals: a more protective and effective Common European Asylum System

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/11/365&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Common European Asylum System: better protection and solidarity for people seeking international protection

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/665&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

New Publication

The work of the UK Border Agency (November 2010–March 2011)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201012/cmselect/cmhaff/929/929.pdf>

News

Asylum seekers barred from university

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2011/may/31/asylum-seekers-overseas-students-fees>

Row over report on failed asylum seekers scheme

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/politics/row-over-report-on-failed-asylum-seekers-scheme-1.1104821>

Committee attacks the UK Border Agency over amnesty allegations

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/committee-attacks-the-uk-border-agency-over-amnesty-allegations-1.1104817>

Asylum seekers 'granted amnesty' by UK Border Agency

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-13617183>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

We're fighting a losing battle over asylum

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/columnists/aldasair-palmer/8556688/Were-fighting-a-losing-battle-over-asylum.html>

Damian Green is right to refuse the 'amnesty' label

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/jun/02/damian-green-amnesty-asylum-seekers>

Immigration minister denies asylum amnesty

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2011/jun/02/immigration-minister-denies-asylum-amnesty>

160,000 asylum seekers granted amnesty by the backdoor, say MPs

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/jun/02/160000-asylum-seekers-granted-amnesty>

Former official in charge of 'shambolic' immigration service earned £1m

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/8552365/Former-official-in-charge-of-shambolic-immigration-service-earned-1m.html>

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Race Relations

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S4M-00159 Bob Doris: Recognition for Scotland's Emerging African and Caribbean Communities—That the Parliament congratulates all the nominees and winners at the 2011 Scottish Minority Ethnic Achievement Awards; pays particular tribute to the award-winning representatives of the African and Caribbean community including the African and Caribbean Network, an umbrella organisation that represents and supports 10,000 people in Glasgow and the surrounding area, Radio Kilimanjaro, Scotland's first African radio station, and Nyakio Kim, winner of the female under-25 New Horizons award; considers that the awards are a clear indication of the growing recognition of the significant contribution that African and Caribbean communities make to Scotland, and looks forward to African and Caribbean groups playing a major role in the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Direct links to Session 4 Motions are still unavailable on the Scottish Parliament website but the above Motion is available in the Business Bulletin at

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-11/bb-06-01f.htm>

Press Release

Religious leaders discuss democracy, liberty with EP President

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/en/headlines/content/20110526STO20296/html/Religious-leaders-discuss-democracy-liberty-with-EP-President>

Race Relations (continued) **New Publications**

Runnymede Spring 2011 bulletin

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/56732231/Spring-2011-Runnymede-Bulletin-Arts-Culture>

Teenage drinking and interethnic friendships

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/teenage-drinking-interethnic-FULL.pdf>

News

Italian families swapped the not-so-dolce vita for Dunfermline

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/News/Fife/article/14600/italian-families-swapped-the-not-so-dolce-vita-for-dunfermline.html>

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Equality

Press Release

Commission appoints Chief Executive

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/news/2011/june/commission-appoints-chief-executive/>

News

Equality and Human Rights Commission staff to strike

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-13642994>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

News

Don't ignore bigotry, warn Northern Ireland leaders

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/politics/don-t-ignore-bigotry-warn-northern-ireland-leaders-1.1104592>

Aberdeen Jewish family living in terror after a bloodied pig's head is left on their doorstep

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2011/06/01/aberdeen-jewish-family-living-in-terror-after-a-bloodied-pig-s-head-is-left-on-their-doorstep-86908-23171691/>

Christians take prejudice row to Strasbourg

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/8556650/Christians-take-prejudice-row-to-Strasbourg.html>

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Other Holyrood

Press Release

UK Supreme Court

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2011/06/04200343>

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Other Westminster

Press Release

Moore provides First Minister with work of UK Expert Group

<http://www.scotlandoffice.gov.uk/scotlandoffice/15501.html>

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New Publications

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator: External Stakeholder Research 2011

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/DocumentViewer.aspx?id=d21854fd-49b7-4e20-b4bf-294b593f0545>

Central Registered Body in Scotland Newsletter: The Transition to PVG

<http://charityemail.org.uk/7XU-FV3I-3YCE38-66HJB-1/c.aspx>

The European Union explained: a toolkit for teachers

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/news/latest-news/?view=News&id=604961982>

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Other News

Airport to host security open day for minorities

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/Airport-to-host-security-open.6777617.jp>

Regulation has positive impact, says survey

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/NewsItem.aspx?ID=4a29efb4-b6c3-4c43-abc9-2ffba8f9b907>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Bills in Progress Westminster

Fixed Term Parliaments Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/fixedtermparliaments.html>

Bills in Progress

Westminster (continued)

Scotland Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/scotland.html>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Reform of the Equality and Human Rights Commission (15 June 2011)

http://www.equalities.gov.uk/what_we_do/ehrc_reform.aspx

Practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (21 June 2011)

The UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, Mr. Githu Muigai, will receive contributions for a forthcoming report to the General Assembly. Contributions should be sent to racism@ohchr.org

Forced Marriage Statutory Guidance Consultation (1 July 2011)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/347416/0115668.pdf>

Planning for traveller sites (England and Wales) (6 July 2011)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1886164.pdf>

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Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities

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Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

UK Government Equalities Office: Progress Funding

Closing date for applications: 8 June 2011

The European Commission is inviting proposals from Member States for funding for national awareness-raising activities in support of the Community's anti-discrimination agenda. National authorities can nominate non-profit making organisations, e.g. an NGO or an equality body, to carry out activities on their behalf. In the UK the Government Equalities Office is the "national authority".

The PROGRESS programme is concerned with:

"Raising awareness, disseminating information and promoting the debate about the key challenges and policy issues in relation to discrimination and the mainstreaming of anti-discrimination in all Community policies, including among the social partners, NGOs and other stakeholders."

Funding Opportunities (continued)

Each national authority can present one or two projects. Activities must start in 2011, and can have up to 80% of total eligible costs financed. The remainder of the costs are to be found from other sources.

For more information see

http://www.equalities.gov.uk/news/progress_funding.aspx

50th Anniversary Robertson Trust Awards

Closing date for applications: 31 July 2011

Organisations that have ever received a grant from the Robertson Trust are invited to apply for grants between £10,000 and £100,000 for projects that will enhance, expand or develop their core activities, and make a difference to life in Scotland: locally, regionally or Scotland-wide. For information and application forms see

<http://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/index.php/50th-anniversary-awards/>

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Network on Migration Action Group

8 June 2011 in Glasgow (2.00 – 4.30)

Migrants Rights Scotland meeting to consider the development of a rights-based network on migration in Scotland and take leadership in bringing about change. For information contact Hyo Eun Shin csp@migrantsrightsscotland.org.uk

**** this week!**

Working with Interpreters

9 June 2011 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an understanding of best practice when working with interpreters, learn about service providers' responsibilities, and how to develop or improve existing practice. Participants will also learn how to communicate effectively with their service-users when using interpreters. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/3gt2h8b> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** this week!**

Find out more about your child's education

10 June 2011 in Glasgow (11.00 – 1.00)

BEMIS in partnership with Learning and Teaching Scotland are holding a meeting to enable ethnic and cultural minority communities to have a say in their child's education. For information contact Tanveer Parnez 0141 548 8047 / tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk

**** this week!**

Ethnic Minority Workplaces Event

10 June 2011 in Glasgow (9.45 – 2.00)

NHS event to create awareness of Workplace Health Improvement Initiatives in addition to Healthy Working Lives Awards amongst ethnic minority workplaces in Glasgow. For information contact Mariam Abbas at mariam.abbas@ggc.scot.nhs.uk.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** this week!**

1951 UN Refugee Convention - 60 Years On

13 June 2011 in Glasgow (9.30 – 5.30)

GRAMNET colloquium to discuss how changing socio-political contexts have affected refugees and asylum seekers in the UK, and throughout Europe. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/events_calendar/1007_gramnet_postgraduate_colloquium

**** this week!**

Refugee Stories at the Kelvingrove

until 2 July 2011 in Glasgow

Exhibition to illustrate the stories of three refugees who rebuilt their lives in Scotland, from the 1940s to the present day, including film, newspaper articles, photographs and objects illustrating the lives of Henry Wuga from Germany, Carlos Arredondo from Chile and Patience Tsungu from Zimbabwe. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/3spddpb>

Celebrate 60 Years of Sanctuary

16 June 2011 in Edinburgh (6.00 – 8.00)

Refugee Survival Trust networking evening to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the right to asylum as set out in the UN Refugee Convention. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/3v9sn2m>

Glasgow Mela

18 - 19 June 2011 in Glasgow

A weekend of live music, dance, entertainment and arts. For information see <http://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/events/mela/Pages/default.aspx>

Refugee Week

20 – 26 June 2011

A wide range of events to celebrate the contributions refugees have made to Scotland in the 60 years since the signing of the UN Refugee Convention. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/445whqu>

Sixty Years of the Refugee Convention

20 – 28 June 2011 in Glasgow

A short film produced by the Scottish Refugee Council and Media Co-op depicting some of the extraordinary stories of those forced to flee their home countries who forge new lives in Scotland. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/3w3s6nn>

The Past, Present and Future of Sanctuary and Asylum

21 June 2011 in Glasgow (6.00pm)

Anthropologist and human rights activist, Linda Rabben, discusses the history of sanctuary and asylum, present-day asylum policies and the future of both institutions. For information see

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/events_calendar/1013_the_past_present_and_future_of_sanctuary_and_asylum

Some Words for Home

21 June 2011 in Glasgow (7.45pm)

The story of two Jewish refugees who escaped the atrocities of World War II to make a home for themselves in Scotland. For information see

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/events_calendar/1088_some_words_for_home_by_oliver_emanuel

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Scottish Refugee Council's Women's Morning

23 June 2011 in Glasgow (10.00 – 12.30)

Information and advice on asylum support, housing, volunteering, opportunities for children and young people. Female interpreters will be available. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/events_calendar/1080_scottish_refugee_council_s_women_s_morning

Personal Stories

23 June 2011 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

Glasgow Integration Network launch of a booklet containing personal accounts of asylum seekers and refugees living in North Glasgow. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/events_calendar/1081_personal_stories_booklet_launch

Human Rights and Wrongs

23 June 2011 in Glasgow (7.00pm)

Talk by journalist Billy Briggs about the themes illustrated in the Human Rights and Wrongs Exhibition. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/events_calendar/1002_human_rights_and_wrongs_exhibition_talk_by_billy_briggs

One Scotland Many Voices Film Festival

24 June 2011 in Glasgow (7.00 – 9.00)

Interactive evening of short films, discussions and live entertainment. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/events_calendar/1035_one_scotland_many_voices_film_festival

Refugees and Employment in Scotland

25 June 2011 in Glasgow (3.00 – 6.00)

Opportunity to meet representatives from a variety of employment support agencies to learn what employment and volunteering opportunities. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/events_calendar/1054_refugees_and_employment_in_scotland

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

30 June 2011 in Glasgow

2 August 2011 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training providing a comprehensive understanding of core issues affecting those seeking sanctuary in Scotland. It is particularly relevant for those working in social work, housing, welfare, education, employment, health, community development or the justice system. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/3gnyvmm> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

The needs and experiences of refugee women

5 July 2011 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide a thorough understanding of fundamental issues affecting women seeking asylum in Scotland. It is appropriate for those working in social work, housing, welfare, education, employment, health, community development or the justice system. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/4x62hfa> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Youth Interfaith Conference

21 June 2011 in East Kilbride (10.00 – 3.00)

ACPOS conference in partnership with the Scottish Inter Faith Council for 16 to 26 year olds to explore interfaith in Scotland including the role of the media in portraying faith, faith and identity in Scotland, and hate crime. For information contact Anton Stephenson Anton.Stephenson@centralscotland.pnn.police.uk / 01786 456 993.

OSCR Outreach Programme: Supporting Charities in Financial Difficulties

21 June 2011 in Inverness (2.00 – 4.30)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training for charity advisors only. For information see <http://www.oscr.org.uk/EventItem.aspx?ID=e7fa2654-8add-46f3-b8c5-2694d484ff50>

**** Working Together for Equality**

29 June 2011 in Glasgow (9.30 – 2.00)

EveryoneIN seminar to provide an update on work to bring people together from across the equality strands of race, faith, gender identity and sexual orientation. For information contact Sam Rankin sam@equality-network.org / 07747040355 or Lynne Davies lynne@equality-network.org / 0131 467 6039

BA in Community Development programme

Applications accepted until mid August 2011, Course begins September 2011

The University of Glasgow's BA in Community Development is sponsored by BEMIS as part of its programme for capacity building strategy for the ethnic minority's voluntary sector. For information see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/adds/11iv_bemis.pdf and http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/adds/11iv_bemis2.pdf or contact Tanveer Parnez tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

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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, empowering, and building the capacity of minority third sector community organisations. As a strategic partner with Government, it is proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland, and helps 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/>

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