

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, and that the Scottish and UK Parliament and Government websites been redesigned, so that links published in back issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on these websites, copy details from MEMO into the relevant search facility.

Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to MEMO@scojec.org and [click here](#) to be added to the mailing list.

**The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 16 April 2018.
The UK Parliament is in recess until 17 April 2018.**

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

Asylum seekers

S5W-15477 Pauline McNeill (Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what action it takes to ensure that the (a) legal system and (b) legislation regarding repossession ensures that the rights of asylum seekers are protected, and that this group is not subject to arbitrary (i) intrusion, (ii) eviction or (iii) homelessness.

Reply from Kevin Stewart: Provision of support for asylum seekers - including delivery and management of asylum accommodation - is a reserved matter, for which the Home Office is responsible.

The Home Office is currently tendering the next asylum accommodation contract for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2029. The Scottish Government has made clear to the Home Office that whoever provides asylum accommodation in Scotland under that contract must comply with Scottish legislation on letting agents and housing standards.

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-11445 Gordon MacDonald (SNP): Passport Rule Change to Enable Syrian Refugee Child to Go on School Trip – That the Parliament congratulates the efforts of the staff at Canal View Primary School and Joanna Cherry MP on successfully petitioning the Home Office to change its procedures in issuing a passport to Mohammed, a Syrian refugee child at the school, in order that he may participate in a class trip to Spain won by the school as part of a competition; particularly praises the class teacher, Eilidh Mears, and head teacher, Ann Moore, for their work on campaigning for this change; recognises that Joanna Cherry MP raised this matter at Prime Minister's Questions, which prompted its referral to the Home Office; understands that the P7A class at Canal View Primary School produced a stop-motion film, which won the Jet2 competition for a holiday to Sol Katmandu Park & Resort in Majorca; appreciates that the class will take part in fun educational workshops while on the holiday, and commends all those involved for their efforts to ensure that the whole class can enjoy its well-deserved experience together.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-11445>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Immigration

John Redwood (Conservative) [134467] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when the Government plans to meet its target for net inward migration.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government remains committed to bringing net migration down to sustainable levels. It will take time to achieve this. We will manage reforms to the immigration system responsibly so that it continues to serve the national interest.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-27/134467/>

Immigration

John Redwood (Conservative) [134468] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when she plans to publish her policy on migration after the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In December 2017, we reached a deal with the EU on citizens' rights. Last week, we reached a reciprocal agreement with the EU on citizens' rights in the Implementation Period.

The government is considering a range of options for the future immigration system and will set out proposals later this year. We have asked the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to advise in September this year on the economic and social impacts of UK's exit from the EU and also on how the UK's immigration system should be aligned with a modern industrial strategy. The MAC published an interim report on 27 March and we will be considering the detail of their interim report closely.

The Government will have sufficient time to take account of the MAC's advice when making any final decisions about our future immigration system, which will be implemented from 2021.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-27/134468/>

Human Trafficking

Carolyn Harris (Labour) [134491] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what data her Department collects on the number of confirmed victims of trafficking who are subsequently re-trafficked once they have left the National Referral Mechanism.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The ability to monitor long term outcomes for confirmed victims that leave the National Referral Mechanism and do not wish to maintain contact is extremely difficult.

As part of the National Referral Mechanism reform programme, we are introducing access to a 6 month 'drop-in' service for confirmed victims following leaving Government funded support, in addition to implementing a digital system that will improve our ability to identify individuals who have previously been through the National Referral Mechanism.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-27/134491/>

Press Release

More help for trafficking victims

<https://news.gov.scot/news/more-help-for-trafficking-victims>

New Publications

Immigration Act 2016: Updated Guidance on adults at risk in immigration detention

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/547519/Adults_at_Risk_August_2016.pdf

Example case studies: EU citizens' rights in the UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/example-case-studies-eu-citizens-rights-in-the-uk>

News

Home Office letter nudges asylum seekers to return home

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/apr/02/home-office-letter-asylum-seekers-go-home>

MP slams UK Government detention policy as "absolute disgrace" after Dungavel suicide watch figures are revealed

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16144601._quot_A_tragedy_quot_Suicide_watch_figures_at_Dungavel_detention_centre_revealed/

Home Office man falsified records for hundreds of illegal immigrants

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/home-office-man-falsified-records-for-hundreds-of-illegal-immigrants-8px5prc2g>

Young asylum seekers 'face blanket study ban'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/apr/08/young-asylum-seekers-education-ban>

At least one person a day is self-harming in UK detention centres

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/one-person-a-day-selfharming-uk-detention-centres-a8285206.html>

Funding boost for human trafficking support groups

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-43611683>

Deportation of parent with dependent EU citizen child

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/register/deportation-of-parent-with-dependent-eu-citizen-child-lvmq0pbk9>

Christian refugees from the Middle East may never be able to return home. Why isn't Britain making them welcome?

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/04/01/christian-refugees-middle-east-may-never-able-return-home-isnt/>

Disabled Briton held in immigration removal centre for four months

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/apr/04/disabled-briton-held-immigration-removal-centre-four-months>

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Community Relations

News

Scotland divided over respect levels for religion

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-04-02/scotland/scotland-divided-over-respect-levels-for-religion-bb7r0rpnr>

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Equality

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

Equality Evidence Finder

S5W-15586 Annie Wells (Conservative): To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking in relation to its Equality Evidence Finder to prioritise identifying gaps, defining projects and working with research partners to improve evidence based on ethnicity.

Reply from Angela Constance: Scotland's Equality Evidence Strategy, published in July 2017, outlines the Scottish Government's plans to work in concert with its partner organisations and academic colleagues to strengthen Scotland's equality evidence base. High quality equality evidence and analysis is vital to underpin effective and inclusive policy making in Scotland, and a stronger evidence base on ethnicity will help inform the Race Equality Action Plan and actions in the Race Equality Framework.

During the development of the evidence strategy the Scottish Government held a roundtable event with its stakeholders to discuss evidence gaps on ethnicity. Over the four year period of the strategy it intends to hold further discussions to prioritise identified gaps, define projects and work with research partners to improve the evidence base. In addition, the Scottish Government carried out a survey of Equality Evidence Finder users in 2017 and intends to use the findings from this to help modernise the web resource and improve the presentation of online ethnicity evidence to better meet the needs of users.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-15586>

Scottish Parliament Equalities and Human Rights Committee

Human Rights and the Scottish Parliament

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11460&i=104097#ScotParLOR>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Travellers: Equality

Baroness Whitaker (Labour) [HL6728] To ask Her Majesty's Government what mechanisms will be in place after Brexit to take the place of the EU Roma Integration Strategy to improve the life outcomes of Gypsies, Travellers and Roma.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: As the Prime Minister has said, to leave the EU does not mark an ending. It marks a new beginning for the UK and our relationship with our European allies. We will continue to advance Roma integration within broader social inclusion and integration policies, and champion race equality at international level in a wide range of settings, collaborating with the Council of Europe and the United Nations. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has also published an Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper.

This invites views on the Government's vision for building strong integrated communities where people – whatever their background – live, work, learn and socialise together, based on shared rights, responsibilities and opportunities. We encourage all groups, including Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, to engage with the Green Paper.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-03-27/HL6728/>

The Green Paper referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/integrated-communities-strategy-green-paper>

Travellers: Equality

Baroness Whitaker (Labour) [HL6785] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the recommendation of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination that the UK should “develop a comprehensive strategy, in consultation with members of Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities” to improve outcomes in housing and employment.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: The Government is concerned about the inequalities experienced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. The Race Disparity Audit has shown us these groups are amongst the most disadvantaged in British society. We are committed to do more to ensure nobody is excluded or left behind. The UK Government supports efforts at international level to further the integration of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, including through the United Nations International Convention for the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination (UN ICERD), on which the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government leads.

The Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper, published in March, invites views on the Government's vision for building strong integrated communities where people – whatever their background – live, work, learn and socialise together, based on shared rights, responsibilities and opportunities. We encourage all groups, including Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, to engage with the Green Paper.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-03-28/HL6785/>

News

Nicola Sturgeon urged to reconsider after 'snubbing' UK-wide race inequality audit

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16138890.nicola-sturgeon-urged-to-reconsider-after-snubbing-uk-wide-race-inequality-audit/?ref=mr&lp=6>

We need to address our ethnic pay gap with mandatory reporting – just as we're doing with gender

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/mandatory-pay-gap-reporting-ethnic-minoritiies-a8287796.html>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-11442 James Dornan (SNP): Acknowledging Sectarianism in Scotland – That the Parliament considers that sectarianism is still rife within a number of communities in Scotland, primarily in the west of Scotland, including in the Glasgow Cathcart constituency; believes that there is no difference in people being abused because of their heritage, religion or race; condemns the recent outbursts of what it considers the clearly sectarian language and excusing of such on social media; believes that words such as "Fenian" and "Orange" should not be used in a derogatory context; notes the view that it is up to everyone in Scottish society, including politicians, to acknowledge that the use of language is crucial if what it sees as Scotland's continuing shame of sectarianism is to be tackled, and notes the calls for all people to stand up against bigots in Scotland who harm the country's reputation and its citizens.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-11442>

Press Releases

Message of solidarity to Welsh Muslims

<http://gov.wales/newsroom/people-and-communities/2018/message-solidarity-welsh-muslims/?lang=en>

Political will, sufficient state resources necessary to stop racism, discrimination against Roma and Sinti, ODIHR Director says ahead of International Roma Day

<https://www.osce.org/odihr/377275>

Many EU Roma face life like people in the world's poorer countries

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/press-release/2018/many-eu-roma-face-life-people-worlds-poorer-countries>

New Publication

A persisting concern: anti-Gypsyism as a barrier to Roma inclusion

http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2018-anti-gypsyism-barrier-roma-inclusion_en.pdf

News: UK Labour Party

Some people in the party hold abhorrent views, says Dugdale

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/dugdale-says-antisemitism-in-labour-must-be-rooted-out-vpt5hc9km>

Labour has a 'huge problem' with anti-Semitism, Scottish members in Scotland

http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/16131329.Labour_has_a_huge_problem_with_anti_Semitism_claims_Scottish_party_members/

Labour has antisemitism problem, 51% of voters say

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/apr/08/labour-antisemitism-opinion-poll>

Peers call on Scotland Yard to investigate anti-semitism by Corbyn supporters

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/peers-call-on-scotland-yard-to-investigate-anti-semitism-by-corbyn-supporters-1-4719230>

Labour MP Andrew Gwynne admits he is member of Facebook group where anti-Semitic posts are shared

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/04/07/labour-mp-andrew-gwynne-admits-member-facebook-group-anti-semitic/>

Labour candidate Ali Milani in new antisemitic row

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/labour-candidate-ali-milani-in-new-antisemitic-row-65s05pc9l>

Labour MP Thangam Debbonaire heckled for backing antisemitism protest

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/labour-mp-thangam-debbonaire-heckled-for-backing-antisemitism-protest-r3wtsmcml>

Jewish official quits Momentum over safety fears

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/jewish-official-quits-momentum-over-safety-fears-qb5t2rk2p>

Labour anti-Semitism row: Jewish leaders agree to Corbyn meeting

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-43639267>

Corbyn agrees to meet Jewish leaders for antisemitism talks

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/apr/04/jeremy-corbyn-jewish-leaders-antisemitism-talks-labour>

Momentum says Labour 'failed' on anti-Semitism

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-43620717>

Jeremy Corbyn in new row over relations with Jewish community

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16133034.Jeremy_Corbyn_in_new_row_over_relations_with_Jewish_community/

Labour's new general secretary faces job of tackling anti-Semitism

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16133038.Labour_s_new_general_secretary_faces_job_of_tackling_anti_Semitism/

Labour anti-Semitism row: Corbyn attends left-wing Jewish event

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-43624231>

Labour drops council candidate in anti-Semitism row

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-kent-43618007>

Antisemitism in Labour cannot be dismissed as smears, say Momentum
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/antisemitism-labour-jeremy-corbyn-smears-momentum-a8285656.html>

Labour antisemitism more widespread than thought, Momentum says
<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/apr/02/labour-antisemitism-more-widespread-than-thought-momentum-says>

Former Speaker Michael Martin calls for Labour conference on antisemitism
<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/apr/01/former-speaker-michael-martin-calls-for-labour-conference-on-antisemitism>

Five 'race hate' dossiers on councillors are handed to Labour in antisemitism row
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-04-03/news/five-race-hate-dossiers-on-councillors-are-handed-to-labour-in-antisemitism-row-7gxtqj08n>

News: 'Punish a Muslim'

Female Muslims told to hide hijabs and avoid collecting children from school as Punish a Muslim Day approaches
<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/female-muslims-told-hide-hijabs-12289052>

Cafe owner responds to 'Punish a Muslim Day' with day of peace
<https://www.scotsman.com/news/cafe-owner-responds-to-punish-a-muslim-day-with-day-of-peace-1-4717188>

Protest held in Edinburgh against Islamophobia
http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16135761.Protest_held_in_Edinburgh_against_Islamophobia/

Anti-hate rally held in Edinburgh after "punish a Muslim" letter
<https://www.scotsman.com/news/anti-hate-rally-held-in-edinburgh-after-punish-a-muslim-letter-1-4718035>

Thanks, but a 'Love a Muslim Day' isn't enough to counter Islamophobia
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/apr/04/love-a-muslim-day-counter-islamophobia>

Scottish anti-racism campaigners set to protest against sickening 'Punish A Muslim Day'
<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/scottish-anti-racism-campaigners-set-12291532>

Scots schoolgirl scared to leave house in fear of sick "Punish a Muslim Day" campaign
<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/scots-schoolgirl-scared-leave-house-12299516>

UK communities take action against 'Punish a Muslim Day' letter
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/apr/03/uk-communities-take-action-against-punish-a-muslim-day-letter>

Police urge everyone to unite against Islamophobia using #WeStandTogether
<https://www.indy100.com/article/police-urge-everyone-to-unite-against-punish-a-muslim-day-london-uk-8286171>

Everyone should read this guide about what to do if you see Islamophobia
https://www.indy100.com/article/everyone-should-read-this-guide-about-what-to-do-if-you-see-islamophobia--bJWvwnNH_W

Muslims feel the love on day of solidarity

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/muslims-feel-the-love-on-day-of-solidarity-ngm2q06qw>

News: Other Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Universities 'more concerned about reputation than racism'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/education-43555737>

Students demand UK universities take urgent action against racism

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/apr/02/students-demand-universities-take-urgent-action-against-racism>

Half of UK students have witnessed racism at university, says survey

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/students-racism-university-campus-witness-higher-education-a8290561.html>

Christine Jardine: My shock at Islamophobia wrapped in Union flag

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/christine-jardine-my-shock-at-islamophobia-wrapped-in-union-flag-1-4718029>

Hijab ban attempt is 'racism dressed up as liberalism', teachers' conference told

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/apr/01/attempt-to-ban-hijab-racism-dressed-up-as-liberalism-teachers-conference-told>

Fears of bullying drives Muslim children to being homeschooled

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/04/03/fears-bullying-drives-muslim-children-homeschooled/>

Prestatyn man denies race-hate in doll court case

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-43645636>

Rangers supporters slammed over alleged 'sectarian' singing and assault at black tie dinner

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16144683.rangers-supporters-slammed-over-alleged-sectarian-singing-and-assault-at-black-tie-dinner/?ref=mr&lp=4>

University racism row as black hockey player has banana thrown at him

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/04/05/university-racism-row-black-hockey-player-has-banana-thrown/>

Sheffield university investigates racism claims after banana thrown at black graduate

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/sheffield-universities-racism-student-banana-varsity-ice-hockey-a8288291.html>

Royal Shakespeare Company accuses theatre critic Quentin Letts of being 'blatantly racist' in play review

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/theatre-dance/news/royal-shakespeare-company-rsc-quentin-letts-racism-fantastic-follies-of-mrs-rich-review-a8294626.html>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

UK Parliament

Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/immigrationcontrolgrosshumanrightsabuses.html>

Children Act 1989 (Amendment) (Female Genital Mutilation) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/childrenact1989amendmentfemalegenitalmutilation.html>

EEA Nationals (Indefinite Leave to Remain) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/eeanationalsindefiniteleavetoremain.html>

European Union (Withdrawal) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/europeanunionwithdrawal.html>

Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) (Amendment) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/holocaustreturnofculturalobjectsamendment.html>

Human Trafficking (Child Protection) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/humantraffickingchildprotection.html>

Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/humantraffickingchildprotection.html>

Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/modernslaverytransparencyinsupplychains.html>

Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/modernslaveryvictimsupport.html>

Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/refugeesfamilyreunionbill.html>

Refugees (Family Reunion) (No. 2) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/refugeesfamilyreunionno2.html>

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/unaccompaniedasylumseekingchildrenlegaladviceandappeals.html>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** very short consultation period – closes this week!**

The Scottish Government's Revised National Outcomes (closing date 11 April 2018)
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/108188.aspx>

A Connected Scotland: Tackling social isolation and loneliness and building stronger communities (closing date 27 April 2018)
<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0053/00530204.pdf>

**** Police and Fire Reform Act** (closing date 24 May 2018)
http://www.parliament.scot/2012_Act_call_for_evidence.pdf

Integrated Communities Strategy green paper (closing date 5 June 2018)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/integrated-communities-strategy-green-paper>

Welsh Government: Nation of Sanctuary – Refugee and asylum seeker plan
(closing date 25 June 2018)
<https://beta.gov.wales/nation-sanctuary-refugee-and-asylum-seeker-plan>

Police Scotland: Your view counts (open all year)
<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/decision-making/public-consultation/local-policing-consultation>

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Job Opportunities

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

[Click here](#) to find out about Graduate, Modern, and Foundation Apprenticeship opportunities.

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Tackling Hate Speech in a Youth Setting

12 April 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

8 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

21 June 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

17 July 2018 in Edinburgh (9.30-4.30)

Interfaith Scotland training to equip those working in a youth setting with appropriate tools for tackling hate speech, explore issues relating to cultural and religious diversity, learn how to recognise hate speech, and how to manage the situation when it occurs. For information contact Jamie Spurway Jamie@interfaithscotland.org / 07921 439 952

**** Scottish Apprenticeships, Careers & Volunteering Event 2018**

16 April 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-2.30)

BEMIS careers event about the Scottish Apprenticeship family which now includes Foundation and Graduate Apprenticeships complementing Modern Apprenticeships. This is your opportunity to informally chat to over 40 employers, training providers and support

agencies to gain knowledge and information in accessing your future career. For information see <https://mainfo2018.eventbrite.co.uk>

New Scots: Refugees and VPRS Resettlement

19 April 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine the issues facing Syrian refugees as they move from countries around Syria to the UK, and highlight the challenges and opportunities they face as they build new lives in Scotland. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/it93fog> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** BME women's rights**

19 April 2018 online webinar (6.00-7.30)

Engender webinar to discuss barriers to equality, as well as hearing about their work on the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). For information and details on how to join the webinar see <https://tinyurl.com/ya7y8unk>

Equalities & Human Rights Focus Groups

20 April 2018 in Inverness (12.30-2.30)

11 May 2018 in Clydebank (12.30-2.30)

14 May 2018 in Galashiels (12.30-2.30)

Scottish Parliament Equalities and Human Rights Committee focus groups to explore what more the Scottish Parliament can do to promote and protect human rights. For information contact 0131 348 6040 / Equalities.HumanRights@parliament.scot

Interfaith Youth Conference: "Radicalisation and Reconciliation"

21 April 2018 in St Andrews (10.45-4.30)

Interfaith Scotland conference in partnership with the Coexistence Initiative University of St Andrews to bring young people of different backgrounds together for dialogue. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y9yslyqy>

BME Women's Experiences of Gender Based Violence

27 April 2018 in Edinburgh (10.00-4.00)

Scottish Women's aid training to raise awareness and broaden understanding of the varied issues for black and minority ethnic (BME) women experiencing domestic abuse, forced marriage and other types of gender based violence. For information contact 0131 226 6606 or see <http://womensaid.scot/training-event/bme-womens-experiences-of-gender-based-violence/>

'Engaging with LGBT and Migrant Equalities' toolkits: Dissemination and discussion

30 April 2018 in Glasgow (12.30-4.15)

Glasgow University event to share ideas and experiences of how to use the resource, and to discuss good practice in engaging with equality and diversity. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8vgzzxs>

Unaccompanied Refugee Children

2 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council Course to better understand where unaccompanied refugee children are, and how you can help them in their journey. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/y7mz5uuv> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Culture – Religious Diversity and Anti-Discrimination Training

15-16 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.00-4.30)

12-13 September 2018 in Glasgow (9.00-4.30)

Two day training to address diversity and discrimination issues related to religion and belief and increase skills in order to help create a more inclusive diverse environment For information contact Farkhanda Chaudhry 0141 577 8454 / 07950 008 859 / Farkhanda.Chaudhry@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

New Scots: Refugees and the Asylum Process

17 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine why people might need to flee their own country, how they seek asylum in the UK and what opportunities they have for rebuilding their lives here in Scotland. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/z68a5k8> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

First World Congress on Migration, Ethnicity, and Health

17-19 May 2018 in Edinburgh

(‘earlybird’ deadline (for reduced fee) is 3 February 2018)

The aims of the Congress include improved research, population health and health care for migrants and other discriminated-against populations, and considering the health effects of social, environmental and demographic change associated with population migration, and the effects on diseases and their causes. For information see <http://www.merhcongress.com/> (full programme now available on the conference website) or contact merh@in-conference.org.uk / 0131 336 4203.

Working with Interpreters

22 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine the process of using an interpreter, where the responsibility lies for the success of the interpreted session, examines the pitfalls and their consequences, and sets out best practice for using interpreters. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zy436gr> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Refugee Community Sponsorship

24 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

Scottish Refugee Council course. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

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Useful Links

Scottish Parliament <http://www.parliament.scot/>

Scottish Government <http://www.gov.scot/>

UK Parliament <http://www.parliament.uk/>

GovUK (links to UK Government Departments) <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations>

UK Government Honours system <https://www.gov.uk/honours/overview>

European Parliament <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/>

One Scotland <http://onescotland.org/>

Scottish Refugee Council <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk>

Interfaith Scotland <http://www.interfaithscotland.org/>

Equality and Human Rights Commission <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/>

Equality Advisory Support Service <http://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com>

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

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

Volunteer Development Scotland <http://www.volunteerscotland.net/>

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) <http://www.oscr.org.uk/>

Scottish Fundraising Standards Panel <https://www.goodfundraising.scot/>

Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS) www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services

Disclosure Scotland <https://www.mygov.scot/working-jobs/finding-a-job/disclosure/>

BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/>

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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 Charitable Incorporated Organisation 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. (Scottish Charity, no. SC027692) <http://www.bemis.org.uk/>



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.gov.scot/>

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