



MEMO is produced by the [Scottish Council of Jewish Communities \(SCoJeC\)](#) 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 have been redesigned, so that links published in previous 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](mailto:MEMO@scojec.org) and [click here](#) to be added to the mailing list.

**We are sorry that financial constraints prevent us from continuing to produce MEMO.  
Thank you for all the very positive feedback many of you have given us over the years.  
The final issue will be published on 21 October 2024.**

**The UK Parliament returns from recess on 7 October 2024.**

# Immigration and Asylum

## Press Release

**All migrants and refugees must be treated with humanity and dignity: UK statement at the UN Security Council**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/all-migrants-and-refugees-must-be-treated-with-humanity-and-dignity-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

## New Publications

**Updated Guidance: Working in the UK while an asylum case is considered**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-whilst-an-asylum-claim-is-considered/working-in-the-uk-whilst-an-asylum-case-is-considered>

**Updated: Migrants detected crossing the English Channel in small boats – last 7 days**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/migrants-detected-crossing-the-english-channel-in-small-boats/migrants-detected-crossing-the-english-channel-in-small-boats-last-7-days>

**Updated: Ukraine Family Scheme, Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme (Homes for Ukraine) and Ukraine Extension Scheme visa data**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukraine-family-scheme-application-data/ukraine-family-scheme-and-ukraine-sponsorship-scheme-homes-for-ukraine-visa-data--2>

**Ukraine homelessness management information: 24 February 2022 to 31 August 2024**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66fd6d2a30536cb927482b31/Ukraine\\_Homelessness\\_Pressures\\_Publication\\_August\\_2024.ods](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66fd6d2a30536cb927482b31/Ukraine_Homelessness_Pressures_Publication_August_2024.ods)

## News: Channel Migrants

**G7 nations agree new plan to dismantle migrant smuggling gangs**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/g7-nations-agree-new-plan-to-dismantle-migrant-smuggling-gangs>

**Four migrants including child die in Channel**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cj041vl4j4lo>

**Two-year-old child among four migrants to die in ‘two tragedies’ while attempting to cross Channel**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/boats-crossing-english-channel-france-b2624366.html>

**Child ‘trampled’ to death among fatalities on Channel boat, says French minister**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2024/oct/05/several-people-killed-during-channel-crossing-attempt-say-french-authorities>

**Boy, 2, trampled to death on Channel migrant boat**

<https://www.thetimes.com/world/europe/article/boy-2-freezes-to-death-in-mothers-arms-on-channel-migrant-boat-rlqd68jtx>

**Labour has set its agenda to tackle the small boats crisis – now the hard work begins**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/editorials/yvette-cooper-small-boats-crisis-migrants-deaths-immigration-b2608345.html>

## News: Other Immigration and Asylum

**Revealed: First migrant crime table**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2024/10/04/one-in-50-albanians-uk-in-prison-telegraph-analysis/>

**Migrant crime rate being covered up, says Robert Jenrick**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/09/30/migrant-crime-rate-is-being-covered-up-says-robert-jenrick/>

**Home Office asylum queue stretches back almost 17 years**

<https://www.thetimes.com/uk/politics/article/home-office-asylum-queue-stretches-back-almost-17-years-l25sfqw70>

**Migrants could be in hotels for three more years due to backlog**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/10/01/migrants-hotels-yvette-cooper-backlog-border-asylum/>

**Migrants will be stuck in hotels for three years because of asylum backlog**

<https://www.thetimes.com/uk/politics/article/migrants-will-be-stuck-in-hotels-for-three-years-because-of-asylum-backlog-fqpvhl8g6>

**Facebook group immigration adviser impersonator prosecuted**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/facebook-group-immigration-adviser-impersonator-prosecuted>

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## Community Relations

### Press Release

**Faith and belief leaders light candles for peace**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/faith-and-belief-leaders-light-candles-for-peace/>

### News

**Kemi Badenoch is asking the right question on integration**

<https://www.thetimes.com/comment/columnists/article/kemi-badenoch-asking-right-question-integration-immigration-9khmvw5ws>

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## Equality

### News

**Black British Book festival founder criticises lack of diversity in publishing**

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2024/oct/02/black-british-book-festival-diversity-publishing-authors>

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## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### Scottish Parliament Written Answer

#### **Tackling Islamophobia through Education**

**Fulton MacGregor (SNP)** [S6W-29995] To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to tackle Islamophobia through education in schools.

**Reply from Jenny Gilruth:** The Scottish Government is clear that there is no place for religious or racial intolerance, including Islamophobia, in Scotland's schools.

Scotland's Curriculum for Excellence aims to develop a society based on social justice, equality and respect, and provides opportunities for pupils to develop their understanding of various forms of discrimination and their intersectional impact, including Islamophobia. The curriculum is clear in saying that responsible citizens must understand different beliefs and cultures, and have respect for others.

Education Scotland provides teachers with a range of resources to help them navigate sensitive or controversial topics, including discrimination on the basis of religious belief, and to help foster good relations. Recently their online Inclusion, Wellbeing and Equalities Professional Learning Framework has been updated to specifically include a Developing Religious Literacy component.

In addition, by taking an intersectional approach, the work of the Scottish Government's Anti-Racism in Education Programme addresses many of the issues at the heart of Islamophobia. Actions which have been taken forward include:

- Developing a set of Anti-Racist Principles for the curriculum;
- Providing racial literacy professional development, through the award winning Building Racial Literacy Programme;
- Publishing an Anti-Racist Action Guide aimed at empowering local authorities to better support their minority ethnic workforce;
- Developing guidance to address racism and racist incidents in schools, to empower the workforce to recognise and tackle racism and prejudice in all of its forms.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-29995>

*Information about the Curriculum for Excellence, referred to above, can be read at <https://education.gov.scot/curriculum-for-excellence/>*

*Information about the Inclusion, Wellbeing and Equalities Professional Learning Framework, referred to above, can be read at <https://education.gov.scot/professional-learning/leading-professional-learning/inclusion-wellbeing-equalities-professional-learning-framework/>*

*The Developing Religious Literacy component, referred to above, can be read at <https://education.gov.scot/media/3c1awid2/develop-your-religious-literacy-part-1.pptx>*

and

<https://education.gov.scot/media/idzbrg50/develop-your-religious-literacy-part-2-facilitation-notes.docx>

The Anti-Racist Principles, referred to above, can be read at

<https://education.gov.scot/media/kzobbbhi/anti-racist-curriculum-principles-june-23.pdf>

Information about the Building Racial Literacy Programme, referred to above, can be read at

<https://education.gov.scot/professional-learning/professional-learning-programmes-webinars-and-events/programmes/building-racial-literacy/>

The Anti-Racist Action Guide, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/increasing-retaining-minority-ethnic-teachers-action-guide-local-authorities/>

## Press Release

**UN Human Rights Council 57: UK Statement for Item 9 General Debate on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related forms of intolerance.**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-57-uk-statement-on-racism>

## New Publication

**Anti-racism in the workplace: a toolkit for union reps**

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/sites/default/files/2024-10/TUC%20Cymru%20anti-racism%20toolkit%202024%20Eng%20version.pdf>

## News

**Recorded hate crimes in Scotland soar by 63% after law introduced**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c70w98pd128o>

**Recorded hate crimes in Scotland up 63% since law introduced in April**

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2024/oct/03/recorded-hate-crimes-in-scotland-up-63-since-law-introduced-in-april>

**Anti-Semitic hate crimes overtake Islamophobic incidents in London**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2024/10/05/anti-semitic-hate-crimes-overtake-islamophobic-incidents/>

**British Jews adjusting to 'new reality' after year-long surge in antisemitism**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/oct/02/british-jews-experience-more-antisemitism-as-middle-east-war-escalates>

**Record amount of anti-Muslim abuse reported in UK since 7 October attacks**

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2024/oct/04/record-amount-of-anti-muslim-abuse-reported-in-uk-since-7-october-attacks>

**Taxpayers' money used to fund 'anti-racist' public artworks in Wales**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2024/10/05/taxpayer-money-used-to-fund-anti-racist-public-artworks/>

**Head of Met's Black Police Association faces sacking over 'racist' texts**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2024/10/01/met-black-police-association-chair-racist-misogynistic/>

**Far-right group using sports to 'build militia'**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c5ydnqdq38wo>

**Growth of far-right 'active clubs' in UK prompts call to tackle misogyny**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/oct/05/growth-of-far-right-active-clubs-uk-misogyny>

**How politicians are fuelling a racism crisis in Britain**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/columnists/politicians-fuelling-racism-crisis-britain-racial-literacy-4784136>

**Sheku Bayoh lawyer says justice system 'institutionally racist'**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/ced05vx48l4o>

**Aamer Anwar calls Scottish justice system 'institutionally racist'**

<https://www.thetimes.com/uk/scotland/article/aamer-anwar-calls-scottish-justice-system-institutionally-racist-wczpd8d0j>

**Justice in a time of racism**

<https://www.runnymedetrust.org/blog/justice-in-a-time-of-racism>

**Heinz faces fierce backlash over portrayal of Black family in pasta advert**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/heinz-backlash-advertisement-racism-b2624421.html>

**As a Black historian, there's one story that tells you everything you need to know about racism in Britain**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/black-history-culture-bristol-bus-boycott-b2623893.html>

**Nazi salute football fan given four-year match ban**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cy805g3y81po>

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## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### New Publication

**Forced Marriage Statutory Guidance**

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/forced-marriage-statutory-guidance/>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### Press Release

**Prime Minister Keir Starmer's message for Rosh Hashanah**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-keir-starmer-s-message-for-rosh-hashanah>

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## Other News

**Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator launches new checking facility for charity trustees**

<https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/oscr-launches-new-checking-facility-for-charity-trustees/>

**Jail for legal first female genital mutilation conspiracy**

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/east-midlands/news/jail-legal-first-female-genital-mutilation-conspiracy>

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## Bills in Progress \*\* new or updated this week

### Scottish Parliament

**\*\* Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/assisted-dying-for-terminally-ill-adults-scotland-bill>

Letter from the Scottish Government to the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

<https://www.parliament.scot/-/media/files/committees/health-social-care-and-sport-committee/correspondence/2024/sg-position-on-ad-bill.pdf>

**Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/gender-recognition-reform-scotland-bill>

**Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/police-ethics-conduct-and-scrutiny-scotland-bill>

### UK Parliament

**Asylum Support (Prescribed Period) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3758>

**\*\* Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3747>

House of Lords Library Briefing

<https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/LLN-2024-0056/LLN-2024-0056.pdf>

**Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3765>

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

**An inspection of Home Office management of contact with migrants who are without leave to enter or remain** (closing date 21 October 2024)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/call-for-evidence-an-inspection-of-home-office-management-of-contact-with-migrants-who-are-without-leave-to-enter-or-remain>

**Family visa financial requirements** (closing date 11 December 2024)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/calls-for-evidence/family-visa-financial-requirements>

**\*\* Equality and Human Rights Commission Code of practice for services, public functions and associations** (closing date 3 January 2025)

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/equality/equality-act-2010/code-practice-services-public-functions-and-associations-consultation>

**Intimate Image Abuse Research** (closing date not stated)

<https://t.co/X1cGnXygg3>

**ITV/Tell MAMA survey on mosque safety in the UK** (closing date not stated)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/V7V5B6L>

**Cyber Security Survey** (closing date not stated)

<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/interview/680a646c-5811-47f4-8958-588f1c794eca>

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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

### **Henry Duncan Grants**

*Closing date for applications: 30 October 2024*

There are two different types of Henry Duncan Grants in 2024

1) Grants for Women Led Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Organisations

Henry Duncan Grants for Women Led Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Organisations will provide unrestricted funding for organisations that are led by Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic women and are working on issues that impact women and girls (aged 12+) in their communities.

2) Grants for Women Led Organisations

Henry Duncan Grants will provide unrestricted funding to organisations led by women. The organisation's work needs to have a focus on supporting women and girls (aged 12+) who have experienced gender-based violence.

For information and to apply see

<https://www.corra.scot/grants/henry-duncan-grants/>



## Faithful Welcome

*Application deadline not stated*

Faith in Community Scotland, and Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees funding of up to £500 to support Scotland's faith communities to welcome refugees and asylum seekers and enable them to be an integral part of community life, wherever they are coming from and whatever the reason. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/bdd5kr6n>

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## Events, Conferences, and Training

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* this week!**

### **Black History Month**

to 31 October (Scotland-wide)

Black History Month celebrates the achievements and resilience of African, Caribbean, and Asian people and serves as an opportunity to highlight the ways in which these communities have a direct link with Scotland through the histories of slavery, colonialism and migration. For information and to read the full programme of events see <https://tinyurl.com/3969ans8>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Anti-Racist Education in Scotland**

7 October 2024 (online, 4.00–5.30)

Education Scotland Black History Month webinar introducing examples of national and local developments in anti-racist education in Scotland. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/3hk55hdf>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Museums, Empire and Difficult Heritage at Kelvingrove**

10 October 2024 (Glasgow, 2.00–4.00)

CRER tour of Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum examining the entanglements between museums and empire, discussing Kelvingrove's links with chattel slavery, colonialism and imperialism, recognising the ways this history continues to shape it today, and thinking about how museums can be spaces for having meaningful conversations about empire and its legacies. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/3vynzynw>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Spreading racism at breakfast**

10 October 2024 (online, 3.00–4.00)

Media co-op preview of a film about Robertson's Jam golly logo for Black History Month. For generations, jam and marmalade made in Paisley had a golly on every jar - a racist image, dating from black-face minstrels in the days of slavery. Some people remember the golly fondly while others are appalled at decades of spreading racism with our breakfast toast. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/muth5mhm>

**\*\* this week!**

### **George Square Walking Tour**

12 October 2024 (Glasgow, 1.00–2.30)

CRER walking tour for Black History Month to find out how the statues in Glasgow's George Square reveal a hidden history of Scotland's complicated involvement in slavery and abolition. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/bdz9j4uz>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Glasgow Black History Walking Tour**

13 October 2023 (Glasgow, 1.00–3.00)

20 October 2023 (Glasgow, 1.00–3.00)

27 October 2023 (Glasgow, 1.00–3.00)

30 October 2023 (Glasgow, 1.00–3.00)

CRER walking tour for Black History Month taking participants on a historical journey through Glasgow's mercantile past and examining the city's connections with tobacco, slavery and the abolition movement. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/5emyfv7k>

### **The Basics: A Human Rights and Equalities First Approach**

15 and 16 October 2024 (online, 2.00–4.00)

Two-day THRE course for people who are just starting out and want to learn the fundamentals or who know a bit about human rights and equalities and want to know more or are just curious about what a human rights and equalities first approach might be. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yv2p3b7f>

### **Breaking the Chains – a Walking Tour exploring Dundee's Links to Slavery**

16 October 2024 (Dundee, 2.30)

University of Dundee Museums walking tour for Black History Month highlighting sites in Dundee associated with transatlantic and American slavery. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/363wvaae>

### **Introduction to refugees: asylum and resettlement**

17 October 2024 (online, 1.00–4.30)

12 February 2025 (online, 1.00–4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to help you understand relevant legal definitions and processes including the UK asylum process, rights and entitlements of asylum seekers and refugees, and identify sources of support that empower people to live fully integrated lives. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yrt2szue>

### **Maritime Leith's Black History**

18 October 2024 (Leith, 1.00–3.00)

Black History Month tour of Trinity House to discover the stories that link its collections and maritime Leith with Black History. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/zv84hdz3>

### **Introduction to working with interpreters**

6 November 2024 (online, 1.00–4.30)

27 February 2025 (online, 1.00–4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to help you build the knowledge, skills and confidence required to work effectively with spoken language interpreters. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/mr32k8mz>

### **Scottish Interfaith Week**

11 to 18 November 2024 (Scotland-wide)

This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Scottish Interfaith Week, a community-led festival that celebrates Scotland's religious and cultural diversity. Individuals, faith communities, and organisations across Scotland are invited to host events for the festival. For information see <https://scottishinterfaithweek.org/>

### **National Interfaith Conference 2024**

12 November 2024 (Dundee, 11.00–4.00)

To mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Scottish Interfaith Week, Interfaith Scotland is hosting a

National Interfaith Conference on the theme of “Discovery”. The conference will encourage people to discover and learn about the lives of others as an effective way to challenge prejudice and misunderstanding. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/249ac37b>

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## Useful Links

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

**Scottish Government** <https://www.gov.scot/>

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

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

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

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

**New Scots** <https://newscots.scot/>

**Refugee Survival Trust** <https://www.rst.org.uk/>

**Freedom from Torture** <https://www.freedomfromtorture.org/>

**Interfaith Scotland** <https://interfaithscotland.org/>

**Equality and Human Rights Commission** <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en>

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

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

**ACAS** <http://www.acas.org.uk/>

**SCVO** <https://scvo.org.uk/>

**Volunteer Scotland** <https://www.volunteerscotland.net/>

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

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

**Disclosure Scotland** <https://www.mygov.scot/disclosure-types>

**Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services**

<https://www.volunteerscotland.net/for-organisations/disclosure-services/>

**BBC News** <https://www.bbc.com/news>

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**SCoJeC**  
Scottish Council of  
Jewish Communities

Representing, connecting, and supporting Jewish people in Scotland



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) <https://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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