

# Political Affairs Brief

*A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community*  
**Scottish Council of Jewish Communities**  
**SCoJeC**

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## Home Affairs

### UK Parliamentary Question

#### War Crimes: Arrest Warrants

**Dr. Starkey:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs when he plans to submit his response to the request from the UN Secretary-General under paragraph 1 of UN General Assembly Resolution 64/117 for information and observations on the scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction, including information on judicial practice; whether that response will include details of the arrest warrant procedure in the UK; and if he will publish the response. [317364]

**Chris Bryant:** The UK intends to respond to the UN Secretary-General's request before his deadline of 30 April. The content of our reply, including the question of whether or not to include details of the arrest warrant procedure, is currently under consideration. The Government will lay a copy of the response in the Library of the House at the earliest opportunity.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200910/cmhansrd/cm100226/text/100226w0004.htm#10022625000057>

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## Israel

### UK Parliamentary Question

#### Dubai: Interpol

**Mr. Galloway:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what discussions he has had with his counterpart in Dubai on Interpol's request concerning named suspects in a murder investigation believed to be using details from British passports; and if he will make a statement. [318684]

**Chris Bryant** [*holding answer 25 February 2010*]: I refer the hon. Member to my hon. Friend the Minister for Europe's answer to the right hon. Member for Richmond, Yorks (Mr. Hague) of 22 February 2010, *Official Report*, columns 22-23, namely that on 21 February 2010 my right hon. Friend the Foreign Secretary spoke to Abdullah bin Zayed, the Emirati Foreign Minister.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200910/cmhansrd/cm100226/text/100226w0004.htm#10022625000054>

## United Nations

### **General Assembly requests secretary-general to submit further report on investigations into violations during Gaza conflict**

Resolution adopted by recorded vote of 98 in favour, 7 against, 31 abstentions

Taking note of the Secretary-General's recent inconclusive report on investigations into possible violations of international law during the deadly 2008/2009 conflict in Gaza, the General Assembly today requested a further report in five months. ...

In his report submitted to the General Assembly on 5 February 2010, the Secretary-General noted that "the processes initiated by the Government of Israel and the Government of Switzerland are ongoing, and that the Palestinian side initiated its process on 25 January 2010. As such, no determination can be made on the implementation of the resolution by the parties concerned".

The report also contains submissions from the Israeli Government, the Palestinian Authority and the Government of Switzerland, as the depositary of the Fourth Geneva Convention relating to the protection of civilians during wartime.

Also by today's resolution, the Assembly stressed the need to ensure accountability for all violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, and reiterated its recommendation that the Swiss Government reconvene a conference on measures to enforce the Fourth Geneva Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. ...

**To read the full text of the Resolution see**

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2010/ga10917.doc.htm>

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## Relevant Legislation \*\* New or updated

### UK Parliament

#### **Children, Schools and Families Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2009-10/childrenschoolsandfamilies.html>

#### **\*\* Constitutional Reform and Governance Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2009-10/constitutionalreformandgovernance.html>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200910/cmbills/068/amend/pbc0682602a.1093-1097.html>

#### **Crime and Security Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2009-10/crimeandsecurity.html>

#### **\*\* Equality Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2009-10/equality.html>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200910/ldbills/035/amend/ml035-i.htm>

#### **Flood and Water Management Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2009-10/floodandwatermanagement.html>

## Scottish Parliament

### End of Life Assistance Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/38-EndLifeAssist/index.htm>

### Draft Census Order

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/ssi2010/draft/pdf/sdsi\\_9780111007907\\_en.pdf](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/ssi2010/draft/pdf/sdsi_9780111007907_en.pdf)

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated

**Ecclesiastical Exemption (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Order 2010**  
(closes 15 March 2010)

[http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/consultations/6605.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/consultations/6605.aspx)

**2011 Census Statistical Outputs (England and Wales)** (closes 26 March 2010)

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/census/2011-census/consultations/open-consultations/2011-output-consultation---main-statistical-outputs/index.html>

**Equality Bill: Draft Codes of Conduct** (closes 2 April 2010)

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legislative-framework/equality-bill/equality-bill-codes-of-practice-consultation/#1>

**Equality Bill: Draft Guidance** (closes 16 April 2010)

<http://ehrc-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal>

**Death Certification, Burial, and Cremation (Scotland)** (closes 21 April 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/300112/0093686.pdf>

**Humanitarian Assistance Strategic Guidance** (closes 14 May)

[http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/consultations/HA\\_strategic\\_guide\\_draft.pdf](http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/consultations/HA_strategic_guide_draft.pdf)

**2011 Census Statistical Outputs (Scotland)** (closes 14 May 2010) <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/census/censushm2011/preparations/consultation-and-research/formal-consultations/spring-10-consultation.html>

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