

Political Affairs Brief

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

Scottish Council of Jewish Communities

SCoJeC

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House of Lords Debate

Charitable Sector

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101005-0001.htm#10100520000478>

UK Parliamentary Question

Schools: Anti-Semitism

Mr Amess: To ask the Secretary of State for Education what progress has been made by his Department since July 2010 on preventing the bullying and intimidation of Jewish children in schools; what conclusions were reached with the meeting he had with representatives of the Jewish community on this matter; and if he will make a statement. [14349]

Mr Gibb: The coalition Government have made it a priority to tackle bullying, particularly bullying motivated by prejudice. It is not acceptable for a child to be victimised because of their race or religion. The Government will empower schools so that they can take a zero-tolerance approach to tackling bad behaviour and bullying.

We will issue clearer guidance to schools on these issues and work with Ofsted to ensure that tackling bad behaviour and bullying is given more prominence in planned changes to school inspection.

The Secretary of State has met with representatives of the Jewish community on a range of issues, including school security, but not specifically on bullying.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101004/text/101004w0002.htm#1010044000050>

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Israel

European Parliament

Nine nominations for Sakharov Prize 2010

... Breaking the Silence is an Israeli NGO was established in 2004 by Israeli soldiers and veterans who collect and provide testimonies about their military service in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem during the Second Intifada. The NGO is dedicated to exposing the Israeli public to the realities of the Israeli occupation as seen through the eyes of Israeli soldiers and to stirring debate about the impact of the prolonged occupation on both the Palestinian population and on Israeli society. By awarding the Sakharov prize to the Israeli NGO, "we want to give peace a chance", declared Daniel Cohn-Bendit (Greens/EFA, FR).

Nominated by Rebecca Harms and Daniel Cohn-Bendit on behalf of the Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance (Greens/EFA) and by Lothar Bisky on behalf of the Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL). ...

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/en/pressroom/content/20101004IPR84951/>

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Relevant Legislation ** New or updated

UK Parliament

Daylight Saving Bill

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

Face Coverings (Regulation) Bill

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

Fixed Term Parliaments Bill

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

Identity Documents Bill

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

First Reading, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101005-0001.htm#10100520000476>

Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill

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

Scottish Parliament

**** End of Life Assistance Bill**

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

Stage 1 oral evidence to Committee

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/endLifeAsstBill/or-10/ela10-0802.htm#Col229>

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Other Relevant Information

Council of Europe

Thorbjørn Jagland and Joschka Fischer launch expert group on "Multicultural Europe"

Joschka Fischer, former German Foreign Minister, will chair a Group of "Eminent Persons" including, among others, Javier Solana and Emma Bonino, with the mandate to find answers to the current threats from intolerance and discrimination in Europe. Launching the initiative in Brussels today, Thorbjørn Jagland explained that the new challenges to security and stability in Europe appeared not to be between but inside the states. In the press-conference today, Joschka Fischer said that living together in a multicultural, multi-religious society will be key to preserving and developing the European model. The group will conclude its work with recommendations to the Council of Europe at a Ministerial conference to be held in Istanbul in May 2011.

<http://www.coe.int/NewsSearch/Default.asp?p=nwz&id=13444&lmLanque=2>

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Consultations

** new or updated

**** closes today**

Data protection legislative framework (closes 6 October 2010)

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/dpa-call-evidence-02-07-2010.pdf>

General Medical Council (GMC) Equality Scheme 2011 – 2014 (closes 15 October 2010)

https://gmc.e-consultation.net/econsult/consultation_Dtl.aspx?consult_Id=140&status=2&criteria=

Guidance on Concessionary Schemes for Surface Water Drainage Charges

Applies in England only (closes 22 October 2010)

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/surface-charges/index.htm>

Consultation on the change to policy direction for the Big Lottery Fund (closes 29 October 2010)

<http://www.culture.gov.uk/consultations/7313.aspx>

Equality Act 2010: The public sector Equality Duty: Promoting equality through transparency (closing date 10 November 2010)

http://www.equalities.gov.uk/pdf/402461_GEO_EqualityAct2010ThePublicSectorEqualityDuty_acc.pdf

Equality Duty: Detailed Proposals - Consultation on Public Sector Equality Duty Draft Regulations and Order (Scotland) (closes 26 November 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/324431/0104438.pdf>

Charity Commission: Proposed withdrawal of paper forms for Annual Returns, Registration applications, and forthcoming Charitable Incorporated Organisations (closes 2 December 2010)

http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/About_us/About_the_Commission/ols_consultation_intro.aspx

Equality Act 2010 - Performance of the Public Sector Equality Duties in Wales

(closes 17 December 2010)

<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/equality/equalityact2010/?lang=en>

Equality and Human Rights Commission: Draft Code of Practice on Further and Higher Education (closes 31 December 2010)

http://live.ehrc.precedenthost.co.uk/cgi-bin/generate.pl?page_id= sx0666i4b&save=screen

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The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) is Scottish Charity SCO29438