

Political Affairs Brief

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

Scottish Council of Jewish Communities

SCoJeC

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Energy and Climate Change Committee

The effect on energy usage of extending BST (written evidence)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmselect/cmenergy/writetv/562/contents.htm>

The effect on energy usage of extending British Summer Time (oral evidence session)

Recording - Hansard should be available sometime next week

<http://www.parliamentlive.tv/Main/Player.aspx?meetingId=6796>

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Israel

UK Parliamentary Questions

Middle East: Peace Negotiations

Mr Offord: To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what assessment his Department has made of the implications of the provisions of (a) the Treaty of Sèvres and (b) Article 80 of the UN Charter for negotiations on the Middle East Peace process. [17617]

Alistair Burt: The best way to achieve the goal of a sustainable two-state solution is through a negotiated settlement. We do not believe that the treaty of Sèvres or article 80 of the United Nations charter are relevant to this process.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101027/text/101027w002.htm#10102763000010>

Israel and Palestine

Lord Hylton: To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they have made to the Government of Israel concerning the killing by their military forces of 22 Palestinian civilians and the wounding of 146 persons, all since January 2009; and with what results.[HL2734]

The Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Lord Howell of Guildford): The UK deplores all civilian casualties which have resulted from this

conflict. We recognise Israel's right to defend itself from acts of violence but call on the Israeli Government to act with restraint and in accordance with international law. We also call on the Palestinian Authority to prevent acts of violence from originating in the Occupied Territories.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101027w0001.htm#10102745000343>

Gaza

Lord Warner: To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the risks of increased extremism and damage to the peace process by the Israeli blockage of Gaza and its prevention of economic growth and increased employment among young men, especially in the construction industry. [HL2676]

The Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Lord Howell of Guildford): We have consistently made it clear that for the peace process to succeed it is imperative that there is progress on Gaza. We welcome Israel's decision to move from a list of permitted goods to a list of specific prohibited items. However, the economic reactivation and reconstruction remain limited. We continue to call on Israel to take further steps to improve access and throughput of goods.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101027w0001.htm#10102745000331>

Lebanon

Lord Turnberg: To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they have made to the Government of Lebanon about the recent visit of President Ahmadinejad in view of his stated views about Israel.[HL2796]

The Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Lord Howell of Guildford): We urged the Lebanese Government to ensure that the visit of President Ahmadinejad avoided unnecessary provocation at a highly sensitive time in the Middle East. We also reminded the Lebanese Government of their obligations to enforce UN Security Council resolutions concerning Iran.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101027w0001.htm#10102745000344>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Sir Gerald Kaufman (908) Assassination of Nobel Peace Prizewinner Yitzhak Rabin
- That this House pays tribute to Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel, on the 15th anniversary of his assassination on 4 November 1995 by a Jewish fanatic whose objective was to bring to an end Rabin's brave and steadfast commitment to making peace; and calls on today's Israeli politicians to honour Rabin's memory by fulfilling his objective of peace with the Palestinians and a two-state solution.

<http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/EDMDetails.aspx?EDMID=41895&SESSION=905>

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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>

** Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill

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

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/098/amend/pbc0982710a.893-899.html>

Scottish Parliament

Certification of Death Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/58-CertDeath/index.htm>

End of Life Assistance Bill

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

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Other Relevant Information

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

Racism, ethnic discrimination and exclusion of migrants and minorities in sport: A comparative overview of the situation in the European Union

http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/Report-racism-sport_EN.pdf

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Consultations

** new or updated

**** closes tomorrow**

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

Certification of Death (Scotland) Bill (closes 18 November 2010)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/hs/inquiries/CertificationOfDeathBill/CallForEvidence.htm>

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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