

Political Affairs Digest

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

Contents

[Home Affairs](#)

[Holocaust](#)

[Israel](#)

[Other Relevant Information](#)

[Consultations](#)

Home Affairs

Birthday Honours List

Knight Bachelor

Trevor Steven Pears CMG, Executive Chairman of the Pears Family Charitable Foundation. For services to philanthropy.

OBE

Catherine Ashley, Lately Chair, Holocaust Memorial Day Trust. For services to Holocaust Commemoration and Awareness.

OBE

Richard Jonathan Benson, President, Tell MAMA and Board Member, Community Security Trust. For services to the Jewish community.

OBE

Natasha Kaplinsky, Broadcaster. For services to Holocaust Commemoration.

MBE

David John Lipman, For services to Liberal Judaism and the Jewish community in Nottingham.

MBE

Peggy Sherwood, Lately President, Jewish Gay and Lesbian Group. For services to the Jewish community.

MBE

Keith David Simons, For services to Jewish Prisoners and the Jewish community in Pinner, Middlesex.

BEM

Rachel (Ruchie) Eherentreu, For services to the Vulnerable and Elderly Ruchie members of the Jewish community in North West London.

BEM

Rudolf Oscar Leavor, For services to the Jewish community and Interfaith Relations in Bradford, West Yorkshire.

BEM

Ibolya Violet Knill, For services to Holocaust Education and Interfaith Cohesion.

BEM

Sabina Miller, For services to Holocaust Education and Interfaith Cohesion.

To read the full Honours List see

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/620016/prime_ministers_list_queens_birthday_honours_2017.pdf

[TOP](#)

Holocaust

Cabinet Office

Natasha Kaplinksy recognised in Queen's Birthday Honours for project to remember the Holocaust

The award recognises Natasha's incredible personal commitment to preserving the memory of the Holocaust for future generations, following her work to record the testimony of more than 100 British Holocaust survivors and Bergen Belsen liberators as part of the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation's major national project.

Over a period of 15 months and on an entirely pro-bono basis, Natasha conducted 112 testimony interviews. The majority of these moving personal stories were recorded for the first time. The invaluable body of testimonies created by Natasha cover a wide range of experiences of Nazi persecution, including camp survivors, children in hiding, refugees who escaped to Britain - some of whom then served with the British Army - and children who arrived in Britain on the Kindertransport, an organised rescue effort for Jewish children in Germany and Nazi-occupied countries before the outbreak of war. The collection also includes Charedi survivors, a Roma survivor and recordings of British soldiers involved in the liberation and relief of Bergen Belsen Concentration Camp.

Natasha's work gave all these people the chance to record their history, preserving it so that their voices can be used to educate future generations about the lessons of the Holocaust and to challenge them to think about their own role in fighting hatred and prejudice in all its forms. The testimonies will have a permanent home in the new education centre that will accompany the National Memorial which is to be built next to Parliament in Westminster. ...

To read the full press release see

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/natasha-kaplinksy-recognised-in-queens-birthday-honours-for-project-to-remember-the-holocaust>

[TOP](#)

Israel

United Nations

UN Middle East envoy condemns attack that leaves Israeli police officer dead, four others injured

The United Nations envoy on Middle East peace has condemned yesterday's shooting and stabbing attack by Palestinian assailants near Jerusalem's Old City that killed an Israeli Border Police Officer and wounded at least four others including civilians.

"My thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims, and I wish a speedy recovery to the injured," said the UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Nickolay Mladenov in a statement.

Emphasizing that such terrorist acts must be clearly condemned by all, Mr. Mladenov said: "I am appalled that once again some find it appropriate to justify such attacks as 'heroic.' They are unacceptable and seek to drag everyone into a new cycle of violence."

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=57003#.WUbGkRN96nY>

[TOP](#)

Other Relevant Information

United Nations

General Assembly approves creation of new UN Counter-Terrorism Office

The General Assembly ... approved the establishment of a new United Nations office to help Member States implement the Organization's global counter-terrorism strategy.

Adopting a consensus resolution, the 193-nation body also welcomed Secretary-General António Guterres' initiative to transfer relevant functions out of the UN Department of Political Affairs (DPA) and into the new United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism.

As a result, the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office ([CTITE](#)) and the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre ([UNCCT](#)), currently in DPA, will be transferred to the new office, together with their existing staff and all associated regular and extra-budgetary resources. The new Office would be headed up by an Under-Secretary-General.

In his report on this issue to the Assembly, the Secretary-General proposed that ... the Office would have five main functions:

1. provide leadership on the General Assembly counter-terrorism mandates entrusted to the Secretary-General from across the United Nations system;
2. enhance coordination and coherence across the 38 Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force entities to ensure the balanced implementation of the four pillars of the [UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy](#);
3. strengthen the delivery of United Nations counter-terrorism capacity-building assistance to Member States;
4. improve visibility, advocacy and resource mobilization for United Nations counter-terrorism efforts; and
5. ensure that due priority is given to counterterrorism across the United Nations system and that the important work on preventing violent extremism is firmly rooted in the Strategy. ...

To read the full press release see

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56984#.WUPs0hOGOnY>

Capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global CounterTerrorism Strategy – Report of the Secretary-General

<http://undocs.org/A/71/858>

[TOP](#)

Consultations ** new or updated today

Caste in Great Britain and Equality Law (closing date 18 July 2017)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/caste-in-great-britain-and-equality-law-a-public-consultation>

Workplace Diversity (Wales) (closing date not stated)

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

[TOP](#)

The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) is Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SCO29438