

# Political Affairs Digest

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

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## Israel

### House of Commons Written Answers

#### Ahed Tamimi

**Catherine West (Labour)** [126522] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what discussions has he had with his Israeli counterpart on the case of Ahed Tamimi since 8 January 2018.

**Alistair Burt:** While the Foreign Secretary has not raised this issue, officials from our Embassy in Tel Aviv most recently raised the case of Ahed Tamimi with the Israeli authorities on 7 February.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-02-05/126522/>

#### Israel: Detainees

**Catherine West (Labour)** [126523] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, whether his Department has made representations to the Government of Israel on the implementation of the recommendations of the UNICEF report, Children in Israeli Military Detention: Observations and Recommendations, published in 2013.

**Alistair Burt:** Children in Israeli military detention remains a human rights priority for the UK. Officials from our Embassy in Tel Aviv raised the issue with the Israeli authorities most recently on 7 February. Senior officials from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office raised this issue with the Israeli Ambassador to the UK on 8 January. We also raised the issue as part of the UK's national statement during Israel's universal periodic review in the UN Human Rights Council.

We welcome progress made in recent Israeli policy amendments, and remain committed to working with Israel to secure improvements to its practices surrounding children in detention.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-02-05/126523/>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

[https://www.unicef.org/oPt/UNICEF\\_oPt\\_Children\\_in\\_Israeli\\_Military\\_Detention\\_Observations\\_and\\_Recommendations\\_-\\_6\\_March\\_2013.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/oPt/UNICEF_oPt_Children_in_Israeli_Military_Detention_Observations_and_Recommendations_-_6_March_2013.pdf)

#### Palestinians: Radicalism

**Catherine West (Labour)** [126524] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what his steps the Government is taking to tackle extremism in the Palestinian Territories.

**Alistair Burt:** As the architect of the British Government's first ever Counter-Extremism Strategy, the Prime Minister has reaffirmed this Government's unwavering commitment to tackling extremism in all its forms. In Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, the UK's goal is to preserve the viability of the two-state solution and support peace efforts - a lack of progress towards peace can contribute to regional tensions and extremism. To that end, our support is helping to maintain stability, and we are committed to supporting the institutions of a future Palestinian state to ensure it can effectively deliver services and act as a partner for peace with Israel

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-02-05/126524/>

## Scottish Parliament Motion

**S5M-10388 Sandra White (SNP): Nobel Peace Prize Nomination for BDS** – That the Parliament notes the recent nomination of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement for the Nobel Peace Prize by the Norwegian MP, Bjørnar Moxnes; understands that the Palestinian-led BDS movement is a peaceful, global human rights movement that urges the use of economic and cultural boycotts to end what are considered Israeli violations of Palestinian human rights and international law; understands that the movement was inspired by the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa, is endorsed by a very broad range of organisations and personalities, including the former Nobel Peace Prize laureates, Desmond Tutu and Mairead Maguire, as well as people of different political affiliations and religious beliefs, and urges support from the international community for this nomination, which it considers demonstrates a positive campaign in pursuit of justice for the Palestinian people.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-10388>

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## Relevant Legislation \*\* new or updated today

### UK Parliament

#### **European Union (Withdrawal) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/europeanunionwithdrawal.html>

#### **Marriage Act 1949 (Amendment) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/marriageact1949amendment.html>

#### **Organ Donation (Deemed Consent) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/organdonationdeemedconsent.html>

### Scottish Parliament

#### **Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Repeal) (Scotland) Bill**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/105269.aspx>

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated today

**Introducing 'opt-out' consent for organ and tissue donation in England** (closing date 6 March 2018)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/introducing-opt-out-consent-for-organ-and-tissue-donation-in-england>

**Promoting Organ Donation and Transplantation in Northern Ireland** (closing date 9 March 2018)

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/promoting-organ-donation-and-transplantation-northern-ireland>

**Electoral Reform (Scotland)** (closing date 12 March 2018)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00529431.pdf>

**Human Rights (Scottish Parliament)** (closing date 16 March 2018)

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/106453.aspx>

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The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) is Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC029438