

Political Affairs Digest

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

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House of Commons Written Answers

Ritual Slaughter

The following three questions all received the same answer

Kerry McCarthy (Labour) [133445] To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what percentage of animals killed for (a) the halal market and (b) the kosher market were pre-stunned in each year since 2010.

Kerry McCarthy (Labour) [133447] To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what percentage of non-stun meat produced in the UK is exported, and which countries is it exported to.

Poultry: Slaughterhouses

Kerry McCarthy (Labour) [133449] To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, how many poultry were slaughtered by parameters not listed in EU legislation in each year since 2010.

George Eustice: The Department does not hold data on animals killed by different slaughter methods each year. In terms of the Kosher market, all animals are slaughtered without prior stunning.

Religious slaughter may only be carried out by Jews or Muslims for the food of Jews or Muslims. The Department does not hold data on what percentage of meat from non-stun religious slaughter is exported.

The data we hold on the Halal market is based on surveys carried out by the Food Standards Agency (FSA). Previous FSA surveys were carried in 2011 and 2013 and 2015. An FSA survey was carried out earlier this year but we have not yet received the results. The data from the 2015 survey carried out during a 4 week period between 16 November and 13 December 2015, showed a total of 9,463,845 birds were stunned by parameters not listed in the EU Regulation. The 2015 survey only captured the number of birds stunned by parameters not listed in the EU Regulation, it did not capture data on all animals stunned prior slaughter for the Halal market. The 2013 survey was the last survey which recorded both non stun and stunned data for the Halal market. In that survey 75% of cattle, 63% of sheep and goats and 72% of poultry were stunned prior to slaughter for the Halal Market.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-20/133445/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-20/133447/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-20/133449/>

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Israel

United Nations

Cold War 'Back with a Vengeance' amid Multiple Entrenched Divides in Middle East, Secretary-General Tells Security Council, Urging Efforts to Avert Further Chaos

... The situation in the Middle East is in chaos — to such an extent it has become a threat to international peace and security. ...

Many forms of escalation are possible. We see the wounds of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict deepening once again. The recent violence in Gaza has resulted in many needless deaths and injuries. I repeat my call for an independent and transparent investigation into these incidents. I also appeal to those concerned to refrain from any act that could lead to further casualties, and in particular, any measures that could place civilians in harm's way.

This tragedy underlines the urgency of revitalizing the peace process for a two-State solution that will allow Palestinians and Israelis to live in two democratic States side by side in peace and within secure and recognized borders. I reaffirm the United Nations' readiness to support these efforts. ...

It is absolutely essential to avoid a new Israel-Hizbullah conflict that could inevitably result in many more victims and much greater destruction than the last war. ... The dangers of the links to the Syrian conflict are evident in the recent confrontations between Iran and Israel in Syria. ...

To read the full press release see

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/sqsm18986.doc.htm>

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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>

Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) (Amendment) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/holocaustreturnofculturalobjectsamendment.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>

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Consultations

** new or updated today

Integrated Communities Strategy green paper (closing date 5 June 2018)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/integrated-communities-strategy-green-paper>

Home Education (closing date 2 July 2018)

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/school-frameworks/home-education-call-for-evidence-and-revised-dfe-a/>

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