



Representing, connecting and supporting Jewish people in Scotland

Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-20191 Rona Mackay (SNP): Lenzie Academy Recognised for Holocaust Education – That the Parliament congratulates Lenzie Academy, which has been awarded a Level 1 Vision Schools Award for excellent whole school practice in Holocaust Education by the University of the West of Scotland's School of Education; understands that this was presented in recognition of the Academy's incorporation of six weeks of cross-departmental Holocaust education to S1 pupils, including in History, English, Religious and Moral Education and Modern Studies classes; acknowledges that the school holds a Holocaust Memorial Day Assembly each year and participates in the Holocaust Educational Trust's programme, Lessons from Auschwitz, in which two S6 pupils travel to Poland to visit the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp and pass their learning on to younger pupils; notes that pupils and teachers will be striving over the next two years to work towards the Level 2 and the Silver Rights Respecting Schools awards, and wishes everyone involved with this all the very best.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-20191>

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Other Relevant Information

European Commission

Speech by President von der Leyen at the high-level event 'After Halle: from words to action against anti-Semitism'

... There are no speeches that we can give, no words of comfort or solace we can offer, that can ever take away the pain of what happened in Halle on Yom Kippur.

Today we honour those young victims who got killed while simply living their lives in front of the local synagogue. ... We thank the heroes who protected others. Who showed us that, faced with evil, humanity is capable of good.

But today, we cannot help thinking of the fear. The fear of all the victims and witnesses ... The fear of the Jewish congregation inside the synagogue. And we think of the fear that every Jewish person in Europe felt in that moment.

That heart-sinking fear that Europe's Jewish community knows all too well. That fear which comes back stronger after every anti-Semitic attack that is reported on the news ...

For every one of those incidents we see in the news, there are many more which happen every single day across our Union. They may be smaller and less violent in nature, but they are real and they are on the rise. And they create an atmosphere in which Jews no longer feel safe and start doubting their future in Europe. ...

Anti-Semitism is a poison for our community. And it is up to all to fight it, to prevent it and to eradicate it. The fight against anti-Semitism is as much for every other part of our community as it is for Jewish people. And it is one which must be led at local, regional, national and European level. ...

I have entrusted my Vice-President Margaritis Schinas, to lead the fight against anti-Semitism. And today I can announce that he will be supported by a new dedicated team, with very experienced people, who will work with our coordinator for combatting anti-Semitism and for fostering Jewish life. ...

We will remain vigilant.

And more, we will act at all levels – through security means of course, but also in our education systems and in the public debate.

There is one fundamental freedom that we Europeans must reclaim – and that is the freedom from fear, whatever they believe in. ...

To read the full transcript see

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_19_6734

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Relevant Legislation ** new or updated today

Scottish Parliament

Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/112997.aspx>

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Consultations ** new or updated today

**** closes today**

Draft content of the Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Specified Type A Procedures) (Scotland) Regulations (closing date 11 December 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/population-health/human-tissue-regulations-2019/>

Equality Act 2010: Commencing the socio-economic duty (Welsh Government) (closing date 17 January 2020)

<https://gov.wales/equality-act-2010-commencing-socio-economic-duty>

Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill (closing date 31 January 2020)

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/113449.aspx>

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