



Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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House of Lords Written Answers

Jerusalem: Evictions

Baroness Tonge (Non-affiliated) [HL6531] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of reports of plans to evict the Sumreen family from their home in Silwan, East Jerusalem.

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: We are following the situation in East Jerusalem closely and have been monitoring the case of the Sumarin family. An official from the British Consulate-General attended the most recent court hearing on 30 June, where the Jerusalem District Court ruled that the family must leave their home by 16 August. We remain concerned about the ongoing eviction of Palestinians from their homes. Such evictions cause unnecessary suffering to ordinary Palestinians; call into question Israel's commitment to a viable two-state solution; and, in all but the most exceptional of cases, are contrary to International Humanitarian Law.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-06/HL6531/>

Gaza: Natural Gas

Baroness Tonge (Non-affiliated) [HL6533] To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions they have had with (1) the government of Israel, and (2) the Palestinian Authority, about the possibility of the authorities in Gaza being able to harvest gas off their shores.

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: This issue has been discussed with British Gas Group and at international level in the context of how to facilitate a sustainable and long-term solution to the energy crisis in Gaza.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-06/HL6533/>

Jerusalem: Police Brutality

Baroness Tonge (Non-affiliated) [HL6535] To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they have made to the government of Israel about reports that Israeli police are systematically violent towards Palestinian children in the Al-Issawiya area of East Jerusalem.

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: We continue to stress the importance of the Israeli security forces providing appropriate protection to the Palestinian civilian population, in particular the need to protect children, and urge restraint in the use of live fire.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-06/HL6535/>

Jerusalem: Crimes of Violence

Baroness Tonge (Non-affiliated) [HL6536] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of reports that an Israeli diplomat was pulled to the ground and assaulted in Jerusalem by four security guards; and what representations they intend to make, if any, to the government of Israel about this incident.

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: We have not made any representations to the government of Israel about this incident.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-06/HL6536/>

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Relevant Legislation ** new or updated today

UK Parliament

Assisted Dying Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/assisteddying.html>

Education (Assemblies) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/educationassemblies.html>

Genocide Determination Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/genocidedeterminationbill.html>

Marriage Act 1949 (Amendment) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/marriageact1949amendment.html>

Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/marriageandcivilpartnershipminimumage.html>

Scottish Parliament

Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Bill

<https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/hate-crime-and-public-order-scotland-bill>

Post-mortem Examinations (Defence Time Limit) (Scotland) Bill

<https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/post-mortem-examinations-defence-time-limit-scotland-bill>

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Consultations

** new or updated today

**** closes in 5 days**

Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Bill (closing date 24 July 2020)

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/115038.aspx>

Legislative proposals for religion, values and ethics [Wales] (closing date 28 July 2020)

<https://gov.wales/legislative-proposals-religion-values-and-ethics>

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