



Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

Contents

Home Affairs

Israel

Other Relevant Information

Relevant Legislation

Consultations

Back issues

Home Affairs

Public Health England and Department of Health and Social Care

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Updated guidance for funerals and commemorative events during the coronavirus pandemic

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-a-funeral-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-a-funeral-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic>

Scottish Parliament Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee

Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills submission concerning PE1879: Provide an accessible and professionally developed learning and teaching resource on Israel and Palestine

https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/committees/current-and-previous-committees/session-6-citizen-participation-and-public-petitions-committee/correspondence/2021/pe1879_a-cabinet-secretary-for-education-and-skills-submission-of-19-august-2021

Scottish Parliament Information Centre Briefing

Animal health and welfare

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdnp.azureedge.net/published/2021/8/19/81a5148e-4c14-4686-a201-ef7d64e3a4a5/SB%2021-50.pdf>

Scottish Government

Updated Guidance: Coronavirus (COVID-19): safe use of places of worship

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-phase-3-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship/>

Scottish Animal Welfare Commission – Principles for ascribing sentience to animals and case study of the evidence for sentience in cephalopods

<https://tinyurl.com/4xezjhce>

Welsh Government

Updated Guidance: Places of worship and funerals: potential reasonable measures action card (coronavirus)

<https://gov.wales/places-worship-and-funerals-potential-reasonable-measures-action-card-coronavirus-html>

Police Service of Northern Ireland

Incidents and Crimes with a Hate Motivation Recorded by the Police in Northern Ireland: Update to 30th June 2021

https://www.psni.police.uk/globalassets/inside-the-psni/our-statistics/hate-motivation-statistics/2021-22/q1/hate-motivation-bulletin-jun_-21.pdf

Data

https://www.psni.police.uk/globalassets/inside-the-psni/our-statistics/hate-motivation-statistics/2021-22/q1/hate-motivations-tables-jun_-21.xls

TOP

Israel

See also the Scottish Government submission to the Scottish Parliament Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee included in the Home Affairs Section above.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

James Cleverly: My sympathies to the family of 15-year-old Imad Hashhash, reportedly killed as a result of Israeli forces' live fire during clashes between Palestinians and Israeli forces in Nablus on Tuesday. Israeli investigations must be comprehensive, holding those responsible to account.

<https://twitter.com/JamesCleverly/status/1430913620091699201>

Department for International Trade

Updated factsheet: Israel

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1011308/israel-trade-and-investment-factsheet-2021-08-19.pdf

Other Relevant Information

UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief

On the occasion of International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief, UN experts call on all societies to collectively reject hate and exclusion, and for an end to impunity for violent acts driven by religion or belief. The experts issue the following statement:

"Since the adoption of the 2019 UN General Assembly's [resolution 73/296](#) designating 22 August the international day to commemorate the victims of acts of violence based on religion or belief, the world has faced an alarming escalation of hate, both online and offline, targeting religion or belief minorities as well as members of lesbian, gay, transexual and intersex communities. ...

In these challenging times for humanity, we are deeply concerned at the persistent instrumentalisation of religious ideologies and beliefs as a means to perpetuate and exacerbate discrimination, exclusion and violence, as well as at the propagation of incendiary and stigmatising discourses which target and scapegoat vulnerable segments of society, including, members of religious and belief minorities, non-religious persons, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, LGBTI persons, as well as those that may stand in defence of the rights of these individuals and groups. ...

Religious or other ideologies and beliefs can never be evoked to justify attacks against life, human dignity and rights, and in no circumstances should be used for suppressing critical and dissenting opinions and views, and undermining rule of law, peace and the democratic principles ...

A meaningful society-wide engagement and the role and responsibility of religious and belief actors and political leaders in tackling hate speech and incitement to hatred constitute important elements in this effort. ...

We urge States and people everywhere around the world to join forces in the fight against hatred and violence, and in creating enabling environments for the enjoyment of all human rights without discrimination on any ground." ...

To read the full press release see

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=27396&LangID=E>

Relevant Legislation ** new or updated today

UK Parliament

Assisted Dying Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2875>

Charities Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2877>

Education (16 to 19 Academies) (Religious Character) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2946>

Education (Assemblies) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2878>

Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2862>

Israel Arms Trade (Prohibition) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3025>

Marriage Act 1949 (Amendment) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3017>

Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2900>

Nationality and Borders Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3023>

Online Safety Bill (Draft)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/draft-online-safety-bill>

Palestine Statehood (Recognition) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2942>

Northern Ireland Assembly

Organ and Tissue Donation (Deemed Consent) Bill

<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/assembly-business/legislation/2017-2022-mandate/primary-legislation---bills-2017---2022-mandate/organ-and-tissue-donation-deemed-consent-bill/>

TOP

Consultations

** new or updated today

Domestic Abuse Act statutory guidance (closing date 14 September 2021)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/domestic-abuse-act-statutory-guidance>

Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill (closing date not stated, but no later than 23 September 2021)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/news/2021/july/have-your-say-on-the-higher-education-freedom-of-speech-bill/>

Dispute Resolution in England and Wales (closing date 30 September 2021)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1008174/dispute-resolution-call-for-evidence.pdf

**** Equality and Human Rights Commission Strategic Plan for 2022 to 2025** (closing date 30 September 2021)
<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/our-strategic-plan-2022-2025-have-your-say>

TOP

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