



# Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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## Home Affairs

### House of Lords Written Answers

#### Hate Crime

**Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth (Conservative)** [HL5964] To ask Her Majesty's Government what are the most recent statistics available for hate crime, broken down by category; and what were the statistics for the previous three periods for which figures are available.

**Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Home Office collects and publishes statistics annually on the number of hate crime offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, broken down by monitored strand, in the 'Hate Crime, England and Wales' statistical bulletin. The latest available data, covering the period 2011/12 (when the data collection began) to 2020/21, can be found in 'Table 2' of the data tables, available attached.

[Table 2](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-04/hl5964>

#### Universities: Housing

**Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated)** [HL6058] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to encourage university accommodation providers to introduce race awareness training for students and staff.

**Baroness Barran:** The government does not play a role in providing or running student residential accommodation. Universities and private accommodation providers are autonomous and responsible for setting their own rent agreements. We encourage accommodation providers to review their policies to ensure they are fair, clear and have the interests of students at heart. There should be no tolerance of any form of racism.

If a student thinks their accommodation provider is treating them unfairly, they can raise a complaint under the accommodation codes of practice if the provider is a code member. The codes can be found here:

<https://www.thesac.org.uk/>

<https://www.unipol.org.uk/the-code/how-to-complain>

and

<https://www.nrla.org.uk/about-us/code-of-practice>  
<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/hl6058>

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## Israel

### House of Lords Written Answer

#### Jerusalem: Housing

**The Marquess of Lothian (Conservative)** [HL5996] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the statement by the spokespersons of the Foreign Ministries of France, Germany, Italy and Spain on 19 January, which urged the Israeli authorities to reverse the decision to build hundreds of new housing units in East Jerusalem, on the basis that such construction would "further disconnect the West Bank from East Jerusalem and constitute an additional obstacle to the two-state solution".

**Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** I refer the noble Lord to my [Lord Ahmad] reply to their question HL5391 on 27 January. The UK's position on settlements is clear. They are illegal under international law. The former Minister for the Middle East, North Africa and North America, James Cleverly, raised UK opposition to settlement expansion with the Government of Israel on 9 November.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-04/hl5996>

*The statement referred to above can be read at*

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/01/statement-by-the-spokespersons-of-the-foreign-ministries-of-france-germany-italy-and-spain-on-new-housing-units-in-east-jerusalem/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/01/statement-by-the-spokespersons-of-the-foreign-ministries-of-france-germany-italy-and-spain-on-new-housing-units-in-east-jerusalem/)

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-01-13/hl5391>

### Department for International Trade

#### Updated Trade and Investment Factsheet: Israel

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1054951/israel-trade-and-investment-factsheet-2022-02-18.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1054951/israel-trade-and-investment-factsheet-2022-02-18.pdf)

#### Updated Trade and Investment Factsheet: Occupied Palestinian Territories

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1055035/occupied-palestinian-territories-trade-and-investment-factsheet-2022-02-18.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1055035/occupied-palestinian-territories-trade-and-investment-factsheet-2022-02-18.pdf)

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

### UK Parliament

#### Animal Welfare (Sentience) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2867>

## **Assisted Dying Bill**

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

## **Charities Bill**

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

## **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>

Notice of amendments

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-02/0018/amend/marriage\\_rm\\_rep\\_220221.pdf](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-02/0018/amend/marriage_rm_rep_220221.pdf)

## **\*\* Nationality and Borders Bill**

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

Notice of amendments

<https://bills.parliament.uk/publications/45283/documents/1434>

## **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/>

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated today

**\*\* closes in 5 days**

### **Equality Commission for Northern Ireland Draft Corporate Plan 2022-2025**

(closing date 25 February 2022)

<https://www.equalityni.org/CorporatePlanConsultation#gsc.tab=0>

### **Human Rights Act Reform: A Modern Bill of Rights** (closing date 8 March 2022)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/human-rights-act-reform-a-modern-bill-of-rights>

### **Hate Crime Legislation in Northern Ireland** (closing date 28 March 2022)

<https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-hate-crime-legislation-northern-ireland>

### **Trade with Israel** (closing date 30 March 2022)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/trade-with-israel-call-for-input>

### **CPS: Public interest guidance for suicide pact and 'mercy killing' type cases**

(closing date 9 April 2022)

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/consultation/consultation-public-interest-guidance-suicide-pact-and-mercy-killing-type-cases-0>

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