



Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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Scottish Government FoI Release

The number of schools of different faiths in Scotland

Information requested: To provide the number of non denominational schools, the number of mixed faith schools and the number of RC schools currently state funded in Scotland and if there are any protestant schools.

Response: A full list of publicly funded schools, including denomination details, can be found at [School contact details](#)

Number of publicly funded schools [note 1] in Scotland by religious denomination, as of April 2022		
Denomination	No. of schools	Per cent of total
Non-denominational	2,090	84.92%
Roman Catholic	360	14.63%
Inter-denominational	7	0.28%
Episcopalian	3	0.12%
Jewish	1	0.04%
Total	2,461	100%
Note 1: Including both Local Authority and Grant Aided schools		
Source: https://www.gov.scot/publications/school-contact-details/		

For background information on the legislation covering the establishment of denominational schools, see part 5 of the answer to FOI/18/01415 here: [Denominational schools in Scotland](#)

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/foi-202200317073/>

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House of Commons Written Answer

Israeli Settlements

Fleur Anderson (Labour) [52025] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what recent steps the Government has taken regarding the Israeli Government's E1 settlement proposal.

Gillian Keegan: The UK welcomes the decision to postpone discussions about advancing the E1 settlement plan. We will continue to monitor developments closely. The UK urges the Government of Israel to permanently end its settlement expansion and settlement activity in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. The former Minister for the Middle East raised our concerns with Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Roll on 22 June. The UK continues to raise our opposition to settlement advancements at the UN Security Council.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-20/52025>

United Nations

As Sixth Committee Begins Seventy-Seventh Session, Speakers Call for Clear Definition of Terrorism, Draft Convention on Global Menace to Be Concluded

... **Zahra Ershadi (Islamic Republic of Iran)** ... voiced her firm rejection of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including those in which States are directly or indirectly involved. However, she underscored that terrorism should not be equated with the legitimate struggle of peoples under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation. The brutalization of peoples remaining under foreign occupation should continue to be denounced as the gravest form of terrorism. Moreover, the use of State power for violence against peoples struggling for their right of self-determination and against foreign occupation must be condemned. ...

Mr. Ershadi (Iran) ... said that terrorism was being perpetrated not just by terrorist groups, but by certain States against civilians, scientists and Government officials. He recalled several assassinations and attacks, including the assassinations of General Qasem Soleimani, "the hero of combating ISIL in the Middle East", in Baghdad International Airport by the former United States Administration, Mohsen Fakhrizaeh, the Iranian scientist and Deputy of Minister of Defense, and the terrorist attack by Israel on Natanz, the Iranian nuclear facility. Those attacks and others, including cyberattacks on critical infrastructure in his country, were reprehensible practices of terrorism. Also hypocritical was the labeling of people exercising their right to self-determination as terrorists, and those who support the oppressed peoples as sponsors of terrorism. "It is the woeful tale of the Middle East," he said, underscoring the destructive role of foreign military forces in the region and the longest protracted occupation of Palestinian territory. ...

Yarden Rubinshtein (Israel) commended the Office of Counter-Terrorism for recently holding the first congress for the victims of terrorism. Israeli trauma and psychology experts shared their experience regarding methods of treatment for victims of terrorism and of support for communities. She also noted that Israel would be actively participating in the eighth biannual review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. She called on States to embrace a "zero tolerance" and "zero excuses" policy on terrorism and avoid selective application of legal principles in clear instances of terrorism. Turning to the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate's report on the interrelationship between counter-terrorism frameworks and international humanitarian law, she pointed out that the report omitted the abuse of humanitarian assistance organizations by terrorist groups. Such groups often masked themselves as humanitarian

assistance organizations, enabling funds to be raised for their activities while disguising their true purposes. She called on the States to unequivocally reflect and condemn this practice in the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and other United Nations resolutions. ... **Munir Akram (Pakistan)** ... condemned "in the strongest terms" terrorism, and in particular State terrorism. ... He also said that the causes of terrorism must be addressed, especially in situations of occupation or denial of the right to self-determination, as is the case in Palestine and occupied Jammu and Kashmir by India. ...

To read the full press release see

<https://press.un.org/en/2022/gal3656.doc.htm>

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Relevant Legislation ** new or updated today

UK Parliament

Bill of Rights Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3227>

Education (Non-religious Philosophical Convictions) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3186>

Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill

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

Marriage Act 1949 (Amendment) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3325>

Online Safety Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3137>

Palestine Statehood (Recognition) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3217>

Private Burial Grounds and Cemeteries Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3188>

Universal Credit (Removal of Two Child Limit) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3163>

Schools Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3156>

Scottish Parliament

Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/gender-recognition-reform-scotland-bill>

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Consultations

** new or updated today

**** closes today**

Increasing the use of mediation in the civil justice system (closing date 4 October 2022)

<https://consult.justice.gov.uk/dispute-resolution/increasing-the-use-of-mediation/>

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