



Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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Home Office

Martyn's Law Webinars

The Home Office is running a series of webinars to provide information about Martyn's Law, which will place a requirement on those responsible for certain locations to consider the threat from terrorism, and implement appropriate and proportionate mitigation measures.

Education

8 March 2023 (10.30–12.00)

book a place: <https://tinyurl.com/5n97f5wa>

Charities

8 March 2023 (2.30–4.00)

book a place: <https://tinyurl.com/yckzyene>

Faith Communities and Places of Worship

9 March 2023 (11.00–12.30)

book a place: <https://tinyurl.com/bdfch8rn>

For more information about Martyn's Law see

<https://www.protectuk.police.uk/news-views/martyns-law-what-you-need-know>

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Israel

House of Lords Written Answer

UNRWA: Finance

The Marquess of Lothian (Conservative) [HL5148] To ask His Majesty's Government what discussions they have had with international partners, in particular those in the Gulf

States, to help to fund the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), following the statement on 24 January by the UNRWA Commissioner-General that the Agency has no more reliability or predictability of funding and a deficit of \$70 million.

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: We are longstanding supporters of The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). I reinforced this message during a visit to a UK donor funded school facing demolition on 12 January. We are aware that the agency has faced funding shortfalls in recent years, which has made it even more challenging to continue service delivery. On 22 September 2022 in New York, I attended a Ministerial dialogue on UNRWA's financial situation where I reiterated UK support for the agency and the need for the international community to support it to be on a more viable financial footing. In FY 2022/2023, the UK provided UNRWA with £18.7 million, including £13 million for UNRWA's Programme Budget for spend in OPTs, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria; £2 million for work in Gaza and £3.7 million for food assistance - both under UNRWA's OPTs Emergency Appeal.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-01-26/hl5148>

The statement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/official-statements/remarks-unrwa-commissioner-general-geneva-executive-briefing-0>

Scottish Parliament Motion

Kaukab Stewart (SNP) [S6M-07847] Welcoming Languages: Including a Refugee Language in Scottish Education – That the Parliament welcomes publication of the final report, Welcoming Languages: Including a refugee language in Scottish education, which is from a pilot project that saw collaboration between the University of Glasgow School of Education and the Islamic University of Gaza, in Palestine, to design, develop and teach a beginner Arabic language course to teachers in four Glasgow primary schools; understands that Arabic is a language spoken by large numbers of children and families seeking asylum in Scotland and who go on to make their home here, and that by learning some simple language that is useful in a school setting, education staff can make Arabic-speaking children, and parents and carers, feel welcome and included in the school community, and calls on the Scottish Government to consider making more widely available what it sees as the social and educational success of Welcoming Languages for these "new Scots", their fellow classmates, and the school community as a whole.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-07847>

The report referred to above can be read at

<http://welcominglanguages.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/WLs-Project-Report.pdf>

Information about the project referred to above can be read at

<https://welcominglanguages.co.uk/>

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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

**** Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/charities-regulation-and-administration-scotland-bill>

Stage 1 Report, Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdnp.azureedge.net/published/DPLR/2023/2/10/47a1d32f-a3a4-4b54-aa80-fe2ff9f8be39/DPLRS062023R15.pdf>

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

Equality and Human Rights Commission Statutory Review (closing date 1 March 2023)

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-statutory-review>

Draft guidance: charities use of social media (closing date 14 March 2023)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/draft-guidance-charities-use-of-social-media>

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