



# Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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## Home Affairs

### House of Commons Written Answer

#### **Racial Discrimination: Education**

**Tom Hunt (Conservative)** [199206] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, pursuant to the Answer of 6 September 2023 to Question 196522 on Racial Discrimination: Education, what steps her Department takes when schools teach contested theories and opinions as fact.

**Nick Gibb:** In 2022, the Department published guidance to schools to help them meet their statutory duties. The guidance was clear that political issues relating to racial and social justice can be taught in a balanced and factual manner, just as pupils are often taught about a range of different views on other topics, but schools should not teach contested theories and opinions as fact.

Where there are concerns that a school has not acted impartially, the Department recommends that these are raised with the school directly, as most issues will be able to be resolved without using formal complaints procedures.

Often simple steps can be taken to address concerns. This might include clarification about the nature of teaching or assurances about any processes in place to ensure legal duties on political impartiality are being met.

Where parents and carers remain dissatisfied, they can raise a formal complaint, in line with the school's complaints procedure. In instances where all stages of the local complaints process have been followed but it has not been resolved, a further complaint can be made to the Department who will look into whether it has been dealt with satisfactorily.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-09-12/199206>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-09-01/196522>

*The guidance referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/political-impartiality-in-schools/political-impartiality-in-schools>

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# Israel

## Department for Business and Trade

### Updated Trade and Investment Factsheet: Israel

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1185657/israel-trade-and-investment-factsheet-2023-09-21.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1185657/israel-trade-and-investment-factsheet-2023-09-21.pdf)

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

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1185736/occupied-palestinian-territories-trade-and-investment-factsheet-2023-09-21.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1185736/occupied-palestinian-territories-trade-and-investment-factsheet-2023-09-21.pdf)

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

### UK Parliament

#### **Economic Activity of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3475>

#### **Education (Non-religious Philosophical Convictions) Bill**

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

#### **Holocaust Memorial Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3421>

#### **Marriage Act 1949 (Amendment) Bill**

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

#### **Online Safety Bill**

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

#### **Nakba Commemoration Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3461>

#### **Palestine Statehood (Recognition) Bill**

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

#### **Private Burial Grounds and Cemeteries Bill**

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

#### **Same Sex Marriage (Church of England)**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3438>

#### **Schools Bill**

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

## **Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Draft Bill**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/terrorism-protection-of-premises-draft-bill-overarching-documents>

## **Universal Credit (Removal of Two Child Limit) Bill**

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

## **Universal Jurisdiction (Extension)**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3454>

## **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 tomorrow**

**Drug Use in Ethnic Minority Groups Review** (closing date 22 September 2023)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/calls-for-evidence/drug-use-in-ethnic-minority-groups/drug-use-in-ethnic-minority-groups-call-for-evidence>

**A Human Rights Bill for Scotland** (closing date 5 October 2023)

<https://consult.gov.scot/equality-and-human-rights/a-human-rights-bill-for-scotland-consultation/>

**The future of population and migration statistics in England and Wales** (closing date 26 October 2023)

<https://consultations.ons.gov.uk/ons/futureofpopulationandmigrationstatistics/>

**Management of burial grounds, application for burial, exhumation, private burial and restoration of lairs: regulation in Scotland** (closing date 17 November 2023)

<https://consult.gov.scot/burial-cremation/regulation-burial-scotland/>

**Statutory inspection of burial authorities, cremation authorities and funeral directors** (closing date 17 November 2023)

<https://consult.gov.scot/burial-cremation/statutory-inspection-burial-authorities/>

**Funeral director licensing scheme for Scotland** (closing date 17 November 2023)

<https://consult.gov.scot/burial-cremation/licensing-funeral-directors-scotland/>

**Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) [Northern Ireland]** (closing date 24 November 2023)

<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/consultations/relationships-and-sexuality-education-rse-consultation>

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