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[Hate crime bill passes and blasphemy law abolished in Scotland](#)

Posted: Thu, 11 Mar 2021

Scotland's hate crime bill, which will introduce 'stirring up hatred' offences and abolish the blasphemy law, has passed its final vote. [Read More »](#)

[Don't renege on free speech protection, NSS tells justice minister](#)

Posted: Fri, 26 Feb 2021

The NSS has urged Scotland's justice minister not to dilute protection for free speech on religion in the current hate crime bill. [Read More »](#)

[Confusion over free speech protection on religion in hate crime bill](#)

Posted: Thu, 18 Feb 2021

New proposals could substantially weaken the protection for free speech on religion in the Scottish government's current hate crime bill. [Read More »](#)

[MSPs back 'general principles' of Scottish hate crime bill](#)

Posted: Thu, 17 Dec 2020

MSPs have approved the 'general principles' of a proposed bill on hate crime, but many have called for stronger free speech protections. [Read More »](#)

Amend hate crime bill to protect free speech, Scottish government told

Posted: Thu, 10 Dec 2020

A group of MSPs has called for changes to Scotland's current hate crime bill, after taking evidence from groups including the NSS. [Read More »](#)

Success: free speech clause in hate crime bill to be strengthened

Posted: Tue, 24 Nov 2020

The NSS has welcomed the Scottish government's decision to strengthen a clause on free speech on religion in its current hate crime bill. [Read More »](#)

NSS gives evidence to parliamentary committee over hate crime bill

Posted: Wed, 11 Nov 2020

The NSS has said a planned hate crime bill will "intimidate" free speech in evidence to the Scottish parliament's justice committee. [Read More »](#)

Stronger free speech protection needed over hate crime bill, says NSS

Posted: Thu, 29 Oct 2020

The NSS has urged the Scottish government to protect free expression after ministers hinted at possible concessions in a hate crime bill. [Read More »](#)

Plan to amend Scottish hate crime bill isn't enough, says NSS

Posted: Wed, 23 Sep 2020

The NSS has welcomed plans to amend Scotland's current hate crime bill, but warned that they don't go far enough to protect free speech. [Read More »](#)

Religious belonging in decline in Scotland, official survey finds

Posted: Thu, 17 Sep 2020

The NSS has called for a rethink of religion's role in Scotland's schools after a survey found most Scots don't belong to a religion. [Read More »](#)

Plans on 'stirring up hatred' threaten free expression, warn MSPs

Posted: Thu, 10 Sep 2020

MSPs from across the political spectrum have warned that Scotland's hate crime bill threatens free expression during a Holyrood debate. [Read More »](#)

NSS welcomes move to enshrine children's rights in Scots law

Posted: Fri, 04 Sep 2020

The NSS has welcomed plans from the Scottish government to incorporate the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child into law. [Read More »](#)

Ditch 'stirring up' offences in hate crime bill, say NSS and others

Posted: Mon, 24 Aug 2020

The NSS is among signatories to a letter which expresses "grave reservations" over proposed 'stirring up hatred' offences in Scotland. [Read More »](#)

Minister will 'seriously consider' concern over hate crime bill

Posted: Thu, 20 Aug 2020

Scotland's justice secretary has said he'll seriously consider a warning that a hate crime bill would undermine free expression. [Read More »](#)

Widespread concern over hate crime bill must prompt rethink, says NSS

Posted: Wed, 29 Jul 2020

The NSS has reiterated its call for a rethink of Scotland's hate crime bill as concerns mount over its implications for free expression. [Read More »](#)

Don't erode free speech, NSS warns Scottish parliament

Posted: Thu, 23 Jul 2020

The NSS has warned the Scottish parliament that proposals to outlaw 'stirring up hatred' would unacceptably erode freedom of expression. [Read More »](#)

'Free to Disagree' campaign urges rethink of Scottish hate crime bill

Posted: Fri, 17 Jul 2020

The NSS has joined Christian campaigners and others in calling for a rethink of plans to criminalise 'stirring up hatred' in Scotland. [Read More »](#)

Hate crime bill threatens free speech on religion, NSS tells minister

Posted: Fri, 03 Jul 2020

The NSS and Edinburgh Secular Society have warned the Scottish government that its hate crime bill threatens free speech on religion. [Read More »](#)

Minister to correct record on hate crime bill after NSS intervention

Posted: Fri, 26 Jun 2020

Scotland's justice secretary will offer to correct the parliamentary record after he misrepresented part of a bill on hate crime. [Read More »](#)

[NSS welcomes Scottish government proposal to abolish blasphemy law](#)

Posted: Fri, 24 Apr 2020

The NSS has welcomed a proposal from the Scottish government which would abolish the country's blasphemy law. [Read More »](#)

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