ISD | Powering solutions to extremism and polarisation

JOB DESCRIPTION - ANALYST

Role	Analyst		
Division	*Policy, Research and Cities*	**Team**	*Research team*
Reports to	*Senior Research Manager*	**Direct reports**	*None*
Budgetary responsibility	*n/a*	**Resource responsibility**	*n/a*
Contract	*Fixed term, 6- 9 months*	**Location**	*London based organisation, currently working remotely*
Salary	*£ 25,000 – 45,000, dependent on experience*		

About ISD

ISD is a global counter-extremism organisation dedicated to powering solutions to hate and extremism. ISD has established itself as one of the leading global authorities on extremism and security. Combining research and analysis with government advisory work and programme delivery, ISD has been at the forefront of forging real-world, evidence-based responses to the challenges of integration, extremism and terrorism. As a global non-profit organisation with teams in London, Beirut, Toronto and Washington D.C., ISD enjoys strategic partnerships with the world's leading technology companies and supports more than a dozen prominent governments and institutions in stemming the rise of violent extremism and hate speech.

The Analyst will conduct quantitative or qualitative digital research including the undertaking of online analysis as well as working on issues of disinformation, extremism or political communications online.

Role Purpose

The Analyst will support the research team in detecting and analysing online disinformation and/or extremism, and produce research outputs relating to these topics. This role will have a specific focus on extremism and disinformation.

Responsibilities

1. Utilise online analytics tools in order to identify disinformation / information operations.
    a. Interpret datasets from social media and online media sources, using the selection of tools available to ISD researchers, to help detect and analyse information operations or extremist activity online.
    b. Support the design and constant evolution of effective methods, processes and technologies to support ISD's research team in online analytics, specifically for the detection of disinformation and media manipulation.

2. Utilise online analytics tools in order to identify and analyse online hate speech / hate groups.
    a. Interpret datasets from social media and online media sources, using the selection of tools available to ISD researchers, to help detect hate group activity and hate campaigns online.

b.   Provide analysis of these incidents, including assessment of their source, techniques and potential impact.

3.   Digital ethnography and qualitative analysis.
   a.   Monitor the platforms used by relevant hate groups, extremist groups and foreign state information operations online.
   b.   Monitor the channels and forums used by relevant hate groups, extremist groups and foreign state information operations on a range of online platforms.
   c.   Monitor the keywords, images, symbols and influencers relevant to key hate groups, extremist groups and foreign state information operations online.
   d.   Share regular updates with the ISD research team about changes in the platforms, actors, channels, language, images or symbols used by relevant hate groups, extremist groups and foreign state information operations.

4.   Author and co-author written outputs from research findings.
   a.   Produce or support on the production of written summaries of the methods, findings and implications of research conducted on disinformation or hate online for a spectrum of stakeholders. This will involve turning data outputs into readable and accessible studies and stories for a variety of audiences including the media, research community, policymakers and the public.

What success looks like

- Co-author or author regular outputs from research conducted on disinformation and extremism in English and German
- Successful use of data analytics tools to produce research outputs analysing trends or incidents on at least 5 online platforms
- Support the development of new methodologies for online analytics at ISD
- Receive positive 360 degree feedback from colleagues and line manager

Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable
Knowledge, training and qualifications	• Degree-level qualification with specialism in disinformation extremism, hate groups or related topics or relevant experience	• Master's Degree Qualification on disinformation, extremism, hate groups or related topics • Working knowledge of Method 52 analysis software • Knowledge / Proficiency in programming languages: R, python, java script
Experience	• Experience and knowledge of online analytical tools and approaches,	• 2+years professional experience working with

including but not limited to Crimson Hexagon, Crowdtangle
- 2+years professional experience as a researcher, data analyst.

journalists or media outlets on issues relevant to technology, extremism, or disinformation

Skills	• Data visualisation skills: e.g. Tableau, Gephi
Competencies	• Strong written and oral communication skills • Strong data analytical and critical thinking skills
Additional requirements	• Strong subject matter familiarity with disinformation, extremism, hate speech.

Job description drafted by:	*Henry Tuck, Head of Research & Policy*
Signed off by:	*Chloe Colliver, Head of Digital Policy and Research*
Date:	16th JULY 2020
HR / Ops sign off:	*Mandi Lazenby, Senior HR Manager*
Date:	
Date for next review:	*July 2021*