The National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) is hiring a full-time researcher to work at START’s headquarters at the University of Maryland, College Park. This is a full-time, non-tenure track faculty position, with a term of 12 months (starting in June 2010).

Responsibilities:

The researcher will be a member of a research team engaged in a multiyear study assessing new analytic methods for the use and analysis of open-source databases to enhance situational awareness for effective counter-WMD strategies.

Primary duties will include:

- Validating existing chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) actor and incident data.
- Collecting and coding new CBRN actor and incident data from a range of open-source materials.
- Conducting case studies on terrorist groups and individuals with respect to CBRN usage.

The researcher will report directly to the START’s Assistant Director for Research and Communication and will work closely with the leadership of START.

Qualifications:

- Minimum Bachelor’s degree as of Spring 2010, with coursework relevant to the nature of this project, such as foreign affairs, psychology, criminology, security studies, or history.
- Demonstrable expertise in conducting research from a range of open-source resources, including identifying, collecting and summarizing qualitative materials.
- Excellent writing skills.

Preference will be given to candidates with prior knowledge of both terrorism and one or more of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) weapons. Preference will also be given to demonstrated experience with systematic data collection, coding and analysis.

The annual salary for this position will be commensurate with education level and experience plus full University of Maryland benefits (as explained at
Qualified applicants should submit a cover letter, CV, and unofficial transcripts for relevant coursework via email (with subject line “WMD Researcher Position”) to infostart@start.umd.edu. If you have previously worked as a research assistant, please be sure that your cover letter specifies the nature of the work that you’ve done on research projects. Please also include contact information for two references with your application. Applicants may also submit relevant publications (i.e., conference papers, journal articles, white papers, etc.). Applicants will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Candidates are encouraged to apply by May 10, 2010, for best consideration.

Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. The University of Maryland is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer.