Position Announcement:
Global Terrorism Database Research Assistant

The National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) is now hiring a full-time research assistant to work at START’s headquarters at the University of Maryland, College Park. This is a full-time position, with an initial term of 12 months (starting in August/September 2009).

Responsibilities:
The research assistant is responsible for assisting with and leading a number of data improvement tasks related to the ongoing maintenance of the Global Terrorism Database (GTD) and the updating and maintenance of the Terrorist Organization Profile (TOPs) data.

For the GTD, these tasks include
- critically evaluating the existing data and identifying areas that require validation,
- reviewing the GTD and other sources of data to confirm inclusion of all appropriate events in the GTD,
- researching, coding, and adding specific events to the GTD where necessary,
- and reviewing cases as necessary to validate and improve the coding of variables.

For the TOPs data, these tasks include
- examining existing TOPs data for the United States,
- working with other START researchers to update and validate these data, and conducting basic descriptive statistical analyses as needed by the principal investigators and end users.

Qualifications:
- Bachelor’s degree
- Coursework in statistics and research methods
- Coursework and/or research experience related to terrorism and political violence
- Proficiency with Excel and statistical software (e.g. SAS, Stata, SPSS)
- Preferred: Research experience (e.g. internship, relevant coursework)

The annual salary for this position will be in the range of $32,000 to $37,000 (depending on education and experience), plus full University of Maryland benefits (as explained at http://www.uhr.umd.edu/documents/new_hire_overview_exempt-faculty_rev_112508.pdf).

Qualified applicants should submit a cover letter and resumé via email (with subject line “GTD Research Assistant”) to gtd@start.umd.edu. Please include contact information for two professional references.

Applicants will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Candidates are encouraged to apply by August 1, 2009 for best consideration.

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