

RETHINKING SECURITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Outreach Coordinator
Contract:	Full-time: 5 days/week (37.5 hours), although reduced hours may be considered.
Reporting to:	RS Coordinator
Key relationships:	RS Coordinator, RS Outreach Group, RS Council, RS Steering Group, local campaign groups and wider network, plus hosting organisation (Saferworld).
Salary:	£35,000 Gross p.a.+ 9% pension contribution
Location:	Flexible, within the United Kingdom. Reasonable travel within the UK required.
Background	
<p>Rethinking Security is a network of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), academics and individual activists who have a shared concern about the current approach to national and international security, in the UK and beyond. We believe that this approach is a significant barrier to progress towards peace, justice and ecological sustainability. Our goal is to help shift the public and political narratives in the UK about what security is and how it is best created, challenging existing approaches and fostering confidence in alternatives.</p> <p>The network brings together the following organisations: Campaign Against Arms Trade, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy, Conciliation Resources, Forces Watch, Medact, Movement for the Abolition of War, Northern Friends Peace Board, Peace Direct, Quaker Peace and Social Witness, Quaker Asylum and Refugee Network, Saferworld, United Nations Association-UK and War on Want, as well as independent practitioners, and academics from the universities of Bradford, Coventry, Kent and Oxford Brookes.</p> <p>Our aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To create debate about current approaches to security – in communities across the UK, in educational settings, in the media and in the political arena. • To challenge the assumptions, interests and values that underpin current security policy, and highlight its failings. • To highlight the wide range of perspectives on security, giving particular attention to those who feel most insecure as a result of current approaches. • To offer ideas and suggestions about how policy could change in order to build a more just and peaceful world for all. 	

In spring 2021 we are starting an exciting three-year project, the **Alternative Security Review**. We will be using this project to change the way that UK security policy is generated, towards an approach that promotes peace, human wellbeing and environmental sustainability. Ours will be a civil society-led review of the UK's security strategy that prioritises inclusion, equality, accountability and wellbeing at home, as well as a vision of shared global security and a commitment to the ecological security of our planet.

Most importantly, we will be conducting an extensive exercise in surveying public opinion and wide consultation, in order to understand and respond to the UK public's security needs and priorities. In the process we will be building a broad movement for change that supports and promotes human security.

This is an exciting opportunity for an experienced outreach professional or campaigner to join our small team and lead on building a movement across the UK in support of a change in the policy, discourse and approach to security.

We are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees, volunteers and network members. We celebrate diversity and applications are actively encouraged from individuals from diverse backgrounds. We are committed to ensuring gender equality within our organisation.

Job purpose

- To support the development of a strong and broad grassroots movement in favour of changing the UK's approach to security policy.
- To expand, inspire and mobilise Rethinking Security's network of supporters, working with people and groups around the UK to help them identify and develop campaign actions.
- To facilitate research with and for diverse groups on their security needs and priorities.
- To provide training and resources to support local discussion, campaigning and activism around human security issues.
- To contribute to the wider strategy development and implementation of the Alternative Security Review.

Roles and Responsibilities:

Outreach and movement-building

- Coordinate the RS Outreach Group, working with other members, campaigners and activists to develop RS's engagement with national and local groups and campaigns on security issues.
- Support and help to build local groups across the UK and work with them and other civil society actors to develop local campaigns.
- Provide training, support and resources to local groups and partners.
- Identify and foster connections with other civil society networks concerned with changing UK security and foreign policy and its impacts.
- Organise conferences, workshops and other outreach events (online and in-person).

Research and consultation

- Work with the RS Coordinator, academic partners and others to engage partners and groups in research on local security perceptions, needs and priorities.
- Develop sensitive approaches and methodologies to engage diverse and hard-to-reach communities and groups with RS's work and the Alternative Security Review.

Network Governance and Strategic Development

- Support the work of the Rethinking Security Council and Steering Group by helping the RS Coordinator to plan, facilitate and report on meetings.

- Provide periodic updates to the RS Steering Group, Council and supporters' network regarding activities, invitations/opportunities to get involved.
- Contribute to the strategic development of Rethinking Security and its projects, including support with project development and fundraising.

Communications/media

- Represent RS via public speaking at meetings and conferences.
- Contribute to the RS media and social media strategy.
- Manage content and updates of relevant sections of the Rethinking Security website.
- Assist with commissioning of blog articles.
- Draft and publish occasional articles/blogs.

Other

- Take responsibility for the budgeting and financial management of RS outreach activities.
- Maintain records and contacts databases in accordance with GDPR and other relevant law.
- Other work within the scope of the role as may be agreed by the RS Coordinator and RS Steering Group.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Knowledge

Essential:

- Deep knowledge of peace, security, justice and/or climate/environmental issues, whether gained through academic studies (e.g. university degree), vocational qualifications (e.g. CIM, CIPR diploma) or equivalent practical experience.
- Keen appreciation of security policy/narratives and alternative approaches, including human security and those set out in the *Rethinking Security* discussion paper.
- Understanding of the differential impacts of security policy on different groups and communities, including by gender, ethnicity, religion, location, etc.
- Familiarity with the peacebuilding, disarmament, human rights and/or climate and environment sectors.

Experience

Essential:

- Substantial professional experience of working in public outreach, mobilization or campaigning, preferably on security-related issues.
- Experience of working with volunteers and facilitating groups of activists.
- Experience working within a network or similar type of organization.

Desirable:

- Experience of public consultation and/or social research, including project design, implementation and monitoring.
- Experience of working in the peacebuilding, climate or security fields, preferably in a civil society environment.

Skills

Essential:

- Ability to work dynamically with a diverse range of people and organisations and with consensus-based decision-making systems.
- Demonstrable ability to speak and write to a high standard for a range of audiences.
- Skills with IT systems including contacts databases and social media.
- Ability to manage and prioritise a varied and demanding workload and meet deadlines.
- Ability to undertake all administrative tasks associated with role without additional support.

- Ability to work to a budget.
- Ability to work as part of a team and with a flexible approach.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Location: Home-based, with regular UK travel & occasional work in the office of the London-based host organisation.

Salary: £35,000 Gross p.a. + 9% pension contribution.

Holidays: 28 days per year in addition to relevant public holidays

Hours: Standard working week is 37.5 hours a week. Reduced hours may be considered.

Term: 12 months with expectation of renewal subject to satisfactory performance.