JOB DESCRIPTION

Job title: Senior Investigator - Climate Disinformation

Reports to: Campaign Strategy Lead, Digital Threats to Democracy

Contract: Until end of December 2024 *Full time but open to flexible working

Location: London (*Global Witness operates a hybrid working model and staff are expected to work at our office for 2 days a week*)

Role Purpose

As a Senior Investigator in the Digital Threats team, you will play a leading role in developing and delivering high quality investigations that expose how climate disinformation i) spreads online and corrodes public discourse; ii) undermines the messages, safety, and activity of defenders, activists and scientists; and iii) frustrates attempts to forge consensus and mitigate climate breakdown. This work will support the Digital Threats team to develop a new area of work and pilot new methodologies for exposing disinformation and campaigning for change.

Key responsibilities and accountabilities

Developing and delivering investigations

- Leads on the development of high-quality and innovative investigations, using a range of investigative techniques and methodologies including data-driven investigations, creating data detection and aggregation tools (e.g. a bot), desk-based research, mapping and tracking problematic online narratives, auditing social media companies' algorithms, and testing digital platforms' content moderation capabilities
- Works with the Digital Threats and Data Investigations teams to scope, develop and publish data-driven investigations, managing Global Witness' legal sign-off and fact-checking procedures with the support of the Campaign Strategy Lead
- Manages investigative projects, including with external partners, delivering them on time, to budget and to a high standard
- Assists other Global Witness investigators with the development and delivery of investigations, including collaborating with other Campaigns teams to produce cross-team research
- Supports work to monitor, evaluate and implement learning

Strategy and Communications

- Plays a key role in supporting the team with the development and ongoing refinement of the Digital Threats' campaign strategy
- Regularly monitors relevant news related to digital threats and climate disinformation, informing colleagues of opportunities for investigative inquiry or rapid response communications

- Works proactively with the team to ensure that investigations are designed to inform and support the Digital Threats team's advocacy and policy goals
- Produces a broad range of content, written and visual, for internal and external audiences, including briefing documents, articles, blog posts, and presentations, ensuring tone is tailored for the audience, in consultation and partnership with the team
- Represents Global Witness in the media including undertaking media interviews

Leadership and management
- Develop, support, coach and guide any line report(s) including for example through objective setting, regular 1-2-1s, appraisals, and performance management
- Supervise the production of investigative outputs and develop and support any line report(s) to function as a cohesive and collaborative team
- Mentor and develop the knowledge, skills and capabilities of team members, ensuring any line report(s) are engaged and motivated to deliver high quality campaigns and investigations
- Promote good communication and sharing of information across the team and organization

Ways of working and collaborating

Include for all roles

- Work proactively to support the organisation in meeting its purpose, strategy, and priorities
- Works in line with the Global Witness values of courage, inclusion and belonging, kindness and collaboration in all interactions internally and externally
- Work collaboratively and positively across the team and whole organisation contributing to cross organisation projects, key events, and initiatives
- Responds to challenge, explores new ideas and takes initiative in all aspects of teamwork
- Builds and maintains positive relationships with diverse range of external allies and colleagues
- Demonstrates an active commitment to creating a diverse and inclusive workplace
- Work within Global Witness policies and procedures at all times, including confidentiality, source protection and security, legal and contractual requirements, and general office procedures.

Other
- Where required, oversees the work of other team members, interns or consultants
- Carries out any other duties equal to the skills and responsibilities required for this role as directed by the Digital Threats Campaign Strategy Lead

PERSON SPECIFICATION

To be successful in this role you'll:

- You have extensive experience carrying out investigations, including data-based, for example having worked as a journalist, for an NGO or research organisation
- You have proficiency and experience of using at least one programming language, preferably Python, and web scraping
- You have a strong track-record of delivering quick-turnaround and audience friendly investigations
- You have the ability to develop, build and maintain effective working relationships with a diverse range of internal and external stakeholders
- You have excellent organisational and project management skills
- You are familiar with and have a demonstrable commitment to responsible journalism ethics and standards in investigations
- You have an attention to detail, a commitment to accuracy
- You are fluent in written and spoken English
- You display self-awareness understanding your strengths, limitations, and your impact on others
- You display an affinity to the Global Witness values and actively participate in Global Witness' diversity and inclusion journey

Desirable:

- You have demonstrable experience in investigating and researching issues related to social media companies, disinformation, electoral processes and/or the climate crisis.
- You have a working knowledge and experience relating to digital platform regulation.
- You have experience providing effective line management support
- You have a willingness to travel as needed