



## US Senior Researcher

**LOCATION: New York City / Washington DC / Denver**

More in Common US's team is seeking a full-time Senior Researcher to help grow the organization and advance its mission of building a more united America, where all people feel respected, better understood, and share a sense of belonging. The Senior Researcher will work closely with the Global Research Director to design, execute, analyze and present the public opinion research that will inform our strategy and broaden our impact. The Senior Researcher will collaborate on all major qualitative and quantitative research projects, engaging as a thought partner in developing studies about the American public, political polarization, and the solutions that can address our growing divisions. The Senior Researcher role is full-time, reports to the Global Director of Research, and could be based out of our offices in Manhattan, Denver, or Washington, DC.

### **ABOUT MORE IN COMMON US**

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More in Common US is a research and civic non-profit that is part of a new international initiative, set up in 2017 to build communities and societies that are stronger, more united and more resilient to increasing threats of polarization and social division. We work alongside of national teams in Germany, France, and the United Kingdom.

We conduct research into populations through the lens of identity, values, and beliefs. We leverage our findings to apply interventions with partners to counter polarization and build stronger shared identities across lines of difference.

More in Common published [Hidden Tribes](#), the 2018 landmark report on polarization referenced in more than 700 media articles, including on the [front page](#) of the New York Times. Our team has been interviewed or cited on CNN, BBC, Fox News, C-SPAN, NPR and other media channels, and has presented at venues ranging from the 2019 United Nations General Assembly to MTV to the US Congress. Read more on our website [here](#) and see examples of media coverage of our US research [here](#).

Some examples of our partnerships include working with a range of immigration organizations from across the ideological spectrum on a national series of living room conversations to reduce misperceptions of immigrants; advising philanthropic actors on how to best support efforts to strengthen social cohesion; and training civil society actors on methods for communicating across ideological lines in ways that reduce polarization and foster a shared sense of identity.

Although we are only at the beginning of our journey as an organization, we know one thing for certain: our team will be our greatest asset. We are looking for people who:

- Are strategic, rigorous, restless, energetic and creative

- Have direct experience with and understand people from different perspectives and backgrounds
- Feel comfortable and excited to dwell on the edge but not on the margins
- Are excited to do work that is non-partisan
- Are able to think ahead
- Are able to get big stuff done
- Are excited to work with heart as well as head
- Want to be part of turning despair into hope

## **ABOUT THIS ROLE**

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More in Common US is looking for a Senior Researcher, a mission-driven individual who is excited to develop creative and rigorous methods of exploring the complex social phenomena that characterize our dysfunctional and divided political cultural. This role is for someone:

- With extensive experience designing and overseeing public opinion research
- With passion for both qualitative and quantitative methods
- With confidence to manage external vendors, such as sample providers and focus group facilities
- Comfortable working collaboratively and at a fast pace
- With interest in all aspects of public opinion research: design, execution, analysis, visualization, writing, and presentation

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

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The Senior Researcher will serve as an integrated member of the US team, with the chief responsibility of coordinating with the Global Director of Research to develop and communicate insights drawn from our original public opinion research.

More in Common's US team will undertake frequent and ongoing research efforts to explore themes and questions such as:

- How the politically disengaged can be more effectively drawn into political participation in the United States
- How a sense of shared identity can be cultivated among an increasingly divided public that would facilitate better cooperation on major issues
- How psychological attributes relate to political views and civic behavior
- How communication tactics informed by psychology and values can surface agreement among a meaningful majority of Americans
- How to optimize in-person and online interventions to maximize the mobilization of Americans towards a national cause

The Senior Researcher will also be expected to assist other team members in identifying how applications of our research and its insights might inspire or inform real-world initiatives. There are no off-the-shelf solutions for the challenges of polarization and division in the US, so the Senior Researcher will need to feel comfortable hypothesizing about how

insights from our research and related research might be employed towards initiatives that advance our mission and support our partners.

### Research Execution

- Work directly with the Global Director of Research to execute research, including:
  - Developing RFP documents and proposals to be sent out to research vendors;
  - Coordinating with and managing external vendors to execute projects;
  - Crafting survey instruments, focus groups guides, in-depth interview scripts to explore complex and applied political subjects related to Americans' attitudes, beliefs, identities, and perceptions of themselves and others;
  - Managing administration of live online research communities by interacting directly with panelists;
  - Processing large amounts of qualitative data and identifying areas for further investigation or exploration in quantitative instruments;
  - Analyzing quantitative data, including by generating crosstabs, indices, and other metrics to classify respondents in original and useful ways;
  - Developing interesting insights into written analyses and data visualizations.

### Presentation and Application

Collaborate with the broader US team to communicate findings, including by:

- Coordinating to develop presentations of our research to partners, funders, think tanks, media, and international audiences;
- Representing research findings and implications in media interviews;
- Assisting with the integration of research findings into workshops and other exercises;
- Engaging in conversations about how findings can be interpreted to advance strategic challenges and organizational activities in the United States.

## **QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**

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We look for great people before we look for specific qualifications and experience. However, the following will be an asset for this role:

- 4+ years' professional experience that involves quantitative analysis and external engagement – e.g. political polling, market research, management consulting, policy analysis, or other similar work;
- Comfort navigating spreadsheets and converting data into presentation material
- Experience with more advanced analytical programs (e.g. SPSS, R, Python) is a plus
- Excellent communication skills, with experience presenting to a range of audiences
- Comfortable working collaboratively with a wide range of partners from across the ideological spectrum from inception through to project delivery and evaluation
- Demonstrated curiosity for understanding and engaging people and a desire to tell new stories where more Americans feel a part of our shared national project

## **COMPENSATION**

- Competitive salary and excellent benefits along with generous leave policy
- Personal learning and growth budget

## **DIVERSITY + EQUITY + INCLUSION**

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The task ahead of us is daunting but we have a better chance at success if our team reflects a broad range of social and cultural backgrounds, beliefs, political persuasions and life experiences. We value diversity across many dimensions, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability status, age, religious belief, and political orientation.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

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Applications should include a cover letter (max 1 page) and a resume. Please **send applications by email** to [jobs@moreincommon.com](mailto:jobs@moreincommon.com) and use 'US Senior Researcher in the email subject line. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.