



Role: Contract Writer
Location: New York City (remote working allowed)
Contract Type: Approximately 16 weeks with possibility of extension and future work
Working hours: Flexible, average 10 hours per week
Salary: Competitive
Start Date: August 2020

More in Common is looking for a **Writer** to support the lead writers on series of national publications we are producing in September, October, November, and December on the state of American democracy and the pathway to overcoming our deep divisions. Our current plan is that the publications will include:

- Two reports on the state of democracy in America;
- A summary report setting solutions to strengthen democracy in America, with a focus on democratic culture, social identities, values, beliefs, and sense of belonging; and,
- Up to four op-eds or articles for various outlets

The summary report will be similar to other major reports we have published in the United States, France and Germany, which capture the findings of a large-scale national survey combined with qualitative research (focus groups and one-on-one interviews).

There is flexibility in how the work is undertaken, including making allowance for other commitments that you might have during the duration of the project.

The Writer will contribute to a nine-person research and writing team.

We anticipate it will require 16 weeks' of research analysis and writing work, spread out between August and November. You will have the opportunity to engage regularly with other members of the writing team and help shape our analysis.

We'll have a set-up call in August, and then regular check-ins. The project will involve writing initial drafts for articles and for different sections of larger reports, reviewing other team members' drafts, fact-checking and finalising copy. This will be an iterative process and we anticipate that it will involve participation in a weekly call. On the larger reports which we anticipate publishing in October and November, we expect that the Writer will contribute several rounds of drafting in August and September, and a couple of days' addressing issues that arise from the final proofing process in October and November.

You will have one primary manager at the organization to coordinate with on assignments, timelines, and prioritization. Through the work you will engage with various combinations of

our research and writing teams. We anticipate that there is a fair bit of flexibility in how you spread your time across the contract period,

As we are continuing to grow our work, there is a possibility of further work from November into 2021.

ABOUT MORE IN COMMON US

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.

Our mission is to build a more united and inclusive America that is resilient to the forces of polarization and social fracturing, and where all Americans can feel respected, better understood, and share a sense of belonging. 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. Our website is [here](#) and you can see 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

Essential

- Published writing experience and strong strategic communications skills
- Concise, fluid and insightful non-technical writing style
- Good numeracy skills in interpreting statistics

- Ability to think strategically and writing insightful
- Strong familiarity with American social and political debates
- Experience in working in a team environment
- Ability to prioritise, meet deadlines and work calmly under pressure
- Can-do attitude and an ability to work both independently and as part of a team
- Highly organised with strong planning and problem-solving skills
- Able to set priorities, meet goals and evaluate the process and results
- Commitment to More in Common's mission

Desirable

- Experience in researching and writing social/political reports such as for a think tank, agency, political office or nonprofit
- Professional writing experience (journalism or other)
- Experience in proofing texts

DIVERSITY + EQUITY + INCLUSION

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

The closing date for acceptance of applications is 5pm ET on Friday July 24, 2020. Please send a cover letter, CV and links to example/s of writing to jobs@moreincommon.com with Subject line of 'US Contract Writer - *your name*'.