



Protecting the people who work for a better world

*The Regional Hub for the Americas in Panama of the Department of Safety and Security of the United Nations is looking for students interested in an internship in Panama for the period February-August 2017.*

## **Introduction**

The Department of Safety and Security of the United Nations (UNDSS) is responsible for providing leadership, operational support and oversight of the security management system, ensure the maximum security for staff and eligible dependants as well as enable the safest and most efficient conduct of the programmes and activities of the United Nations System. The Department works for all Agencies, Programs and Funds and is therefore active at the heart of the UN.

To gain on-the-ground information and understand better regional security developments, the Department of Safety and Security of the United Nations (UNDSS) has set up several Regional Information Hubs in strategic locations around the world. The analysts working in these hubs identify, analyse and warn about all kinds of security threats to the operations of the United Nations.

The Information Hub for Latin America and the Caribbean, located in Panama, offers four interesting internship positions to those students that would like to work in an international environment, who are passionate about current political and related security developments, have an affinity with Latin America and have a high level of written English and a good reading level of Spanish.

## **UNDSS Latin America and the Caribbean**

The Regional Information Hub for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) is located in Panama City, as are most UN's Regional Headquarters in the region. From here UNDSS assesses the security threats, and related political threats, that may affect the UN in the LAC region on the short, medium and long term. Our clients, mostly UN Agencies, Funds and Programs, are informed through bi-weekly reports and Topic Assessments on all kind of relevant trends, developments and specific topics. We have just, for example, issued a Topic Assessment about the Peruvian Elections and its implications for the regional security context.

## **Internship**

The interns will participate in all activities developed by the Regional Information Hub for Latin America and the Caribbean located in Panama. In particular, the intern will have an important role in the development of the so-called bi-weekly security report. This product reports on all relevant topics in the region. To do so, the daily activities of the intern will

include the acquisition of relevant information from local media outlets and internal UN reports in order to analyse them further. The intern will also draft the text of the bi-weekly, a pro-active and essential part of the work that we do in UNDSS.

There is also space to work on one larger research topic. This research topic may be chosen by the intern, in coordination with UNDSS and the University, and should be directly or indirectly relevant to threats that can affect the safety and security of the UN in the region. There are plenty of possible topics such as:

- The surge of auto-defence forces all around the region;
- Contested elections in various countries;
- The Maras in Central America and their impact on the UN's operations;
- The re-birth of the "Sendero Luminoso" in Peru;
- Social protests against corruption in the region and their impact on security;
- Etc.

In addition, the intern will be trained in the so-called Security Threat Information Cycle, the doctrine used by the UN to acquire relevant information, examine it, collate it, analyse it and finally disseminate it to the relevant clients. This knowledge will be useful in the rest of studies and professional life.

### **Start and duration**

*We are currently looking for students that would like to start an internship during the first semester of 2017, ideally for a period of six months from February to August 2017. **The deadline for the application process is 18 November 2016.** However, we work on a first served basis, that is, if a student is assessed as suitable for the position he or she will be offered the position right away. As we only have four positions we encourage therefore every interested student to apply as soon as possible.*

Usually no visa is required for European citizens to do a non-paid internship in Panama, however it is the responsibility of the student to inquire at the Panamanian Embassy if in his/her case there are migratory conditions with which he/she should comply.

## Profile of candidate

### *Knowledge and Experience*

- Studying master, or final stage high-level Bachelor in Latin American Studies, International Relations, Political Science or similar.
- Excellent verbal and written English and ideally also in Spanish. At least a strong reading capacity in Spanish.
- Interest in Latin American Affairs, preferably related to security issues.
- Experience in use of corporate, media and other specialist databases ideal.
- Excellent computer skills, especially Excel.
- Strong analytical skills.

### *Competencies*

- Solutions focused
- Eager to learn
- Shows initiative in work, contributing new solutions or new ways of doing things
- Determines or knows field of own decision making, knows when to escalate or not
- Clear, committed and delivers on what is required in role and strives to exceed expectations. Shows drive and determination to achieve high standards
- Comfortable with change, adapts well to changing demands and maintains a positive personal style
- Communicates clearly both verbally and in writing; plans and organises own workload, prioritising when necessary.

## Remuneration

Unfortunately UNDSS is at this moment not in the position to offer monetary compensation to its interns. Please contact your University to enquire about possibilities to fund your internship.

## If interested or if you have question

If interested please send a motivation letter and your CV to the following email address. For questions about the internship, please contact Alberto Croon, Senior Regional Analyst at UNDSS LAC – Panama, at [alberto.croon@undss.org](mailto:alberto.croon@undss.org)