Broadly speaking, the security and defence sector can be divided into four types of organisation, but these overlap widely. King’s has a strong relationship with The Worshipful Society of Security Professionals https://www.wcosp.org/; the events they hold annually at King’s bring together speakers from Consultancies, In-House Security, Academic Research and Government agencies.

Consultancy
Consultancy organisations offer a range of services to their clients including strategic planning, market assessment, M&A due diligence, risk analysis, resilience, crisis management and intelligence. They seek to

- Provide companies with an impartial ‘outsider’ view of their service and/or
- Provide specialist knowledge about a market, product, country etc

As well as being intelligence experts within their specialist fields, consultancies will also tend to have a commercial focus. This means that rather than merely offering intelligence to their clients, they’ll also have an idea of how to capitalise this information – in other words, how to make some money out of it.

For example, a private company interested in undertaking an infrastructure project in Algeria might hire the services of a security consultancy to assess how viable the project is, and undertake a cost/benefit analysis in security terms. Consultancies who have recently engaged with King’s include:

Renaissance Strategic Advisers
http://www.rsadvisors.com/index.html
A niche consultancy specialising in aerospace, defence, space and government services industries.

IHS Jane’s
http://www.janes.com/
Defence, Security, Intelligence and Analysis.

Control Risk
https://www.controlrisks.com/en
Security and political risk firm that operate worldwide. Job opportunities are grouped by continent, and their website also offers the opportunity to submit general applications.

Aegis
http://www.aegisworld.com/
Leading security and risk management company offering consultancy, and private military and security capabilities.

GardaWorld
http://www.garda-world.com
GardaWorld is a global risk management and security services company and is the international division of Garda World Security Corporation.

Horus Security Consultancy
http://www.horus-security.co.uk/careers
This security consultancy encourages speculative applications.

Olive Group
http://www.olivegroup.com/
Professional security services and risk mitigation

Association of Security Consultants (ASC)
http://www.securityconsultants.org.uk/
A membership organisation for security professionals, the ASC’s website contains a searchable directory of members, which could be a good way of networking and making contacts in the field.

Large consultancy firms such as KPMG, PA Consultancy, McKinsey, Frost Sullivan and Deloitte will also provide defence/risk/resilience/security-related consultancy as part of their offering to clients.

You may also find it useful to take a look at our Political Risk handout for other organisations operating in a similar area. This can be accessed at http://libguides.kcl.ac.uk/ld.php?content_id=19729248.

In-house security
Lots of organisations will advertise in-house positions for security specialists on their website. Consider looking at oil and engineering companies, banks & other financially-focused companies and retail organisations. Any organisations with a large international reach and global operations are a particularly good place to start your search.

In addition to maintaining a physical security presence, they will also cover risk, internal investigations and fraud. Organisations will be mindful of the threat of cyber-attacks, which aim to disrupt their online networks. As a result of this roles in cyber security are growing, with analysts in this area being employed both in-house and through consultancies.

Private security firms
Major private security companies such as G4S (http://www.g4sriskconsulting.com/) CIS Security (http://cis-security.co.uk/) and Securitas (http://www.securitas.com/en/our-offering/security-services/security-consulting/) also have consultancy arms, which can be a good source of vacancies and market awareness.

Academic-style research
Academic and research organisations are more likely to provide intelligence and analysis for governments,
intergovernmental & non-governmental organisations, as opposed to consultancies, whose work is more likely to be conducted on behalf of private companies and individuals.

Royal United Service Institute (RUSI)
https://rusi.org/
RUSI is an independent think tank engaged in cutting edge defence and security research. Stuffed with King’s alumni they frequently talk at our careers events and offer internships.

International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)
https://www.iiis.org/en
The IISS is one of the leading world authorities on conflict, security and risk. Their website is an excellent way of keeping up to date with your awareness of global affairs, and they also host a number of free events and post vacancies for full-time positions and vacancies across their various continental offices.

Chatham House
https://www.chathamhouse.org/
An independent policy institute based in London, also referred to as The Royal Institute of International Affairs. Their events programme offer valuable networking experiences.

International Centre for Security Analysis (ICSA)
http://www.kcl.ac.uk/sspp/policy-institute/icsa/index.aspx
Based in the Policy Institute here at King’s, the ICSA carries out academic and policy research on security issues. They run an annual internship scheme, intentionally designed to run alongside academic studies.

RAND
www.rand.org
An impartial, non-governmental organisation that provides security analysis, primarily to governments.

Institute for Strategic Dialogue
http://www.strategicdialogue.org/
Euro-centric think tank with a policy focus on extremism, and the security issues that emerge as a result of this.

British American Security Information Council
http://www.basicint.org/
Small think tank pro-nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation

**Governmental agencies**

You will generally need to be a British national, or have lived here for a number of years, to be eligible to apply for roles within these agencies, although check individual roles and agencies as there may be some exceptions. If you’re not a British national, then seek out equivalent organisations in your country of origin.

You’ll often need to complete a security clearance check prior to your start date. This can take several weeks for the employer to complete.

Languages are always a particularly valuable commodity when working in these organisations, so if you’re not familiar with any then consider learning one to strengthen your application, and if you are then make sure you remember to highlight this!

**Government departments**

Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl)
https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/defence-science-and-technology-laboratory/about/recruitment#graduate-development-programme
A Ministry of Defence affiliate that focus on using the latest scientific and technological developments to contribute to the UK’s security and defence. They offer a graduate programme as well as international and summer placements.

Civil Service Fast Stream
https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/civil-service-fast-stream
A competitive graduate scheme which sees successful candidates placed within the Civil Service. During the application process you have the opportunity to indicate a departmental preference, so if you’re interested in security and defence you can select the Ministry of Defence as your preference; this won’t be guaranteed, but will be taken into account when being placed.

Cabinet Office
https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/cabinet-office/about/recruitment#cabinet-office-jobs
The National Security Secretariat sits within the Cabinet Office. Use the job role and organisation filters to search for security and defence related roles.

**Intelligence agencies**

MI5
https://www.mi5.gov.uk/careers

MI6
https://www.sis.gov.uk/explore-careers.html

GCHQ
https://www.gchq-careers.co.uk/index.html

**National security services**

**Military**
Officer training programmes, which allow you to train at officer level in the military after graduation, exist in both the British Army (http://www.army.mod.uk/join/Join-as-an-Officer.aspx) and the Navy (http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/get-ready-to-join/royal-navy-officer/am-i-eligible.)

If you think you might be interested in applying to such a programme, then getting involved in the University Officers’ Training Corps (http://www.army.mod.uk/UOTC/28464.aspx) is a great way of experiencing military life and strengthening your application to the programme.

**Police**
You can apply to be a full-time police office, community support officer or volunteer as a special constable by viewing the recruitment pages of your desired force. For example, the Metropolitan Police, responsible for law enforcement in Greater London - http://www.metpolicecareers.co.uk/newconstable/index.php
Police Now  
http://www.policenow.org.uk/  
Billed by some as “Teach First for the Police,” Police Now is a two year graduate programme that places graduates into police forces in challenging communities.

King’s CareerConnect  
www.kcl.ac.uk/careerconnect  
King’s CareerConnect is our exclusive online career portal enabling students and recent alumni to engage with our services. Once logged in, you can access our vacancy board and search hundreds of part-time roles, placements, internships and graduate-level opportunities, book one-to-one careers or application guidance appointments, apply for exclusive King's Internships and view our full events calendar to book attendance at our many events throughout the year.

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