



**DEMOCRATS ABROAD  
DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN**

FOR THE 2024 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL  
CONVENTION

ISSUED BY THE  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY COMMITTEE ABROAD  
("DEMOCRATS ABROAD")

AS OF APRIL 15, 2023

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1 **Section I**

2 **Introduction and Description of Delegate Selection Process**

3 **A. Introduction**

- 4 1. The Democratic Party Committee Abroad (“Democrats Abroad”) has a total of twenty-  
5 one (21) Democratic National Convention base delegates, of whom eight (8) are  
6 sitting Democratic National Committee members (each with half (½) a vote), twelve  
7 (12) are at-large delegates, and one (1) is a pledged party leader and elected official  
8 (“PLEO”) delegate. Democrats Abroad also has at least one (1) alternate, and one  
9 (1) Convention page (Call I & Appendix B). Democrats Abroad’s Democratic National  
10 Convention delegation shall be composed of these twenty-one (21) delegates, all  
11 alternates, and the Convention page.
- 12 a. If there is more than one (1) presidential candidate with elected Democratic  
13 National Convention delegates, then there may be an additional alternate for  
14 each presidential candidate having elected Democratic National Convention  
15 delegates.
- 16 b. If there are any distinguished party leader delegates within Democrats Abroad,  
17 as defined in Section III.E.1.b, then Democrats Abroad’s total number of  
18 Democratic National Convention delegates will be increased by the number of  
19 distinguished party leaders.
- 20 2. The delegate selection process is governed by the Charter and Bylaws of the  
21 Democratic Party of the United States, the Call for the 2024 Democratic National  
22 Convention (“Call”), the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2024 Democratic National  
23 Convention (“Rules”), the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee for the  
24 2024 Democratic National Convention (“Regs.”), the Charter of Democrats Abroad,  
25 and this Delegate Selection Plan (“DSP”) (Call II.A).
- 26 3. A draft of the DSP shall be submitted for public comment for a period of thirty (30)  
27 days (Rule I.C; Reg. 2.2.F).
- 28 4. Following the adoption of this DSP by Democrats Abroad’s voting representatives  
29 after the expiration of the thirty-day public comment period, it shall be submitted for  
30 review and approval by the Democratic National Committee Rules and Bylaws  
31 Committee (“RBC”). Democrats Abroad’s International Chair shall be empowered,  
32 after consultation with Democrats Abroad’s International Executive Committee and  
33 Democrats Abroad’s Affirmative Action Committee, to make any revisions to this DSP  
34 as required by the RBC to correct any omissions and/or deficiencies as found by the  
35 RBC to ensure its full compliance with Democratic Party rules. Such corrections to  
36 the DSP shall be made by the International Chair in consultation with Democrats  
37 Abroad’s International Executive Committee. The DSP shall be resubmitted to the  
38 RBC within thirty (30) days of receipt of notice of the RBC’s findings (Reg. 2.5; Reg.  
39 2.6; Reg. 2.7).
- 40 5. Once the RBC has found this DSP to be compliant, any amendment to this DSP  
41 made by Democrats Abroad must be submitted to and approved by the RBC before  
42 it becomes effective (Reg. 2.9).

1 **B. Description of the Delegate Selection Process**

- 2 1. Democrats Abroad will use a proportional representation system based on the results  
3 of a party-run presidential preference vote to apportion delegates to the 2024  
4 Democratic National Convention. References in this DSP to “Presidential Preference  
5 Vote”, “Global Presidential Primary”, “Global Primary”, or simply “Primary” shall be a  
6 reference to the same process for apportioning delegates.
- 7 2. The first determining step of Democrats Abroad’s delegate selection process will be  
8 a party-run presidential preference vote. Votes will be cast in person, by postal mail,  
9 by fax, or by email. In-person voting will occur during the period from March 5, 2024,  
10 to March 12, 2024, with early voting via postal mail, by fax, or by email.
- 11 3. If more than two (2) presidential candidates submit a letter of candidacy  
12 to Democrats Abroad by January 3, 2024, Democrats Abroad will employ optional  
13 preferential voting with an instant runoff, hereto referred to as ranked choice voting  
14 (“RCV”), on all Global Primary ballots. The RCV ballots will give voters the option to  
15 rank candidates in order of preference, indicating a first preference, second  
16 preference, and so on. Voters may vote for one or more ranked preferences, at their  
17 discretion, and delegates will be awarded to candidates meeting the 15% viability  
18 threshold to earn delegates to the National Convention. Democrats Abroad will  
19 implement an organization-wide voter education program to assist voters in casting  
20 their ballot.
- 21 a. Uncommitted status shall not count as a “candidate” for the purpose of  
22 determining usage of RCV on Global Primary ballots, but would appear on the  
23 ballots as a rankable preference.
- 24 4. Delegate seats shall be apportioned in a fashion that fairly reflects the expressed  
25 presidential preference or uncommitted status of the Global Primary voters (Rule  
26 14.A).
- 27 5. Delegate selection shall take place at three Regional Conventions (one for each of  
28 Democrats Abroad’s three respective regions) and Democrats Abroad’s Global  
29 Convention, all of which shall be held and concluded after the Global Primary but  
30 prior to June 21, 2024. All meetings, Regional Conventions, and the Global  
31 Convention held pursuant hereto shall be conducted using the latest edition of  
32 Robert’s Rules of Order.

33 **C. Voter Participation**

- 34 1. Participation in Democrats Abroad’s delegate selection process is open to all United  
35 States citizens residing outside the United States who will be eighteen (18) years of  
36 age or older by November 5, 2024, and who wish to participate as Democrats.
- 37 a. Each individual participating in the Global Primary must sign a Declaration to  
38 the effect of the preceding sentence in the form of the Declaration set forth by  
39 Democrats Abroad. A person who wishes to participate in the Global Primary  
40 and is not a member of Democrats Abroad must first join Democrats Abroad by  
41 completing a membership form prior to participating in the Global Primary,  
42 which may be done on or before March 12, 2024, the final date of the Global  
43 Primary (Rule 2.A; Rule 2.C; Reg. 4.3).
- 44 b. At no stage of Democrats Abroad’s delegate selection process shall any person  
45 be required, directly or indirectly, to pay a cost or fee to the Democratic Party

- 1 or Democrats Abroad as a condition for participating or voting. Voluntary  
2 contributions to the Democratic Party and/or Democrats Abroad may be made  
3 or requested, but under no circumstances shall a contribution be mandatory  
4 (Rule 2.D; Reg. 4.4).
- 5 c. No person shall participate or vote in the nominating process for the Democratic  
6 presidential candidate who also participates in the nominating process of any  
7 other delegation to the 2024 Democratic National Convention or of any other  
8 political party for the corresponding presidential elections (Rule 2.E). Casting a  
9 ballot in the first determining step or participating in the delegate selection  
10 process of any other state or territory automatically disqualifies a Regional or  
11 Global Elector from participation in the Regional or Global Convention.
- 12 d. No person shall vote more than once in the party-run presidential preference  
13 vote process (Rule 3.E; Reg. 4.6).
- 14 e. The use of secret ballots is prohibited (including in the selection of anyone who  
15 serves on the Democratic National Committee).
- 16 f. All aspects of the delegate selection process will comply with Democrats  
17 Abroad's internal policy regarding the collection, use, and storage of personal  
18 data, including receiving explicit consent prior to the collection and usage of  
19 data. All candidates for delegate, alternate, standing committee member, or  
20 Democratic National Committee member shall be required to consent to the  
21 use of their special category data as required by the delegate selection  
22 process.
- 23 2. Democrats Abroad supports and will continue to support the efforts of Democratic  
24 state parties and legislators to enhance voter and election security, particularly but  
25 not exclusively in the delivery and processing of ballots cast from outside the United  
26 States.
- 27 3. In accordance with the Democratic Party's requirement to assess and improve  
28 participation with respect to presidential preference and the delegate selection  
29 process, Democrats Abroad has and will continue voter protection programs that  
30 protect and expand the vote with educational, legislative, and litigation-based efforts  
31 as appropriate. These programs include cooperation with other state parties and the  
32 Democratic National Committee, as well as individual projects within Democrats  
33 Abroad (Rule 2.I; 2.I.1).
- 34 4. As part of encouraging voter participation in the delegate selection process,  
35 Democrats Abroad uses same-day voter registration for the Democratic presidential  
36 nominating process (Rule 2.I.2). Voters taking advantage of same-day registration  
37 and voting will be required to attest on the registration form to their U.S. citizenship  
38 and place of residence outside of the United States. Registering to vote in the Global  
39 Presidential Primary is done by becoming a member of Democrats Abroad.
- 40 5. Democrats Abroad will continue to use its existing structures and country committees  
41 across the globe for communications with voters to ensure an open and inclusive  
42 delegate selection process and to resist attempts at voter suppression and  
43 disenfranchisement. In addition, this DSP meets the following requirements (Rule  
44 2.K):
- 45 a. The ballot for voting by mail, fax, or email will incorporate features to safeguard  
46 against error and fraud (Rule 2.K.1). Voters will be required to attest on the

- 1 registration form to their place of residence in the country where they are voting,  
2 and to their U.S. citizenship. These will be verified against Democrats Abroad's  
3 database.
- 4 b. Democrats Abroad has the technical ability and financial resources to  
5 successfully run a process not significantly different from previous plans, with  
6 the addition of ranked choice ballots (Rule 2.K.2).
- 7 c. Same-day voter registration and party-affiliation changes to join the Democratic  
8 Party are possible, noting that U.S. citizens living abroad may also need to  
9 change party affiliation, register to vote, or request an absentee ballot for other  
10 elections with their voting state (Rule 2.K.3).
- 11 d. Democrats Abroad will publicly report the total results for each candidate based  
12 on the final global tally of votes cast in the Global Primary (Rule 2.K.4).
- 13 e. The allocation of all Democratic National Convention delegates will be  
14 determined at the time of the final global count, subject to recount (Rule 2.K.5).
- 15 f. Paper ballots, electronically-delivered ballots, and any electronic copy of the  
16 ballots will be securely preserved for a reasonable amount of time to ensure  
17 the availability of an accurate recount if necessary (Rule 2.K.6).
- 18 g. Using a form provided by the International Chair, and filed according to the  
19 included instructions and with costs of \$2,500.00 USD paid in advance, a  
20 presidential candidate may request a recount to be carried out in a timely  
21 manner (Rule 2.K.7).
- 22 h. The mechanisms of this DSP are designed expressly to allow voters who are  
23 unable to be a part of the process in person to participate, with features such  
24 as a week-long period for in-person voting, and early and simultaneous voting  
25 by mail, fax, and email (Rule 2.K.8).
- 26 i. Although the Americans with Disabilities Act and Sections 203 and 208 of the  
27 Voting Rights Act do not apply to voters living abroad, Democrats Abroad will  
28 engage in education and outreach to ensure accessibility, specifically including  
29 people with disabilities and people with limited English proficiency (Rule 2.K.9).
- 30 j. Democrats Abroad will continue to maintain a secure database of members.  
31 The database will continue to be updated on a daily or weekly basis (depending  
32 on the Country Committee) by its core team of trained database managers. In  
33 order to ensure that each individual seeking to join Democrats Abroad is  
34 qualified to be a member of Democrats Abroad, each membership request will  
35 continue to be filtered out for duplicates and the membership qualifications of  
36 potential new members will be verified. Annual database verification will occur  
37 by January 31, 2024, as it is each year, with respect to existing members in  
38 order to review whether an existing member is still residing outside of the United  
39 States and qualified for membership in Democrats Abroad; unverified persons  
40 or persons whose residence outside of the United States is questioned will be  
41 contacted in order to double verify whether they continue to qualify for  
42 membership and for voting in the Global Primary. Access to the database will  
43 continue to be provided for multiple levels of permissions, require strong  
44 password protection, and track access and all changes made in order to limit  
45 access to a needs basis by geographic location (Democrats Abroad leader are

1 required to sign non-disclosure agreements, complete training sessions, and  
2 pass subsequent exams with respect to membership data and maintenance).

3 k. Ballots for voters who have requested mail-in ballots will be sent out, and a  
4 downloadable mail-in ballot will be made available on Democrats Abroad  
5 website, on January 27, 2024. All ballots voted by fax or email must be received  
6 by 11:59 pm Pacific Daylight Time on March 12, 2024; all mail-in ballots must  
7 be postmarked by March 12, 2024 and received by March 17, 2024. The  
8 downloadable ballot will be removed from the Democrats Abroad website on  
9 March 12, 2024.

10 6. Democrats Abroad is responsible for selecting the dates, times, and places for all  
11 official Democrats Abroad meetings and events related to Democrats Abroad's  
12 delegate selection process. Such dates and times have been and will be scheduled  
13 to encourage the participation of all Democrats residing abroad. Democrats Abroad  
14 will make every effort, to the extent reasonably possible in light of local constraints,  
15 to ensure such meetings begin and end at reasonable hours (Rule 3.A; Reg. 4),  
16 are accessible, and fairly placed (Rule 2.I.1).

17 Global Primary voting will take place at Voting Centers around the world  
18 established by the Country Committees and be publicized in advance as detailed  
19 in Section III.B.2 and Section III.B.3 below.

20 Pursuant to Democrats Abroad's Charter, Democrats Abroad membership is open  
21 to all citizens of the United States who are or will be of voting age before the next  
22 federal election, reside outside the United States, and have declared themselves  
23 to be Democrats. Democrats Abroad will continue its efforts to enroll members,  
24 notably younger citizens who will reach voting age by November 5, 2024, but who  
25 are not yet eighteen (18) years of age at the time of enrollment.

26

27



1 **Section II**

2 **Presidential Candidates**

3 **A. Ballot Access**

- 4 1. A presidential candidate gains access to the Global Primary by filing a candidacy  
5 statement, as provided by Democrats Abroad, with the International Chair no later  
6 than January 3, 2024.
- 7 2. As a condition precedent to ballot access for the Global Primary, each presidential  
8 candidate must file a petition, as provided by Democrats Abroad, containing the valid  
9 signatures of 300 registered voters (*i.e.*, members of Democrats Abroad) with the  
10 International Chair no later than January 3, 2024. Petitions may be signed  
11 electronically according to rules adopted by the International Chair. The International  
12 Chair, upon request, shall make all forms and rules governing the petition process  
13 available to presidential campaigns on or before September 1, 2023. Members of  
14 Democrats Abroad may sign petitions for more than one presidential candidate. Once  
15 a member has signed a petition and provided all required information, that member  
16 has no right to rescind or otherwise remove the member’s signature from the petition.
- 17 In order to facilitate the collection of signatures and the filing of candidates’ petitions,  
18 the International Chair will set up a virtual forum platform on Democrats Abroad’s  
19 website through which each potential candidate, having paid the ballot access fee  
20 pursuant to Section II.A.3, will be able to solicit signatures from members of  
21 Democrats Abroad for their candidate petition. The virtual forum will be available to  
22 public viewing beginning on September 1, 2023. Presidential candidates wishing to  
23 make use of the virtual forum platform may make a written request to the International  
24 Chair any time prior to two (2) weeks before the deadline for submitting petitions;  
25 requests received on or prior to August 15, 2023, will be acted upon by September  
26 1, 2023. Other requests will take approximately two (2) weeks to process. Each such  
27 request will be accompanied by a photograph and an introductory text the candidate  
28 wishes to appear on the virtual forum.
- 29 3. As a condition precedent to ballot access for the Global Primary, each presidential  
30 campaign must pay a ballot access fee in the sum of \$2,500.00 USD to Democrats  
31 Abroad, in a manner stipulated by the International Chair or International Treasurer,  
32 no later than January 3, 2024.
- 33 4. The ballot for the Global Primary will include a category for “uncommitted”. Write-in  
34 candidacies will not be permitted (Rule 11.C; Rule 14.A; Rule 14.B; Rule 14.D; Rule  
35 14.E; Rule 14.G).

36 **B. Other Requirements**

- 37 1. **Certification of Authorized Representative.** Each presidential candidate shall  
38 certify in writing to the International Chair the name(s) of the presidential candidate’s  
39 authorized representative(s) by January 3, 2024 (Rule 13.D.1).
- 40 2. **Best Efforts.** Each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) shall use  
41 best efforts to ensure that the presidential candidate’s respective delegation within  
42 the Democrats Abroad delegation achieves the affirmative action, outreach, and  
43 inclusion goals established by and under this DSP, and that the delegation is equally  
44 divided between persons identifying as men or women.

1           3. **Statement of Full Participation.** Each presidential candidate shall submit a  
2 statement that specifies what steps the candidate is taking and will take to encourage  
3 full participation in the delegate selection process, including, but not limited to: (i)  
4 whether the presidential candidate’s campaign may defray all or part of the expenses  
5 of those delegates otherwise unable to participate in the Democratic National  
6 Convention and (ii) procedures by which persons may file as candidates for delegate  
7 or alternate. Each presidential candidate is required to present this information no  
8 later than January 3, 2024, in the letter of candidacy as established in Section II.A of  
9 this DSP (Rule 6.G; Rule 6.H.1; Rule 6.I). Presidential candidates are also required  
10 to submit such full participation statements to the RBC at the same time they are  
11 submitted to Democrats Abroad (Rule 6.H.1).

12           4. **Withdrawal of Candidacy.** No presidential candidate who has filed a timely letter of  
13 candidacy pursuant hereto shall be deemed to have withdrawn the candidate’s  
14 candidacy unless such candidate files a letter of withdrawal with the International  
15 Chair. In this event, the International Chair shall so notify Democrats Abroad  
16 members as soon as practicable. If feasible, the withdrawn candidate’s name shall  
17 be removed from the Global Primary ballot. Democrats Abroad shall not be obligated  
18 to repay the ballot access fee to the candidate in the event they withdraw their  
19 candidacy after filing for ballot access.

20

1 **Section III**

2 **Apportionment, Allocation, and**  
3 **Selection of Delegates and Alternates**

4 **A. Apportionment of Delegates and Alternates**

5 1. **Global Apportionment.** Democrats Abroad shall select twelve (12) at-large  
6 delegates (Call 1.E) and one (1) pledged PLEO delegate (Rule 8.C; Call I.B; Call II,  
7 Call Appendix B; **Reg. 4.31**) to the Democratic National Convention. Further,  
8 Democrats Abroad shall select one (1) alternate per presidential preference group  
9 receiving delegates (Call I.I). Democrats Abroad shall have no district-level delegates  
10 (Call Appendix B).

11 a. **Fair Reflection of Presidential Preference.** Delegates shall be apportioned  
12 to presidential preference groups in a fashion that fairly reflects the expressed  
13 presidential preference or uncommitted status of Global Primary voters (Rule  
14 14.A).

15 (1) Therefore, all at-large delegates and the PLEO delegate shall be  
16 apportioned according to the percentage of each presidential preference  
17 (including uncommitted status) as determined by the Global Primary vote,  
18 except that a preference falling below a threshold of fifteen percent (15%)  
19 shall not be awarded any delegates or alternates.

20 (2) If a presidential candidate has officially notified the International Chair in  
21 writing that they are no longer a candidate at the time of the Global  
22 Convention, and after the final global count of Global Primary ballots and  
23 subsequent delegate allocation, then their allocation of delegates will be  
24 proportionately divided among presidential preferences entitled to an  
25 allocation.

26 b. **Delegate Threshold.** In all situations where no preference reaches the 15%  
27 threshold, the threshold shall be half the percentage of the vote received in the  
28 Global Primary by the frontrunner.

29 c. **Delegate Apportionment Formula.** Democrats Abroad's twelve (12) at-large  
30 delegates and one (1) pledged PLEO delegate shall be apportioned according  
31 to the following procedures:

32 Step 1: To three decimals, tabulate the percentage of the vote that each  
33 presidential preference (including uncommitted status) receives  
34 in the Global Primary.

35 Step 2: To three decimals, re-tabulate the percentage of the vote  
36 received by each presidential preference, reallocating the next-  
37 preference votes of presidential preference groups with  
38 percentages in Step 1 that fall below 15%.

39 Step 3: Multiply the total number of at-large delegate seats and PLEO  
40 delegate seats (13 in total) to be apportioned by the percentage  
41 received by each presidential preference.

1 Step 4: Delegate seats shall be assigned to each presidential preference  
2 based on the whole numbers which result from the multiplication  
3 in Step 3.

4 Step 5: Remaining delegate seats, if any, shall be assigned in order of  
5 the highest fractional remainders in Step 3.

6 2. **Regional Selection.** Nine (9) of the at-large delegates to the Democratic National  
7 Convention will be selected at Regional Conventions organized at the level of each  
8 recognized Region of Democrats Abroad. The three recognized regions of  
9 Democrats Abroad are the Americas; Asia-Pacific (“AP”); and Europe, Middle East,  
10 and Africa (“EMEA”). A list of Country and Transnational Committees officially  
11 recognized by Democrats Abroad in each region as of the date of approval of this  
12 DSP will be also submitted to the RBC.

13 a. To receive and cast votes at a Regional Convention, a Country or Transnational  
14 Committee must be in compliance as of February 20, 2024, as defined in  
15 Section 5.4 of the DPCA Charter.

16 b. The nine (9) at-large delegate seats to be selected at the Regional Conventions  
17 will be reapportioned among the Regions from the global pool of apportioned  
18 delegate seats. Reapportionment shall be based on a formula taking into  
19 account the Democratic strength of the Regions in the Global Primary.  
20 Following the Global Primary, the International Chair shall determine the  
21 Democratic strength of each Region based on the number of Democrats who  
22 participated in the Global Primary.

23 c. Each in-compliance Country Committee, in-compliance Transnational  
24 Committee, and Non-Country Committee Representative shall be allotted, *pro*  
25 *rata*, regional delegate votes based on the Democratic strength of each  
26 respective in-compliance Country Committee, in-compliance Transnational  
27 Committee, and Non-Country Committee areas collectively in the Global  
28 Primary as certified in accordance with Section III.A.3 of this DSP. Regional  
29 Vice Chairs will be allotted, *pro rata*, regional delegate votes based on the  
30 Democratic strength of out-of-compliance Country Committees collectively in  
31 the Global Primary as certified in accordance with Section III.A.3 of this DSP.

32  
33 3. **Regional Reapportionment Based on Democratic Strength.** The number of at-  
34 large delegates to be selected by each Region shall reflect the percentage of  
35 Democratic strength within the Region voting in the Global Primary, as certified by  
36 the International Chair, provided, however, that each Regional Convention shall be  
37 entitled to elect at least one (1) Democratic National Convention delegate. In  
38 determining the Democratic strength of each region, the International Chair shall take  
39 into account the total number of votes cast by members from in-compliance Country  
40 Committees, out-of-compliance Country Committees (if applicable), in-compliance  
41 Transnational Committees, out-of-compliance Transnational Committees (if  
42 applicable), and Non-Country Committees in the respective Region. The number of  
43 delegate seats apportioned to each presidential candidate is fixed by the delegate

1 apportionment formula of Section III.A.1.c of this DSP. It is impossible for preference  
2 groups to gain or lose delegates in the process of regional reapportionment.

3 **a. Regional Reapportionment Formula:**

4 Step 1: To three decimals, tabulate the Democratic strength in the Global  
5 Primary in each Region by dividing the number of Global Primary  
6 votes cast within the Region by the total number of Global  
7 Primary votes cast worldwide.

8 Step 2: Multiply the total number of delegates to be selected by the  
9 regions (9 at-large delegates) by the Democratic strength in each  
10 Region.

11 Step 3: Delegate seats shall be assigned to each Region based on the  
12 whole numbers which result from the multiplication in Step 2.

13 Step 4: Remaining delegate seats, if any, shall be assigned in order of  
14 the highest fractional remainders in Step 3.

15 **b. Allocation of Delegate Seats to Preference Groups Within a Region.** The  
16 process of allocating delegate seats within the Regions shall begin with the  
17 Region with the lowest Democratic strength. All delegate seats reapportioned  
18 to a Region shall be assigned to preference groups within that Region in  
19 accordance with the allocation process below, before beginning the process of  
20 allocating delegates to the next Region. Regional allocation shall be conducted  
21 in ascending order based on Regional Democratic strength.

22 (1) **Allocation Process.** If a Regional Convention is to select only one (1)  
23 Democratic National Convention delegate, it shall select such delegate  
24 from among the delegate candidates having been approved by the  
25 preference group (e.g., the presidential candidate) receiving the most  
26 votes worldwide in the Global Primary after the votes of those presidential  
27 preferences falling below 15% have been reallocated; if it is to select two  
28 (2) delegates or more, then it shall select one (1) delegate from among  
29 the delegate candidates having been approved by the preference group  
30 receiving the most votes worldwide in the Global Primary after the votes  
31 of those presidential preferences falling below 15% have been  
32 reallocated and one (1) from among the delegate candidates having been  
33 approved by the preference group receiving the second most votes  
34 worldwide in the Global Primary after the votes of those presidential  
35 preferences falling below 15% have been reallocated, and so forth until  
36 one (1) delegate is assigned to each preference group eligible to receive  
37 votes. If, after allocating delegate seats in accordance with the preceding  
38 paragraph, the Region remains entitled to select more delegates, the  
39 allocation process shall repeat until all delegate seats reapportioned to  
40 the Region have been allocated to preference groups, provided,  
41 however, that at no time during the Regional allocation process may a  
42 delegate be allocated to any preference group if doing so would exceed  
43 the preference group's total number of globally-apportioned delegates.

44 4. **Globally-elected Delegates.** The remaining three (3) at-large delegates and the one  
45 (1) pledged PLEO delegate will be selected at the Global Convention. The number  
46 of delegates to be elected for each preference group shall be determined by  
47 subtracting each preference group's total number of delegates selected at the

1 Regional levels from the total number of delegates apportioned to each preference  
2 group according to the delegate apportionment formula of Section III.A.1.c of this  
3 DSP. The first delegate allocated to, and selected by, the preference group receiving  
4 the highest number of votes worldwide in the Global Primary shall be the pledged  
5 PLEO delegate.

- 6 5. **Delegate Criteria.** All members of Democrats Abroad’s delegation to the Democratic  
7 National Convention, including at-large delegates, the pledged PLEO delegate,  
8 alternates, and Convention pages, at the time of their selection as well as at the time  
9 of the Democratic National Convention, shall be members of Democrats Abroad;  
10 reside outside the United States; have the interest, welfare, and success of the  
11 Democratic Party and of Democrats Abroad at heart; and subscribe to the substance,  
12 intent, and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party and the  
13 Charter of Democrats Abroad.

14 6. **Equal Division of At-Large Delegates and Alternates**

- 15 a. Democrats Abroad’s total number of at-large delegates will be equally divided  
16 between men and women. The male and female membership of the standing  
17 committees shall be as equally divided among the men and women as possible;  
18 the variance between men and women in any standing committee or among  
19 the three committees in aggregate shall not exceed one (Call VII.E.2).
- 20 b. In the case of gender non-binary delegates or alternates, they shall not be  
21 counted as either male or female for the purposes of equal division. The  
22 remainder of the delegation shall be equally divided by gender (Rule 6.C).

23 7. **At-large Delegate and Alternate Filing Requirements**

- 24 a. All candidates for the positions of at-large delegate or alternate to the  
25 Democratic National Convention must be identified as to presidential  
26 preference, uncommitted, or automatic status at all levels that determine  
27 presidential preference.
- 28 b. To become a candidate for at-large delegate to be elected at a Regional  
29 Convention, an individual may submit a written application to the International  
30 Chair beginning on March 26, 2024. All applications for Regional Convention  
31 elections must be received by 11:59 pm Pacific Daylight Time on April 19, 2024,  
32 or fourteen (14) days before the appropriate Regional Convention, whichever  
33 is earlier. An individual may apply as a candidate for at-large delegate to be  
34 elected at the Global Convention, pledged PLEO delegate, or alternate by  
35 informing the International Chair of their candidacy in writing beginning on  
36 March 26, 2024. All applications for Global Convention elections must be  
37 received by 11:59 pm Pacific Daylight Time on April 19, 2024. All notices of  
38 candidacy for the positions of delegate or alternate to the Democratic National  
39 Convention shall be made using a form provided by the International Chair.
- 40 c. An individual may be a candidate for at-large delegate, alternate, and pledged  
41 PLEO delegate at the same time, and may inform the International Chair of the  
42 individual's candidacy for all such positions by the same notice. Candidates for  
43 at-large delegate, pledged PLEO delegate, or alternate who timely file notice  
44 of their candidacy for one or more such positions with the International Chair  
45 and who are not chosen for a particular position may be considered as a  
46 candidate for all other positions without having to file notice of their candidacy

1 for such other positions, provided the candidate has been approved by the  
2 presidential candidate they have pledged to support.

3 d. Candidates for at-large delegate, alternate, and pledged PLEO delegate must  
4 file in all instances a signed pledge of support for a single presidential candidate  
5 (including uncommitted status), but that pledge of support may be modified by  
6 submitting an updated pledge of support before the deadline.

7 e. A candidate for at-large delegate, alternate, or pledged PLEO delegate need  
8 not be an elector participating in a Regional Convention or the Global  
9 Convention, but must (i) be a U.S. citizen who will be eighteen (18) years or  
10 older on or before November 5, 2024; (ii) at the time of selection as well as at  
11 the time of the Democratic National Convention, be a member of Democrats  
12 Abroad; (iii) at the time of selection as well as at the time of the Democratic  
13 National Convention, reside temporarily or permanently outside the United  
14 States; (iv) have the interests, welfare, and success of the Democratic Party of  
15 the United States and of Democrats Abroad at heart; and (v) subscribe to the  
16 substance, intent, and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic  
17 Party and the Charter of Democrats Abroad.

## 18 **8. Presidential Candidate Right of Review for At-large Delegates and Alternates**

19 a. The International Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that  
20 candidate's authorized representative(s), a list of all persons who have filed  
21 notice of their candidacy for at-large delegates to be elected by the Regional  
22 Conventions, no later than April 22, 2024, or ten (10) days before the  
23 appropriate Regional Convention, whichever is earlier. The International Chair  
24 shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized  
25 representative(s), a list of all persons who have filed notice of their candidacy  
26 for the remaining at-large delegates, pledged PLEO delegate, and alternate no  
27 later than April 22, 2024, for at-large delegates, alternate, and the pledged  
28 PLEO delegate to be elected at the Global Convention (Rule 13.D; Rule 13.F).

29 b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s),  
30 must then file with the International Chair by April 26, 2024, or six (6) days  
31 before the appropriate Regional Convention, whichever is earlier for the  
32 Regional Conventions, or with respect to the Global Convention by April 26,  
33 2024, as the case may be, a list of all approved delegate candidates, provided  
34 that, at a minimum, three (3) names remain for every Democratic National  
35 Convention delegate or alternate position to which the presidential candidate is  
36 entitled. For the sake of equal division, the total set of names approved must  
37 include at least as many women (determined by gender self-identification) as  
38 the total number of positions, and at least as many men (determined by gender  
39 self-identification) as the total number of positions. These conditions  
40 (implementing equal division) may not be used to reject or limit the number of  
41 non-binary gender candidates (Rule 13.E.1; Reg. 4.24).

42 c. Lack of response will be deemed approval of all delegate and alternate  
43 candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential  
44 candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), signifies otherwise  
45 in writing to the International Chair no later than as specified in Section III.A.8.b  
46 of this DSP.

47 d. Democratic National Convention delegate and alternate candidates removed  
48 from the list of bona fide candidates by a presidential candidate, or that

1 presidential candidate's authorized representative(s), may not be selected as  
2 a delegate or alternate at that level pledged to that presidential candidate  
3 (including uncommitted status) (Rule 13.E; Reg. 4.24).

- 4 e. The International Chair shall certify in writing to the RBC Co-Chairs whether  
5 each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) has used the  
6 presidential candidate's best efforts to ensure that the presidential candidate's  
7 respective delegate and alternate candidates meet the affirmative action,  
8 outreach, and inclusion goals detailed in the Section VII of this DSP within three  
9 (3) days of the presidential candidate returning the list of approved candidates  
10 to the International Chair.

## 11 **9. Priority of Consideration**

12 a. In the selection of the at-large delegation priority of consideration shall be given  
13 to African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans, Pacific  
14 Islanders, and Arab Americans (Rule 6.A).

15 b. In order to continue the Democratic Party's ongoing efforts to include groups  
16 historically underrepresented in the Democratic Party's and Democrats  
17 Abroad's affairs, and to assist in the achievement of full participation by these  
18 groups, priority of consideration shall also be given other groups by virtue of  
19 race/ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, U.S. military affiliation,  
20 disability, or geographic location (Rule 5.C; Rule 6.A.3; Reg. 4.7).

21 c. The selection of at-large delegates and alternates shall be used, if necessary,  
22 to achieve the equal division of positions between men and women, as well as  
23 the representation goals established Section VII of this DSP (Rule 6.A; Rule  
24 6.C).

25 d. Delegates and alternates are to be considered separate groups for this purpose  
26 (Rule 6.A.3; Rule 10.A; Reg. 4.8; Reg. 4.19).

27 10. The International Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic  
28 National Committee the selection of Democrats Abroad's at-large delegates and  
29 alternate(s) to the Democratic National Convention no later than June 10, 2024 (Rule  
30 8.C; Call IV.A).

31 11. In any calculation required hereunder except as otherwise indicated, any number that  
32 may require rounding shall be rounded upwards to the nearest round number if it is  
33 equal to or greater than 0.455 and shall be rounded downwards to the nearest round  
34 number if it is less than 0.455.

## 35 **B. Global Primary**

### 36 **1. Participation Requirements and Procedures**

37 a. Participation in the Global Primary shall be open to any person who: (i) is a  
38 member of Democrats Abroad; (ii) has the interests, welfare, and success of  
39 the Democratic Party and Democrats Abroad at heart; (iii) subscribes to the  
40 substance, intent, and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic  
41 Party and the Charter of Democrats Abroad; (iv) will participate in the Global  
42 Primary in good faith and wishes to participate as a Democrat; and (v) will be  
43 eighteen (18) years of age or older on or before November 5, 2024. Each  
44 individual participating in the Global Primary must sign a Declaration to the



1 effect of the preceding sentence in the form of the Declaration provided by  
2 Democrats Abroad. A person who wishes to participate in the Global Primary  
3 and is not a member of Democrats Abroad must first join Democrats Abroad by  
4 completing a membership form prior to participating in the Global Primary.

5 b. No proxy voting is allowed in the Global Primary.

6 c. Persons wishing to participate in the Global Primary and who reside in  
7 countries where there is no in-compliance Country Committee or in-compliance  
8 Transnational Committee may do so by voting by mail, fax, or email ballot as  
9 long as they meet the participation requirements previously described. They  
10 may also vote in person if a Voting Center is established locally.

11 d. Ballots will be posted to the Democrats Abroad website for download or may  
12 be requested as per Section III.B.4 of this DSP and later submitted to the  
13 International Chair.

14 e. The International Chair shall ensure that all such ballots are tabulated and  
15 accounted for, country by country, in the worldwide tabulation of votes cast  
16 during the Global Primary. Such ballots shall be included for the purpose of  
17 calculating the Democratic strength of each Region, each Country Committee,  
18 each Transnational Committee, each Country Committee in Formation, and all  
19 Non-Country Committees collectively and by Region, and each presidential  
20 candidate (including uncommitted status).

21 f. **Procedures for the Primary.** All members of Democrats Abroad are presumed  
22 qualified to vote in the Global Primary unless positive proof can be established  
23 to the contrary. Positive proof may include, but is not limited to, documents that  
24 indicate that a person attempting to vote is not a U.S. citizen, is not a member  
25 of Democrats Abroad, is a member of a Country Committee of Democrats  
26 Abroad other than the one in which the voter is seeking to participate, does not  
27 reside outside of the United States, or records indicating that the person  
28 attempting to vote has voted in another Country Committee, in another state  
29 party's delegate selection process, or in the corresponding elections of another  
30 political party. In case of a challenge, the person challenged may cast a  
31 provisional ballot. The International Executive Committee shall establish  
32 procedures to prevent multiple instances of a recorded vote by any person.

33 g. **Voting in the Global Primary and Ballot Design**

34 (1) Voting in the Global Primary shall require completion and casting of a  
35 ballot by those seeking to vote.

36 (2) The ballots shall require that each voter wishing to vote provide the  
37 following information:

38 i. Full name of person voting,

39 ii. Mailing address abroad,

40 iii. Email address (if voting by email),

41 iv. Date of birth,

42 v. Affirmation that the person is voting as a Democrat,

- 1 vi. Presidential candidate (including uncommitted) preference,  
2 vii. U.S. voting address (state at minimum), and  
3 viii. Signature of voter attesting to the truth of the information provided.
- 4 (3) The ballots shall include fields that permit each voter to provide the  
5 following optional information:
- 6 i. Mobile telephone number and  
7 ii. Email address.
- 8 (4) Provisional ballots shall contain the same information required under the  
9 previous sub-sections but shall be clearly marked as “provisional ballot”.
- 10 (5) Those who fail to provide the required information as listed above shall  
11 not be permitted to vote. If a ballot is nevertheless cast, it shall be invalid.
- 12 (6) No voter may cast more than one (1) valid ballot. After a voter casts a  
13 valid ballot, all subsequent ballots shall be invalid and shall not be tallied.
- 14 (7) If a voter has cast one (1) or more spoiled ballots, the voter may cast a  
15 subsequent ballot or ballots until such time as a valid ballot has been  
16 cast.
- 17 (8) The International Chair, or a designated election official, shall declare  
18 invalid all ballots cast by a voter upon finding, based on clear and  
19 convincing evidence, that the ballots were cast with the intent that more  
20 than one (1) ballot would be tallied. All such decisions shall be in writing  
21 and shall explain the factual basis for the finding, and shall, as soon as  
22 possible, be sent to the International Chair and International Counsel.  
23 Any decision made by a designated election official is reviewable by the  
24 International Chair, and the decision of the International Chair shall be  
25 final.
- 26 (9) If a Country or Transnational Committee Chair determines that there is a  
27 need for ballots in a language other than English, they should notify the  
28 International Chair of this need in writing on or before September 15,  
29 2023. The International Executive committee will make all reasonable  
30 accommodations to grant these requests (Section 1.C.5.i).

## 31 2. Voting Center Rules

- 32 a. Voting at Voting Centers shall be conducted at a local time and place  
33 determined by each Country Committee, Transnational Committee, or Non-  
34 Country Committee Representative during the period from March 5, 2024, to  
35 March 12, 2024.
- 36 b. Each Voting Center shall be managed by a Voting Center Manager, who shall  
37 be the Chapter, Country, or Transnational Committee Chair or the designee of  
38 the Chapter, Country, or Transnational Committee Chair. If the Chapter,  
39 Country, or Transnational Committee Chair is designating someone else to  
40 serve as Voting Center Manager, an electronic form (as indicated by the  
41 International Chair) or a letter or email that designates the Voting Center  
42 Manager must be directed to the International Chair so that it is received no

1 later than December 31, 2023. Replacement of Voting Center Managers after  
2 that date shall be by letter or email from the Chapter, Country, or Transnational  
3 Committee Chair to the International Chair. In the case of Voting Centers in  
4 Non-Country Committees and in Country Committees in Formation, the  
5 respective Regional Vice Chair shall be responsible for managing each Voting  
6 Center, or naming a designated Voting Center Manager, by December 31,  
7 2023, and communicating any replacements in the same manner as described  
8 above.

9 c. The Voting Center Manager shall take all steps necessary to make certain that:  
10 only persons who are eligible are allowed to vote; ballots are completed and  
11 tabulated; results are timely reported to the International Chair; and the ballots  
12 are timely sent to the International Chair. Specifically, the Voting Center  
13 Manager shall:

14 (1) not allow any voting by proxy;

15 (2) terminate voting at the time the Voting Center is closed; those in line at  
16 the time the Voting Center closes being nevertheless allowed to vote;

17 (3) maintain all ballots in a safe location in such a way that they remain  
18 undisturbed and untampered with during the entire voting period. For this  
19 purpose, the Voting Center Managers may remove the ballots from the  
20 Voting Centers at the end of each day of voting;

21 (4) keep an accurate tally of the number of ballots cast each day the Voting  
22 Center is open and see that the ballots are accurately tabulated and make  
23 note of any challenges and any provisional ballots cast;

24 (5) after tabulation, secure and seal all ballots and send them immediately  
25 by special courier or registered mail to the International Chair; also  
26 included in this package shall be the results of the tabulation and a signed  
27 statement that the tabulation is an accurate reflection of the votes cast in  
28 the Global Primary at that Voting Center;

29 i. should special courier or registered mail be prohibitively costly, the  
30 Voting Center Manager shall electronically transmit a copy of each  
31 ballot to the International Chair, and send the physical ballots via  
32 standard post.

33 (6) report the results of the tabulation to the International Chair, or the  
34 International Chair's designee, by telephone immediately upon  
35 completion of the tabulation. In addition, the results of the tabulation and  
36 the signed statement shall be emailed in scanned format to the  
37 International Chair at [chair@democratsabroad.org](mailto:chair@democratsabroad.org); and

38 (7) appoint any persons or committees necessary for the smooth operation  
39 of the Voting Center.

40 d. On the date the Voting Center is open for voting (or if open on more than one  
41 date, then on the date designated by the Chapter, Country, or Transnational  
42 Committee or, in the case of Non-Country Committees and Country  
43 Committees in Formation, by the Regional Vice Chair), the Voting Center  
44 Manager may also organize at the Voting Center the adoption of resolutions to  
45 be submitted to the Democrats Abroad Platform Committee of the Regional

1 Convention of Democrats Abroad for the Region in which the Voting Center is  
2 located. The discussion and adoption of such resolutions shall be organized in  
3 such a fashion as not to disrupt voting at the Voting Center.

4 **3. Establishment of Voting Centers**

- 5 a. Members of Democrats Abroad may vote in person at a Voting Center or by  
6 postal mail, email, or fax. Voting Centers may also offer assistance to voters  
7 who wish to cast their ballots by email or fax.
- 8 b. Each Country or Transnational Committee shall set up at least one (1) Voting  
9 Center at which in-person voting for the Global Primary shall be conducted.  
10 Each recognized Chapter within a Country or Transnational Committee shall  
11 be strongly encouraged to have at least one (1) Voting Center. A Country or  
12 Transnational Committee without recognized Chapters must set up at least one  
13 (1) Voting Center. Country Committees in Formation as well as Non-Country  
14 Committees are encouraged to set up at least one (1) Voting Center although  
15 this is not required.
- 16 c. Absent a duly approved waiver, any Country or Transnational Committee that  
17 does not set up the required number of Voting Centers or materially violates  
18 this DSP or any rules established by the International Chair shall, upon a  
19 majority vote of the International Executive Committee either (i) not be  
20 permitted to send a delegation to the Regional Convention or the Global  
21 Convention or (ii) have its voting strength reduced or delegation reduced in a  
22 manner consistent with equal division rules. However, the votes of members of  
23 Democrats Abroad mailed, faxed, or emailed to the International Chair shall not  
24 be invalidated for the sole reason of the failure of the Country or Transnational  
25 Committee to open sufficient Voting Centers.
- 26 d. **Proposal of Voting Center Location(s) and Date(s).** Before December 31,  
27 2023, each Country or Transnational Committee of Democrats Abroad shall  
28 propose the number of Voting Centers where voting in person will be held and  
29 propose the number of Voting Centers and their dates and addresses of  
30 operation to the International Chair. The same deadlines and process applies  
31 to Country Committees in Formation as well as Non-Country Committees. The  
32 International Chair and Voting Center Manager will confirm feasibility of the  
33 proposals no later than January 7, 2024.
- 34 e. **Alterations to Voting Center Locations(s) and Date(s).** In the event of an  
35 unavoidable change in one (1) or more locations, dates, or opening times  
36 following the December 31, 2023, Voting Center notification, the International  
37 Chair shall be empowered to act, after consultation with the in-country  
38 Democrats Abroad entity where the change must occur, to undertake a  
39 reasonable effort at public notification. No change may be made in any location,  
40 date, or opening times of a Voting Center without the written authorization of  
41 the International Chair.
- 42 f. **Accessibility, Contracting, and Costs.** All Voting Centers shall be  
43 accessible, both in terms of venue and operating times. Any building may be  
44 used as a site for a Voting Center, with the exception of a private home. The  
45 leadership of the respective in-country entity of Democrats Abroad will work  
46 with the Executive Director and Global Executive Committee to ensure any  
47 contracts required for Voting Center(s) will be signed and executed. The  
48 respective in-country entity of Democrats Abroad shall be responsible for

1 locating, staffing, and paying any costs associated with its Voting Center(s).  
2 The costs incurred will be paid out of the country committee's earmarked funds  
3 held in trust by the DPCA Treasury

- 4 g. **Incumbent Presidents Contesting the Primary.** In the event an incumbent  
5 Democratic President contests the Global Presidential Primary, Country  
6 Committees and Transnational Committees shall not be required to hold in-  
7 person Voting Centers.

8 **4. Voting by Postal Mail**

9 a. Any individual may apply for said individual's ballot by phone, postal mail, fax,  
10 or email. A ballot will be provided to the individual, if qualified. Only individuals  
11 may apply for a ballot. Mass applications and applications by organizations for  
12 ballots shall not be granted. Individual applications may be delivered as a  
13 group. Applications may be received by Country or Transnational Committee  
14 Chairs or their designees, or by the International Chair if from a member in a  
15 Country Committee in Formation or Non-Country Committee, at the designated  
16 location(s) by 11:59 P.M. Pacific Standard Time on starting on January 8, 2024,  
17 and until March 5, 2024. Mail ballots shall be transmitted to applicants by postal  
18 mail, fax, or email starting on January 26, 2024.

19 b. The International Chair may make ballots available by electronic or any other  
20 means on January 27, 2024.

21 c. All ballots shall be in a form prescribed by the International Chair and shall, at  
22 a minimum, include the same information as required for voting in person.

23 d. Anyone who votes by email, fax, or postal mail may not vote again at a Voting  
24 Center or otherwise. If multiple votes are received from one voter, only the first  
25 valid ballot cast shall be tallied.

26 e. Mail-in ballots must be postmarked by March 12, 2024, and received via post  
27 or private postal courier by March 17, 2024. Each Country or Transnational  
28 Committee Chair, or Regional Vice Chair in the case of Country Committees in  
29 Formation and Non-Country Committees, will designate the address where  
30 voters in the respective country must send their mail-in ballots. Voters who cast  
31 ballots by email, fax, or postal mail may send an email no later than March 13,  
32 2024, to the International Chair, or the International Chair's designee,  
33 requesting confirmation that their ballots were received.

34 f. Each Country or Transnational Committee Chair shall see that all mail-in ballots  
35 received by the deadline are accurately tabulated and, after tabulation, shall  
36 secure and seal all ballots and send them immediately by special courier or  
37 registered mail to the International Chair; also included in this package shall be  
38 the results of the tabulation of the mail-in ballots and a signed statement that  
39 the tabulation is an accurate reflection of the votes cast in the Global Primary  
40 for that Country or Transnational Committee. The same process shall apply to  
41 Country Committees in Formation and Non-Country Committees with their  
42 designees in-country as per Section III.B.4.e of this DSP.

43 g. The in-country Democrats Abroad entity will pay all costs of the vote-by-mail  
44 program except postage or delivery charges for voters to return their ballots.  
45 The costs incurred will be paid out of the Country Committee's earmarked funds  
46 held in trust by the DPCA Treasury.

1           **5. Voting by Email/Fax**

2           a. Ballots may be emailed or faxed as scanned or electronically-signed copies to  
3           primaryvoting@democratsabroad.org from the time they are made available on  
4           January 27, 2024 until 11:59 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time on March 12, 2024. The  
5           requirements for ballots sent as scanned or electronically-signed copies to be  
6           valid shall be stated on the ballot itself.

7           **6. Uniform Rules and Equal Access by Presidential Campaigns**

8           a. Presidential candidates shall be allowed to have present at each Voting Center  
9           one (1) representative who shall be allowed to observe processing of voters  
10           and tabulation of ballots. Such representatives may not observe the act of  
11           voting by a voter.

12           b. A representative of a presidential candidate shall be allowed reasonable  
13           access to observe any voting-related process at any public site where votes by  
14           email, fax, or postal mail are prepared or mailed and at any site where votes  
15           are tabulated and/or stored.

16           c. The International Chair shall establish uniform rules and regulations for  
17           “campaigning” of any nature at any Voting Centers. The rules and regulations  
18           shall prohibit campaigning from taking place inside Voting Centers;  
19           campaigning outside Voting Centers may be limited or prohibited to the extent  
20           permitted by local law or practice. No preferential treatment shall be accorded  
21           to any presidential campaign. Voting Center Managers shall post these uniform  
22           rules and enforce them.

23           **7. Tabulation of Results**

24           a. The International Chair shall establish uniform rules and regulations for the  
25           eligibility of a single ballot submitted multiple times.

26           b. Democrats Abroad will count each ballot cast at a Voting Center as well as  
27           each ballot cast by email, fax, and postal mail. The tabulation of the ballots will  
28           be manually cross-checked at the Voting Centers and the tabulations  
29           recalculated at the global level in order to ensure the accuracy of count; in  
30           addition, random spot checks of the ballots will be made for ballots cast at the  
31           Voting Centers to further ensure accuracy. In the case of discrepancies, the  
32           ballots from the in-country Democrats Abroad entity in question will all be  
33           recounted by a global committee of tellers, who shall be appointed by the  
34           International Chair, on March 18, 2024, at a place designated by the  
35           International Chair no later than March 5, 2024.

36           c. Each presidential candidate on the ballot will be permitted to have a certified  
37           observer present during the tabulation. The International Chair shall see that  
38           all voting results are tabulated. The tabulated results certified by the tellers and  
39           the International Chair shall be used to establish the presidential preferences  
40           of the Global Primary and to apportion and allocate the number of delegates to  
41           be elected by each of the Regional Conventions pursuant to Section III.A, of  
42           this DSP. The International Chair shall notify each Regional Vice Chair of the  
43           resultant Democratic National Convention delegate allocations for their  
44           respective Region no later than March 25, 2024.

- 1 d. **Tabulation of Ranked Choice Ballots at Voting Centers.** In the event that  
2 the Global Presidential Primary is held using RCV according to section I.B.3 of  
3 this Plan, Voting Center Managers shall tabulate the ballots by inputting results  
4 as they are received to an electronic system provided by the International  
5 Executive Committee, clearly identifying the voter and their expressed ranked  
6 preferences. Once a Voting Center has stopped accepting ballots, the Voting  
7 Center shall report the total number of ballots cast and the first choice results  
8 from that voting center, with a clearly displayed disclaimer that those results  
9 are non-final and have not taken ranked choice tabulations into account.
- 10 e. **Tabulation of Ranked Choice Mail-In Ballots.** In the event that the Global  
11 Presidential Primary is held using RCV according to section I.B.3 of this Plan,  
12 Country Committee or Transnational Committee Chairs shall tabulate the  
13 ballots by inputting results into an electronic system provided by the  
14 International Executive Committee, clearly identifying the voter and their  
15 expressed ranked preferences. Once mail-in balloting has ended, the Country  
16 or Transnational Committee Chair may report the first choice results from that  
17 country, with a clearly displayed disclaimer that those results are non-final and  
18 have not taken ranked choice tabulations into account.
- 19 f. **Global Tabulation of Ranked Choice Ballots.** Once all voting centers have  
20 transmitted their results to the International Executive Committee, Democrats  
21 Abroad will release publicly the first-round results of the Global Presidential  
22 Primary. Should a presidential preference fall below the 15% global viability  
23 threshold to earn delegates, Democrats Abroad will conduct instant runoff  
24 rounds until non-eliminated presidential preferences have crossed the viability  
25 threshold. The denominator for all rounds will remain the same, as the total  
26 number of valid ballots cast in the Global Primary.

## 27 C. Regional Conventions

### 28 1. Procedures for the Regional Conventions

29 Democrats Abroad will hold a Regional Convention for each of its three (3) regions:  
30 the Americas; Asian-Pacific (AP); and Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA).  
31 The Regional Conventions shall begin no earlier than April 18, 2024, local time and  
32 shall be completed no less than three (3) hours before the opening of the Global  
33 Convention on June 8, 2024, at such time and place as the Regional Vice Chair  
34 shall determine after consultation with Democrats Abroad leaders from that Region  
35 and so notified to the International Chair by December 31, 2023. The date, time,  
36 and place of the Regional Conventions shall be publicly announced as part of the  
37 Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan. Attendance shall be open to all.

38 a. The Permanent Regional Convention Chair for each Regional Convention will  
39 be the Regional Vice Chair for the corresponding region. If the Regional Vice  
40 Chair is unable to perform this role, the Regional Vice Chair may ask the  
41 International Chair to name a substitute.

42 b. The Permanent Regional Convention Chair will name a Credentials and Rules  
43 Committee no fewer than forty-five (45) days prior to the opening of the  
44 Regional Convention. Members of the Credentials and Rules Committee for  
45 the Global Convention may serve on the Credentials and Rules Committees  
46 for Regional Conventions.

1           **2. Regional Convention Electors**

2           Each in-compliance Country and Transnational Committee shall send a delegation  
3           to the Regional Convention for the Region in which it is located. The electors of the  
4           Regional Convention shall be comprised only of the following electors, as  
5           confirmed and certified in Section III.A.3 of this DSP:

6           a. All elected national officers, national Executive Committee members, and  
7           DPCA Voting Representatives of each in-compliance Country and  
8           Transnational Committee within the Region;

9           b. elected Chapter Chairs (provided that, if a Country or Transnational Committee  
10           does not elect Chapter Chairs, then the recognized Chapter Chairs) of each in-  
11           compliance Country or Transnational Committee within the region;

12           c. the Region’s Non-Country Committee Representative as established in Section  
13           5.7 of the DPCA Charter; and

14           d. the Region’s Regional Vice Chair.

15           **3. Certification of Regional Convention Electors**

16           Each Country and Transnational Committee Chair shall certify to the International  
17           Chair, who, after verification, shall certify to the Regional Vice Chair, the names of  
18           those Regional Convention electors as defined above for each Country and  
19           Transnational Committee in the Region by April 15, 2024, or 30 days before the  
20           regional convention, whichever is earlier. The Regional Vice Chair shall include  
21           their name and the name of the Region’s Non-Country Committee Representative  
22           as certified electors for the Regional Convention. Those not certified by the  
23           deadline as confirmed participants in the Regional Convention shall not be  
24           considered electors for the Regional Convention.

25           **4. Participation in Regional Conventions**

26           a. Regional Convention electors shall be the only persons eligible to vote in the  
27           Regional Conventions as per Section III.A.2 and Section III.A.3 of this DSP.

28           b. Participation by video, audio, or web conference tools, such as WebEx, will be  
29           provided for.

30           c. Any Regional Convention elector may renounce his/her/their role as a Regional  
31           Convention elector by written notice to the Permanent Regional Convention  
32           Chair and the Regional Convention Credentials and Rules Committee prior to  
33           the conclusion of the roll call of the appropriate Regional Convention.

34           **5. Rules for Regional Conventions**

35           The rules for each regional convention shall provide at a minimum that:

36           a. No less than forty percent (40%) of the Regional Convention electors, present  
37           in person or participating by video, audio, or web conference, constitute a  
38           quorum for any business pertaining to the selection of Democratic National  
39           Convention delegates.

40           b. No proxies may be used.



- 1 c. The unit rule, or any rules or practice whereby all members of a party unit,  
2 delegation, or caucus may be required to cast their votes in accordance with  
3 the will of a majority of the body, shall not be permitted.
- 4 d. Any individual or group of Democrats may sponsor or endorse a slate of  
5 candidates for Democratic National Convention delegates. However, no slate  
6 may by virtue of such endorsement receive preferential treatment or a  
7 preferential place on a delegate selection ballot or be publicly identified as the  
8 "official" slate. All slates must meet identical qualifying requirements for  
9 appearing on the ballot.
- 10 e. All votes for Democratic National Convention at-large delegates shall be by  
11 signed ballot, with either wet or electronic signature. Representatives of the  
12 presidential candidate for which a Presidential Preference Group ("PPG") has  
13 been formed may inform the PPG Chair of candidates for Democratic National  
14 Convention delegate who are unacceptable to the presidential candidate. The  
15 PPG Chair shall make this known to the PPG. However, if such unacceptability  
16 has not been timely made known to the International Chair, such  
17 unacceptability shall not be a bar to such candidate's running for the position  
18 of Democratic National Convention delegate.
- 19 f. Each election will select a single delegate. As a process that promotes gender,  
20 racial, or ethnic-minority representation, with consideration for historically  
21 underrepresented groups, a candidate who has been eliminated may be  
22 reconsidered and stand again in a subsequent election.
- 23 g. The delegates elected by each PPG shall be as equally divided among the men  
24 and women as possible; the variance between men and women in the total  
25 delegation elected by a PPG shall not exceed one (1). The PPG Chair may  
26 declare candidates of either male or female gender ineligible for a single  
27 election in order to meet this requirement. In the case of gender non-binary  
28 delegates or alternates, they shall not affect calculations of equal division, and  
29 the remainder of the delegation shall be equally divided by gender.

## 30 **6. Agenda for Regional Conventions**

- 31 a. The agenda for the Regional Conventions shall be as follows:

### 32 (1) Registration of Regional Convention Electors

33 In order to register, each Regional Convention elector shall sign a  
34 statement of support for a presidential candidate (including  
35 uncommitted) indicating the country (and Chapter, if applicable) of  
36 which the elector is a Democrats Abroad member. Each Regional  
37 Convention Elector shall also sign a Party Pledge of Support and  
38 Certification Slip as provided by the International Chair. These slips  
39 shall be submitted to the Regional Convention Credentials and Rules  
40 Committee.

### 41 (2) Call to order by the Regional Vice Chair (or designee) serving as 42 Permanent Regional Convention Chair

### 43 (3) Appointment of Permanent Regional Convention ("Permanent 44 Secretary") Secretary by Permanent Regional Convention Chair

1 (4) Report of the Regional Convention Credentials and Rules Committee

2 The Regional Convention Credentials and Rules Committee shall  
3 report the number of registered Regional Convention electors  
4 expressing each presidential preference (including uncommitted) both  
5 in aggregate numbers and by Country, Non-Country, Transnational  
6 Committee. Once the Regional Convention Credentials and Rules  
7 Committee has reported and a quorum has been established, the  
8 Regional Convention may proceed to conduct its business. The  
9 Permanent Regional Convention Chair shall then read the following  
10 statement:

11 “All caucuses, committees, and officials of Democrats Abroad  
12 shall take such practical steps as may be within their legitimate  
13 power to assure that all Regional Conventions and the Global  
14 Convention, and all committees include: men and women,  
15 various age groups, racial-minority groups, economic groups,  
16 traditionally underrepresented groups, and representatives of  
17 identifiable geographically-defined populations, all in reasonable  
18 relationship to the proportions in which these groups are found in  
19 the population of the respective constituencies and without  
20 discrimination based on creed or religious preference, sexual  
21 orientation, gender identity, U.S. military affiliation, disability, or  
22 geographic location.”

23 Based on the certification by the International Chair of the Democratic  
24 strength in the Region and the number of Democratic National  
25 Convention delegates to be elected by the Region, as well as the  
26 percentage of votes obtained by each presidential candidate (including  
27 uncommitted) worldwide in the Global Primary, the Regional  
28 Convention Credentials and Rules Committee report shall contain the  
29 allocation of Democratic National Convention delegates to be elected  
30 by the Regional Convention among the presidential candidates.

31 The Regional Convention Credentials and Rules Committee shall  
32 report to the Permanent Regional Convention Chair the value of the  
33 vote to be cast by each Regional Convention elector attending the  
34 Regional Convention. The value of the vote shall be calculated  
35 according to the following formula:

36 A = Number of electors from each Country, Non-Country, and  
37 Transnational Committee in attendance

38 B = Democratic strength as a percentage: the participation from  
39 each Country and Transnational Committee, as well as Non-  
40 Country Committee areas in the Region in their entirety, in the  
41 Global Primary divided by the total participation from all Country  
42 and Transnational Committees and the Non-Country Committee  
43 Representative in attendance at the Regional Convention

44 Regional Convention Elector Vote Value =  $(1/A) \times B \times 100$

45 In the voting in each PPG, each Country and Transnational Committee,  
46 as well as Non-Country Committee Representative, shall cast their full  
47 allocated number of votes according to the report of the Regional

1 Convention Credentials and Rules Committee. No Country or  
2 Transnational Committee or Non-Country Committee Representative  
3 shall be deprived of their total number of votes unless there are no  
4 electors present from that Country or Transnational Committee or the  
5 Non-Country Committee Representative is not present in that PPG,  
6 except that a partial loss of votes may occur due to the temporary  
7 absence of electors counted “in attendance” by the report of the  
8 Regional Convention Credentials and Rules Committee.

9 The report of the Regional Convention Credentials and Rules  
10 Committee will prescribe the method of electing members of the  
11 Platform Committee. The report of the Regional Convention  
12 Credentials and Rules Committee will include a summary of any  
13 decisions referred to the committee by the Permanent Regional  
14 Convention Chair. These decisions are subject to challenge under  
15 Section VIII below.

#### 16 (5) Election of Democratic National Committee Members

17 After the Regional Convention Credentials and Rules Committee  
18 report, the Regional Convention shall elect one (1) member of the  
19 Democratic National Committee, whose four-year term will begin with  
20 the closing of the 2024 Democratic National Convention. Such election  
21 shall be by absolute majority of all Regional Convention electors in  
22 attendance and with vote values as calculated above.

23 If there are more than two candidates, ranked choice voting (RCV) will  
24 be used to select the winner. Democrats Abroad will implement an  
25 organization-wide voter education program to assist voters in casting  
26 their RCV ballot.

27 RCV ballots will give Regional Convention electors the option to rank  
28 candidates for Democratic National Committee member in order of  
29 preference, indicating a first preference, second preference, and so on.  
30 Voters may vote for one or more ranked preference, at their discretion.  
31 Voting will continue until one (1) candidate for Democratic National  
32 Committee member has obtained a majority of votes cast.

33 The following tabulation process will be used to tabulate ballots for  
34 Democratic National Committee member:

- 35 i. Determine if any candidate has received a majority of the vote  
36 utilizing Regional Convention electors’ first ranked preferences.
- 37 ii. If all candidates are below the majority requirement in the first round,  
38 remove the last-place candidate from consideration and make that  
39 candidate “inactive.” Reallocate that candidate’s votes to the active  
40 candidate who is ranked next on each ballot.
- 41 iii. Continue this process of making last-place candidates inactive and  
42 reallocating votes to remaining active candidates until one active  
43 candidate obtains a majority of valid votes cast in the round.  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49

1 (6) Recess Into Presidential Preference Groups

2 Following the election of the Region’s Democratic National Committee  
3 member, the Regional Convention shall recess into separate PPGs for  
4 each presidential candidate pursuant to their signed statement of  
5 support (including uncommitted) for the purposes of electing the  
6 number of at-large delegates allocated to it as per the results of the  
7 presidential preference vote.

8 (7) Election of Permanent Presidential Preference Group Chairs

9 Each presidential candidate (or designee) shall appoint a Temporary  
10 Chair of the PPG for the purpose of calling the PPG to order and  
11 presiding during the election of a Permanent PPG Chair.

12 (8) Election of Delegates and Alternate(s)

- 13 i. The Permanent Regional Convention Chair shall provide each PPG  
14 with a list of those individuals approved by its presidential candidate  
15 for nomination as Democratic National Convention delegates (or,  
16 in the case of uncommitted, those who have submitted their  
17 candidacy). All such individuals’ names shall be read to the PPG  
18 by the duly elected PPG Chair and shall be considered nominated  
19 when their names are read. No names other than those that have  
20 been previously approved by the presidential candidate or the  
21 presidential candidate’s representative (or, in the case of  
22 uncommitted, those who have submitted their candidacy) shall be  
23 accepted.
- 24 ii. The PPG shall then proceed with the selection of the Democratic  
25 National Convention delegates allocated to it from among the  
26 previously approved list of candidates.
- 27 iii. RCV will be used to select Democratic National Convention  
28 Delegates. Democrats Abroad will implement an organization-wide  
29 voter education program to assist voters, including in particular  
30 those covered in its Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion  
31 Plan, in casting their RCV ballot.
- 32 iv. Prior to each round of voting, the PPG Chair shall report the  
33 comparison of the representative goals to the demographic  
34 composition of the already-elected Democratic National  
35 Convention delegates (including automatic delegates), in  
36 accordance with Section VII.E.3.
- 37 v. RCV ballots will give Regional Convention electors the option to  
38 rank candidates for Democratic National Convention delegate in  
39 order of preference, indicating a first preference, second preference,  
40 and so on. Voters may rank up to six (6) candidates, at their  
41 discretion. Voting will continue until a candidate has obtained a  
42 majority of votes cast.

43 The following tabulation process will be used to tabulate ballots for  
44 Democratic National Convention delegates:

1 Step 1: Determine if any candidate has received a majority of the  
2 vote utilizing Regional Convention electors' first ranked  
3 preferences.  
4

5  
6 Step 2: If all candidates are below the majority requirement in the  
7 first round, remove the last-place candidate from consideration and  
8 make that candidate "inactive." Reallocate that candidate's votes to  
9 the active candidate who is ranked next on each ballot.  
10

11  
12 Step 3: Continue this process of making last-place candidates  
13 inactive and reallocating votes to remaining active candidates until  
14 a candidate has received a majority of the vote.  
15

16 Step 4: Repeat the process until the allocated number of at-large  
17 delegates to be elected by the Region have been elected.  
18

19 The rules and procedures for casting ballots, meeting the threshold  
20 for first rounds, tabulating results, and determining the candidate  
21 selected in each election shall be distributed with the information on  
22 becoming a delegate required in Section VII.C.4 by October 1, 2023.  
23

#### 24 (9) Reconvening of the Regional Convention

25 i. At the conclusion of each of the PPG caucuses, each PPG Chair  
26 shall report the results to the Permanent Regional Convention  
27 Chair.

28 ii. Any member of a PPG who wishes to challenge the tabulation of  
29 the PPG should make the challenge known by informing the  
30 Permanent Convention Chair prior to the announcing of the results,  
31 if possible. If no correction is made with respect to the error or event  
32 in question, a formal challenge may be made immediately upon the  
33 announcement of the results.

34 iii. The results shall be read to the regional convention as a whole and  
35 any challenge to those results shall be announced at the same time  
36 either by the Permanent Regional Convention Chair or by a  
37 member of the PPG whose results are being challenged.

#### 38 (10) Other Elections and Actions at the Regional Conventions

39 i. After at-large Democratic National Convention delegates have  
40 been elected, the Regional Convention shall proceed with the  
41 election of two (2) members for the Platform Committee of the  
42 Global Convention.

43 ii. Elections of Platform Committee members shall be held according  
44 to the report of the Regional Convention Credentials and Rules  
45 Committee and shall respect equal division by gender. If there are  
46 more than two candidates, ranked choice voting (RCV) will be used  
47 to select the winners following processes established in Section  
48 III.C.6.a.(8).v of this DSP.

1                   iii.       The Regional Convention shall then discuss and adopt such  
2                                resolutions for submission to the Platform Committee of the  
3                                Democrats Abroad Global Convention. Resolutions adopted by the  
4                                Regional Convention shall be communicated to the Platform  
5                                Committee of the Global Convention by the members of the  
6                                Platform Committee elected by the Regional Convention.

7                   iv.       The Regional Convention shall then conduct such other business  
8                                as may be deemed important by the Permanent Regional  
9                                Convention Chair.

10                   (11) Adjournment

11                                Immediately upon adjournment of each Regional Convention, the  
12                                Permanent Regional Convention Chair and Permanent Regional  
13                                Convention Secretary shall certify to the International Chair the results  
14                                of the selection of Democratic National Convention delegates, noting  
15                                any challenges. No later than June 10, 2024, the International Chair  
16                                shall certify in writing to the Democratic National Committee Secretary  
17                                the selection of the Democratic National Convention delegates and  
18                                alternate(s) as elected at Regional Conventions.

19   **D.    Global Convention**

20       1. Introduction

21                   a.    Democrats Abroad will hold its Global Convention on June 8 and 9, 2024, at  
22                                such place and time as the International Executive Committee shall set in  
23                                accordance with Article III of the DPCA Charter. The date, time, and place of  
24                                the Global Convention shall be publicly announced as part of the Affirmative  
25                                Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan. Attendance is open to all.

26                   b.    Delegates to the Global Convention shall be all at-large Democratic National  
27                                Convention delegates elected at the Regional Conventions, automatic  
28                                delegates (i.e., all incumbent Democratic National Committee members),  
29                                Democratic National Committee members-elect elected at the Regional  
30                                Conventions, DPCA voting members, and any distinguished party leaders who  
31                                are members of Democrats Abroad as designated by the Secretary of the  
32                                Democratic National Committee. Any member of these groups may renounce  
33                                said member’s role as Global Convention delegate by written notice to the  
34                                International Chair or the Global Convention Credentials and Rules Committee  
35                                prior to the conclusion of the roll call of the Global Convention.

36                   c.    The Global Convention shall further elect three (3) Democratic National  
37                                Committee members and four (4) other delegates to the National Convention,  
38                                three (3) of whom shall serve as at-large Democratic National Convention  
39                                delegates and one (1) who shall serve as the pledged PLEO delegate. The  
40                                pledged PLEO delegate as well as the Democratic National Committee  
41                                members and the at-large Democratic National Convention delegates elected  
42                                at the Global Convention shall be chosen to achieve the equal division of  
43                                positions between men and women and the representation goals established  
44                                in the Democrats Abroad Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan. The  
45                                Global Convention shall also elect one (1) alternate to the Democratic National  
46                                Convention for each of the PPGs.

- 1           2. Appointments and Agenda
- 2           a. The International Chair will name a Global Convention Credentials and Rules  
3           Committee no fewer than forty-five (45) days prior to the opening of the first  
4           Regional Convention.
- 5           b. The International Chair may refer questions regarding the conduct of the Global  
6           Convention to the committee prior to the opening of the Global Convention.  
7           These decisions are subject to challenge under Section VIII below.
- 8           c. The International Chair will name at least six (6) members of the Platform  
9           Committee of the Global Convention prior to the opening of the first Regional  
10          Convention. The International Chair will announce the procedures and rules of  
11          the Platform Committee no less than fifteen (15) days before the opening of the  
12          Global Convention, including the role of the six (6) members of the Committee  
13          elected during the Regional Conventions.
- 14          d. The agenda of the Global Convention shall be announced by the International  
15          Chair no less than fifteen (15) days before the opening of the Global  
16          Convention. The agenda will include a report of the Global Convention  
17          Credentials and Rules Committee on the participants in the Global Convention  
18          and the allocation of votes to those participants, and a summary of any  
19          decisions made by the Credentials and Rules Committee as referred under  
20          Section III.D.2.a.
- 21          3. Election Procedure for Democratic National Convention Delegates at the Global  
22          Convention
- 23          a. The Global Convention shall be chaired by the International Chair or the  
24          International Chair's designee.
- 25          b. Participation by video, audio, or web conference tools, such as WebEx, will be  
26          provided for.
- 27          c. A quorum shall be 40% of certified participants eligible to vote present in person  
28          or participating by video, audio, or web conference.
- 29          d. There shall be no voting by proxy.
- 30          e. Participants in the Global Convention who are DPCA voting members, if  
31          representing a Country or Transnational Committee in such capacity, shall  
32          have voting rights within the Global Convention in proportion to their Country  
33          or Transnational Committee's turnout in the Global Primary, relative to the total  
34          number of participants in the Global Primary. Non-Country Committee  
35          Representatives shall have voting rights within the Global Convention in  
36          proportion to their region's Non-Country Committee Countries' turnout in the  
37          Global Primary, relative to the total number of participants in the Global  
38          Primary. Other participants in the Global Convention, such as International  
39          Executive Committee members and Democratic National Committee members,  
40          shall have votes equivalent to the voting right allocated to the Country or  
41          Transnational Committee participating in the Global Convention with the lowest  
42          Global Primary turnout.
- 43          f. The International Chair, or the International Chair's designee, will inform the  
44          Global Convention of the gender balance of the delegation to the Democratic

1 National Convention and the gender balance of the at-large delegates to be  
2 elected, as well as the breakdown of the delegation for the purposes of attaining  
3 the representation goals established in the Affirmative Action, Outreach, and  
4 Inclusion Plan. For the purposes of the selection of the pledged PLEO and at-  
5 large delegates and alternate(s) to the Democratic National Convention, the  
6 Global Convention will divide into PPGs, following the rules and procedures  
7 used at the Regional Conventions as established in Section III.C of this DSP.

8 g. The PPGs shall proceed to elect, in the following order and as allocated:

9 i. the pledged PLEO delegate; (2) the at-large delegates; and (3) the  
10 alternate. Before each election, the International Chair, or the  
11 International Chair's designee, will inform the Global Convention of  
12 the gender balance of the delegation to the Democratic National  
13 Convention and the gender balance of those to be elected, as well  
14 as the breakdown of the delegation for the purpose of attaining the  
15 representation goals established in the Affirmative Action,  
16 Outreach, and Inclusion Plan. If necessary, the International Chair  
17 may require a PPG to refrain from electing one (1) or more of its at-  
18 large delegates until the permissible gender of such is determined  
19 based on the elections by the other PPGs. All elections shall be  
20 conducted using RCV following the rules and procedures used at  
21 the Regional Conventions as established in Section III.C.6.a.(8).v  
22 of this DSP. After each election, the PPGs must report the results  
23 of that election to the International Chair, or the International Chair's  
24 designee. A candidate who has been eliminated may be  
25 reconsidered and stand again in a subsequent election, insofar as  
26 compatible with equal division.

27 h. The delegates to the Global Convention shall then reconvene, and the  
28 International Chair, or the International Chair's designee, shall inform them as  
29 to the gender balance of the delegation to the Democratic National Convention  
30 as well as the breakdown of the delegation for the purpose of attaining the  
31 representation goals established in the Affirmative Action, Outreach, and  
32 Inclusion Plan. Only then will the Global Convention proceed with the election  
33 of the three (3) remaining Democratic National Committee members up for  
34 election in accordance with Section 7.2 of the DPCA Charter.

35 (1) If there are more than two candidates, ranked choice voting (RCV) will be  
36 used to select the winner. Democrats Abroad will implement an  
37 organization-wide voter education program to assist voters, including in  
38 particular those covered in its Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion  
39 Plan, in casting their RCV ballot.

40 (2) RCV ballots will give Global Convention electors the option to rank  
41 candidates for Democratic National Committee member in order of  
42 preference, indicating a first preference, second preference, and so on.  
43 Voters may vote for one or more ranked preference, at their discretion.  
44 Voting will continue until one (1) candidate for Democratic National  
45 Committee member has obtained a majority of votes cast, and will then  
46 be repeated twice to fill the remaining Democratic National Committee  
47 member seats.

48 i. The following tabulation process will be used to tabulate ballots for  
49 Democratic National Committee member:



1 Step 1: Determine if any candidate has received a majority of the  
2 vote utilizing Regional Convention electors' first ranked  
3 preferences.

4 Step 2: If all candidates are below the majority requirement in the  
5 first round, remove the last-place candidate from consideration and  
6 make that candidate "inactive." Reallocate that candidate's votes to  
7 the active candidate who is ranked next on each ballot.

8 Step 3: Continue this process of making last-place candidates  
9 inactive and reallocating votes to remaining active candidates until  
10 one active candidate obtains a majority.

- 11 i. The names, full contact information, and presidential preferences of  
12 Democratic National Convention delegates and alternate elected at the Global  
13 Convention, as well as the names and full contact information of the Democratic  
14 National Committee members elected by the Regional Conventions and Global  
15 Convention, shall be certified by the International Chair to the Secretary of the  
16 Democratic National Committee no later than June 15, 2024.

17 **E. Automatic Delegates**

- 18 1. The following categories (if applicable) shall constitute the automatic delegate  
19 positions:

20 a. Members of the Democratic National Committee representing Democrats  
21 Abroad, the names of which shall be confirmed no later than March 6, 2024, to  
22 the International Chair of Democrats Abroad by the Democratic National  
23 Committee Secretary;

24 b. Distinguished party leader delegates who legally reside outside the United  
25 States (if any). Persons who qualify as distinguished party leader delegates  
26 include all former Democratic Presidents, all former Democratic Vice  
27 Presidents, all former Democratic Leaders of the U.S. Senate, all former  
28 Democratic Speakers of the U.S. House of Representatives, all former  
29 Democratic Minority Leaders of the U.S. Senate, all former Democratic Minority  
30 Leaders of the U.S. House of Representatives, and all former Chairs of the  
31 Democratic National Committee (Rule 9.A.5; Call I.G.; Reg. 4.14).

- 32 2. An automatic delegate may run and be elected as a pledged delegate. If an automatic  
33 delegate is elected and certified as a pledged delegate, that individual shall not serve  
34 as an automatic delegate at the 2024 Democratic National Convention (Call I.J).

- 35 3. The certification process for the automatic delegates is as follows:

36 a. No later than March 6, 2024, the Secretary of the Democratic National  
37 Committee shall officially confirm to the International Chair the names of the  
38 automatic delegates who legally reside outside the United States (Rule 9.A).

39 b. Official confirmation by the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee  
40 shall constitute verification of the automatic delegates from the categories  
41 indicated above (Call IV.B.1).

42 c. The International Chair of Democrats Abroad shall certify in writing to the  
43 Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the presidential preferences

1 of Democrats Abroad's automatic delegates ten (10) days after the completion  
2 of Democrats Abroad's delegate selection process (Call IV.C).

3 4. For purposes of achieving equal division between delegate men and delegate women  
4 within Democrats Abroad's entire 2024 Democratic National Convention delegation  
5 (determined by gender self-identification), the entire delegation includes all pledged  
6 and automatic delegates, including those who identify as male or female (Rule 6.C;  
7 Reg. 4.9).

8 **F. Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) Delegates**

9 1. Democrats Abroad is allotted one (1) pledged PLEO delegate. The pledged PLEO  
10 delegate shall be selected by the Global Convention prior to the selection of at-large  
11 delegates and alternate (Call I.D; Call I.E.; Call Appendix B.).

12 2. The pledged PLEO slot shall be allocated among presidential preferences on the  
13 same basis as the at-large delegates (Rule 10.B.2; Rule 11.C; Rule 14.E; Rule 14.F.).

14 3. Pledged PLEO Delegate Filing Requirements

15 a. Individuals shall be eligible for the pledged PLEO delegate position according  
16 to the following priority: sitting International Executive Committee Officers;  
17 former International Executive Committee Officers; sitting Country and  
18 Transnational Committee Chairs; sitting Country Committee in Formation  
19 Chairs; Non-Country Committee Representatives and other sitting Country and  
20 Transnational Committee Officers and Executive Committee members; sitting  
21 Chapter Chairs, Chapter Vice Chairs, and Chapter Executive Committee  
22 members; former Democratic National Committee members; former Country or  
23 Transnational Committee officers; and other former Democratic elected  
24 officials and Party leaders (Rule 10.B.1; Reg. 4.15).

25 b. An individual can qualify as a candidate for a position as a pledged PLEO  
26 delegate by completing and filing the necessary form as provided by the  
27 International Chair, by April 19, 2024 (Rule 10.B.3; Rule 15.F; Reg. 4.18; Reg.  
28 4.21).

29 c. Alternates are not selected at the pledged PLEO level. These alternates are  
30 combined with the at-large alternates and selected as one unit (Reg. 4.32.).

31 4. Presidential Candidate Right of Review

32 a. On or before April 22, 2024, the International Chair of Democrats Abroad shall  
33 convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized  
34 representative(s), a list of all persons who have filed notice of their candidacy  
35 not later than April 19, 2024, for the pledged PLEO delegate to be elected at  
36 the Global Convention, pledged to that presidential candidate  
37 (Rule 10.B.3; Rule 13.D).

38 b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s),  
39 must then file with the International Chair by April 26, 2024, a list of all such  
40 candidates that the presidential candidate has approved for the pledged PLEO  
41 delegate, provided that, at a minimum, two (2) names remain for the PLEO  
42 delegate position to which the presidential candidate is entitled. For the sake  
43 of equal division, the total set of names approved must include at least two (2)  
44 candidates who are not men (determined by gender self-identification) and at

1 least two (2) candidates who are not women (determined by gender self-  
2 identification) as the total number of positions. These conditions may not be  
3 used to reject or limit the number of non-binary gender candidates (Rule 13.E.2;  
4 Reg. 4.24).

5 c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate candidates  
6 submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate, or the  
7 authorized representative(s), signifies otherwise in writing to the International  
8 Chair of Democrats Abroad no later than as specified in Section III.F.4.b of this  
9 DSP.

10 d. The International Chair shall certify in writing to the RBC Co-Chairs whether  
11 each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) has used the  
12 candidate's best efforts to ensure that the candidate's respective delegate  
13 candidates meet the Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan goals  
14 detailed in Section VII of this DSP within three (3) days of returning the list of  
15 approved candidates.

16 5. No later than June 15, 2024, the International Chair shall certify in writing to the  
17 Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the selection of Democrats  
18 Abroad's pledged PLEO delegate to the 2024 Democratic National Convention (Rule  
19 8.D; Call IV.A).

## 20 **G. Replacement of Delegates and Alternates**

21 1. A pledged delegate or alternate may be replaced according to the following  
22 guidelines:

23 a. Permanent Replacement of a Delegate (Rule 19.D.3)

24 (1) A permanent replacement occurs when a delegate resigns or passes  
25 away prior to or during the Democratic National Convention and the  
26 alternate replaces the delegate for the remainder of the Democratic  
27 National Convention.

28 (2) Any alternate permanently replacing a delegate shall be of the same  
29 presidential preference (including uncommitted status) and gender of the  
30 delegate the alternate replaces, and to the extent possible shall be from  
31 the same political subdivision within Democrats Abroad as the delegate.

32 i. In the case where the presidential candidate has only one (1)  
33 alternate, that alternate shall become the certified delegate.

34 ii. If a presidential candidate has only one (1) alternate, and that  
35 alternate permanently replaces a delegate of a different gender,  
36 thereby causing the delegation to no longer be equally divided, the  
37 delegation shall not be considered in violation of Rule 6.C. In such  
38 a case, notwithstanding Rule 19.D.2, Democrats Abroad shall, at  
39 the time of a subsequent permanent replacement, replace a  
40 delegate with a person of a different gender, in order to return the  
41 delegation to equal division of men and women.

42 (3) If a delegate or alternate candidate who has been elected but not certified  
43 to the Democratic National Committee Secretary resigns, passes away,  
44 or is no longer eligible to serve, that individual shall be replaced, after

1                   consultation with Democrats Abroad, by the authorized representative of  
2                   the presidential candidate to whom the individual was pledged.

3                   b. Temporary Replacement of a Delegate (Rule 19.D.3)

4                   (1) A temporary replacement occurs when a delegate is to be absent for a  
5                   limited period of time during the Democratic National Convention and an  
6                   alternate temporarily acts in the delegate's place.

7                   (2) Any alternate who temporarily replaces a delegate must be of the same  
8                   presidential preference (including uncommitted status) as the delegate  
9                   being replaced, and to the extent possible shall be of the same gender  
10                  and from the same region, transnational committee, country committee,  
11                  or chapter as the delegate.

12                  c. The following system will be used to select temporary and permanent  
13                  replacements of delegates (Rule 19.D.1)

14                  (1) In the case of a temporary replacement of a delegate, the delegate may  
15                  choose the alternate. If the delegate does not designate an alternate to  
16                  replace the delegate temporarily, the delegation may designate the  
17                  alternate by simple majority vote of all those present at the meeting of the  
18                  delegation at which such designation is to be made.

19                  (2) In the case of a permanent replacement, the delegation shall designate  
20                  the alternate to replace the delegate by simple majority vote of all those  
21                  present at the meeting of the delegation at which such designation is to  
22                  be made.

23                  d. Certification of Replacements

24                  (1) Any alternate who permanently replaces a delegate shall be certified in  
25                  writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Convention by  
26                  Democrats Abroad's 2024 National Democratic Convention Delegation  
27                  Chair (Rule 19.D.3).

28                  (2) Permanent replacement of a delegate (as specified above) by an  
29                  alternate and replacement of a vacant alternate position shall be certified  
30                  in writing by Democrats Abroad's 2024 Democratic National Convention  
31                  Delegation Chair to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee  
32                  within seventy-two (72) hours after the replacement is selected (Call  
33                  IV.D.1).

34                  (3) Certification of permanent replacements will be accepted by the  
35                  Secretary of the Democratic National Committee up to seventy-two (72)  
36                  hours before the first official session of the 2024 Democratic National  
37                  Convention is scheduled to convene (Call IV.D.1; Reg. 4.33).

38                  (4) In the case where a pledged delegate is permanently replaced after  
39                  seventy-two (72) hours before the time the first official session of the 2024  
40                  Democratic National Convention is scheduled to convene or, in the case  
41                  where a pledged delegate is not on the floor of the Convention Hall at the  
42                  time a roll call vote is taken, an alternate may be designated (as specified  
43                  above) to cast the delegate's vote. In such case, Democrats Abroad's  
44                  2024 Democratic National Convention Delegation Chair shall indicate the

1 name of the alternate casting the respective delegate's vote on the  
2 delegation tally sheet  
3 (Call VIII.F.3.d; Call VIII.F.3.b; Reg. 5.6).

4 e. A vacant alternate position shall be filled by the delegation. The replacement  
5 shall be of the same presidential preference (or uncommitted status), of the  
6 same gender, and (to the extent possible) from the same political subdivision  
7 of Democrats Abroad as the alternate being replaced (Rule 19.E).

8 2. Automatic delegates shall not be entitled to a replacement, nor shall Democrats  
9 Abroad be entitled to a replacement, except under the following circumstances (Rule  
10 19.E; Reg. 4.33):

11 a. In the case of the death of such a delegate;

12 b. In the case where Democrats Abroad's Democratic National Committee  
13 membership changes following the Democratic National Committee  
14 Secretary's official confirmation, but prior to the commencement of the 2024  
15 Democratic National Convention, acknowledgment by the Secretary of the new  
16 Democratic National Committee member certification shall constitute  
17 verification of the corresponding change of automatic delegates (Call,  
18 IV.D.2.b);

19 c. Distinguished party leader delegates allocated to Democrats Abroad pursuant  
20 to Rule 9.A.(5) of the Rules and this DSP, shall not be entitled to name a  
21 replacement, nor shall Democrats Abroad be entitled to name a replacement  
22 (Call IV.D.2.c); and

23 d. In no case may an alternate cast a vote for an automatic delegate (Call  
24 VIII.F.3.d).

25

26

1 **Section IV**

2 **Convention Standing Committee Members**

3 **A Introduction**

- 4 1. Democrats Abroad has been allocated one (1) member on each of the three (3)  
5 standing committees for the 2024 Democratic National Convention (Credentials,  
6 Platform, and Rules), for a total of three (3) members (Call VII.A; Call Appendix D).
- 7 2. All standing committee members representing Democrats Abroad, at the time of  
8 their selection as and throughout their terms, shall be members of Democrats  
9 Abroad; reside outside the United States; have the interest, welfare, and success  
10 of the Democratic Party and of Democrats Abroad at heart; and subscribe to the  
11 substance, intent, and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party  
12 and the Charter of Democrats Abroad.
- 13 3. Members of the 2024 Democratic National Convention standing committees need  
14 not be delegates or an alternate to the 2024 Democratic National Convention (Call  
15 VII.A.3).

16 **B Standing Committee Members**

- 17 1. Selection Meeting
- 18 a. The members of the standing committees shall be elected by a quorum of  
19 the Democrats Abroad’s 2024 Democratic National Convention delegates, at  
20 a meeting held on or before June 9, 2024, immediately following the final  
21 selection of all Democratic National Convention delegates, which meeting  
22 will be presided by the International Chair (Call VII.B.1).
- 23 b. All members of Democrats Abroad’s 2024 Democratic National Convention  
24 delegation shall receive adequate notice of the time, date, and place of the  
25 meeting to select the standing committee members (Call VII.B.1).
- 26 c. Participation in the meeting of Democrats Abroad’s 2024 Democratic  
27 National Convention delegation may be by telephone, video conference, or  
28 other similar means permitting all participants to hear and speak to the other  
29 participants.
- 30 2. Allocation of Members
- 31 a. The members of the standing committees allocated to Democrats Abroad  
32 shall proportionately represent the presidential preference of all candidates  
33 (including uncommitted status) as determined by the Global Primary.  
34 However, no members of standing committees shall be allocated to  
35 candidates who fail to receive at least 15% of the presidential preference vote  
36 (Call VII.C.1 & Rule 14.E).
- 37 b. The presidential preference of each candidate receiving the applicable  
38 percentage or more within the delegation shall be multiplied by the total  
39 number of standing committee positions allocated to Democrats Abroad. If  
40 the result of such multiplication does not equal 0.455 or above, the  
41 presidential preference in question is not entitled to representation on the  
42 standing committee. If the result of such multiplication is 0.455 but less than

- 1 1.455, the presidential preference is entitled to one (1) position. Those  
2 preferences securing more than 1.455 but less than 2.455 are entitled to two  
3 (2) positions, etc. (Call VII.C.2).
- 4 c. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation exceeding  
5 the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose  
6 original figure of representation is farthest from its eventual rounded-off total  
7 shall be denied that one (1) additional position. Where the application of this  
8 formula results in the total allocation falling short of the total number of  
9 committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of  
10 representation is closest to the next rounding level shall be allotted an  
11 additional Committee position (Call VII.C.3).
- 12 d. Standing committee positions allocated to a presidential candidate shall be  
13 proportionately allocated, to the extent practicable, to each of the three (3)  
14 standing committees. When such allocation results in an unequal distribution  
15 of standing committee positions by candidate preference, a drawing shall be  
16 conducted to distribute the additional positions (Call VII.C.4).
- 17 3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review
- 18 a. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s),  
19 shall be given adequate notice of the date, time, and location of the meeting  
20 of Democrats Abroad's 2024 Democratic National Convention delegation  
21 authorized to elect standing committee members (Call VII.D.1).
- 22 b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s),  
23 must submit to the International Chair by April 24, 2024, a minimum of one  
24 (1) name for each slot awarded to that candidate for members of each  
25 committee. The delegation shall select the standing committee members  
26 from among names submitted by the presidential candidates (including  
27 uncommitted status). Presidential candidates shall not be required to submit  
28 the name of more than one (1) person for each seat awarded to such  
29 candidate for members of standing committees (Call VII.D.2).
- 30 4. Selection Procedure to Achieve Equal Division
- 31 a. Presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) shall use their best  
32 efforts to ensure that their respective delegation of standing committee  
33 members shall achieve goals established in Democrats Abroad's Affirmative  
34 Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan and that their respective male and  
35 female members are equally divided between the men and women  
36 determined by gender self-identification (Rule 6.I; Reg. 4.10).
- 37 b. Equal Division Rules for the Election of Standing Committee Members
- 38 (1) A separate election shall be conducted for membership on each standing  
39 committee.
- 40 (2) The order in which standing committee members are elected shall be  
41 determined by a simple majority vote of Democrats Abroad's 2024  
42 Democratic National Convention delegation at the meeting designated in  
43 Section IV.C.1 of this DSP.

1 (3) The membership of the standing committees shall be as equally divided  
2 between men and women as possible; the variance between men and  
3 women in any committee or among the three committees in aggregate  
4 shall not exceed one (1) (Call VII.E.2).

5 (4) Gender non-binary committee members shall not be counted as either  
6 male or female for the purposes of equal division, and the remainder of  
7 the delegation shall be equally divided between male gender (men) and  
8 female gender (women) (Call VII.E.1).

9 (5) The positions allocated to each presidential candidate on each committee  
10 shall be voted on separately, and the winners shall be the highest vote-  
11 getter(s) of the respective gender.

12 (6) Elections for standing committee members shall, to the greatest extent  
13 possible, be open to all genders, subject to the requirement to achieve  
14 equal division.

15 *Example 1:* Democrats Abroad is entitled to three standing committee  
16 members, one for each of the three standing committees. Democrats  
17 Abroad's 2024 Democratic National Convention delegation establishes  
18 the order of election as follows: (i) Credentials, (ii) Platform, and (iii)  
19 Rules. The first election for the Credentials Committee shall be open to  
20 all genders. If a woman candidate is elected, the second election  
21 (Platform Committee) shall also be open to all genders. If the second  
22 election results in the election of a man, the third election to the Rules  
23 Committee is, then, open to all genders because equal division will be  
24 satisfied regardless of the gender of the winner (female/male/non-  
25 binary, female/male/female, or female/male/male).

26 *Example 2:* Same facts as Example 1 except the winner of the second  
27 election is non-binary. In this case, the third election must result in the  
28 election of a male committee member in order to achieve equal division  
29 or in the election of a non-binary candidate in order to satisfy the  
30 variance requirement.

31 5. Certification and Substitution

32 a. The International Chair shall certify the standing committee members in  
33 writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three  
34 (3) days after their selection (Call VII.B.3).

35 b. No substitutions will be permitted in the case of standing committee  
36 members, except in the case of resignation or death. Substitutions must be  
37 made in accordance with the rules and the election procedures specified in  
38 this section and must be certified in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic  
39 National Committee within three (3) days after the substitute member is  
40 selected but not later than forty-eight (48) hours before the respective  
41 standing committee meets (Call VII.B.4).

42



1 **Section V**

2 **The Delegation**

3 **A Introduction**

4 Democrats Abroad will select one (1) person to serve as Delegation Chair and one (1)  
5 person to serve as Convention page for the 2024 Democratic National Convention (Call  
6 IV.E; Call IV.F.1; Call Appendix C).

7 **B Delegation Chair**

8 1. Selection Meeting

9 a. The Delegation Chair shall be selected by a quorum of the Democrats  
10 Abroad's 2024 Democratic National Convention delegation at a meeting held  
11 at the conclusion of the Global Convention, on June 9, 2024. The  
12 International Chair shall preside over the meeting, which may be held by  
13 conference call or online (Call IV.E; Call VII.B.1).

14 b. All members of Democrats Abroad's 2024 Democratic National Convention  
15 delegation shall receive timely notice of the time, date, and place of the  
16 meeting to select the Delegation Chair (Rule 3.C).

17 2. The International Chair shall certify the Delegation Chair in writing to the Secretary  
18 of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the selection (Call  
19 IV.E.).

20 **C Convention Page**

21 1. One (1) individual will be selected to serve as Democrats Abroad's Convention  
22 page by the International Chair. This selection will take place immediately prior to  
23 the selection of the standing committee members (Call IV.F.3; Call Appendix C;  
24 Reg. 5.7).

25 2. The selection of the Convention page shall take into account as much as possible,  
26 the affirmative action goals established in Section VII of this DSP (Reg. 5.7.A).

27 3. The International Chair shall certify the individual to serve as Democrats Abroad's  
28 Convention page in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee  
29 within three (3) days after the selection (Call IV.F.3; Reg. 5.7.B).#

30

31

## Section VI

### General Provisions and Procedural Guarantees

#### A Commitment to an Open Party

Democrats Abroad reaffirms its commitment to an open party by incorporating the “six basic elements,” as listed below. As our Party strives to progress in the fight against discrimination of all kinds, these six basic elements have evolved and grown along with the constant push for more inclusion and empowerment. These provisions demonstrate the intention of the Democratic Party to ensure a full opportunity for all minority group members to participate in the delegate selection process (Rule 4.A; Rule 4.B; Rule 4.C).

1. All public meetings at all levels of Democrats Abroad should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, economic status, U.S. military affiliation, geographic location, or disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as “status”) (Rule 4.B.1).
2. No test for membership in, nor any oaths of loyalty to, the Democratic Party should be required or used that has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the Democratic Party to acquiesce in, condone, or support discrimination based on “status” (Rule 4.B.2).
3. The time and place for all public meetings of Democrats Abroad on all levels should be publicized fully and in such manner as to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings should be held in places accessible to all Party members and large enough to accommodate all interested persons (Rule 4.B.3.).
4. Democrats Abroad, on all levels, should support the broadest possible registration without discrimination based on “status” (Rule 4.B.4).
5. Democrats Abroad should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the legal and practical procedures for selection of Democrats Abroad leaders at all levels. Publication of these procedures should be done in such fashion that all prospective and current members of Democrats Abroad will be fully and adequately informed of the pertinent procedures in time to participate in each selection procedure at all levels of the Democratic Party organization. As part of this, the Democrats Abroad should develop a strategy to provide education programs directly to voters who continue to experience confusing timelines for registration, changing party affiliation deadlines, or lack of awareness of the process for running for delegate, to ensure all Democratic voters understand the rules and timelines and their impact on voter participation (Rule 4.B.5).
6. Democrats Abroad should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties, a complete description of the legal and practical qualifications of Democrats Abroad leadership positions at all levels. Such publication should be done in a timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within Democrats Abroad will have full and adequate opportunity to compete for office (Rule 4.B.6).

1 **B No Discrimination on the Basis of Status**

2 Discrimination on the basis of “status” in the conduct of Democratic Party affairs is  
3 prohibited (Rule 5.B).

4 **C Equal Division**

5 Democrats Abroad’s delegation shall be equally divided between delegate men and  
6 delegate women, and alternate men and alternate women (*i.e.*, the number of men and  
7 women shall not vary by more than one (1)). This goal applies to the entire delegation,  
8 which includes all pledged delegates and alternates and all automatic delegates.  
9 Delegates, alternates, and automatic delegates shall be considered separate groups for  
10 purposes of achieving equal division as determined by gender self-identification. In the  
11 case of gender non-binary delegates, alternates, or automatic delegates they shall not  
12 be counted as either male or female for the purposes of equal division; and the remainder  
13 of the delegation shall be equally divided by gender (Rule 6.C).

14 **D Selection of Presidential Preference**

15 All delegate and alternate candidates must be identified as to presidential preference or  
16 uncommitted status at all levels that determine presidential preference (Rule 13.A). No  
17 delegate at any level of the delegate selection process shall be mandated by law or party  
18 rules to vote contrary to that person’s presidential preference as expressed at the time  
19 the delegate is elected (Rule 13.I). Delegates elected to the 2024 Democratic National  
20 Convention pledged to a presidential candidate shall in all good conscience reflect the  
21 sentiments of those who elected them (Rule 13.J).

22 **E Membership in Democrats Abroad**

23 Each delegate, alternate, and standing committee member must be a bona fide  
24 Democrat, including being registered as a member of Democrats Abroad, who is faithful  
25 to the interests, welfare, and success of the Democratic Party and Democrats Abroad;  
26 who subscribes to the substance, intent, and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the  
27 Democratic Party and Charter of Democrats Abroad; and who will participate in the 2024  
28 Democratic National Convention in good faith (Rule 13.H; Call VII.A.4; Reg. 4.26).

29 **F Quorum**

30 Forty percent (40%) of the members of any Party body above the first level of the  
31 delegate selection process shall constitute a quorum for any business pertaining to the  
32 selection of Democratic National Convention delegates, alternates, standing committee  
33 members, and other official Convention participants (Rule 16).

34 **G No Proxies**

35 There shall be no voting by proxy at any stage of the delegate selection process.

36 **H No Unit Rule**

37 The unit rule, or any rule or practice whereby all members of a Party unit or delegation  
38 may be required to cast their votes in accordance with the will of a majority of the body,  
39 shall not be used at any stage of the delegate selection process (Rule 18.A).

1    **I    Slates**

2       Any individual or group of Democrats may sponsor or endorse a slate of candidates for  
3       Convention delegates. But no slate may, by virtue of such endorsement, receive a  
4       preferential place on a delegate selection ballot or be publicly identified on the ballot as  
5       the official Democratic Party organization slate. All slates must meet identical qualifying  
6       requirements for appearing on a ballot at all levels of the delegate selection process  
7       (Rule 18.B).

8    **J    Timing of the Delegate Selection Process**

9       All steps in the delegate selection process, including the filing of presidential candidates,  
10       must take place within the calendar year of the Democratic National Convention, except  
11       with respect to the implementation of the Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion  
12       Plan, and as otherwise provided in the Rules or specifically allowed by the RBC (Rule  
13       1.F; Rule 12.B).

14   **K    Participation of Democratic Voters Abroad**

15       In electing and certifying delegates, alternate, and standing committee members to the  
16       2024 Democratic National Convention, Democrats Abroad undertakes to assure all  
17       Democratic voters residing outside the United States a full, timely, and equal opportunity  
18       to participate in the delegate selection process and in all party affairs and to implement  
19       the Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan toward that end; that the delegates,  
20       alternates, and standing committee members to the Democratic National Convention  
21       shall be selected in accordance with the Rules for the 2024 Democratic National  
22       Convention; and that the certified delegates, alternates, and standing committee  
23       members will not publicly support or campaign for any candidate for President or Vice  
24       President other than the nominees of the Democratic National Convention. Furthermore,  
25       voters outside the United States will have the opportunity to cast their election ballots for  
26       the presidential and vice presidential nominees selected by said Convention (Call II.B).

27

1 **Section VII**

2 **Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan**

3 **A Statement of Purpose and Organization**

4 1. Purpose and Objectives

5 a. In order that the Democratic Party at all levels be an open Party that includes  
6 rather than excludes people from participation, a program of effective  
7 affirmative action is hereby adopted by Democrats Abroad (Rule 5.A).

8 b. All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party should be open to all  
9 members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed,  
10 national origin, geographic location, U.S. military affiliation, religion, ethnic  
11 identity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, economic status,  
12 or disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as "status") (Rule 4.B.1).

13 c. Discrimination on the basis of "status" in the conduct of Democratic Party  
14 affairs is prohibited (Rule 5.B).

15 d. Consistent with the Democratic Party's commitment to include groups  
16 historically underrepresented in Democrats Abroad's and the Democratic  
17 Party's affairs, by virtue of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin,  
18 religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression,  
19 economic status, disability, or veteran or active military-service status  
20 Democrats Abroad has established goals for these groups (Rule 5.C; Reg.  
21 4.8).

22 e. In order to encourage full participation by all Democrats living abroad in the  
23 delegate selection process and in all party affairs, Democrats Abroad has  
24 adopted and will implement programs with specific goals and timetables for  
25 African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans and  
26 Pacific Islanders, and Arab Americans. To recognize their contributions to  
27 our country and democracy, Democrats Abroad has also established goals  
28 and timetables for our veterans and the families of currently serving members  
29 of the military (hereto referred to as 'military families'). To further encourage  
30 full participation in the process, Democrats Abroad has established goals and  
31 timetables for other underrepresented groups, including the LGBTQ+  
32 community, people with disabilities, youth, and those residing outside of an  
33 officially recognized Country Committee in Democrats Abroad (Rule 6.A;  
34 Rule 7).

35 (i) The goal of the programs shall be to encourage participation in the  
36 delegate selection process and in party organizations at all levels by the  
37 aforementioned groups as indicated by their presence in the Democratic  
38 electorate of U.S. citizens living abroad, to the extent that can be  
39 reasonably determined (Rule 6.A.1).

40 (ii) For the delegate selection process, "youth" is defined as any participant  
41 younger than 36 years old at the time of selection as delegate (Reg.  
42 5.3.A).

1 (iii) For the delegate selection process, individuals identifying as Native  
2 American should provide their tribal affiliation and indicate if they are  
3 enrolled in a tribe (Reg. 5.3.B).

4 (iv) These goals shall not be accomplished either directly or indirectly by the  
5 Party's imposition of mandatory quotas at any level of the delegate  
6 selection process or in any other Party affairs (Rule 6.A.2).

7 2. Organizational Structure

8 a. An Affirmative Action Committee was appointed by the International Chair of  
9 Democrats Abroad on February 25, 2023 (Rule 6.F).

10 b. The International Chair submitted the names, demographic data, and contact  
11 information of the members of the Affirmative Action Committee on March 1,  
12 2023, in compliance with the requirement that such information be provided  
13 to the RBC within fifteen (15) days of the members' appointment (Reg. 2.2.J).

14 c. The International Chair will certify in writing to the RBC the compliance of  
15 Democrats Abroad's Affirmative Action Committee with Rule 5.C, Rule 6.A,  
16 and Rule 7 (Reg. 2.2.K). [See Appendix 3, Attachment C]

17 d. The Affirmative Action Committee consists of members representing the  
18 Democratic-constituency groups set forth in the introduction to the Affirmative  
19 Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan and is regionally diverse.

20 e. The Affirmative Action Committee is responsible for:

21 (i) Helping develop and design the proposed Affirmative Action, Outreach,  
22 and Inclusion Plan and making recommendations to the International  
23 Chair (Rule 6.F).

24 (ii) Directing the implementation of all requirements of the Affirmative Action,  
25 Outreach, and Inclusion Plan.

26 (iii) Implementing a financial assistance program (*i.e.*, Travel Fund) to allow  
27 for equal opportunity to participate in the process (Rule 6.G).

28 f. Financial and staff support for the Affirmative Action Committee shall be  
29 provided by Democrats Abroad to the greatest extent feasible, including, but  
30 not limited to, making available on a priority basis Democrats Abroad staff  
31 and volunteers and covering all reasonable costs incurred in carrying out this  
32 DSP and its accompanying Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan.

33 3. Implementation of the Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan shall begin  
34 no later than November 5, 2023, with the distribution of the timeline of the delegate  
35 selection process to all respective constituent units of Democrats Abroad, and will  
36 continue through the end of the delegate selection process (Rule 1.F).

37 **B Representation Goals**

38 1. In cooperation with the Democratic National Committee, Democrats Abroad has  
39 determined the estimated demographic composition of African Americans,  
40 Hispanics, Native Americans, and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders among  
41 U.S. citizens living abroad. These constituency percentages shall be established

1 as goals for representation in Democrats Abroad’s 2024 Democratic National  
2 Convention delegation (Rule 6.A).

3 2. In cooperation with the Democratic National Committee, Democrats Abroad has  
4 also determined that the demographic composition of members of the LGBTQ+  
5 community, people with disabilities, youth, and veteran and military family  
6 members is consistent with the demographic composition of the Democratic Party’s  
7 electorate. Furthermore, Democrats Abroad has chosen to establish these  
8 percentages or higher as goals for representation in Democrats Abroad’s National  
9 Convention delegation.

10 3. After evaluating Democrats Abroad membership data and statistics regarding the  
11 U.S. citizen population abroad, Democrats Abroad has also determined that  
12 population size of U.S. citizens residing in countries not recognized as official  
13 Country Committees within Democrats Abroad is worthy of establishment of these  
14 goals for representation in Democrats Abroad’s National Convention delegation.

15 **C Efforts to Educate on the Delegate Selection Process**

16 1. Well-publicized educational workshops will be conducted by regionally-accessible  
17 teleconferences beginning in November 2023. These workshops will be designed  
18 to encourage participation in the delegate selection process, including apprising  
19 potential delegate candidates of the availability of financial assistance. These  
20 workshops will be held in a manner that is easily accessible to persons with  
21 disabilities. The times, dates, places, and rules for the conduct of all education  
22 workshops, meetings, and other events involved in the delegate selection process  
23 shall be effectively publicized by Democrats Abroad and include local promotion  
24 as appropriate (Rule 3.A; Rule 3.C; Rule 3.D).

25 2. A speakers’ bureau of volunteers from Democrats Abroad, including the Affirmative  
26 Action Committee and comprised of individuals who are fully familiar with the  
27 process, will be organized to appear before groups, in person, or via  
28 teleconference, to provide information concerning the delegate selection process.

29 3. Democrats Abroad’s education efforts will include outreach to community leaders  
30 within the Democratic Party’s constituencies, where possible, and making sure that  
31 information about the delegate selection process is available beyond the ordinary  
32 membership of Democrats Abroad.

33 4. Democrats Abroad will publish and make available online at no cost a clear and  
34 concise explanation of how Democratic voters can participate in the delegate  
35 selection process, and make it available to Democrats Abroad’s respective  
36 constituent units no later than October 2, 2023 (Rule 1.H).

37 5. Democrats Abroad shall take all feasible steps to encourage U.S. citizens living  
38 abroad to register and to vote as Democrats and will seek to ensure simple and  
39 easy registration procedures (Rule 2.C).

40 **D Efforts to Publicize the Delegate Selection Process**

41 1. Special attention shall be directed at publicizing the delegate selection process for  
42 Democrats Abroad. Such publicity shall include information on eligibility to vote and  
43 how to become a candidate for delegate, the time and locations of each stage of  
44 the delegate selection process, and where to get additional information. The  
45 foregoing information will also be published in the communications of Democrats

- 1           Abroad and on Democrats Abroad’s website. The Party organization, official,  
2           candidate, or member calling a meeting or scheduling an event shall effectively  
3           publicize the role that such meeting or event plays in the selection of delegates and  
4           alternate to the Democratic National Convention. Democrats Abroad will make all  
5           reasonable efforts to make all information relating to the delegate selection process  
6           available in an accessible manner (Rule 3.C; Rule 3.D).
- 7           2.     As appropriate within the context of Democrats Abroad, online and messaging  
8           platforms, newspapers, radio, and television will be utilized to inform the general  
9           public how, when, and where to participate in the delegate selection process, as  
10          locally appropriate, and globally as recommended by the Affirmative Action  
11          Committee, in an accessible manner, and in accordance with a Delegate Selection  
12          Media Plan. Specifically, this information will provide details as to how to qualify to  
13          run as a delegate candidate. Regular press releases will be distributed to media  
14          sources throughout the delegate selection process in order to maximize coverage  
15          (Rule 4.B.3; Rule 6.D). Additional public relations opportunities (for example,  
16          speaking opportunities at schools or other organizations or registration events) will  
17          also be leveraged.
- 18          3.     Opportunities to collaborate with other U.S. organizations with agendas relevant to  
19          the various targeted audiences will be explored and leveraged where appropriate.
- 20          4.     A priority effort shall be directed at publicity among the Democratic Party’s  
21          constituencies.
- 22                a.     Information about the delegate selection process will be provided to specialty  
23                media serving U.S. citizens living abroad, if any, that is likely to reach the  
24                Democratic constituency groups set forth in the introduction of this Affirmative  
25                Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan. The Affirmative Action Committee shall  
26                determine priority means of reaching these groups, both within the current  
27                membership of Democrats Abroad and among U.S. citizens living abroad  
28                generally. Those means may include, but are not limited to, organizing global  
29                online meetings of constituency groups or issues of interest to such groups,  
30                distributing letters and videos by prominent leaders of constituency groups,  
31                and developing guides and best practices for Democrats Abroad leaders.
- 32                b.     Democrats Abroad shall be responsible for the implementation of this  
33                publicity effort. For purposes of providing adequate notice of the delegate  
34                selection process, the times, dates, places, and rules for the conduct of  
35                meetings, Regional Conventions, and the Global Convention shall be  
36                effectively publicized, multilingually where necessary and in an accessible  
37                manner to encourage the participation of minority groups (Rule 6.D).
- 38          5.     No later than November 30, 2023, Democrats Abroad will make information about  
39          the delegate selection process available on its website and publicize the resources  
40          through press releases and communications to Party leaders, activists, and  
41          targeted constituencies. Information to be posted on the website will include:
- 42                a.     materials designed to encourage participation and inform prospective  
43                delegate candidates;
- 44                b.     a summary explaining the role of the 2024 Democratic National Convention in  
45                nominating the Party’s presidential and vice-presidential candidates and  
46                adopting the Democratic National Platform;



- 1 c. a summary of Democrats Abroad’s delegate selection process, including all  
 2 pertinent rules, dates, and filing requirements related to the process; and
- 3 d. background information on Democrats Abroad and VoteFromAbroad.org and  
 4 information on how to join, volunteer, and contribute.
- 5 6. On November 30, 2023, Democrats Abroad, along with all of its constituent country  
 6 committees, any chapters, caucuses, task forces, or other auxiliary organizations,  
 7 shall advertise the delegate selection process information via any social media  
 8 accounts or channels operated by the party unit.

9 **E Representation Goals**

- 10 1. Democrats Abroad has determined the estimated demographic composition of  
 11 African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Asian Americans and Pacific  
 12 Islanders among the nationwide Democratic electorate. These constituency  
 13 percentages shall be established as goals for representation in Democrats  
 14 Abroad’s 2024 Democratic National Convention delegation (Rule 6.A).
- 15 2. Democrats Abroad has determined that the demographic composition of African  
 16 Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Asian Americans and Pacific  
 17 Islanders in the Democrats Abroad’s Democratic electorate is consistent with the  
 18 demographic composition of Democratic Party support across the nationwide  
 19 Democratic electorate.

20 Democrats Abroad has also determined that the demographic composition of  
 21 members of the LGBTQ+ community, people with disabilities, youth, and veterans  
 22 and military family members is consistent with the demographic composition of  
 23 Democratic Party support across the nationwide Democratic electorate.  
 24 Furthermore, Democrats Abroad has chosen to establish these percentages or  
 25 higher as goals for representation in Democrats Abroad’s 2024 Democratic  
 26 National Convention delegation.

27

	African Americans	Hispanics	Native Americans	Asian Americans + Pacific Islanders	Arab American
Percent in USA Democratic Electorate	21%	21%	6%	1%	
Numeric Goals for Delegation	4	4	1	2	1

28

	LGBTQ+ Americans	People with Disabilities	Youth	Veteran and Military Families	Non-Country Committee Residents
Percent in USA Democratic Electorate	15%	6%	33%	7%	
Numeric Goals for Delegation	3	1	6	1	2

- 1 3. When selecting the at-large portion of the delegation, the demographic composition  
2 of the other delegates (pledged PLEO and unpledged) shall be compared with  
3 Democrats Abroad's goals in order to achieve an at-large selection process that  
4 helps to bring about a representative balance. A comparison including already-  
5 selected at-large delegates will be reported prior to each selection of any member  
6 of the delegation, by the chair of the body voting on that selection.
- 7 4. Use of the at-large delegation to achieve the Affirmative Action goals established  
8 by this DSP and its accompanying Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan  
9 does not obviate the need for Democrats Abroad to conduct outreach activities  
10 such as recruitment, education, and training (Rule 6.A.3).

11 **F Obligations of Presidential Candidates to Maximize Participation**

- 12 1. Presidential candidates shall assist Democrats Abroad in meeting the demographic  
13 representation goals reflected in the Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion  
14 Plan. Presidential candidates shall publish information online specific to  
15 participation in Democrats Abroad's delegate selection process, shall promote or  
16 advertise such information to Democratic constituencies among U.S. citizens living  
17 abroad, and shall make widely accessible information regarding the availability of  
18 financial assistance for delegates from the presidential candidate's campaign.  
19 Compliance with these affirmative action obligations shall be verified by the  
20 Affirmative Action Committee (Rule 6.H).
- 21 2. **Statement of Full Participation.** Each presidential candidate shall submit a  
22 statement that specifies what steps the candidate is taking and will take to  
23 encourage full participation in the delegate selection process, including, but not  
24 limited to, (i) whether the presidential candidate's campaign may defray all or part  
25 of the expenses of those delegates otherwise unable to participate in the  
26 Democratic National Convention and (ii) procedures by which persons may file as  
27 candidates for delegate or alternate. Presidential candidates are required to  
28 present this information no later than January 3, 2024, in their letters of candidacy  
29 as described in Section II.B.3 of this DSP (Rule 6.G; Rule 6.H.1; Rule 6.I.)  
30 Presidential candidates are also required to submit such full participation  
31 statements to the RBC at the same time they are submitted to Democrats Abroad  
32 (Rule 6.H.1).
- 33 3. Each presidential candidate must submit demographic information with respect to  
34 all candidates for delegate and alternate pledged to them. Such information shall  
35 be submitted in conjunction with the list of names approved for consideration as  
36 delegate and alternate candidates pledged to the presidential candidate (Rule  
37 6.H.2).
- 38 4. Presidential candidates (including the delegation of uncommitted status) shall use  
39 their best effort to ensure that their respective delegations within Democrats  
40 Abroad's delegate, alternate, and standing committee delegations shall achieve  
41 the affirmative action goals reflected in the Affirmative Action, Outreach, and  
42 Inclusion Plan and that the respective delegations of each presidential candidate  
43 shall be equally divided between men and women (Rule 6.I; Reg. 4.9).
- 44 5. Presidential candidates shall not be required to provide financial assistance to  
45 delegates who would otherwise be unable to participate in the 2024 Democratic  
46 National Convention (Rule 6.G).

1 **G Outreach and Inclusion Plan**

2 1. Democrats Abroad is committed to help achieve full participation of those groups  
3 of U.S. citizens who have historically been explicitly denied the right to vote or who  
4 have been subjected to discriminatory and exclusionary practices that have denied  
5 them voting rights and full participation in the delegate selection process and other  
6 Party meetings, events, and elections, along with other groups of U.S. citizens who  
7 are also underrepresented in Party affairs.

8 2. As such, Democrats Abroad has developed an Affirmative Action, Outreach, and  
9 Inclusion Plan and is committed to fully implementing the programs so that all  
10 persons who wish to participate as Democrats understand they are welcome and  
11 encouraged to be a part of the delegate selection process and in Democrats  
12 Abroad at the chapter, country, regional, and global levels.

13 3. Democrats Abroad will make accommodations to facilitate greater participation by  
14 people with disabilities and seniors by including reasonable physical  
15 accommodations in the selection of the venues for the Regional Conventions and  
16 the Global Convention, bringing online processes into compliance with standards  
17 where feasible, and soliciting feedback from the disabled and senior communities.

18 4. In addition to the education, publicity, and other steps described above, Democrats  
19 Abroad will continue its Travel Fund program to encourage the participation in the  
20 Regional Conventions and Global Convention of those historically  
21 underrepresented due to financial constraints. The Affirmative Action Committee  
22 will also encourage presidential candidates to establish similar programs.

23 5. The Affirmative Action Committee will implement a specific outreach and financial  
24 assistance program for persons of low and moderate income to encourage their  
25 participation and representation at the 2024 Democratic National Convention  
26 delegation (Rule 6.G).

27

28

## Section VIII

### Challenges

#### A Jurisdiction and Standing

1. Challenges related to the delegate selection process are governed by the Regulations of the RBC for the 2024 Democratic National Convention (Reg. Sec. 3) and the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2024 Democratic National Convention (Call Appendix A).
2. The RBC has jurisdiction over challenges pertaining to the submission, non-implementation, and violation of state party's Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan (Rule 21.B; Call Appendix A).
3. The RBC has jurisdiction to hear and decide any challenge provided it is initiated before the fifty-sixth (56<sup>th</sup>) day preceding the date of the commencement of the 2024 Democratic National Convention (Call Appendix A; Reg. 3.1).
4. Challenges to the credentials of delegates and alternates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention initiated on or after the fifty-sixth (56<sup>th</sup>) day preceding the date of commencement of the Democratic National Convention shall be processed in accordance with the Rules (Call Appendix A.)
5. Any challenge to the credentials of a standing committee member shall be considered and resolved by the affected standing committee in accordance with Appendix A of the Call for the 2024 Democratic National Convention. The RBC shall have jurisdiction over challenges brought before the fifty-sixth (56<sup>th</sup>) day preceding the date of the commencement of the 2024 Democratic National Convention. (*Call VII.B.5.*)
6. Copies of the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee and/or the Call for the 2024 Democratic National Convention, including the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee (Appendix A), shall be made available by Democrats Abroad upon reasonable request.
7. Any group of fifteen (15) Democrats with standing to challenge as defined in Reg. 3.2 or the Call (Appendix A, Sec. 2.A), may bring a challenge to this DSP or to the implementation of this DSP, including its Affirmative Action provisions.

#### B Challenges to the Status of Democrats Abroad or This DSP

1. A challenge to the status of Democrats Abroad as the body entitled to sponsor a delegation representing U.S. citizens abroad shall be filed with the RBC no later than thirty (30) calendar days prior to the initiation of Democrats Abroad's delegate selection process (Rule 21.A; Reg. 3.4.A).
2. A challenge to this DSP shall be filed with the International Chair and the RBC Co-Chairs within fifteen (15) calendar days after the adoption of the DSP by Democrats Abroad (Reg. 3.4.B).
3. A challenge to this DSP must be brought in conformity with the Rules and the RBC Regulations, which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

1 **C Challenges to Implementation**

2 1. A challenge may be brought alleging that a specific requirement of this DSP has  
3 not been properly implemented. Jurisdiction over all challenges initiated in a timely  
4 fashion shall reside with either the RBC or the Credentials Committee of the 2024  
5 Democratic National Convention. However, the RBC may provide advice,  
6 assistance, or interpretations of the Delegate Selection Rules at any stage of the  
7 delegate selection process (Reg. 3.1.C).

8 2. An implementation challenge brought before the RBC is initiated by filing a written  
9 challenge with the Democrats Abroad International Executive Committee and with  
10 the RBC no later than fifteen (15) days after the alleged violation occurred. The  
11 Democrats Abroad International Executive Committee has twenty-one (21) days to  
12 render a decision. Within ten (10) days of the decision, any party to the challenge  
13 may appeal it to the RBC. If, in fact, the Democrats Abroad International Executive  
14 Committee renders no decision, any party to the challenge may request the RBC  
15 to process it. The request must be made within ten (10) days after expiration of the  
16 above twenty-one (21) day period (Reg. 3.4.C; Reg. 3.4.E; Reg. 3.4.H).

17 3. Performance under an approved Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan  
18 and composition of the 2024 Democratic National Convention delegation shall be  
19 considered relevant evidence in the challenge to any Democrats Abroad  
20 delegation. If Democrats Abroad has adopted and implemented an approved  
21 Affirmative Action Plan, Democrats Abroad shall not be subject to challenge based  
22 solely on delegation composition or primary results (Rule 6.B). The procedures are  
23 the same for challenges alleging failure to properly implement the Affirmative  
24 Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan, except that such challenges must be filed not  
25 later than thirty (30) days prior to the initiation of Democrats Abroad's delegate  
26 selection process (Reg. 3.4.C).

27 4. Depending on the appropriate jurisdiction, implementation challenges must be  
28 brought in conformity with the Regulations of the RBC or the Rules of Procedure  
29 of the 2024 Democratic National Convention Credentials Committee, which should  
30 be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

31

32

# Section IX

## Summary of Plan

### A Selection of Delegates and Alternates

Democrats Abroad will use a proportional-representation system based on the results of its Global Primary for apportioning its delegates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention.

The first determining step of Democrats Abroad's delegate selection process will occur between March 5-12, 2024, with its Global Primary.

Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must submit to the International Chair a minimum of two (2) names for each slot awarded to that candidate by April 26, 2024, or at least ten (10) days prior to the applicable regional convention, whichever date occurs first, for at-large delegates to be elected in Democrats Abroad's three respective Regional Conventions and by April 26, 2024, for at-large delegates, pledged PLEO delegate, and National Convention alternate to be elected at Democrats Abroad's Global Convention.

Delegates and alternate will be selected as summarized on the following chart:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Delegates</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Dates of Selection</u>	<u>Selecting Body</u>	<u>Filing Requirements and Deadlines</u>
At-Large Delegates (Regional)	9	≥1	4/18/24 - 6/7/24	Regional Conventions	<b>3/26/24:</b> Candidates may obtain forms and filing instructions.  <b>4/19/24 or 10 days prior to the respective Regional Convention, whichever is earlier:</b> Filing of qualifying forms  <b>4/22/24 or 10 days prior to the respective Regional Convention, whichever is earlier:</b> International Chair sends list of Regional Convention candidates to presidential candidates  <b>4/26/24 or six (6) days prior to the respective Regional Convention, whichever is earlier:</b> Presidential candidates provide a list of approved candidates for Regional Conventions
At-Large Delegates (Global)	3	≥1	6/8/24 - 6/9/24	Global Convention	<b>3/26/24:</b> Candidates may obtain forms and filing instructions.  <b>4/19/24:</b> Filing of qualifying forms.  <b>4/22/24:</b> International Chair sends list of Global Convention candidates to presidential candidates  <b>4/26/24:</b> Presidential candidates

					provide list of approved candidates for Global Convention
Pledged PLEO Delegate	1	n/a	6/8/24 - 6/9/24	Global Convention	Same as above for candidates running in the Global Convention.
Automatic Delegates including DPLs	8	n/a	already selected	2 elected as Party Chair and Party Vice Chair in June 2023  3 elected at 2020 Regional Conventions  3 elected at 2020 Global Convention	Automatic by virtue of respective public or party office as provided in Rule 9.A.
Total Delegates	21	≥1			

1

2 \* Pledged party leader and elected official (PLEO) alternates are selected with the at-large  
3 alternate.

4 \*\* Automatic delegates include, among others, Democrats Abroad’s Democratic National  
5 Committee members (Rule 9.A). The exact number of automatic delegates is subject to  
6 change, for example due to possible deaths, resignations, elections, or special elections.

7

8 **B Selection of Standing Committee Members (for the Credentials, Platform, and**  
9 **Rules Committees)**

10 Standing committee members will be selected by Democrats Abroad’s 2024 Democratic  
11 National Convention delegates as summarized below:

Members Committee	Per	Total Members	Selection Date	Filing Requirements and Deadlines
1		3	On or before 6/15/2024 immediately following the final selection of all National Convention delegates.	Presidential candidates submit lists after all delegates have been selected.

12

13 **C Selection of Delegation Chair and Convention Page**

14 The 2024 Democratic National Convention Delegation Chair will be selected by the 2024  
15 Democratic National Convention delegates on or before June 10, 2024, at which time  
16 one (1) convention page will be selected by the International Chair.

1

2 **D Presidential Candidates’ Filing Deadline**

3 By September 1, 2023, presidential candidates may find petition forms on Democrats  
4 Abroad’s website.

5 By January 3, 2024, presidential candidates must: (1) file their petitions of candidacy with  
6 the International Chair using a form provided by Democrats Abroad; (2) submit ballot  
7 access petitions containing a minimum of 300 valid signatures of members of Democrats  
8 Abroad and certify these signatures using a form provided by Democrats Abroad; (3) pay  
9 a ballot access fee of \$2,500.00 USD to Democrats Abroad; (4) submit a statement  
10 specifying steps they will take to encourage full participation in the delegate selection  
11 process; and (5) certify the name(s) of their authorized representative(s) to the  
12 International Chair (Rule 11.B; Rule 14.E).

13 By April 26, 2024, or at least ten (10) days prior to the applicable Regional Convention,  
14 whichever date occurs first, presidential candidates shall provide a list of approved at-  
15 large delegate candidates up for election in Democrats Abroad’s Regional Conventions.

16 By April 26, 2024, or at least six (6) days prior to the applicable Regional Convention,  
17 whichever date occurs first, presidential candidates provide their approved list of  
18 candidates for at-large delegates, pledged PLEO delegate, and standing committee  
19 members to be elected during Democrats Abroad’s Global Convention.

20

21 **E Timetable**

Date	Description	DSP Reference
<b>PHASE I: DSP DRAFTING, APPROVAL, AND SUBMISSION</b>		
Feb. 28, 2023	Appointment of Affirmative Action Committee	Sec. VII.A.2.a
Mar. 6, 2023	Beginning of Public Comment Period	Sec. I.A.4
	International Chair submits AAC information to RBC	Sec. VII.A.2.b
Apr. 5, 2023	End of Public Comment Period	Sec. I.A.4
Apr. 22, 2023	DPCA Vote to Approve DSP	Sec. I.A.4
May 3, 2023	DSP Submission Deadline	-

22

<b>PHASE II: PREPARATORY PHASE</b>		
Aug. 15, 2023	Deadline: Presidential Candidates to Request a usage of the Virtual Forum if to be Acted on by Sep. 1	II.A.2
Sep. 1, 2023	Deadline: Petitioning Form and Rules Posted to DA Website	II.A.2



Sep. 1, 2023	Virtual Forum Platform becomes available to candidates wishing to participate	II.A.2
Sep. 15, 2023	Deadline: Unit Notification to International Chair if Ballots are Needed in non-English.	III.B.1.g.(9)
Oct. 1, 2023	Deadline: Promulgate Detailed Rules and Procedures on the GPP and DSP	III.B.6.a.(8).v
Oct. 2, 2023	Deadline: Make Concise Explanation of DSP Available to Units of Democrats Abroad	VII.C.4
Sep. 15, 2023	Deadline: Stakeholder + Media Lists Submitted to AAC	Appendix 1 Exhibit 2
Nov. 5, 2023	Deadline: Implementation of the Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan	VII.A.3
Nov. 5, 2023	Deadline: Distribution of Timeline of the DSP to all Units of Democrats Abroad	VII.A.3
Nov. 30, 2023	Deadline: Commence “well-publicized educational workshops” to encourage participation in the DSP	VII.C.1
Nov. 30, 2023	Deadline: Post Information on DSP on the Website	VII.D.5
Nov. 30, 2023	Deadline: Publicize Resources via Press Releases and Internal Communications	VII.D.5
Nov. 30, 2023	Deadline: Publicize DSP via all Social Media Channels	VII.D.6
Dec. 31, 2023	Determination of Country Committees in Good Standing	
Dec. 31, 2023	Deadline: Designation of Voting Center Managers	III.B.2.b
Dec. 31, 2023	Deadline: Voting Center Proposals Due	III.B.3.d
Dec. 31, 2023	Determination of Time and Place of Regional Conventions	

1

<b>PHASE III: GLOBAL PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY</b>		
Jan. 3, 2024	Statement of Candidacy Due	II.A.1
Jan. 3, 2024	Ballot Access Petition Due	II.A.2
Jan. 3, 2024	Ballot Access Fee Due	II.A.3
Jan. 3, 2024	Certification of Authorized Representative due	II.B.1
Jan. 3, 2024	Statement of Full Participation due to DA and RBC	II.B.3
Jan. 7, 2024	Notification of Use of RCV	I.B.3

Jan. 7, 2024	Deadline: Confirmation of Voting Center Proposals	III.B.3.d
Jan. 8, 2024	Mail Ballot Request Period Begins	III.B.4.a
Jan. 27, 2024	Deadline: Transmission of ballots to voters by mail, fax, or email Begins	I.C.5.k
Jan. 27, 2024	Deadline: Downloadable Ballot Posted to DA Website	I.C.5.k
Jan. 27, 2024	Early Voting by Email, Mail, and Fax Begins	I.C.5.k
Jan. 31, 2024	Annual Database Verification Deadline	I.C.5.j
Mar. 5, 2024	Ballot request deadline	I.C.5.k
Mar. 5, 2024	Global Presidential Primary Begins	I.B.2
Mar. 6, 2024	Transmission of mail-in ballots to voters ends	I.C.5.k
Mar. 6, 2024	DNC Confirmation of Automatic and Distinguished Party Leader Delegates	III.E.1.a
Mar. 12, 2024	Global Presidential Primary Ends	I.B.2
Mar. 12, 2024	Mail-in ballot postmark deadline	I.C.5.k
Mar. 17, 2024	Mail-in ballot receipt deadline	I.C.5.k
Mar. 18, 2024	CCs send mail-in ballots to International Chair	III.B.4.e
Mar. 25, 2024	Regional Vice Chairs informed of regional delegate allocations	III.B.7

1

<b>PHASE IV: DELEGATE SELECTION</b>		
Mar. 26, 2024	Application Period for All Delegate and Alternate Positions Begins	III.A.7.b
Apr. 24, 2024	Appointment of Global Convention and Regional Convention Credentials and Rules Committees by the International Chair (deadline if first regional convention is held on Apr. 18, but appointments may be made earlier)	III.D.2.a
Apr. 15, 2024	Deadline: Certification of regional convention electors	III.C.3
Apr. 18, 2024	Regional Conventions may begin	III.C.1
Apr. 19, 2024	Application Deadline: At-Large Delegates to be elected at regional conventions (or 14 days prior to the regional convention, whichever is earlier)	III.A.7.b
Apr. 19, 2024	Application Deadline: PLEO, At-Large, and Alternate	III.A.7.b

	Delegates to be Elected at the Global Convention	
Apr. 22, 2024	List of At-Large Delegate candidates to be elected at regional conventions sent to presidential campaigns (or 14 days prior to the regional convention, whichever is earlier)	III.A.8.a
Apr. 22, 2024	List of PLEO, At-Large, and Alternate Delegate Candidates to be Elected at the Global Convention sent to presidential campaigns	III.A.8.a
Apr. 26, 2024	Due Date: Approved List of At-Large Delegate candidates to be elected at regional convention (or 10 days prior to the regional convention, whichever is earlier)	III.A.8.b
Apr. 26, 2024	Due Date: Approved List of Candidates for Standing Committees (min. 1 name per committee)	IV.B.3.a
Apr. 26, 2024	Due Date: Approved List of PLEO, At-Large, and Alternate Delegate candidates to be elected at global convention	III.A.8.b
Apr. 29, 2024	Certification Deadline: DPCA Chair shall certify whether each Presidential campaign used best efforts to ensure delegate candidates meet the affirmative action goals	III.A.8.e
TBD	Democrats Abroad Annual Global Meeting	-
Jun. 7, 2024	Deadline: Regional Conventions	III.C.1
Jun. 8, 2024	Global Convention Begins	III.D.1.a
Jun. 9, 2024	Global Convention Ends	III.D.1.a
Jun. 9, 2024	Selection of Standing Committee Members	IV.B.1.a
Jun. 9, 2024	Selection of Delegation Chair	V.B.1.a
Jun. 9, 2024	Selection of Convention Page	V.C.1
Jun. 10, 2024	Certification of Delegation Chair, Standing Committee Members, Page	III.D.3.i
Jun. 10, 2024	Certification of Pledged Delegates and Alternates to the DNC Secretary (within 10 days of selection)	III.C.6.a.(11) and III.D.3.i
Jun. 15, 2024	Certification of PLEO Delegate	III.F.5
Jun. 21, 2024	Delegate Selection Deadline	-

1

**PHASE V: NATIONAL CONVENTION AND ELECTION**

Aug. 19, 2024	Democratic National Convention Begins	-
Aug. 22, 2024	Democratic National Convention Ends	-
Nov. 5, 2024	Election Day	-

1



Appendix 1  
Exhibit A  
Members of the Affirmative Action Committee

---

Member	Title	Country	State	Age	Gender	Communities
<b>Tré Shawn Griffin-Noordermeer</b>	<b>Committee Chair Chair, DA Netherlands</b>	Netherlands	OH	29	M	African American, LGBTQIA+, Youth, VMF
<b>Marnie Delaney</b>	<b>Chair, Disability Caucus</b>	France	CA	70	F	Person With Disability, Senior
<b>Robyn T. Emerson</b>	<b>Chair, DA Kenya</b>	Kenya	TX	51	F	African American, Female
<b>Sam Khunaizi</b>	<b>Chair, DA UAE</b>	United Arab Emirates	MI	34	M	Arab American, Youth
<b>Emily Lines</b>	<b>Chair, AAPI Caucus V. Chair, DA Germany</b>	Germany	IN	35	F	Asian American, Female, Youth
<b>Edgar López-Vallejo</b>	<b>V. Chair, Hispanic Caucus</b>	Mexico	NY	60	M	Latino American, Native American
<b>Suma Shamanna</b>	<b>Chair, DA India</b>	India	OR	50	F	Asian American, Female, Hindu
<b>Candice Kerestan</b>	<b>Chair, DA</b>	Germany	PA	30	F	Youth, Female
<b>Arthur Schankler</b>	<b>V. Chair, DA</b>	Serbia	NY	68	M	Senior, Jewish, VMF

---



Appendix 1  
Exhibit 2  
Media and Outreach Plan

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To achieve participation in the delegate selection process and in Party organization at all levels by the groups identified in the 2024 Delegate Selection Plan for the Democratic National Convention, Democrats Abroad commits to maximizing our reach among Democrats living around the world.

A multi-pronged effort is required to reach international voters, due to the diverse demographics of Democrats Abroad. This requires utilizing traditional and interactive media, at a global, national, and local level. Media plans will aim to raise visibility of the Party in international markets, through as many forms of communication as possible.

## **Assets and Resources**

### **Press Kit**

Democrats Abroad will create a press kit to be used at an international level, with templated components that can be used by Democrats Abroad leaders in-country. Democrats Abroad will provide materials in English and Spanish, and will encourage Country Committees to translate the press kit into the local language.

The press kit will include:

- Introduction, identifying the opportunity for media to cover the DPCA DSP and GPP
- Sample press release stating strong encouragement to underrepresented to groups to participate and run, & media contact details
- Times, dates, and locations of the Regional Conventions and Global Convention and information on electronic participation
- Summary of how to become a candidate for National Convention Delegate or Alternate
- Summary of how U.S. citizens abroad can participate in the Global Presidential Primary
- Brief abstract of how delegate selection works
- Background on Democrats Abroad and the Global Primary
  - Fact sheet/FAQ
  - Statement on Democrats Abroad's commitment to holding a fair, free, and unbiased Global Presidential Primary
  - Previous press coverage
  - Details of key global spokespeople
  - Visual Assets, including videos and graphics for social media

### **Explainer Materials**

Most international editors and journalists are less familiar with the facts of voting from abroad, and many U.S. citizens abroad are highly embedded in their local communities, with little access to U.S. media and limited knowledge of how they can be involved.

Consequently, explainer materials to supplement the initial press kit will include:



- Outline of eligibility of U.S. citizens living abroad (both uniformed and civilian) to vote in primary and general elections, and what it means to vote in the Global Presidential Primary
- Reference materials on the importance of voting for U.S. citizens living abroad including backgrounders on the issues that are of unique importance for our members and other Americans living abroad.
- Summary of what is expected at the Democratic National Convention in 2024 and key events leading up to and following the convention
- Basic explanation of the U.S. electoral system/process
- Potential story angles, contacts, quotes/photos
- Calendar of upcoming activities of particular interest
- Member profiles/segments (who are U.S. citizens Abroad? Where are they? Why are they here)
- Examples of how DA has impacted elections and legislation
- Vote From Abroad resource and what you can do
- What makes Democrats Abroad unique
- Educational infographics and videos for social media

## Prompts to Share & Engage

Further resources will be made available to encourage information sharing throughout the DPCA network of U.S. citizens around the world.

These assets will include:

- Print collateral (e.g. brochures and posters) will be made available and used where appropriate and effective
- Online event postings
- Press coverage
- Social assets (#TBT of previous years, scripted posts about engagement and process, reminders of DSP and GPP activities and timelines, etc.)
- Issues of particular importance to U.S. citizens abroad - interactive quizzes
- Online or zoom room live help or discussion sessions
- List of available press surrogates from Global
- A one pager on “creating your visual”





## Traditional Media

### International Media

Throughout the delegate selection process and global presidential primary, Democrats Abroad will reach out to key global media outlets as well as those domestic outlets in the U.S. with considerable international audiences. This includes:

<p><b>International &amp; US Print Media</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BBC</li> <li>• Boston Globe</li> <li>• Chicago Sun-Times</li> <li>• Los Angeles Times</li> <li>• Stars and Stripes</li> <li>• Foreign Policy</li> <li>• The Guardian/Observer</li> <li>• The New York Times</li> <li>• The Miami Herald</li> <li>• The New Republic</li> <li>• Sacramento Bee</li> <li>• The Wall Street Journal</li> <li>• The Washington Post</li> <li>• Time</li> <li>• USA Today</li> <li>• Ms Magazine</li> </ul>	<p><b>Newsires/Agencies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agence France-Presse</li> <li>• Agencia EFE</li> <li>• Associated Press</li> <li>• Bloomberg</li> <li>• Canadian Press</li> <li>• Chicago/LA New Agency</li> <li>• Reuters</li> </ul>
<p><b>TV/Radio</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ABC</li> <li>• BBC</li> <li>• Bloomberg</li> <li>• CBC</li> <li>• CNN</li> <li>• ITN</li> <li>• MSNBC</li> <li>• NPR</li> <li>• PBS</li> <li>• Sky</li> </ul>	<p><b>Online &amp; Other News Media</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ballotpedia</li> <li>• Bustle</li> <li>• BuzzFeed</li> <li>• Daily Kos</li> <li>• The Hill</li> <li>• Huffington Post</li> <li>• Mother Jones</li> <li>• Politico</li> <li>• Real Clear Politics</li> <li>• Rewire</li> <li>• Salon</li> <li>• Slate</li> <li>• The Intercept</li> <li>• Talking Points Memo</li> <li>• Teen Vogue</li> <li>• Thinkprogress</li> <li>• VOA</li> <li>• Vox</li> <li>• Crooked Media</li> <li>• Substacks</li> </ul>



## **In-Country Media**

Releases to local media outlets are to be designed by each Country Committee in coordination with the Affirmative Action Committee. Each country committee should also target media using languages other than English. Country Committees are encouraged to localize the materials provided in the press kit to ensure local relevance, including drafting a paragraph on why the US Presidential election impacts Americans residing in the host country.

The Democrats Abroad Executive Director will work with the Affirmative Action Committee, Country Committees, and Chapter Chairs to further develop local media lists in their countries. These lists must be submitted to the Affirmative Action Committee by September 15, 2023.

Country Committees, with support from the Democrats Abroad Executive Director, will be responsible for liaising with these media outlets throughout the DSP and GPP, and highlighting coverage to the global leadership team. Country Committees should inform the Executive Director of any press inquiries or coverage, to ensure that broader information regarding the process can be provided and to avoid conflicting information.

In addition to traditional media, television and radio, Country Committees will be encouraged to reach out to any podcast producers and bloggers that may have substantial reach among U.S. and dual citizens residing in their country.

## **Constituency Specific Media**

Democrats Abroad Caucuses and Councils will reach out to media outlets which cater to specific minorities and constituent segments. Realistically, some groups may not be represented outside the United States, and/or they are represented in the dailies and general interest outlets in their local area.

The Democrats Abroad Executive Director will work with the Affirmative Action Committee, Caucuses, Councils and Task Forces to develop media lists catering to the appropriate constituency. These lists must be submitted to the Affirmative Action Committee by September 15, 2023.

## **Social Media**

All assets and resources will be made publicly available on the Democrats Abroad website. Those materials prepared for the general public will also be shared on social media properties at global and local levels, as well as through DPCA caucuses to better target and reach these marginalized constituencies.

Social media targeted advertising will be used to reach new audiences of Americans abroad who may not otherwise learn about the DSP and GPP. Primary social media platforms include Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



Prepared assets and resources will include “What’s at stake” messaging that is targeted at various audiences. Members will be encouraged to engage with social media messaging to increase visibility.

Through its verified Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, Reddit, and Facebook accounts, Democrats Abroad will reach out to influencers who have previously helped to drive awareness of DPCA GOTV activities and encourage them to share news of our delegate selection process and global primary. Through the Facebook Groups Democrats Abroad maintains and organizes, the process will be publicized and voters will be invited to participate.

## **Stakeholder Engagement**

All assets and resources will be made publicly available on the Democrats Abroad website. Those materials prepared for the general public and/or for media will also be shared on social media properties at global and local levels, as well as through DPCA caucuses to better target and reach these marginalized constituencies.

### **Internal Stakeholders**

Democrats Abroad in-country leaders are very often the best conduit for reaching local U.S. citizens and local U.S. citizen communities. Therefore, our success is dependent on ensuring that these internal stakeholders are informed, engaged and empowered.

Through both internal and public facing areas of our website, weekly and ad-hoc emails and monthly video conferences by region, these local leaders will be kept up to date at all times, in terms of the status of the DSP preparation, this includes internal schedules, expectations and responsibilities of lead volunteers. These platforms also provide full opportunity for leaders to raise issues, ask questions, and share success stories, to further improve the Delegate Selection Plan and Global Presidential Primary.

General members will also be kept up to date of this information and process, through web content, online speaker sessions, social media posts, email updates, and regular reminders at in-person events.

### **Stateside Stakeholders**

Democrats Abroad will liaise with our sister state parties, allied organizations, and networks stateside to ensure that stateside individuals are able to alert their overseas friends and families to the Global Presidential Primary’s existence.

### **Overseas Stakeholders**

Through community outreach and global activism, Democrats Abroad has a strong network of organizations and interest groups, which we work with from time to time on particular issues of interest.

At a global level, we will reach out to those organizations with a strong international structure. For those organizations managed fully at a local level, Democrats Abroad Country Committees will liaise directly. Country Committees will provide a list of those organizations to the Affirmative Outreach Committee by September 15, 2023.



Democrats Abroad will provide these organizations with similar materials to inform U.S. citizen voters about the Delegate Selection Plan and Global Presidential Primary. Organizations who we will reach out to include but are not limited to:

- PAGE (Progressive Action, Global Exchange)
- Black Women in Europe
- non-partisan advocacy groups for U.S. citizen abroad, e.g., American Women's Clubs
- the Global Women's March
- American Chambers of Commerce
- Indivisible
- various black, Hispanic, and LGBT fraternities and sororities with global activities
- collegiate alumni clubs
- aid workers
- international students
- religious missions

## **Documentation & Reporting**

Media outreach and coverage, as well as successful stakeholder engagement activities and social media reach, will be tracked and made available to the AAC by Country Committees, Chapters, Caucuses, or other subunits of Democrats Abroad.





Appendix 1  
Form B  
Certification of Petition with Requested Signature

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
**First Name**                      **Middle/Maiden Name**                      **Last Name (Suffix)**

hereby declare that:

1. I meet the requirements under Article II, Section I of the United States Constitution to stand for election to the office of President of the United States;
2. I am a candidate for the office of President of the United States in the Presidential Primary process of the Democratic Party;
3. I have previously filed with the Global Chair of Democrats the required Qualifying Form and paid the \$ 2,500 fee.
4. As a condition precedent to having my name placed on the ballot of the Democrats Abroad Global Presidential Primary, I hereby certify the attached list of at least 300 signatures of members of Democrats Abroad eligible to vote in the Democrats Abroad Global Presidential Primary.
5. Having met all the conditions precedent, I wish to have my name appear on the ballot for the Democrats Abroad Global Presidential Primary.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name (as it should appear on the ballot)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signatures

Sworn and subscribed before me,

This \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

[SEAL]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public



Appendix 1  
Form C

Declaration of Participation in the Global Presidential Primary

---

**Party Pledge of Support, Certification Slip, and Membership Form**

I certify that I am a U.S. Citizen residing temporarily or permanently outside the United States, and that I possess the qualifications required to vote in this Primary in that I will be an eligible voter on November 5, 2024. I am a member of Democrats Abroad, and I have the interest, welfare, and success of the Democratic Party of the United States and of Democrats Abroad at heart and subscribe to the substance, intent, and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States and the Charter of Democrats Abroad. I have not participated and will not participate in the delegate selection process (caucus, primary, or other method) of any other delegation to the 2024 Democratic National Convention or in the nominating process of any other political party for the corresponding elections, nor voted in any other manner in the Democrats Abroad Primary.

All fields must be completed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Abroad Address: \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Voting Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Appendix 1  
Form D  
Request for Recount

To the International Chair of Democrats Abroad:  
The following person has been appointed to serve as my representative.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate or Appointing Authority

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Date of Election

\_\_\_\_\_  
Time and Location of Recount

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name and Title of Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Recount Committee Chair

Notice: No mechanical or electronic means of recording images or sound and no wireless communication are allowed inside the room in which the recount is conducted within 30 feet of the entrance to the room, while the recount is in progress unless the representative agrees to disable or deactivate the device while present at the recount.

The following petition may be used for requesting a recount as provided by § 1.C.5.g of the Democrats Abroad 2024 Delegate Selection Plan.)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby request a recount for the Democrats Abroad Presidential Primary \_\_\_\_\_ [date of election and name of Voting Office(s)] \_\_\_\_\_.

Check one or more of the applicable grounds:

The number of votes tallied at the Voting Office exceeds the number of members of Democrats Abroad entitled to vote at such Voting Offices.

An election teller swears/affirms that he or she counted paper ballots incorrectly (must also be certified by the Voting Office Manager).

Identify each Voting Office for which a recount is being requested.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I have paid the required recount petition fee of [\$ \_\_\_\_\_] to [\_\_\_\_\_].

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Person(s) or agent of person(s) requesting recount





Appendix 1 | Form E

Delegate, Pledged PLEO Delegate, Alternate, and Standing Committee Candidate Filing Form

Individuals wishing to run for At-Large Delegate, PLEO Delegate, and/or National Convention Alternate must notify the International Chair of Democrats Abroad no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the Regional Convention or April 19, 2024 (whichever is earlier); and no later than April 19, 2024 for the Global Convention. The Election of National Convention Delegates will take place at the Regional Conventions between April 18 2024 and at least three (3) hours prior to the Global Convention on June 8, 2024, or at the Global Convention on June 8, 2024. National Convention Alternates will be elected at the Global Convention. Standing Committee Members will be elected by the National Convention Delegation.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pledged To: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Abroad Address: \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Voting Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

**Designate All Positions Sought**

	At-Large Delegate
	PLEO Delegate
	National Convention Alternate
	Rules Committee
	Credentials Committee
	Platform Committee

I hereby register to attend this Global Convention and certify that I am a U.S. Citizen residing temporarily or permanently outside the United States, and that I possess the qualifications required to vote at this Global Convention in that I will be an eligible voter on November 5, 2024. I am a member of Democrats Abroad and reside outside of the United States and its territories. I have the interest, welfare, and success of the Democratic Party of the United States and of Democrats Abroad at heart and subscribe to the substance, intent, and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States and the Charter of Democrats Abroad. I have not participated and will not participate in the delegate selection process (caucus, primary, or other method) of any other delegation to the 2024 Democratic National Convention or in the nominating process of any other political party for the corresponding elections.

My Candidate Statement of 150 words or less is attached hereto. This form and candidate statement must be completed and emailed to [chair@democratsabroad.org](mailto:chair@democratsabroad.org).

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Appendix 1

Form F

Declaration of Participation in a Regional Convention

---

**Party Pledge of Support and Certification Slip**

Circle only one (1) region

The Americas

Asia-Pacific

Europe, the Middle East, and Africa

I hereby register to attend this Regional Convention and certify that I am a U.S. Citizen residing temporarily or permanently outside the United States, and that I possess the qualifications required to vote at this Global Convention in that I will be an eligible voter on November 5, 2024. I am a member of Democrats Abroad and reside outside of the United States and its territories, and within the geographic subdivision noted above. I have the interest, welfare, and success of the Democratic Party of the United States and of Democrats Abroad at heart and subscribe to the substance, intent, and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States and the Charter of Democrats Abroad. I have not participated and will not participate in the delegate selection process (caucus, primary, or other method) of any other delegation to the 2024 Democratic National Convention or in the nominating process of any other political party for the corresponding elections.

I hereby declare my support for the following Presidential Preference Group:

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Fill in Pres. Candidate Name/Uncommitted]

All fields must be completed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Abroad Address: \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Voting Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Appendix 1  
Form G

Declaration of Participation in a Global Convention

---

**Party Pledge of Support and Certification Slip**

I hereby register to attend this Global Convention and certify that I am a U.S. Citizen residing temporarily or permanently outside the United States, and that I possess the qualifications required to vote at this Global Convention in that I will be an eligible voter on November 5, 2024. I am a member of Democrats Abroad and reside outside of the United States and its territories. I have the interest, welfare, and success of the Democratic Party of the United States and of Democrats Abroad at heart and subscribe to the substance, intent, and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States and the Charter of Democrats Abroad. I have not participated and will not participate in the delegate selection process (caucus, primary, or other method) of any other delegation to the 2024 Democratic National Convention or in the nominating process of any other political party for the corresponding elections.

I hereby declare my support for the following Presidential Preference Group:

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Fill in Pres. Candidate Name/Uncommitted]

All fields must be completed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Abroad Address: \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Voting Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Appendix 3  
Attachment A  
Summary of the Process and Timetable

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**See Section IX of Democrats Abroad's Delegate Selection Plan**

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Appendix 3  
Attachment B

List of Democrats Abroad's Organizational Units

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**The Americas, Region**

- **Argentina**, Country Committee
- **Brazil**, Country Committee
- **Canada**, Country Committee
- **Caribbean Islands**, Transnational Committee
- **Chile**, Country Committee
- **Colombia**, Country Committee
- **Costa Rica**, Country Committee
- **Dominican Republic**, Country Committee
- **Ecuador**, Country Committee
- **Guatemala**, Country Committee
- **Guyana**, Country Committee in Formation
- **Mexico**, Country Committee
- **Panama**, Country Committee
- **Peru**, Out of Compliance Country Committee

**Asia - Pacific, Region**

- **Australia**, Country Committee
- **China**, Country Committee
- **Hong Kong**, Country Committee
- **India**, Country Committee
- **Japan**, Country Committee
- **New Zealand**, Country Committee
- **The Philippines**, Out of Compliance Country Committee
- **Singapore (Lion City)**, Country Committee
- **Republic of Korea (South Korea)**, Country Committee
- **Taiwan**, Country Committee
- **Thailand**, Country Committee
- **Vietnam**, Out of Compliance Country Committee

**Europe, the Middle East, and Africa, Region**

- **Austria**, Country Committee
- **Belgium**, Country Committee
- **Czech Republic**, Country Committee
- **Denmark**, Country Committee
- **Finland**, Country Committee
- **France**, Country Committee
- **Germany**, Country Committee
- **Greece**, Country Committee
- **Hungary**, Country Committee
- **Ireland**, Country Committee
- **Italy**, Country Committee
- **Israel**, Country Committee
- **Kenya**, Country Committee
- **Luxembourg**, Country Committee
- **The Netherlands**, Country Committee
- **Norway**, Country Committee
- **Portugal**, Country Committee
- **Romania**, Country Committee
- **Russia**, Country Committee
- **South Africa**, Country Committee
- **Spain**, Country Committee
- **Sweden**, Country Committee
- **Switzerland**, Country Committee
- **United Arab Emirates**, Country Committee
- **Ukraine**, Country Committee
- **United Kingdom**, Country Committee



Appendix 3  
Attachment C

Party Chair's Certification of Affirmative Action Committee

---

I, Candice Kerestan, Global Chair of Democrats Abroad, certify that:

(1) the composition of the Affirmative Action Committee of Democrats Abroad complies with the requirements of Rules 5.C, 6.A, and 7 of the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2024 Democratic National Convention;

(2) the names, demographic data, and contact information of the Affirmative Action Committee members were submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the Democratic National Committee ("RBC") on March 1, 2023; and

(3) the notification to the RBC of the appointment of the members of the Affirmative Action Committee met the 15-day notice requirement of Regulation 2.2.J of the Regulations for the 2024 Democratic National Convention

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Appendix 3  
Attachment D  
Affirmative Action Committee Chair Certification

---

I, Tré Shawn Griffin-Noordermeer, in my capacity as Chair of the Democrats Abroad Affirmative Action Committee, certify that, in compliance with Rule 6.F of the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2024 Democratic National Convention, the Affirmative Action Committee reviewed the Delegate Selection Plan, including its affirmative-action-outreach plan and the numerical goals established therein, hereby being submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the Democratic National Committee on or before May 3, 2023.

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Appendix 3  
Attachment E  
Certification of Website Publication

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I, Candice Kerestan, International Chair of Democrats Abroad, certify that the proposed Delegate Selection Plan of Democrats Abroad was placed on the website of Democrats Abroad at [www.democratsabroad.org/draftdsp](http://www.democratsabroad.org/draftdsp) on March 6, 2023 for a 30-day public-comment period in compliance with Rules and Bylaws Committee Regulation 2.2.E.

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Appendix 3  
Attachment F

Certification of Compliance with 30-Day Public Comment Period

---

I, Candice Kerestan, International Chair of Democrats Abroad, certify that, in compliance with Rule 1.C and Regulation 2.2.F, Democrats Abroad's 2024 Delegate Selection Plan was subject to a thirty (30)-day public comment period, which began on March 6, 2023 and ended on April 5, 2023. The Delegate Selection Plan was also discussed during three Democrats Abroad Town Halls held online on March 21st, March 27th, and April 2nd.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Kerestan", is centered on the page. The signature is fluid and cursive in style.

---



Appendix 3  
Attachment G  
Certification of Public Comments

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The following public comments include all of the public comments received between March 6, 2023 and April 5, 2023 that were relevant to the draft Delegate Selection Plan, which was posted to the Democratic Party Committee Abroad's website throughout the 30-day public comment period.

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Appendix 3  
Attachment H  
Public Comments

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Michael Ramos, AUS

- Please \*KEEP\* the category of "veterans and military family members" in the DSP. It is long overdue in having a DA DSP which includes these persons among those delegate candidates with "diversity traits."

Julian Becker, GBR

- Voting Center Funding
  - I am afraid that the draft DSP does not take proper account of the campaign finance compliance policy promulgated from last year. In particular, it is now the position of those officials that country committees are not permitted to fundraise, hold monies locally, or expend monies associated with anything that deals with encouraging any member to vote in any election or assistance of any person to vote in the US. Given that position, the operation of a Voting Center, which would involve publication of ballots with the name of one or more Presidential candidates, and would have a voter registration table to assist people to request absentee ballots from their local election officials, would be mandated by the very drafters of this DSP to be funded from the DPCA and not country committee funds. Not only that, but country committees would not be able to enter into contracts for venues and similar expenses in their own names, as doing so would allow invoices to become enforceable against country committees and their bank accounts, which would, according to International Counsel, create unlawful disbursements from country committee resources.
  - Despite the foregoing, the DSP, on page 16, from line 6, states: "The respective in-country entity of Democrats Abroad shall be responsible for locating, staffing, and paying any costs associated with its Voting Center(s)." In order to resolve this issue, as well as the fact that country committees will not be able to enter into contracts so as to bind themselves in respect of Voting Centers unless and until there is approval from the DA International treasury to pay for them, I propose that the aforementioned sentence be stricken. Furthermore, as the ability of country committees to operate Voting Centers will ultimately be a function of approval by the International Treasury of appropriate funding and not unilateral action of the country committee, the assumption on page 15, lines 17 to 25 that a country committee is able to establish a Voting Center and simply notify arrangements is a false assumption. Therefore, I propose replacement with the following language:
  - "Each Country or Transnational Committee shall submit a proposal to set up Voting Center(s) at which in-person voting for the Global Primary shall be conducted. Each recognized Chapter within a Country or Transnational Committee shall propose to have at least one (1) Voting Center; a Country or Transnational Committee may establish additional Voting Centers. A Country or Transnational Committee without recognized Chapters must propose to set up at least one (1) Voting Center. Country Committees in Formation as well as Non-Country Committees are encouraged to propose to set up at



least one (1) Voting Center although this is not required. All proposals to set up a Voting Center must be submitted December 31, 2023, the proposal must meet the accessibility requirements in paragraph (f) below, and the proposal may not be withdrawn after December 31, 2023 except by waiver of the International Executive Committee of Democrats Abroad. In respect of all Voting Centers that are approved by the International Executive Committee, the Democratic Party Committee Abroad shall facilitate reasonable funding of the Voting Center, and the entity that submitted the proposal shall be bound to operate and staff the Voting Center according to the proposal.”

- Consequential changes must be made to lines 36 onward on page 15 to reflect that the country committee is incapable of establishing Voting Centers unilaterally because of its financial disempowerment.
- RCV Tabulation
  - I note that the DSP envisages allowing voters to rank candidates if there is more than one candidate. Rank-choice voting introduces a more complex and time-consuming tabulation process, particularly as it concerns counting second and subsequent choices.
  - I am concerned about the obligations placed upon the tabulators at Voting Centers. In particular, it is not clarified what their obligations will be in respect of the recording of all choices of each voter. It will only be known if second or subsequent choices will need to be considered if and when a candidate failed to meet the 15% threshold. Will it be the case that Voting Centers will be counting only first-choices immediately after the close of voting? Will they be entering every single ballot into a spreadsheet or form of some sort? The obligations will significantly affect the amount of time needed for tabulation, and those who plan to book venues will need to anticipate time for tabulation into their booking. For this reason, country committee leaders need to know the basic processes well in advance of making their plans, and this cannot be dismissed as an implementation issue that will somehow be resolved shortly before voting.
- Overall Implementation of RCV
  - I note that the DSP states on page 3 that the current process is not significantly different from the previous DSP. However, rank-choice voting is a significant change. It has not been stated by the Democrats Abroad International Officers what technical systems are proposed to be used to implement rank-choice voting, and how we will re-distribute votes to second or subsequent choices. While I am in favour of rank-choice voting in principle, it should only be adopted as a mandatory part of the DSP if we are confident that we can deliver.
  - I would suggest, as there are different forms of rank-choice voting, that the DSP specifically clarify that we are dealing with “optional preferential voting with instant runoff”.
- Data Protection and Consent
  - I note that all members of Democrats Abroad reside outside the United States, and we are affected accordingly by various regulations of the countries in which we reside. One of these key regulations is the EU’s General data Protection Regulation, which was also transposed into UK law prior to the UK’s exit from the EU. This governs the use of personal data, which is especially relevant to the information provided by voters for candidates for delegate and DNC member. It will also be relevant to the use of primary voters’ data.



- I would suggest that it be clarified in the DSP that delegate candidates will be requested to consent to the use of their data, and it will be specified in the application process where they are required to provide data to proceed and there the provision of their data is optional. In respect of name and gender, for example, the provision of information at the outset will likely be mandatory to enable the election to function at all. Similarly, voters should be given an explanation on their ballots how their data will be used and asked to consent to the information provided.
- In respect of other affirmative action data provided by candidates, however, such data must necessarily be optional, as many descriptors of such data is “special category data” under Article 9 and processing (including the collection and dissemination) is prohibited unless a specified exception applies; the only exception that could realistically apply in these circumstances would be consent. The data on political opinion in respect of candidate preference provided by voters and delegate candidate, will be essential for the process to function, but will also constitute special category data. I note the following from guidance of the UK Information Commissioner’s Office:
  - “All consent must involve a specific, informed and unambiguous indication of the individual’s wishes. The key difference is likely to be that explicit consent must be expressly confirmed in words which refer to the type of special category data involved, rather than by any other positive action.”

Shari Temple, DEU

- page 2 lines 6-7 - this states the voting will occurring between Mar 5-Mar 12 - but postal mail ballots can be sent earlier - might want to clean up the wording
- I like the idea of RCV however, there is no feasible way to do valid tabulations at the local level. There are a few dozen page/line references which I can send via email of all my concerns with sub-tabulations but doesn't make sense to put all of them here (way too many). Where would you like me to send them?
- p 3 line 21 - how are we going to deal with the 189 cross-border members? It's relatively easy for voting centers but what about if they email/mail their ballot. Do they count in the resident country or membership country?
- p8 lines 3-8 - how are the votes from out-of-compliance countries taken into account - just included in the global tabulation but excluded from the Global Primary??
- p9 line 28 - is there a definition for "reside outside the US" - i.e., for those that live part time abroad and part time in US, what is the percentage that counts - 10% abroad or over 50% abroad or ??
- p8 line 55 - what is the definition of 'automate status'
- p11 line 38 - what is the implication of "geographic location" in regards to DA
- p12 lines 30-36 - how can a country possibly tabulate results for RCV and report them. If 3 candidates, there are 9 numbers to report but that still does not reflect the RCV calculation - where the person with the most 1st choice votes is not necessarily the winner
- p13 lines 1-2 - how can the Excom possibly prevent someone from voting twice - I understand how to make sure the double voting is not counted twice but people resend emails twice by mistake all the time, vote again if not sure first one was counted, etc - I understand how to minimize that it is done twice (or more) but not how you can possibly 'prevent' it -



- p12 lines 30-36 - with RVC, I don't understand how the countries can tabulate - only count the number of ballots but not the results.
- p16 lines 4-8 - With the new FEC accounting, doesn't DA global have to pay for everything - perhaps out of the country's earmarked account but they country cannot pay (since clearly voting related).
- "p16 lines 35-43 - Again do not see how the countries can tabulate results. Will we do a lot of mini-RCV's and then a global one? And how are all the ballots going to be entered for the global RCV?
- p19 line 29 - recommend adding that electronic signatures are possible
- p21 line 1 - how do you determine percentage of votes with RCV?
- p22 lines 14-19 - how do you determine percentage of vote with RCV
- p23 lines 25-39 - why do you need multiple rounds of voting with RCV? How do you determine '15%' of vote with RCV?
- P 23 line 45 - we need to find software ASAP to make sure we know what to do by Oct 1, 2023
- p 26 line 21 - why in the world would we have the Non-CC voting rep ranked higher than CC voting reps (and other CC officers). Strongly recommend this new role be ranked between the country officers and chapter officers.
- p 46-48 Highly recommend having one table with ALL the deadlines outlined in the DSP in chronological order not only to have a good summary but to minimize the chance of missing a key deadlines.

Timothy Sipples, SGP

- "Page 2, Line 28"
  - I think the word "citizens" should be changed to "nationals." (Or "citizens and nationals.") All U.S. citizens are also U.S. nationals. U.S. nationals who are not U.S. citizens are the Americans born in American Samoa (including Swains Island), plus many of their children. I understand American Samoa selects and sends delegates to the Democratic National Convention, so Democrats Abroad presumably also serves American Samoans who are living outside the United States who wish to participate in the Global Primary.
  - My understanding is that only U.S. citizens are eligible to vote for President as a matter of federal election law, but the relevant criterion here is whether non-citizen nationals are eligible to participate in the Democratic Party's presidential nomination process, a process that casts a somewhat wider net and is a matter for the Party to decide. And the Party has decided: they are already eligible to participate in American Samoa, in that territory's Democratic primary. So I assume Democrats Abroad should/must welcome them as well to be consistent with the Party's inclusive participation decision, just as American Samoa's Democratic Party would welcome Democrats Abroad members who move to American Samoa. (The same should be true of other states and territories, I would think, but that's a separate matter for those states and territories and their delegate selection plans. It'd be helpful to mention this issue to them if possible since it'd be odd if Democrats Abroad adheres to Party participation principles while others don't.)
  - I haven't checked elsewhere in the plan whether "citizens" (or similar language) appears, but obviously this change should be consistent."

Robert Broughton, CAN



- "Page 2, line 8: I am glad that ranked choice voting is being used.
- Page 6, line 32: Am I correct in understanding that there will be only one ""superdelegate""? If so, good. If not, eight superdelegates is WAY too many. One is sufficient. Remember, the whole idea of superdelegates is to provide spaces for governors, senators, and other high officeholders. DA doesn't have any of those.
- Page 11, lines 36-38: DA has gone overboard in affirmative action. Under the rules used in 2020, it was near-impossible for a senior white heterosexual non-military person with no disabilities to get elected. "
- Page 47: I see that there are still eight superdelegates. That is seven too many. The intention of superdelegates is to provide spaces for governors, congresspeople, and other high-level officeholders. DA has none of those.

Daniel Shambaugh, VNM

- Page 3, Line 5. Why is secret balloting prohibited? Fear of retribution may lead to people not voting for the best person for the role. That is an obstacle to be overcome. If the Democratic party is really going to stand as a model for the country and the world, then we need to walk the walk.

Nevin Weiner, PRT

- Plainly a lot of care and thought has gone into composing this draft, but for one who is inexperienced and unfamiliar with the DA rules which are referenced and who lacks understanding of the terminology, the document confuses rather than clarify. It's like reading United States tax code. You have to be an expert to understand it. Can it be simplified? Shortened?

Sarah Whitman, ITA

- It looks fine

Alan Cheliek, GBR

- Line by line comments follow. Many of these come from the introduction of RCV as the voting process for voters in the GPP itself. Also, as a general rule, RCV is an umbrella term that covers many different methods. In my comments I presume that some form of single transferrable vote method would be used. However the choice of method should be specified either directly in this document or reserved for the global excom or other governing body to take later.
  - P2L4-7: Super Tuesday!
  - P2L8-16: Calls for Ranked Choice Voting. RCV only required if \*more than two\* candidates submit letters by Jan 3, 2024.
    - Q: Later on, "Uncommitted" shows up as an option. Is "Uncommitted" a "candidate" for this purpose?
    - Q: Would "Uncommitted" be ranked against presidential candidates in the list of choices?
    - Q: Which specific RCV method is being proposed? Either specify here or reserve the decision to a named body.
  - P2L11: Elsewhere in the document the word "preference" is used rather than "choice".
  - P2L40: Says contributions may be "made".



- Q: Can they be “requested?”
- P3L17-21: Allows same-day registration (by which I suppose we mean same-day joining of DA)
  - Q Will same-day registrants vote a provisional ballot in any or all circumstances? (e.g. to allow for the usual course of validation of their membership)
  - Q: On line 20 should there be something to the effect “subject to any challenge” to take into account the challenge procedure outlined later?
- P3L27 (and elsewhere): Ballots can be voted by mail, fax, or email.
  - Q: Can we allow voting purely electronically, for example by online form? This could make tabulation easier.
- P3L33: process not significantly different from previous
  - Q: What research was done into any added complication of using RCV to indicate that this is not “significantly” different from previous plans?
- P3L35-38: ... party affiliation changes ... with their voting state
  - Q: Is it permitted for a voter to vote in the DA GPP and also vote in a Republican closed primary for non-presidential races in their state?
  - Q: Is DA committing to offering help and/or advice to U.S. Citizens living abroad with the process of interacting with their voting “state” or LEO?
- P3L41-42: allocation ... will be locked in ... subject to recount
  - Q: Would “determined” be a better term than “locked in” as by the end of the sentence it is actually subject to change if a recount changed numbers?
- P4L1-2: ... ballots will be securely preserved ...
  - Q: Is it possible to bound the time for this preservation?
  - Q: Will the ballots be securely destroyed at the end of the preservation time?
  - Q: Do these provisions apply to any electronic copies made of the ballots?
- We may need additional provisions in these areas for GDPR compliance purposes, to the extent that we maintain electronic copies of ballots. Political information is special category data for GDPR.
- P4L13-14: ... ensure accessibility, specifically including ... people with limited English proficiency.
  - Q: Are we committing to having ballots in languages other than English? It’s not clear what this requires us to do.
- P4L23-26: ... qualified for membership ... unqualified persons will be contacted ... verify whether they continue to qualify for ... voting in the GPP
  - Q: What does “qualified” mean, if different from “verified”, as specified in our charter and membership count practices? No member should have been allowed to join if they were not qualified.
  - Q: Will non-verified members (i.e., those who qualified upon joining but have had no contact in the past four years) have access to the GPP ballot?
  - Q: Does the mere fact of requesting or returning a ballot, which would give “verified” status to that member by updating their last verified date in the database, suffice to “qualify” the member under this clause?
- P4L36 ...received by 11:59PM Pacific Standard Time on March 12, 2024...”
  - Q: DST starts on March 10, 2024. Should this be Pacific Daylight Time?
- P5L28: ... pursuant to section 2.1.c ...





- Q: This document doesn't comport to that numbering scheme, for example this occurs in section II.A.2. Is this an internal reference which needs to be updated or an external one?
- P5L37: ... precedent to ballot access ...
  - Q: While true, payment of the access fee is needed for two stages of the ballot access procedure, in the first instance to get access to the online forum and in the second instance to appear on the ballot itself. Is that clear enough from the context of the previous paragraph? Of course, the candidate could collect the signatures using some different mechanism than the online forum.
- P5L38-39: ... campaign must pay ... to Democrats Abroad ...
  - Q: Should there be anything here about the manner of payment, even if only to say "in a manner stipulated by the International Chair (or Treasurer)"?
- P6L21-25: ...International Chair shall so notify ... members [of a candidate's withdrawal] ... as soon as practicable.
  - Q: Are there circumstances in which a withdrawal would cause the candidate's name to be removed from the ballot? Is that allowed or required? What is the timeframe on any such action?
- P7L2-3: ... preference falling below ... fifteen percent ... shall not be awarded any delegates or alternates.
  - Q: Given P2L8-16 which stipulates RCV, should this say that the next-preference votes cast for any such candidate will be used for the remaining candidates until no candidate falls below a threshold of 15%?
- P7L4-8: If a presidential candidate has officially notified the International Chair in writing that he/she/they is/are no longer a candidate at the time of the Global Convention, then his/her/their allocation of delegates will be proportionately divided among presidential preferences entitled to an allocation
  - Q: Again, given RCV, should this section instead say that the candidate will be removed from the tabulation, and the next-preference votes of the voters who had voted for that candidate will be considered?
  - Q: Would this reallocation happen before any redistribution in the previous section had happened (due to a candidate failing to reach 15%)?
  - Q: Given that a late withdrawal (one after May 12th but before the Global Convention) may change the number of viable candidates in the previous section, should there be some time limit on when withdrawals will cause a re-run of the RCV voting rounds? Otherwise a withdrawal shortly before the convention could cause delay in getting a result in time.
- P7L18-21: ... re-tabulate ... excluding the votes ... with percentages ... that fall below 15%.
  - Q: Again, should this specify an RCV-specific method? This does not indicate that next-preference votes from the individual voters will be considered.
- P8L45-46: ... receiving the most votes worldwide ...
  - Q: Does this need to be specific that the votes discussed here are after the RCV system has been run until next-preference votes for all withdrawn candidates and those candidates falling below the 15% threshold have been re-allocated?
- P8L3-5: ... most votes worldwide ... second most votes worldwide ...



- Q Same as above re RCV
- P14L36: ... see that the ballots are accurately tabulated ...
  - Q: Using RCV, any local center cannot run any additional rounds of tabulation since the 15% threshold is a global one. What tabulation results are to be done and reported? Is it the first preference votes in percentage and/or number of votes by candidate? That seems to be the most sensible option.
- P14L43-45 ... tabulation ...
  - Q: As above, RCV considerations.
- P16L35-40: ... tabulated ...
  - Q: As per comments on P14, in the presence of RCV no individual Country or Transnational Committee can fully tabulate the results of the election as they will not know which candidates have failed to reach the global 15% threshold and would therefore be removed from the count and the voters next-preference vote used. So, what is the ""tabulation"" comprised of in this section?
- P17L24-45: Tabulation of Results ...
  - Q: Doesn't this need to take into account the needs of RCV, and the changes that would be needed in distributing the tabulation between the voting centres and the global committee of tellers? The global committee is the only place where candidates could be eliminated based on the 15% threshold and next-preference votes cast. There is a nice description of the RCV voting process with a 15% threshold on P22L12-28 and P23L23-39 in reference to the DNC election that could be modified for use here.
  - Q: Are we confident that the 13 days between the end of voting on March 12 and the requirement to provide delegate allocations on March 25 is sufficient time to complete the global tabulation process under RCV?
- P37L31-35: All steps in the delegate selection process, including the filing of presidential candidates, must take place within the calendar year of the Democratic National Convention, except with respect to the implementation of the Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan, and as otherwise provided in the Rules or specifically allowed by the RBC (Rule 1.F; Rule 12.B).
  - Q: On P5 many steps in the presidential candidate ballot access path, including payment of the ballot access fee and gathering of signatures, are to take place in 2023. In fact it would be impractical for a candidate to complete the steps in the first three days of 2024. Is this a contradiction with section J on P37?
- P46L21: Missing dates in the 4/ /24, several places in the table
  - Q: What are the correct dates?
- P46L21: Regional Conventions can be scheduled as early as 4/18/24 yet the qualifying forms can be submitted until 4/19/24.
  - Q: Can a qualifying form be submitted up to the date of the convention? This seems inconsistent with the requirement to send the list of candidates to the presidential candidates ten days before the Regional Convention."



- "The Delegate Selection Plan in its current state does not address unintentional disenfranchisement of party members in previous years due to the following text on page 2 starting on line 43:
- Section I.C.1.c. provides;
  - c. No person shall participate or vote in the nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate who also participates in the nominating process of any other delegation to the 2024 Democratic National Convention or of any other political party for the corresponding presidential elections. (Rule 2.E.)
- This same clause was used in previous years to disenfranchise our own regional electors and representatives from participating in Democrats Abroad delegate elections even though they had been elected to serve as representatives, because they voted in their home state Presidential Primary for President of the United States, rather than the Democrats Abroad primary for the President of the United States for President of the United States.
- To add further clarification to the effect of this text, if you vote for example in Massachusetts, you would thereupon be barred from participating in the DPCA Delegate Selection Process, even if you had been an elected representative to choose Democrats Abroad's delegate and volunteered for years as an activist in Democrats Abroad.
- This very situation happened to our former Vice Chair in DA Japan in 2020, Gordon Gaul, removing our only African American representative in Japan at the time from being allowed to vote. As someone who served alongside Gordon for many years, I know the voters in Japan chose him to represent them despite him being a Massachusetts primary voter. Gordon did not attempt to vote twice, nor did he participate in the actions of being an elector, endorsing a candidate, or running directly in another delegation for Massachusetts. He simply, intuitively, filled out his entire ballot for his home state in Massachusetts and lost his rights to be a regional elector in Democrats Abroad despite his outstanding service to the organization and being elected to represent Democrats Abroad Japan at the time.
- I think this course of events was unbecoming of Democrats Abroad - we all are out here to Get Out the Vote for American citizens around the world, and penalizing someone for voting their full ballot is contrary to our mission. As long as someone is voting, it should not matter if we reach them through the Global Presidential Primary or their home-state primary. I would like the drafters to consider the following change to address this issue. Let us rewrite Section I.C.1.c and break it into two sections, and add as follows or consider similar language to the following:
  - c. No person shall participate in the nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate who also participates in the nominating process of any other delegation to the 2024 Democratic National Convention or of any other political party for the corresponding presidential elections. (Rule 2.E.) For the purposes of Section 1.C.1.c, ""participate"" shall not be interpreted to include the act of voting for President of the United States.
  - d. No person shall vote in the nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate who also votes in the nominating process of any other delegation to the 2024 Democratic National Convention or of any other political party for the corresponding presidential elections. (Rule 2.E.)
- I believe this would remedy the change and more accurately reflect the unique set of circumstances that Democrats Abroad and its members face and advocate for everyday. The ruling that disqualified Gordon suggests an endorsement of such a change by Tom Schmid,



former International Counsel of Democrats Abroad and previous Chair of the Asia Pacific Credentials and Rules Committee, who wrote in his concurring majority opinion:

- ""Electors serve Democrats Abroad and earn their role as electors through the work they put into their country committees...I have great faith that the impact of Section I.C.1.c on electors will be mitigated in 2024, and we will not encounter this issue again.""
- The Delegate Selection Plan was not intended to disqualify devoted Democrats Abroad members from continuing to support and participate in the organization, and upholding the act of doing so would be of great detriment to the goals of the Democratic Party Committee Abroad.
- See Attachments Below For Further Reference
  - Challenge to the Disqualification of The Regional Convention Elector Status of Gordon Gaul IV and All Others Like Him
    - Submitted to: Asia Pacific Credentials and Rules Committee
    - Submitted by: John A. Baumlin Jr. (Chair, DA-Japan), Sara Stearns (Counsel, DA Japan), Kent Getsinger (Chair, DA-Australia), Dave Hall (Counsel, DA-Taiwan)
    - Context
    - A number of members of Democrats Abroad voted in their respective state presidential primaries rather than in the Global Presidential Primary, believing that doing so would not disqualify them from acting as electors in their respective Regional Conventions and in the Global Convention. The Asia Pacific Credentials and Rules Committee recently notified these members that they are disqualified from participating as electors in the Asia Pacific Regional Convention pursuant to Section I.C.1.c of the Delegate Selection Process (DSP).
      - Section I.C.1.c. provides;
      - c. No person shall participate or vote in the nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate who also participates in the nominating process of any other delegation to the 2020 Democratic National Convention or of any other political party for the corresponding presidential elections. (Rule 2.E.)
    - Rule 2.E. of the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2020 Democratic National Convention (Rules), cited in the DSP section above, provides that “No person shall participate or vote in the nominating process for a Democratic presidential candidate who also participates in the nominating processes of any other party for the corresponding elections.”
    - Argument
    - Based on the text of the DSP, the Rules, and the documents that govern the Delegate Selection Process (including the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, the Call for the 2020 Democratic National Convention, the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2020 Democratic National Convention, the Charter of Democrats Abroad) (see DSP Section A.2), voting in a state presidential primary does not disqualify an individual from participating as an elector in a Democrats Abroad Delegate Selection Convention.
    - First, voting in another primary does not amount to "participating in the nominating process of any other delegation to the 2020 Democratic National Convention." (DSP Section I.C.1.c.) (emphasis added). The nominating process



of any delegation is an act or an instance of appointing or submitting a name for candidacy to that delegation. Participating in the nominating process of another delegation would include such actions as being an elector, endorsing a candidate, or running directly in another delegation. It does not include voting in a presidential primary.

- The language of the section supports this interpretation. The section indicates that “no person shall participate or vote” in the nomination process “who also participates in the nominating process” for another delegation. (DSP Section I.C.1.c.) (emphasis added). The language suggests that participating and voting are two distinct activities; voting is not participating. That the word “vote” appears in the former clause but not the latter suggests that voting is not a disqualifying activity. Further, the section cites to Rule 2.E, which speaks only to disqualification based on participation in the nominating process for another political party. The section does not reference any other rules or regulations that speak to the issue of disqualification based on an individual’s participation in the nominating process of any other delegation. Thus, the rule cannot be interpreted to mean more than what the text itself says. The drafting history of the DSP also supports this interpretation. Where a member of the public suggested that the language be amended to include “any other state party primary process” as part of the disqualifying activity, the DSP drafting committee declined to incorporate this language. (See Public Comment No. 12).
- Here, the disqualified members did not engage in activities that amount to participation in the nominating process of another delegation. They merely voted in their respective state primaries. On the contrary, as elected representatives of Democrats Abroad, these members have demonstrated their commitment to participating in the process for Democrats Abroad. For example, one of the disqualified electors, Gordon Gaul IV, signed onto creating the current DSP, is a DPCA Representative, and former Vice Chair of DA Japan. The DSP was not intended to disqualify members like him from serving as voting representatives.
- According to the Credential Committee, the disqualified members were on notice of their disqualification when they signed a Declaration that imposed additional restrictions not set forth in the DSP or other governing documents. The Declaration states in relevant part:
  - I have not participated and will not participate in the delegate selection process (caucus, primary, or other method) of any other delegation to the 2020 Democratic National Convention or in the nominating process of any other political party for the corresponding elections, nor voted in any other manner in the Democrats Abroad Primary.
  - This language, if not read in alignment with the DSP and other governing documents, imposes additional requirements without having the authority to do so. As explained above, voting— whether in a caucus, primary, or other method—is not considered participating in the delegate nomination process under the DSP. Electors sign this Declaration in order to effectuate Section B.1.a of the DSP, which requires:



- Participation in the Primary shall be open to any person who: (i) is a member of Democrats Abroad; (ii) has the interests, welfare, and success of the Democratic Party of the United States and of Democrats Abroad at heart; (iii) subscribes to the substance, intent, and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States and the Charter of Democrats Abroad; (iv) will participate in the Primary in good faith and wishes to participate as a Democrat; and (v) will be eighteen (18) years of age or older on or before November 3, 2020. Each individual participating in the Primary must sign a Declaration to the effect of the preceding sentence in the form of the Declaration set forth as Attachment 10 hereto. A person who wishes to participate in the Primary and is not a member of Democrats Abroad must first join Democrats Abroad by completing a membership form prior to participating in the Primary.
- Insofar as the Declaration requires electors to promise that they have not voted in their state primaries, the Declaration goes beyond the text of the DSP and subjects electors to additional requirements that neither the text or the DSP nor the drafter's intent support.
- The purpose of the DSP, in line with Democratic Party values, is to promulgate guidelines to ensure a fair delegate selection process. Every elector at the Convention was allowed to vote in the presidential primaries. To exclude some of these people because they chose to cast their votes in a state primary instead of the Global Presidential Primary runs against these principles of fairness. The DSP was not intended to arbitrarily disqualify devoted Democrats Abroad members from continuing to support and participate in the organization, and upholding the act of doing so would be of great detriment to the goals of the Democratic Party Committee Abroad.
- CONCURRING OPINION: by Tom Schmid, Chair
  - I join the majority opinion, but write separately to address the interpretation of Section I.C.1.c of the Delegate Selection Plan (DSP). The parties agree that the operative text of the DSP is found in Section I.C.1.c, which states: "No person shall participate or vote in the nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate who also participates in the nominating process of any other delegation to the 2020 Democratic National Convention or of any other political party for the corresponding presidential elections. (Rule 2.E.)" Based on this, the challengers assert that "voting in another primary does not amount to 'participating in the nominating process of any other delegation to the 2020 Democratic National Convention.'" Challenge, at 1.
  - In interpreting the DSP, the Committee must first attempt to ascribe words their plain meaning. If the rule is ambiguous, i.e. subject to more than one reasonable interpretation, the Committee may review other sources to resolve the ambiguity. See Interpretive Ruling 2018-1 (DPCA Exec. Comm., Jan. 4, 2018). I find the text of Section LC.Le to be ambiguous by the narrowest of margins. Specifically, the phrase "nominating process of any other delegation" could be read two ways: the Presidential nominating process of another state party (i.e., delegation to the 2020 Democratic National Convention) or the nominating process for the delegates themselves.





# DEMOCRATS ABROAD

- The ambiguity, and the challengers' confusion, arises due to a misunderstanding of what is meant by "nominating process". The "nominating process" serves but one purpose: nomination of the Democratic Party candidate for the President of the United States. The phrase "nominating process" appears 16 times in the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2020 Democratic National Convention (adopted Aug. 25, 2018). In each instance, the phrase is related to the overall Presidential nominating process, not a narrowly focused delegate nominating process. Delegate Selection Rules, at Rule 2.E, G, H.2.d, J.1, K.6; Rule 12.A; Rule 15.A-D; Rule 21.C.I.a.
- Again, there is but one "nominating process". The delegate selection process of a state party is the way in which Democratic voters within the jurisdiction of the state party express their preferences for the Democratic nominee for president. This process begins, in the case of Democrats Abroad, with voting in the Presidential primary and continues with the selection of delegates at conventions. Delegates are proportionally assigned to Democrats Abroads' Global and Regional Conventions, based on the cumulative preference vote for each Presidential candidate in the Global Presidential Primary. See generally Delegate Selection Rule 14 (Fair Reflection of Presidential Preferences). Consequently, the GPP is directly related to, and a part of, the delegate selection process. Moreover, this primary process is referred to in the Delegate Selection Rules as the "first-determining step". See e.g. Delegate Selection Rule, 2.K.5 ("... the allocation of national delegates [must] be locked in at the final expression of preference at the first determining step, as determined by the State's Plan, subject to recount.") The first-determining step is clearly the initial stage of a process that leads toward the determination of the presidential nominee.
- Thus, despite some initial ambiguity, an understanding that the phrase "nominating process" applies to the entire delegate selection process provides clarity in the interpretation of Section LC.Le. Properly interpreted, the rule states: No person shall participate or vote in the nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate who also participates in the nominating process [for the Democratic presidential candidate] of any other [State Democratic Party].
- A careful examination of the rule demonstrates the challengers' flawed logic. The rule lays out two fundamental elements. The first is "participating or voting in the nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate." Challenger Gaul, for example, satisfied this element by voting in the Massachusetts Democratic presidential primary. The second element is "participating in the nominating process [for the Democratic presidential candidate] of any other [State Democratic Party]". Challenger Gaul would clearly satisfy this element by participating in the Democrats Abroad AP Regional Convention (as well as the Global Convention) as an elector for at-large National Convention delegates. Reading the rule in this manner clearly demonstrates that voting in a state presidential primary bars participation in the first- or subsequent-determining steps of other state parties.
- Given that the aforementioned logic is detrimental to the challengers, they attempt to reverse it. The challengers argue that because Gaul did not vote for a



delegate in Massachusetts (instead voting for his presidential preference), he is now entitled to "participat[ e] or vot[ e ]" in the Democrats Abroad nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate. Applying this logic, Gaul gets to participate in the presidential primary in Massachusetts, and he can also vote in the DA Global Presidential Primary, participate in the selection of DA's delegates, or both! This interpretation of the DSP is patently unreasonable, inconsistent with the principle of one person, one vote, and opens the door to voting in multiple state primaries by unilaterally declaring the participation in one Presidential primary as being unrelated to the selection of delegates.

- As explained above, the minor ambiguity found in Section I.C. 1.c is adequately explained by understanding that there is only one "nominating process" and that process is for the purpose of determining the Democratic Party nominee for the President of the United States. Because the challengers attempted to participate in this single process in two different party jurisdictions, they were properly disqualified as electors at the Asia-Pacific Regional Convention.
  - There is no doubt that the disqualification of electors for voting in state primaries is harsh. The drafters of the DSP have good reason to require delegate candidates to "buy into" the entire Democrats Abroad delegate selection process. Democrats Abroad's National Convention delegates are expected, in addition to supporting their presidential preference group, to walk the Convention floor and promote both Democrats Abroad and the interests of overseas voters. It is, therefore, reasonable to require delegates to exclusively participate in our delegate selection process, including perhaps an affirmative requirement to participate in the Global Presidential Primary. But this reasoning need not be extended to electors, as the text of Section I.C. 1.c clearly does by the phrase "no person".
  - Electors serve Democrats Abroad and earn their role as electors through the work they put into their country committees. While they may be prohibited from running for delegate by participating in a state primary, they should not be prohibited from representing the constituents of their country committees. However, the role of this Committee is to apply the law, not to draft it. Section I.C. 1.c, and the rest of the DSP, was approved by the DPCA Executive Committee, the DPCA itself, and the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee. I have great faith that the impact of Section I.C. 1.c on electors will be mitigated in 2024, and we will not encounter this issue again. But it would be an abuse of the responsibility placed in this Committee to supplant the heavily deliberated rules of the DSP with this Committee's own judgment, simply to obtain a politically preferred outcome. Holding the DSP in such disregard would endanger the integrity of our democratic processes by inculcating an organizational tradition of non-compliance and disregard for the rule of law.
  - For these reasons, I concur with the majority.
- (If the formatting of this comment is improper due to the submission medium, please use the following link for this comment's intended formatting.)
  - [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1P\\_jp\\_tXmh3Uy5-SACgGr1cuc7Qc6420MLvO0hlw9KNQ/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1P_jp_tXmh3Uy5-SACgGr1cuc7Qc6420MLvO0hlw9KNQ/edit)





- If anyone would like to engage in further discussion about this comment, please mail me at [jab.democratsabroad@gmail.com](mailto:jab.democratsabroad@gmail.com)"

Linda Adeson, GBR

- 1. Page 2 line 8: Why are we switching to RCV?
- 2. Why is the 2024 global meeting in June and not in May as we had previously had it?
- 3. page 42 Where are the estimated demographic composition numbers derived from?

Art Schankler, SRB

- Page 1 - Line 5 - Do we need to take into account that we may have more delegates?
- Page 1 - Line 36. Why is this not in consultation with the rest of the ExCom?
- Page 2 - Line 6 - Suggest we add "or by other means of electronic voting". Some may not like it, but i think we should keep the option open.
- Page 2 - Line 6 - Should be 'in-person voting' will take place between March 5 and 12.
- Page 2 - Line 15. Somehow this seems sort of condescending in this context. Affirmative Action is designed to encourage voting and participation by historically underrepresented groups. This kind of implies that they need more help in understanding how to use RCV.
- Page 2 - Line 35. Does this mean on or before March 12, or March 5, should be clarified. I would suggest March 12.
- Page 3 - Line 5. Prohibited by what? Not sure that the DA Charter actually prohibits this, "Public elections open to inspection" is what is in the Charter. But if this is what is meant, then it should say "prohibited by the DA Charter". Otherwise one might think it is prohibited by Democratic Party rules, which they are not.
- Page 4 - Line 34. Again, not sure why this date is not 45 days in advance of the Primary date, as it is for overseas voters in every other election.
- Page 4 - Line 36. I believe this date is in error. Should be March 22.
- Page 5 - Line 22. Why can members sign more than one petition. Unless a candidate withdraws, not sure why this is allowed.
- Page 7 - Shouldnt there be a discussion of the mechanics of RCV here?
- Page 11 - Line 32 - Why are women included here if elsewhere the requirements clearly state gender equality. What does giving priority to women actually mean? Seems inappropriate here.
- Page 15 - Line 16. Here as in other places, if electronic voting remains an option that is to be preserved, it should be included here as a possible method of voting for both those at a voting center and those who are not.
- Page 16 - Line 8, Suggest adding "costs from funds allocated to a CC account"
- Page 16 - Line 21. Why can't ballots be made available later - if someone asks for one later. Publicity around the GPP should encourage non-members to apply to vote - which will likely come after February 26, I dont understand the rationale for the latter date - and of course I dont understand the rationale for the earlier date - given that some voters may need to mail their ballot to a location in another country/continent.
- Page 16 - Line 28. This date should be March 22, in accordance with our suggested deadlines for elections in states.
- Page 16 - Line 44 - Costs paid for from CC accounts in the DA bank account
- Page 17 - Line 4 - Why not earlier. First delivery dates of emailed ballots are not used in stateside elections for overseas voters.



- Page 17 - Line 45 - this date seems too early, if mailed ballots are received by March 22
- Page 19 - Line 19. Do we really want to mandate written signed ballots.
- Page 19 - Line 40 Do we need to specify the rules for selecting delegates, e.g., the delegate must get a majority of votes? RCV to be used? Etc.
- Page 21 - Line 43 Shouldnt this be a majority of the votes cast - what if people are attending but not voting.
- Page 22 - Line 16. Why is a 15% threshold used here? This seems to be a mistake, as only one candidate is being elected, it seems there is no need for a 15% threshold.
- Page 23 - Line 21 - Why is there a reference to a "specified number". Earlier it says delegates elected at the Regional Convention will be selected one at a time. So there is no specified number. The number is 1. And subsequent paragraphs which describe the 15% threshold again are misplaced, as one delegate is selected in each round of voting (so that gender balance and AA goals can be pursued.)
- Page 26 - line 20 - Why do NCC reps get only the votes equal to the smallest CC? Shouldnt they get whatever percentage votes from their NCC region voted. Isn't that the formula used in the Regional Conventions for NCC reps? Yes, it potentially gives them a lot of votes, but so be it.
- Page 27 - Line 11 - Don't we need to spell out how DNC members are elected. Charter doesn't give much detail. One by one in separate rounds, for example? RCV? Majority of those voting?
- Page 28 = line 24. I would have said that other former elected Democratic officials should rank higher. FWIW, I think NCC reps are where they should be.
- Page 39 - Line 7 . There should be a definition of "military family".
- Page 42 - Table below Line 22. I don't understand how these numbers were derived, e.g. Black and Hispanic. 21% of 21 delegates is closer to 4. For Youth, 33% of 21 is 7. For VMF, 7% of 21 is 1.47.
- Page 46 - Line Shouldnt there be a description of how the presidential preference allocations will be made, meeting the threshold for delegates, etc.
- Page 2 - Line 8. It really seems like there needs to be more description of the RCV process to be followed. E.g. In order to determine those candidates meeting the 15% threshold, the denominator shall remain constant and represent the total number of votes cast in the first round.

#### Will Bakker, LUX

- "Thank you for the opportunity to make comments easily and openly. I have two brief comments, made with great respect for those who did the difficult work of specifying a complex and unique, grassroots-based system within a set of rules designed for a very different kind of state party.
  - 1. I applaud Democrats Abroad's continued movement toward representation goals that reflect our actual constituency. Despite the scarcity of reliable information, the goals for 2024 reflect the progressive elimination of exclusionary methods and mindsets regarding who lives abroad as U.S. citizens.
  - 2. The 2020 Delegate Selection Process included the imposed boilerplate of page 2, lines 42-45 (section 1.C.1.c). This created a problem of ambiguity and interpretation, at the last moment, regarding the eligibility of many members of our organization's soul, the local leaders of Country Committees (and now TCs). The official interpretation of the time was regrettably cautious.
- We can avoid the same problem from arising in 2024 and causing similar disrespect and disenfranchisement for our leaders. I ask that the DPCA consider adding words like the following



to a different part of the DSP, page 19, line 5 ("Participation in Regional Conventions"): "casting a ballot in the first determining step of any other state shall not disqualify a Regional Elector from participation in a Regional Convention." This kind of clause would prevent someone from participating as a party leader in more than one DSP, without punishing the choice to vote (deliberately or without knowledge of the prohibition) in important down-ballot primaries in their voting state."

Rachel Eugster, CAN

- "Two comments. First, regarding B.3.b. requiring each recognized Chapter of a Country Committee to set up at least one voting center: this is rather frighteningly stringent. Voting Centers require a certain minimum number of volunteers, and even recognized Chapters can be challenged to field the requisite number. There have been occasions when a chapter has been carried by one or two volunteers with fulltime jobs. I strongly recommend that the "must" in this clause be softened to something more like "shall strive to."
- If this language was designed to ensure that a Country Committee's representative strength will be demonstrated, I suggest that can be addressed by perhaps adding a sentence to require that the number of voting centers held within a country committee equal or exceed the number of recognized chapters in that country committee. Thus, stronger and more active chapters can hold two or more, relieving smaller, less active chapters of meeting a responsibility that is out of their reach.
- Secondly, a global question: references to voting means throughout the document seem to be restricted to "in person, email, or fax." This doesn't seem to allow for real-time electronic voting (such as the vote conducted at the regional level to elect our delegates during the last cycle). Should this phrase be expanded to acknowledge other electronic means? "

William Cross, CAN

- I'm likely missing something, but on page 22, sections ii & iii suggest that "if any candidate is below the viability threshold" then the last place candidate is made inactive and their votes reallocated. What if no candidate is below the viability threshold? (the next section says the process will continue removing last place candidates until a winner emerges, but this suggests that the previous section applies.)

Merrill Oates, HUN

- "All Presidential Preference voting should be done entirely via an on-line voting platform. §III.B.1; §III.B.3.a; §III.B.4, 5
  - DA recently successfully ran the Non-CC Voting Representative election using a Ranked Choice ballot, with all votes cast via a secure and verified on-line voting platform. We also provided a back-up process for submitting a "paper" (printed and scanned PDF) ballot, but all voters were able to cast their votes via the on-line platform. The DA GPP ballot has always required personal identifying information so we do not have either the security or technical obstacles that prevent using an on-line platform when voting a secret ballot. An on-line voting process will significantly reduce the barriers to entry and expand voting participation while remaining just as secure and verifiable as the scanned Paper ballots that have been used in the past."
- "Exclude DNC Delegate Elections from Ranked Choice Voting §III.C.6.a.5; §III.D.1.c



- I applaud the adoption of Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) for both the Presidential Preference Vote and for the election of Global Convention Delegates. However, I ask that RCV not be applied to the election of our DNC members. The election of DA DNC members is a rather intimate process where each of the candidates are likely to be well known to the voters, and preferences are not simply an abstract general preference of one candidate vs. all others, but closely connected to which other DNC members are candidates, and which have already been elected. It is important therefore, for DNC members to be elected in a series of individual election rounds, rather than with a single Ranked Choice ballot."
- "Exclude DNC Member Elections from Ranked Choice Voting §III.C.6.a.5; §III.D.1.c
  - I applaud the adoption of Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) for both the Presidential Preference Vote and for the election of Global Convention Delegates. However, I ask that RCV not be applied to the election of our DNC Members who serve a 4-year term. The election of DA DNC members is a rather intimate process where each of the candidates are likely to be well known to the voters, and preferences are not simply an abstract general preference of one candidate vs. all others, but closely connected to which other DNC members are candidates, and which have already been elected. It is important therefore, for DNC members to be elected in a series of individual election rounds, rather than with a single Ranked Choice ballot."
- "Combine GPP Vote, DA Membership Join, and FPCA Ballot Request into a Single On-line Platform §III.B.1
  - Effort should be made – both in the written DSP, and in our technical integration work afterwards – to combine into a single process and platform each of the 3 major steps that we want voters to take during the Presidential Election year: 1) Voting in the DA Global Presidential Preference, 2) Joining to become a DA Member, and 3) Requesting a voter's State-side ballot for the Presidential Election with an FPCA. We should aim to adapt the technology platform that we have developed for VFA, and combine these steps into a single destination URL that will seamlessly walk the voter through the steps needed to become a DA member/confirm membership, cast their GPP vote, and request their ballot from their voting state. I believe that we have the capability to make this a single streamlined process that will both increase our DA membership and ensure that these voters have also requested their ballot from their home state – thus reducing the potential confusion when it comes to casting their official November ballot."
- "Make the CC Voting Centers Optional §I.6; §III.B.2; §III.B.3.b
  - If an on-line platform is adopted for the GPP voting – which I strongly encourage – and since there is a very high likelihood that Democrats will only have one viable candidate (President Biden), I suggest that the value-added benefit of in-person CC Voting Centers becomes much more limited. I personally recall that our 2012 Voting Centers were sparsely attended and not worth the time, effort, and cost required to arrange for the Voting Center set-up. I urge for significant modification of §III.B.3 to make Voting Centers not required, but optional, and not correlated with representation at the Regional and Global Conventions, as currently described in §III.B.3.c"
- "Is \$2,500 DA filing fee in line with the fees for other States? §I.5.g; §II.A.3
  - Could it be increased to \$5,000 or even \$10,000 to assist in covering the implementation costs of our GPP?"



- "Increase by 1 or 2 weeks the Advance Period for Delegate Applications and Right of Review §III.A.7.b; III.A.8.b
  - My recollection from the 2016 Global Convention was that the time period for Delegate Application and Presidential Right of Review was much shorter than was practical or appropriate for an individual Delegate to prepare to attend the Global Convention. The 14-day before the Regional Convention application period, and the 6-day before for Presidential Right of Review listing the approved delegate candidates is much too close to the Convention dates, and should be significantly expanded by one or two more weeks to enable delegates to appropriately prepare for travel to and participation in the Convention."
- "Make Public Comments to the DSP Public
  - Inherent in the nature of a Public Comment period on a document – such as the DSP who's final legitimacy relies in good part on the public consensus that it has taken into account all valid public comment and criticism – is the assumption that such Public Comments will also be available for public review. Therefore, I request that all submitted public comments be made available for review in the DA Wiki prior to the review, discussion, and vote for adoption of the DSP at our International Meeting scheduled for 22 April 2023. "
- "Apply One-Person-One-Vote principle to the election of Delegates and DNC Members §III.C.6.a.4
  - The current process of allocating differing voting weights to the electors participating in the Regional Convention is actually rather undemocratic by allowing some individuals to carry significantly more votes than others. It also actually works to discourage individual participation as a single representative from a Country Committee will carry just as much voting weight as a larger number of electors from the CC combined. I encourage a reassessment of this structure to encourage, if not require, the broadest possible participation from Country Committees, and in particular to expect that all of their elected Voting Representatives will be participating as electors."

Cliff Stuehmer, DEU

- page 4, 11-14: how does Germany guarantee translators? My German is pretty good, but not legally certified. Are we expected to provide 3rd-party language support too?
- page 4, 28: track access and all changes to NB member records - do we currently meet that criteria?
- page 5, 35: introductory text; no length restrictions?
- page 10, 4 and 10: Why Standard Time? Daylight time will be in effect by that point in the year. Suggestion: use UTC if you're unsure whether Daylight time will be in use then.
- page 11, 30-39 - which section outranks a. (priority shall be given to women (among other groups)) or c. (equal division of positions between men and women)? Aren't these sections at odds with each other? Strike women as a priority group from 9.a. and then 9.c. achieves the aim sought in that regard.
- page 12, 10-14: criteria ii, iii, and iv are unenforceable and should be stricken. Page 36, line 1 compels us to do so.
- page 12, 25-26: point of clarification: we support voting centers operated in non-compliant country committees? Or do you mean "no country committee, compliant or not exists there"?



- page 12, 28: submitted how? electronically? snail mail? say so. on page 15, line 33 you mention methods. Why not earlier?
- page 15, 45: entity needs an article, as in "an entity" or "the entity"
- page 16, 17: here Pacific Standard Time is correct for that date. Cf. page 10, lines 4 and 10.
- page 17, 5: PST goes out of effect 2 days prior to that on March 10th, 2024.  
<https://www.timeanddate.com/time/change/usa/san-diego?year=2024>
- page 30, 13: "political subdivision" is this just a less precise way of saying "region, transnational country committee, country committee, or chapter"? If no, what does "political subdivision" mean? If yes, I recommend not introducing new terminology.
- page 31, 37-40: "have the ... at heart" and "subscribe to the ..." too subjective. You can objectively test for membership and residence outside the USA. Scrap the rest. Page 36, line 1 compels us to do so.
- page 37, 8-9: how are you going to test faithfulness and subscription? Page 36, line 1 says you can't. If you can't test it, drop it from the verbiage
- page 39, 29-30: define "low and moderate" income. Compared to what?

#### Sue Alksnis, CAN

- "-- I support Ranked Choice Voting for the Global Presidential Primary and for Delegate election.
- -- Page 1, Line 7 (and other references), I suggest that DA doesn't need to designate a PLEO delegate, as we do not have any elected officials, unlike all other states, territories and the District of Columbia, which all have elected officials. The rationale for a dedicated delegate spot for PLEOs is to remove them from competing with grassroots delegates. Essentially DA's potential delegates, whether elected party leaders or otherwise are ALL grassroots volunteers. The PLEO position should be eliminated, opening this spot up to all potential delegates.
- -- Page 2, Line 43 and following: ""No person shall participate or vote in the nominating process..." This is unclear and disenfranchises DA delegates in Japan and Australia (possibly others) in 2020. As DA is the only state party where members have dual enfranchisement, in both their voting state and in DA, that voting in the Presidential primary and voting for delegates be de-coupled in our DSP, allowing that a person might vote in their home state primary before moving abroad and running for delegate or being elected to an delegate-electing role in DA.
- -- Page 5, Line 9 (and other references): The Democratic Party should change from 'equally divided between persons identifying as men or women' to 'minimum 50%female' or 'minimum 50% female or nonbinary'. The current equally divided standard is outdated and discriminatory against women who are the backbone of the party's volunteers and voters. I encourage DA's DSP to include this change and to let the DNC Rules & Bylaws committee force us to change it back.
- - Page 6, Line 23: What is 'Call 1.E'?
- - Page 8, Line 18: Change 'Non-Country Committees' to 'Non-Country Committee Representatives'
- - Page 9, Line 15. The heading of this section seems to me misleading. ""Global Balancing' is not the correct term, given the voting weight within EMEA which can easily overcome the votes from the other two regions. I would suggest changing the heading to 'Globally Elected Delegates'
- - Page 28, Line 17. Currently reads: ""Individuals shall be eligible for the pledged PLEO delegate position according to the following priority..." What does 'according to the following priority' mean? By my reading, this means that a former International Executive Committee member has higher priority than a sitting Country Committee Chair. This seems wrong to me. Why should a



former ExCom member (potentially from decades previously) have 'priority' over a sitting Country Chair. I propose changing to the following: ""Individuals shall be eligible for the pledged PLEO delegate position who are any of the following:"" [insert list of sitting/former positions here]. This eliminates any confusion about ranking of the positions by 'priority'. With the change, all of these positions are eligible for PLEO status.

- - Page 28, Lines 25-26: DELETE ""former Democratic elected officials and Party leaders"" I don't see why a former elected official who lives abroad would be eligible to run for DA's PLEO position, if they have had no elected position within DA. They have the option to run in their home state party, even if they are living overseas. For other state parties, it makes sense to include former elected officials, for instance for someone who moves to a different state and can no longer run for delegate in their former state. But DA is different, a former elected official now living overseas has the option to run for delegate in their home state. "
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Appendix 3  
Attachment I  
Executive Committee Approval

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WHEREAS DPCA's International Counsel presented a draft of a Delegate Selection Plan to DPCA's Executive Committee on February 26, 2023;

WHEREAS the Executive Committee of the Democratic Party Committee Abroad ("DPCA") has received input from the Affirmative Action Committee of Democrats Abroad regarding the affirmative-action plan included as part of Democrats Abroad's draft of its Delegate Selection Plan;

WHEREAS the members of DPCA's Executive Committee have had an opportunity to review the draft of the proposed Delegate Selection Plan, have held numerous discussions concerning the same, and have proposed and approved edits and amendments to such draft;

WHEREAS DPCA's Executive Committee voted to and did approve the draft for publication on Democrats Abroad's website ([www.democratsabroad.org](http://www.democratsabroad.org));

WHEREAS the draft of the Delegate Selection Plan was posted on Democrats Abroad's website on March 6, 2023 and thereby made available to the public for comment for a thirty (30) day period;

WHEREAS the period for public comment expired on April 4, 2023;

WHEREAS the comments received from the public are appended to the revised draft of the Democrats Abroad 2024 Delegate Selection Plan; and

WHEREAS DPCA's Executive Committee examined all of the comments made by the public with care and attention, accepting some and rejecting others;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the draft of the Democrats Abroad 2024 Delegate Selection Plan appended hereto be approved by the DPCA's Executive Committee and submitted to a vote under the bylaws and voting procedure of Democrats Abroad during a duly noticed meeting of the Democratic Party Committee Abroad held online on April 22, 2023, or in any other manner permitted under the Democrats Abroad Charter.

APPROVED this 17th day of April 2023.

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Appendix 3  
Attachment J  
DPCA Approval Certification

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I, Candice Kerestan, International Chair of Democrats Abroad, certify that this Delegate Selection Plan, as submitted herewith to the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the Democratic National Committee on or before May 3, 2023, was approved by the Democratic Party Committee Abroad in accordance with its Charter and voting procedures.

[TO BE SIGNED AFTER DPCA APPROVAL]

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Appendix 3  
Attachment K  
Press Release on DPCA Approval

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The following press release was issued on the first business day following the adoption of Democrats Abroad's 2024 Delegate Selection Plan, a copy of which is attached hereto in accordance with Regulation 2.2.D of the Regulations for the 2024 Democratic National Convention.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
April 22, 2023

PRESS CONTACT:  
Jarryd Rauch  
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+1 (954) 830-7580

## Democrats Abroad Calls on Americans Abroad to Participate in the 2024 Presidential Nominating Process

**WASHINGTON** — Democrats Abroad, the largest organization for Americans living overseas and the official Democratic Party arm for the millions of Americans living outside the United States, today announced the adoption of its 2024 Delegate Selection Plan for the presidential nominating process, which will culminate in the Democratic National Convention in July 2024.

The Delegate Selection Plan takes its place alongside plans from all other state Democratic parties and outlines how American Democrats living abroad can participate in the presidential primary process. Key elements include rules and procedures for the Democrats Abroad Global Presidential Primary in March 2024 as well as the process by which delegates will be selected to represent Americans abroad at the 2024 Democratic National Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

“Democrats Abroad works hard to ensure that Americans living outside the country, who vote in all 50 states, can participate in the Democratic primary process,” says Candice Kerestan, International Chair of Democrats Abroad. “Our Delegate Selection Plan is designed to provide US citizens who share the core values of the Democratic Party the opportunity make their voices heard from abroad.”

Democrats Abroad’s delegation in Chicago will consist of 12 elected delegates and one alternate, in addition to eight Democrats Abroad Democratic National Committee members. Any Democrats Abroad member may participate in the primary and run for a convention delegate position, provided they are eligible to vote and turn 18 on or before November 7, 2024.



Details on how to participate in the primary process can be found in the Democrats Abroad Delegate Selection Plan, available at [democratsabroad.org](https://democratsabroad.org)

Key Upcoming Dates:

- March 5-12, 2024: Democrats Abroad Global Presidential Primary
- June 8-9, 2024: Democrats Abroad Global Convention
- August 2024: Democratic National Convention
- November 7, 2024: United States Presidential Election

###

Democrats Abroad is the official organization of the Democratic Party for United States citizens living permanently or temporarily abroad. The organization is given state-level recognition by the Democratic National Committee, with eight positions on the Democratic National Committee, and sends a voting delegation to the Democratic National Convention to select our presidential candidate. For more information, visit <https://www.democratsabroad.org>



Appendix 3  
Attachment L  
Legal Authority

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The sole relevant legal authority reasonably related to the delegate-selection process for Democrats Abroad is its Charter, a copy of which is attached hereto in accordance with Regulation 2.2.K of the Regulations for the 2024 Democratic National Convention.

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# DEMOCRATS ABROAD

## DEMOCRATS ABROAD CHARTER

### Article One: Name; Purpose

Democrats Abroad is the organization that represents all United States citizens residing outside the U.S. who wish to adhere to the principles and further the aims of the Democratic Party of the United States of America. The organization is recognized by the Democratic National Committee ("DNC") as the equivalent of a U.S. State Party.

Democrats Abroad is a non-profit association organized and operating under the Uniform Unincorporated Nonprofit Association Act of 2000, D.C. Code §§ 29-971.01, *et seq.* Democrats Abroad's principal place of business is and will remain the District of Columbia.

For administrative purposes, Democrats Abroad is divided into Country Committees, Transnational Committees, and Regions comprised of the members from within each such geographic area. Hereinafter, any reference to a "Country Committee" shall similarly apply to a Transnational Committee as defined in Article Five, Sections 5.1 and 5.11.

General membership in Democrats Abroad is open to all citizens of the United States of voting age (or who will be such before the next Federal election) living outside the U.S. who by joining declare their support for the principles and aims of the Democratic Party of the United States of America. Membership is free, voluntary, and can be canceled by the member at any time for any reason.

Neither Democrats Abroad nor any of its constituent units may participate in the political activities of any country other than the United States of America.

### Article Two: Democratic Party Committee Abroad

#### Section 2.1 (Duties and Responsibilities)

The Democratic Party Committee Abroad ("DPCA") is the highest authority of Democrats Abroad and shall have general responsibility for the coordination and furtherance of the work and purposes of Democrats Abroad, including the Transnational Committees and the Country Committees provided for below, and shall perform generally the functions of a State Democratic Party Committee, subject to the provisions of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States of America, the resolutions and other actions of the DNC, this Charter, and any Standing Resolutions of the DPCA.

In discharging its operating responsibilities, the DPCA shall:

- (a) act as a forum for the consideration of issues that relate to U.S. citizens residing abroad;
- (b) supervise activities of the Regions, Transnational Committees, and Country Committees (and any subdivision thereof) in such matters as:
  1. the nomination and election of Delegates to Democratic Party Conferences and Conventions;

2. the transmission of the views of Democrats Abroad to the DNC and *vice versa*, both on party affairs and policy;
3. especially in campaign years, the organization of voter registration campaigns and Get Out the Vote activities, the handling of joint publicity and advertising, the acquisition and distribution of campaign literature and materials, the coordination of visits, and related matters;
4. cooperation with U.S. civic organizations and other U.S. political parties on nonpartisan and bipartisan programs;
5. the initiation of steps to organize new committees in countries or areas with a substantial number of resident U.S. citizens; and
6. the day-to-day operations of the Regions.

## **Section 2.2 (DPCA Membership)**

The DPCA shall be composed of:

- (a) the Chair, the Vice Chair (or first Vice Chair if there are several Vice Chairs), the Voting, Non-Voting and Alternate Voting Representatives of each Country Committee and Transnational Committee that has been admitted by Democrats Abroad; and
- (b) the Non-Country Committee Representatives as defined by Section 5.7; and
- (c) DNC Members representing Democrats Abroad; and
- (d) the International Chair, International Vice Chair, International Treasurer, International Secretary, International Counsel, the Regional Vice Chairs, and any other elected officers of the DPCA.

## **Section 2.3 (Election Standards)**

- (a) DPCA Members shall be elected in accordance with the standards set forth in the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party through processes that assure full, timely, and equal opportunity to participate. All elections shall be public and all ballots open to inspection.
- (b) The DPCA Executive Committee may adopt such rules for elections as it deems necessary from time to time. Such rules shall also apply to elections conducted by the Regions and the Country Committees.

## **Section 2.4 (Cessation of Membership)**

- (a) A member may resign from the DPCA by written notice to the International Chair, and such resignation shall be effective immediately;
- (b) A DPCA member who (i) ceases to have his or her principal residence abroad or (ii) has missed three (3) consecutive meetings of the DPCA shall be deemed to have resigned from the DPCA, including from any DPCA office under Section 2.2 above; provided, however, that a meeting attended in person by the Chair, Vice Chair, or Voting Representative of the Country Committee, or proxy holder from the same Country Committee, shall for these purposes also be considered as attended by the Chair, Vice Chair, or Voting Representative as the case may be;

- (c) After notice and opportunity for hearing and upon grounds found by the DPCA to constitute good and sufficient cause, it may remove a member by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote. The Executive Committee shall adopt such rules of procedure as it deems necessary to ensure that the removal hearing is conducted in a fair manner, which rules will include timely notice to the member's Country Committee in addition to notice to the member in question. In the event of the removal of the Chair, Vice Chair or Voting Representative of a Country Committee, such removal shall only result in removal from membership in the DPCA and shall not affect the member's position within the Country Committee in question; based on this removal from the DPCA, under the guidance and notification by the Regional Vice Chair and International Counsel, the Country Committee should take whatever action it deems appropriate, in conformity with its charter and bylaws, to remedy the issues that resulted in such removal, including further removal and replacement of the member in question from Country Committee positions.

## **Article Three: Meetings**

### **Section 3.1 (Calling of Meetings, including Electronic Meetings)**

Meetings of the DPCA may be called by the International Chair, or by at least one-fourth (1/4th) of its voting members, or by a simple majority of the Executive Committee. An annual Democrats Abroad Global Meeting shall be called in the first half of each year to approve the accounts of the previous year and take any such other action as may be appropriate and, in odd-numbered years, to elect officers. If, for whatever reason, the International Chair or International Vice Chair fails to call a meeting when required to do so, then the International Secretary shall call such meeting within thirty (30) days of the date required. Except as otherwise provided in Section 3.4, meetings of the DPCA may be held exclusively by, or in conjunction, with electronic participation, provided that, at a minimum, the technology used to conduct the meeting enables simultaneous aural communication (i.e., audio conferencing capability).

### **Section 3.2 (Date and Place)**

Upon proposal of the International Chair at a duly constituted DPCA meeting, and after having invited all Country Committees to submit non-binding bids, the date, time, and place of the annual DPCA meeting required under the previous Section shall be determined by majority vote of the Country Committees, DPCA Officers, and DNC Members present or represented at the meeting or participating by electronic vote (see Section 3.7). The Executive Committee may vote to change the date, time, or place for reasons it deems important.

### **Section 3.3 (Notice and Agenda)**

- (a) Notice of each meeting, containing the place and time of the meeting and the agenda, shall be sent or given by the International Chair to each DPCA Member not less than forty-five (45) days before the date of the meeting. Any DPCA Voting Member may request the International Chair in writing, not less than thirty (30) days before the meeting, to place additional items on the agenda, and shall simultaneously furnish the text of any resolutions proposed for adoption. The International Chair shall circulate such additional items and proposed resolutions,



as well as other resolutions, to DPCA members not less than fifteen (15) days before the meeting. Items may be added to the agenda at the meeting by majority vote of DPCA members present or represented. To the extent not otherwise provided for herein, procedural questions shall be settled in accordance with the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

- (b) The International Chair may name a Resolutions Committee for the meeting to review any resolutions presented to the Chair as additional items for the agenda. The duty of the Resolutions Committee shall be to refine the language of proposed resolutions and obtain approval of the refined language from the person(s)/committee(s) submitting the proposed resolutions and to advise and make recommendations to the DPCA concerning the substance of the resolutions.

### **Section 3.4 (Quorum)**

A quorum for a meeting shall require the real-time participation, either in person or online of:

- (a) the International Chair or Vice Chair of the DPCA; and
- (b) 40% of DPCA Voting Members (i.e., excluding DPCA Non-Voting Members and Alternate Members).

For quorum purposes, the individuals referred to in paragraph (b) must include DPCA Members resident in at least thirty percent (30%) of Country Committees in compliance with Section 5.4 and two (2) Regions.

### **Section 3.5 (Attendance)**

The International Chair shall ensure that all DPCA meetings are also accessible for remote participation via live on-line audio and video conferencing services. Notwithstanding the foregoing, neither the International Chair nor the DPCA shall be obligated to pay for the telecommunications charges involved in participation by a DPCA Member or member of Democrats Abroad. Participation by such online conferencing services shall constitute presence at a meeting for all purposes of this Charter.

### **Section 3.6 (Representation and Voting)**

- (a) Representation and votes shall be allocated to Country Committees biennially in odd-numbered years, in accordance with such year's certification required under Section 5.4(f), calculated as follows:
  - (i) Multiply the number of Country Committees by 5 to obtain the "Initial Product;"
  - (ii) 40% of the Initial Product shall be allocated among the Country Committees on the basis of two (2) votes each;
  - (iii) 60% of the Initial Product shall be allocated among the Country Committees proportionally by multiplying with respect to each Country Committee, the Initial Product by the Country Committee's percentage of verified members of Democrats Abroad. Fractions greater than or equal to 0.455 shall be rounded to the next highest whole number. Fractions less than 0.455 shall be rounded to the next lowest whole number.

- (b) One (1) vote shall also be allocated to each elected DPCA Officer, Non-Country Committee Representative, and DNC Member representing Democrats Abroad.
- (c) Each member of the Country Committee Voting Delegation (as defined below) of each Country Committee in compliance with Section 5.4 and represented at the meeting by attending in person, by proxy, or in accordance with Section 3.7 shall have the right to vote.
- (d) Each Country Committee Chair and Vice-Chair as a DPCA voting member shall be allocated one (1) whole vote.
- (e) All decisions shall be taken by simple majority vote except where a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote is required (Sections 2.4(c), 4.2, 5.3, 6.1 and 10.1) or where the right to vote is not accorded to all DPCA Voting Members (Sections 4.2 and 7.2). The simple majority must include votes from at least one-third (1/3rd) of all Country Committees.
- (f) No DPCA member or valid proxy holder may cast in excess of 4 votes (including proxies). This rule shall not apply for the selection of delegates to the National Convention or the election of DNC Members.
- (g) Each Country Committee shall be required to elect at least the minimum number of Voting Representatives necessary to enable it to cast all of its votes. Elections shall be held nationally at the same time as the election of the Country Committee Chair and Vice Chair. If a Country Committee has more than one (1) Voting Representative, gender balance shall apply to that Country Committee's delegation of Voting Representatives. The term of each Voting Representative shall be the same as for Officers of the Country Committee. All Voting Representatives shall be entitled to attend all Democrats Abroad Meetings during the same two (2)-year term as for the Country Committee Chair and Vice Chair offices. There shall be no term limits applied to the position of DPCA Voting Representative.
- (h) A "Country Committee Voting Delegation" consists of those persons who have been selected to represent the members of a Country Committee within the DPCA and who hold the right to vote in the DPCA, and these persons are the Country Committee's Chair, Principal Vice Chair, and Voting Representative(s).
- (i) With effect from the time of each Country Committee's 2019 leadership election, or March 31, 2019, whichever occurs first, and continuing thereafter:
  - (i) the total number of positions in the Country Committee Voting Delegation shall be equal to the number of votes allocated to that Country Committee pursuant to this Section (with the sole exception of a Country Committee allocated one vote, in which case the size of the delegations shall be two persons being the Chair and Vice Chair);
  - (ii) each member of the Country Committee Voting Delegation shall be allocated one (1) such vote (with the sole exception of a Country Committee that is allocated one vote, in which case this one vote is allocated as one half-vote each to the two members of the delegation);
  - (iii) each vote allocated to a member of the Country Committee Voting Delegation may be cast only by that person or that person's valid proxy holder; and
  - (iv) Country Committees may also elect Non-Voting or Alternate Voting Representatives. These are Non-Voting members of the DPCA who may hold proxies as DPCA members and fill Voting Representative vacancies, if any.

Non-Voting or Alternate Representative elections must be conducted at the same time as Voting Representatives and National Officer elections, in keeping with gender balance rules.

### **Section 3.7 (Capacity to Vote and Proxies)**

- (a) No DPCA Member may vote in more than one capacity (e.g., DPCA Officer, DNC Member, Country Committee Chair, or Voting Representative) in any vote taken under this Charter; proxy holders may exercise their proxies without violating this subsection.
- (b) Any eligible voter may cast a vote by written proxy on any specified item on the agenda of the meeting. A remote vote may also be cast by electronic means, which term shall mean wherever used in this Charter (i) a personally verifiable method that can be reduced to written form or (ii) a voice communication received by a DPCA Officer.
- (c) Voting by proxy shall be permitted, subject to the limitations set out in this Charter. Proxies shall be in writing; shall name the person to whom the proxy is given; may be either general or limited to specific issues; may be either instructed or uninstructed. Proxies given as described below shall be notified to and received by the International Secretary at least three (3) days before the relevant meeting.
- (d) The vote of a DPCA Member may not be divided among multiple proxy holders. Proxies shall be given for the full vote of a DPCA member. If a proxy holder cannot accept a full proxy due to the limitations imposed by Section 3.6(e) or Section 3.7(g), the International Secretary may assign a proxy of partial voting weight.
- (e) General proxies may be given by:
  - (i) A Country Committee Chair, Vice Chair, or Voting Representative to: a member of Democrats Abroad within the same Country Committee or a DPCA member of the same Region;
  - (ii) DNC Member (elected by Region) to: a DPCA Member of the same Region;
  - (iii) DNC Member (elected at large) to: any DPCA Member;
  - (iv) DPCA Officer to another DPCA Member.
- (f) A proxy vote may be cast by a member of Democrats Abroad within a Country Committee only if any member of Democrats Abroad within such Country Committee has attended one (1) of the three (3) DPCA meetings held immediately preceding the DPCA meeting at which such proxy vote is to be cast.
- (g) No person may hold more than four (4) proxies.
- (h) A proxy may be revoked in writing at any time prior to the call to order of a meeting.
- (i) If during the course of a meeting of the DPCA, a person duly recorded during the roll call as present must leave the meeting, temporarily or permanently, such person may give another participating DPCA Member a written proxy for the meeting valid for the duration of the absence or for the duration of the meeting concerned.

- (j) A DPCA Member holding two (2) positions may not issue a proxy with respect to more than one (1) such position if such member is absent from a meeting; if such member attends a meeting such member may issue no proxies.
- (k) Any rules on the treatment of proxies included in Democrats Abroad's Delegate Selection Plan will override the provisions in this Section for the purpose of that Plan.

### **Section 3.8 (Reserved)**

### **Section 3.9 (Written Consents)**

The DPCA may take any action under this Charter without a meeting if 90% of all DPCA Voting Members consent in writing to such action; provided, however, that no action to amend Section 11.1 may be taken under this Section 3.9. Such written consents shall be filed with the minutes of the DPCA proceedings and shall have the same force and effect as a vote taken by DPCA Members physically present. For the purposes hereof, writing shall include faxes and electronic communications that can be reduced to paper.

## **Article Four: Officers**

### **Section 4.1 (Officers)**

The elected officers of the DPCA shall consist of:

- (a) the International Chair, International Vice Chair, International Treasurer, International Secretary, and International Counsel, no more than two (2) of whom shall be from the same Country Committee at the time of the election. Such offices shall be held by individuals from at least two (2) different Regions; and
- (b) the Three (3) Regional Vice Chairs.

However, if there is no other candidate for any position, a candidate who would otherwise be ineligible under the previous sentences of this Section 4.1 may be elected. The Executive Committee shall be comprised of these eight (8) elected Officers of the DPCA.

### **Section 4.2 (Election)**

- (a) The Officers other than the Regional Vice Chairs shall be elected in the first half of odd-numbered years, to serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successors have been elected. Election shall be by majority of the votes cast by the DPCA, subject to the provisions of Article 3.
- (b) The Regional Vice Chairs shall be elected and replaced pursuant to Section 6.2.
- (c) No officer, including Regional Vice Chairs, may serve in the same office for more than two (2) consecutive full terms. In the event that there is no candidate for a DPCA Executive Committee office, an Officer who has served two (2) consecutive terms in that office may be elected to a third term of that office by a two-thirds (2/3rds) majority vote pursuant to Section 4.1.

### **Section 4.3 (Nominations)**

- (a) Prior to the election meeting, the International Chair shall appoint, after consultation with the Executive Committee, five (5) members of Democrats Abroad as a Nominations and Elections Committee (NEC), at least three (3) of whom shall not be DPCA Members. Members of the NEC shall not be candidates for office nor be elected to office.
- (b) It shall be the duty of the NEC to call for nominations for officers and to determine which individuals whose names are submitted for nomination are qualified to fill DPCA offices. To be qualified for DPCA office, an individual shall have been a member of Democrats Abroad for more than six (6) months prior to the close of nominations for the DPCA election. If the qualifications of an individual are unclear or challenged, the NEC may deem an individual genuinely residing outside the United States and its territories to meet membership qualification by a majority vote of the committee.

The names of the qualified individuals placed in nomination with the NEC shall be forwarded in writing to the International Chair and other DPCA Members by the NEC, after their qualifications have been determined, at least forty-five (45) days in advance of the scheduled election meeting of the DPCA. Nominations of qualified candidates for office may be made from the floor at the election meeting. The elections shall be conducted by the NEC.

### **Section 4.4 (Leadership Diversity)**

The International Chair and International Vice Chair shall be from different Country Committees and shall be of different sex, as declared by each candidate in advance of the election. For the purposes of this section and Section 5.2(d)(iv), the term “sex” is defined as male, female, intersex, or any other classification of sex or gender that is legally recognized by any state or federal jurisdiction within the United States of America.

### **Section 4.5 (Replacement)**

In the event of a vacancy of an office established under Section 4.1(i), including the resignation or removal of such officer in accordance with Section 2.4, the Executive Committee of the DPCA shall proceed immediately with the nomination of a replacement, subject to confirmation at the next meeting of the DPCA. If the replacement fails to be confirmed, nominations shall be taken from the floor, and an immediate election shall be conducted with votes cast by those in attendance. The person elected shall serve out the balance of the term. For the purposes of Section 4.2(c), a person elected to serve out the balance of a term for a period of less than 365 days shall not be deemed to have served a full term.

### **Section 4.6 (Responsibilities of the International Chair)**

The International Chair shall be responsible for the carrying out of the programs and policies of the Democratic Party and Democrats Abroad. The International Chair shall preside at all meetings of the DPCA, establishing meeting agendas, and implementing decisions taken during DPCA meetings. Following consultation with the Executive Committee, the International Chair may appoint deputies or assistant officers (such appointments shall be promptly notified to the DPCA) and conduct the day-to-day

business of Democrats Abroad. The International Chair shall be the chief spokesperson for the organization. The International Chair may, after consultation with the Executive Committee, create or terminate committees, task forces, caucuses and councils, determine their composition and purpose and appoint their chairs or co- chairs. The International Chair shall *ex officio* be a non-voting member of all committees, task forces, caucuses and councils.

#### **Section 4.7 (Responsibilities of the International Vice Chair)**

The International Vice Chair shall replace the International Chair whenever the latter is absent or is incapacitated, and shall have such other duties as may be prescribed by the International Chair.

#### **Section 4.8 (Responsibilities of the International Secretary)**

The International Secretary shall keep minutes of DPCA meetings (taking particular note of all Standing Resolutions) and Executive Committee meetings, circulate minutes and records of action to DPCA Members, be responsible for maintaining all the administrative files and records and membership lists and databases of the DPCA and Democrats Abroad, and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the International Chair.

#### **Section 4.9 (Responsibilities of the International Treasurer)**

The International Treasurer shall keep the financial records of the DPCA, establish a budget for approval of the Executive Committee, oversee its bank and other financial accounts, make an annual financial report to the DPCA, and ensure that any necessary reports or filings with the DNC or the governmental authorities of the United States of America and the several States, are timely made.

#### **Section 4.10 (Responsibilities of the International Counsel)**

The International Counsel shall be a qualified legal practitioner available for consultation on legal and procedural questions relating to Democrats Abroad and its activities, and the interpretation of and compliance with the Charter and Bylaws of the DNC, the Charter of Democrats Abroad and the bylaws of Country Committees, and serve as Parliamentarian at DPCA meetings. The International Chair may appoint a separate individual to serve as Parliamentarian.

#### **Section 4.11 (Responsibilities of the Executive Committee)**

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the conduct of the affairs of Democrats Abroad in accordance with policies of the DNC and the DPCA. The Executive Committee shall establish its own rules and, when convened by the International Chair or one third (1/3rd) of its members, may act in a meeting, by telephone or electronic means. The Executive Committee shall adopt a budget for Democrats Abroad prior to the first meeting of the DPCA each year. The Executive Committee shall maintain documents containing guidance on specific issues, as mentioned in Section 2.3, 5.3, 5.4, 5.7, and 5.11.

Except as provided in the following sentence, decisions taken by the Executive Committee shall be by simple majority vote of those members present in person or by instructed proxy given to another member of the Executive Committee or, if such vote is taken in electronic or written form, by simple majority of the entire Executive Committee. By a two-thirds (2/3rds) majority of the entire Executive Committee, the Executive Committee may overrule any decision or action of any Officer.

#### **Section 4.12 (Executive Director)**

Following consultation with the Executive Committee, the International Chair may name an Executive Director to perform such duties as the International Chair may prescribe.

### **Article Five: Country Committees and Transnational Committees**

#### **Section 5.1 (Constituent Units)**

The constituent units of Democrats Abroad are the Country Committees and Transnational Committees, which shall be the organized democratic expression of U.S. citizens overseas and shall further the aims of the Democratic Party of the United States of America and of Democrats Abroad. Country and Transnational Committees represent distinct geographic regions. Except where otherwise deemed more expedient by the DPCA, Country Committees shall represent geographical areas coextensive with national boundaries.

Country and Transnational Committees shall be responsible for their own internal management, including governance of their Chapters, and compliance with applicable laws, including without limitation the laws and regulations of the United States of America and the several States applicable to political parties and contributions to them (notably to the U.S. Federal Election Commission).

#### **Section 5.2 (Admission)**

To be admitted to Democrats Abroad as a Country Committee, a group must make application to the International Chair containing the following information:

- (a) a membership list, certifying that the group is composed of at least one hundred fifty (150) U.S. citizens of voting age having their principal residence in that defined geographical area and who adhere to the principles of the Democratic Party of the United States of America. Any Country Committee in existence as of May 14, 2021 shall not be deemed out of compliance due solely to having fewer than 150 members after that date;
- (b) a copy of the Bylaws of the applicant committee adopted in conformity with the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States of America, the DNC, and the Charter of Democrats Abroad and certified by the duly elected Chair and another duly elected officer of the applicant committee;
- (c) copies of publicity providing reasonable notice to U.S. citizens in that defined geographical area of the organization and election meeting(s) of the applicant committee, as well as a list of officers elected and their full contact information;
- (d) a copy of the minutes attested to by the Chair and another elected officer of the applicant committee for the meeting(s) in which officers were elected who (i) at the time of their election and thereafter have their principal residence in that defined geographical area; (ii) have been elected for a term of office not exceeding two (2)

years; (iii) are eligible to serve in the same office no more than two (2) consecutive terms; and (iv) include a Chair and Vice Chair (or First Vice Chair) of different sex.

### **Section 5.3 (DPCA Vote to Admit)**

- (a) A two-thirds (2/3rds) affirmative vote of the DPCA at a duly called meeting shall be required to admit an applicant committee. It shall be a prerequisite for admission that, to the extent practicable, one (1) or more of the elected officers of the applicant committee shall have attended in person either one (1) meeting of the DPCA or of a Region prior to the meeting at which admission is voted upon and shall be known to at least one (1) DPCA Officer. Furthermore, it shall be a prerequisite for admission that the relevant Regional Vice Chair submits a statement to the DPCA attesting to the preparedness of the applicant committee to pursue its activities in compliance with the rules and regulations applicable to DPCA Country Committees, and to engage fully with its members, its region, and the DPCA generally. The structure and content of the admission submission will be established by the DPCA Executive Committee for uniformity, processed by the Regional Vice Chair, and when completed communicated to the DPCA Chair and Executive Committee together with submission of the request for admission to full Committee status.
- (b) A Country Committee admitted prior to September 30 of any year shall have two votes until the next membership certification under Section 3.6 (a); those admitted between October 1 and January 31 shall have no vote until the next annual certification.

### **Section 5.4 (Country Committee Compliance and Filings)**

- (a) Each Country Committee shall hold an Annual General Meeting on or before June 30th of each calendar year and shall provide minutes of the Annual General Meeting to the International Secretary and the Regional Vice Chair at such time as determined under paragraph (c) of this section.
- (b) By February 20th of each year, each Country Committee shall furnish to the International Counsel, International Secretary, and Regional Vice Chair a copy of the Country Committee's Bylaws, indicating any amendments made during the year.
- (c) Country Committees shall hold their elections no later than June 30th of odd-numbered years. Within fifteen (15) days of any election held by a Country Committee, the Secretary of such Country Committee shall certify the results of the election to the International Secretary and forward the minutes of the election meeting, with full address and contact information of the office holders so elected.
- (d) Without limitation of the foregoing, Country Committees shall at all times be in keeping with Sections 5.2 and 5.4; provided, however, that by a 4/5 majority vote of the Executive Committee of the DPCA or, by a majority vote of the DPCA at a regular meeting, upon written application, and for good reason, a dispensation from Section 5.2 (d) may be granted for a period not to exceed 2 years.
- (e) The Executive Committee shall establish from time to time the methods and procedures to be used by the Country Committees to verify and certify membership in Democrats Abroad for all purposes under this Charter, with the maximum accuracy reasonably possible for an association such as Democrats Abroad,



provided that the methods and procedures require verification at least every four (4) years.

- (f) By February 20th of each year, the Secretary or Chair of each Country Committee shall certify to the International Secretary of the DPCA that, as of January 31st, the membership database containing the names and such other information as the DPCA Executive Committee shall require is current and correct for certification of the number of members of Democrats Abroad, and such certification must be attested to by the Secretary or Chair of such Country Committee. The database referred to in the previous sentence shall be in the format from time-to-time prescribed by the Executive Committee.
- (g) Each Country Committee shall provide within the required time such documents or information concerning the activities of the Country Committee as may be reasonably required by the International Chair or the Executive Committee.

### **Section 5.5 (Committees in Formation)**

A transnational or country organization meeting all the requirements of Section 5.2 and having less than one hundred fifty (150) members of Democrats Abroad may, upon application to the International Chair of Democrats Abroad, be admitted as a Committee in Formation and thereafter may participate in activities of Democrats Abroad without the right to vote.

### **Section 5.6 (Chapters)**

Any Country Committee may permit Chapters to be formed within local geographic areas, including by amendment of the Country Committee by-laws recognizing such Chapter(s). Chapters shall be recognized only for internal purposes of the Country Committee upon terms to be specified by the Country Committee. Recognized Chapters shall operate in compliance with the bylaws of the Country Committee (as may be modified in the judgment of the Country Committee from time to time), as well as the Charter and rules of Democrats Abroad.

The Chapter shall hold a meeting to elect a Chair and other officers defined in its Country Committee bylaws. The meeting shall be called upon reasonable notice and conducted in accordance with the bylaws of the Country Committee and this Charter, respectively. The minutes of the meeting and contact details of individuals so elected shall be promptly provided to the Chair of the Country Committee.

All financial matters concerning Chapters shall be under the review and supervision of the Chair and Treasurer of the Country Committee who shall take into consideration the budget, sources, and proposed uses of funds relating to any Chapter. In any event, Country Committees shall be ultimately responsible for ensuring compliance by their Chapters with all applicable laws in accordance with Section 5.1.

Any dispute between a Chapter and its Country Committee may be brought before the DPCA Executive Committee for determination.

## **Section 5.7 (Non-Country Committee Representatives)**

General members of Democrats Abroad residing outside the United States (and its territories) in countries without a recognized Democrats Abroad Country Committee shall have representation within the DPCA.

All such Non-Country-Committee (NCC) general members shall, under the supervision of the Regional Vice Chair, elect from their number within the Region an NCC Representative to represent their interests to the DPCA, including at meetings of the DPCA. The NCC Representative shall work to encourage member organizing and growth within the Region. The NCC Representative shall be a member of the DPCA; shall hold one (1) whole vote; shall serve two year terms; and shall be limited to two consecutive terms.

NCC Representatives shall have equivalent voting privileges under this Charter as Country Committee Voting Representatives. For the purposes of proxies, an NCC Representative shall be considered as a Country Committee Voting Representative, and any NCC general member in the same region as the Representative may be a valid proxy holder for an NCC Representative in addition to any others indicated in Section 3.7.

Elections for NCC Representatives shall take place in the first quarter of each odd-numbered year. Should a Region's NCC Representative position experience a vacancy that will last greater than six (6) months, the Regional Vice Chair shall hold a special election within ninety (90) days. General members within territories with recognized committees-in-information shall be able to run and vote in these elections, but general members within out-of-compliance Democrats Abroad Country Committees shall not be able to run and vote in these elections.

In the event that a recognized Democrats Abroad Country Committee dissolves, its general members will become members of the NCC Representative's constituency. In the event that a NCC Representative's territory of residence becomes a recognized Democrats Abroad Country Committee, that NCC Representative shall no longer be eligible for the position and it shall immediately become vacant.

The International Executive Committee shall maintain, and make available upon request, two documents related to Section 5.7. The first document, "Elections of NCC Representatives," shall cover those election details that are not explicitly mandated within the Charter. The second document, "The Role and Responsibilities of NCC Representatives," shall cover the role and responsibilities of NCC Representatives not explicitly mandated within the Charter.

## **Section 5.8 (Suspension of a Country Committee Officer)**

- (a) A Country Committee Chair, Vice Chair may be suspended from office by a 7/8ths vote of the DPCA Executive Committee or by a two thirds (2/3rds) vote of the DPCA, which suspension shall be promptly communicated in writing to the individual concerned and to the Executive Committee of the affected Country Committee, if the Country Committee Officer engages in unacceptable conduct that seriously harms the interests of the Democratic Party of the United States of America, the DNC, Democrats Abroad, or its own Country Committee. Unacceptable conduct may include, but is not limited to, violations of the DPCA Code of Conduct. The Country Committee Officer and the Executive Committee of such Country Committee shall be notified in writing of the initiation and nature of the charges and the DPCA Executive Committee will provide ample information to enable a defense to be prepared. A Country Committee Officer suspended under this paragraph (a) may request a prompt hearing to be held within thirty (30) days

and the DPCA Executive Committee shall make such arrangements as it deems best suited to protect all interests, in the context of a global party, including supervising a new election. The hearing may, without limitation, be held by telephone conference call or video conference. The DPCA Executive Committee shall adopt such rules of procedure for hearings in connection with the proposed suspension of a Country Committee Officer as it deems necessary to ensure that the hearing is conducted in a fair manner and the decision, with an ample explanation of the reasoning involved, shall be communicated in writing;

- (b) If in the judgment of the International Chair a Country Committee Officer is guilty of serious and highly unacceptable conduct that, if continued, would irreparably damage any of the aforesaid interests, the Chair may immediately issue a temporary order of suspension, indicating the grounds for such action, and shall simultaneously inform the DPCA Executive Committee of such action and the reasons, therefore. Within seven (7) days the DPCA Executive Committee shall either schedule a hearing under the foregoing subparagraph or shall terminate the temporary order.

### **Section 5.9 (Suspension of Country Committee or Country in Formation)**

- (a) A Country Committee or Committee In Formation may be suspended from full membership by a seven-eighths (7/8ths) vote of the DPCA Executive Committee or by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the DPCA, which suspension shall be promptly communicated in writing to the Chair and Vice Chair of the affected Country Committee, if it:
  - (i) fails to hold an election of officers within six (6) months following the date prescribed by the Country Committee's Bylaws. Any Country Committee or Committee in Formation suspended under this paragraph may be reinstated to full rights by the DPCA upon filing an application with the International Chair accompanied by a copy of the minutes of a valid election meeting certified as true by the Country Committee's Chairperson and Secretary; or
  - (ii) engages in unacceptable conduct that seriously harms the interests of the Democratic Party of the United States of America, the DNC, Democrats Abroad, or its own Country Committee. Unacceptable conduct may include, but is not limited to, violations of the DPCA Code of Conduct. The Chair and Vice Chair of such Country Committee shall be notified in writing of the initiation and nature of the charges and the DPCA Executive Committee will provide ample information to enable a defense to be prepared. A Country Committee or a Committee in Formation suspended under this paragraph (b) may request a prompt hearing to be held within thirty (30) days and the DPCA Executive Committee shall make such arrangements as it deems best suited to protect all interests, in the context of a global party, including supervising new elections. The hearing may, without limitation, be held by telephone conference call or video conference. The DPCA Executive Committee shall adopt such rules of procedure for hearings in connection with the proposed suspension of a Country Committee as it deems necessary to ensure that the hearing be conducted in a fair manner and the decision, with an ample explanation of the reasoning involved, shall be communicated in writing.
- (b) If in the judgment of the International Chair a Country Committee or Committee In Formation is guilty of serious and highly unacceptable conduct that, if continued,

would irreparably damage any of the aforesaid interests, the Chair may immediately issue a temporary order of suspension, indicating the grounds for such action, and shall simultaneously inform the DPCA Executive Committee of such action and the reasons, therefore. Within seven (7) days, the DPCA Executive Committee shall either schedule a hearing under the foregoing subparagraph or shall terminate the temporary order.

- (c) Country Committees may be suspended upon unanimous vote of the DPCA Executive Committee if the Country Committee's certified membership in Democrats Abroad falls significantly due to actions or failure to act objectively attributable to the Country Committee.

### **Section 5.10 (Removal of Out of Compliance Country Committees)**

If a Country Committee (i) fails to fully comply with the requirements of Section 5.4 for four (4) consecutive years or (ii) is suspended pursuant to Section 5.9 and fails to take the steps necessary to have such suspension overturned during the four (4) years after being suspended, then such Country Committee shall automatically be removed from the DPCA without any additional notice or action being required on the part of the DPCA unless the DPCA Executive Committee votes by a seven-eighths (7/8ths) vote to delay removal for a period of one (1) year. If the DPCA Executive Committee votes to delay removal and the Country Committee fails to fully comply with the requirements of Section 5.4 or to take the steps necessary to have their suspension overturned within the 12 (twelve) months following the vote, then on the first anniversary of the vote to delay, the Country Committee shall automatically be removed from the DPCA without any additional notice or action being required on the part of the DPCA. Members of a removed Country Committee become members-at-large of Democrats Abroad.

### **Section 5.11 (Transnational Committees)**

A Transnational Committee (or "TC") is equivalent to a Country Committee in every way relevant to this Charter except that it does not represent a geographical area coextensive with national boundaries.

All Country Committees established prior to August 21, 2021 are not Transnational Committees and therefore are not subject to the clauses of this Section specifically related to Transnational Committees, including the annexation and secession clauses.

A Transnational Committee may be established and admitted to the DPCA according to the same processes and criteria as described in Section 5.2 and 5.3, with the additional requirement that the geographic area of a Transnational Committee must be wholly within a single Region as described in Section 6.1. The International Executive Committee shall maintain, and make available upon request, a document providing guidance on the current expectations for the admission of a Transnational Committee, including but not limited to provisions in its bylaws, clear definitions of its membership, and accommodations for its unique geographic conditions.

The purpose of the addition of Transnational Committees as a constituent unit of Democrats Abroad is to allow for the organization of new recognized and representative committees within the DPCA, not to reorganize existing ones. Therefore, any existing Country Committee as of August 21, 2021 may not forego its recognized Country Committee status in order to form a Transnational Committee without first completing the full dissolution process as described elsewhere in this Charter.

A Transnational Committee may file a joint request for annexation to the relevant Regional Vice Chair, with a group of members in the same region who are not represented at the time of the request by any Transnational Committee or Country Committee (regardless of compliance status). The primary purpose of the request must be to expand the geographic area represented by the Transnational Committee. The requirements before the contents of an annexation request can be considered by the Regional Vice Chair shall be described by the International Executive Committee in the guidance document on Transnational Committees described in this section. At the discretion of the relevant Regional Vice Chair, this request may be submitted for approval at a DPCA global meeting, with vote allocations and other administrative details to be changed within 30 days of the close of that meeting.

A Transnational Committee may file a joint request for secession to the relevant Regional Vice Chair, with a group of members represented at the time of the request by that Transnational Committee. The primary purpose of the request must be to reduce the geographic area represented by the Transnational Committee and to establish a new Transnational Committee or Country Committee to represent all of the remaining geographic area. At the discretion of the relevant Regional Vice Chair, this request may be submitted for approval at a DPCA global meeting, with vote allocations and other administrative details to be changed within 30 days of the close of that meeting.

Each secession request must include a full application for a new Transnational Committee or Country Committee as described in Sections 5.2 and 5.3. Any group or Transnational Committee seeking to begin the process of secession must inform the relevant Regional Vice Chair before taking any concrete steps to change or create an organizational structure directly related to secession (for example, a committee to draft bylaws for the geographic area to be represented by the new Country Committee or Transnational Committee). Any changes adopted to the bylaws of the Transnational Committee related to secession must be conditional on the approval of the request at the DPCA global meeting. Additional details related to the implementation of secession may be added to the guidance document on Transnational Committees described in this section.

## **Article Six: Regions**

### **Section 6.1 (The Regions)**

Groupings of Country Committees shall be divided into the following geographical Regions: (i) Europe-Middle East-Africa; (ii) Asia-Pacific; and (iii) the Americas. The composition of Regions may be altered by a standing resolution adopted at any meeting of the DPCA by a two-thirds (2/3rds) majority of those Country Committees present in person or by proxy.

### **Section 6.2 (Regional Vice Chair)**

- (a) Each Region shall elect a Regional Vice Chair at a meeting of the Region held in odd-numbered years. Election shall be by simple majority of the votes cast by the Chairs (or Vice Chairs) of the Country Committees in the Region in attendance. Each Country Committee will be allocated two (2) votes in electing the Regional Vice Chair, to be cast respectively by the Chair or the Vice Chair. A proxy may only be issued between Chair and Vice Chair within a given Country Committee. Voting shall be in person or electronically. The term of office of a Regional Vice Chair shall be for a two (2)- year period or until the election of a successor at the next Regional meeting during an odd-numbered year, provided that the election shall take place prior to the conclusion of the Global Meeting in odd-numbered years.

- (b) In the event of a vacancy of the office of Regional Vice Chair, including the resignation or removal of a Regional Vice Chair in accordance with Section 2.4, the Executive Committee of the DPCA shall proceed immediately with the nomination of a replacement. A meeting to confirm a Regional Vice Chair shall be held within ninety (90) days of the nomination of the replacement by the Executive Committee of the DPCA, provided that 30 days' notice, including the date, time, location, and purpose of the meeting, is sent to all regional electors. The meeting shall be accessible for remote participation via live on-line audio and video conferencing services. The confirmation vote shall follow the same election procedures as set forth in Section 6.2(a). If the replacement fails to be confirmed, a DPCA officer shall serve as Chair pro-tem of the meeting, take nominations from the floor, and conduct an immediate election with votes cast by those in attendance. The person elected shall serve out the balance of the term. For the purposes of Section 4.2(c), a person elected to serve out the balance of a term for a period of less than 365 days shall not be deemed to have served a full term.
- (c) Regional Vice Chairs must be members of Democrats Abroad and must have their principal residence in the Region for which they are elected.

### **Section 6.3 (Duties of Regional Vice Chairs)**

The Regional Vice Chairs shall, under the direction of the International Chair, promote cooperation among the Country Committees in the respective Regions and implement any Regional programs or plans adopted by the Regional Committees, provided such programs or plans have been approved by the International Chair in consultation with the Executive Committee.

### **Section 6.4 (Regional Meetings and Communication)**

Members of Democrats Abroad residing in a Region may meet by appropriate means of communication to consider matters relating to that Region. The Regional Vice Chair shall preside over such Regional meetings. In the absence of the Regional Vice Chair, the members of Democrats Abroad in attendance at the meeting shall elect a Presiding Officer *pro-tem*. The rules applicable to such meetings shall be the same as those applicable to DPCA meetings.

To the extent feasible, Regional meetings shall be held in those countries that so request. A prompt report of each meeting shall be made to the DPCA by the Secretary *pro-tem* of the meeting.

## **Article Seven: Democratic National Committee**

### **Section 7.1 (DNC Members)**

The Members of the Democratic National Committee representing Democrats Abroad shall be:

- (a) The International Chair and International Vice Chair of the DPCA, *ex officio*;
- (b) Six (6) additional DNC Members to be elected as provided in Section 7.2 (or such lesser or greater number of additional members determined by the DNC), no more than one (1) of whom shall be resident in the same country.

## **Section 7.2 (Election of DNC Members)**

Each of the six (6) elected DNC Members shall be eligible to serve in such position for no more than two (2) consecutive full terms and shall be elected for a term of four (4) years at a meeting of the DPCA to be held during the year of the National Convention, to be chosen as follows:

- (a) At Regional Conventions held pursuant to a duly authorized and accepted Delegate Selection Plan, the delegates to each Regional Convention elected under the Plan shall elect one (1) DNC Member from that Region by majority vote of delegates physically present;
- (b) The remaining DNC Members to represent Democrats Abroad shall be elected by majority vote of the Democrats Abroad Convention (excluding the incumbent elected DNC Members);

The International Chair and International Vice Chair of the DPCA may not cumulate membership as *ex officio* members and as elected DNC Members. Elected DNC Members need not be DPCA Members. All Democrats Abroad DNC Members must have their principal residence abroad and their number shall be equally divided between men and women.

## **Section 7.3 (Vacancy)**

Any vacancy occurring among the elected DNC Members shall be filled by the Executive Committee of the DPCA, subject to confirmation at the next meeting of the DPCA for the At-Large elected DNC Members, and at a Regional meeting for the Regionally elected DNC Members. At such meeting, nominations shall be taken from the floor, and a replacement DNC Member shall be elected for the unexpired remainder of the term, by a majority vote of the DPCA, excluding the remaining elected DNC Members.

A person elected to serve out the balance of a term for a period of less than 730 days shall not be deemed to have served a full term.

## **Article Eight: National Convention**

### **Section 8.1 (Delegate Selection)**

Delegates to the National Convention of the Democratic Party or Democratic Party Conferences shall be elected by the members of Democrats Abroad pursuant to procedures to be established by the DPCA in accordance with the Delegate Selection Rules and Regulations of the Democratic Party of the United States of America and such other rules, regulations, and procedures adopted by the DNC.

## **Article Nine: Finances**

### **Section 9.1 (Contributions by Country Committees)**

Each Country Committee shall make its best efforts to assist the DPCA in meeting the expenses of Democrats Abroad, in accordance with general policies to be determined from time to time by the DPCA by means of standing resolutions. Each Officer and DNC Member shall make her or his best efforts to assure that Democrats Abroad is adequately funded. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed as an obligation to contribute personally to the financial resources of Democrats Abroad.

## **Article Ten: Parliamentary Authority**

### **Section 10.1 (Parliamentary Authority)**

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this Charter and any special rules of order that the DPCA may adopt.

## **Article Eleven: Amendments**

### **Section 11.1 (Amendments)**

This Charter may be amended by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3rds) of the votes cast under the procedure provided for in Sections 3.6 and 3.7, at a regularly constituted meeting of the DPCA. Such qualified majority must include votes from at least one-third (1/3rd) of all Country Committees.

Notwithstanding any other provision in this Charter, casting votes to amend the Charter by letter or electronic means shall not be permitted unless there has been discussion of the amendment at the immediately preceding meeting.

The text of any proposed amendment shall be circulated with the notice of any meeting where said amendment shall be discussed or voted upon.

### **Section 11.2 (Review, Certification, and Distribution of Charter Amendments)**

Within 30-days of any amendment to this Charter that is duly passed by the DPCA according to Section 11.1, the International Secretary, or the secretary designated to record such amendments, shall submit the minutes and record of such amendments or changes to the International Counsel. Within 15-days of receipt, the International Counsel, in consultation with the Bylaws Committee (or other relevant committee as constituted at the time of such amendments), shall review, revise, and correct the text to accurately reflect the amendments as voted upon by the Members. The International Counsel shall then certify and provide a final, date-stamped, version of record of this Charter, shall post it in appropriate archives (such as the Democrats Abroad Wiki Documentation Archive), and shall circulate such to all DPCA members.

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[February 4, 1978]

[October 21, 1978]

[October 20, 1979]

[June 7, 1980]

[October 11, 1980]

[November 7, 1981]

[November 15, 1986]

[November 4, 1989, Landstuhl, Germany]

[May 1, 1991]

[February 8, 1992]

[February 26, 1994, Jerusalem, Israel]

[June 17, 1994]

[March 24, 2002, San Jose, Costa Rica]

[March 20, 2005, Toronto, Canada]

[September 21, 2005, by electronic vote]

[October 22, 2005, Barcelona, Spain]

[March 4, 2006, Washington, DC]

[March 17, 2007, Heidelberg, Germany]

[March 19, 2011, Seoul, Republic of Korea]

[September 19, 2011, by electronic vote]

[May 1, 2015, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic]

[May 12, 2016, Berlin, Germany]

[May 17, 2017, Washington, DC]

[July 29, 2017, by electronic vote]

[May 27, 2018, Tokyo, Japan]

[April 26, 2019, Charter Reconciliation Comm. Audit]

[May 19, 2019, Washington, DC]

[May 15, 2021, by electronic vote]

[August 21, 2021, by electronic vote]