



DEMOCRATS ABROAD [INSERT CC]: OFFICIAL PRESS KIT Template

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Replace the links above with your own country committee social media handles

- I. *Frequently Asked Questions*
- II. *Our Objectives*
- III. *What can Democrats Abroad [INSERT CC HERE] offer journalists and the media?*
- IV. *Important dates and events*
- V. *Fast facts on U.S. elections*

Press Requests

In person, phone, radio, and video interviews are available upon request. Democrats Abroad leaders possess a wealth of knowledge on key issues facing citizens abroad and the elections process.

For enquiries and requests, please contact:

insert your CC press administrator / coordinator contact details here

I. Frequently Asked Questions

What is Democrats Abroad?

Democrats Abroad (DA) is the official Democratic Party arm for the millions of US citizens living outside the United States. Our goals are to mobilize the overseas vote to elect Democratic candidates and help Americans abroad amplify the issues that matter to them. As the Democratic Party Committee Abroad (DPCA), we are considered a state party within the Democratic National Committee. The Democratic Party is the only major American political party that affords its members abroad this opportunity (the Republican Party does not have an equivalent organization of this status).

How do people become members of Democrats Abroad?

Membership is open to any American citizen living abroad who is, or will be, of voting age at the time of the next Federal election, and who supports the principles of the Democratic Party. *There is no loyalty oath, dues or fees, or past voting record required for membership.*

What is the mission of Democrats Abroad?

To mobilize the overseas vote, elect Democratic candidates and help Americans abroad amplify the issues that matter to them.

How long has Democrats Abroad been active?

Democrats Abroad has been continuously active since committees were established in Paris and London in 1964. This year is our 60th anniversary.

Where is Democrats Abroad active?

We're present across 6 continents with 48 active country committees and members in 200 countries who vote in every U.S. state and congressional district. Our reach extends into engaged communities of Americans around the world. **insert any information about your local chapters in this section but do NOT provide membership numbers**

How is Democrats Abroad funded?

Democrats Abroad relies almost entirely on donations from American citizens, both abroad and living in the US. All US citizens are welcome to donate to our efforts.

Are all votes from abroad counted?

By law in the United States, every absentee vote is counted in each election. With the exception of the global primary -when ballots are tabulated by Democrats Abroad- votes from abroad are returned to their local election office and then tabulated.

On election day, the press often makes projections by "calling" an election, based on exit polling and sometimes when the number of absentee ballots doesn't exceed the margin of victory for a given candidate, but those are not official results.

Every official vote total, and the official results, include every single valid ballot.

In close races where there are more absentee votes than the number of votes separating two candidates, that race will be deemed "too close to call" by the press, and no winner can be determined before each absentee ballot is counted.

II. Our Objectives

What exactly does DA do?

Our main areas of activity are:

- In presidential election years we run an official Democratic presidential primary so Americans abroad can cast their vote for the party's presidential nominee.
- Help select the Democratic presidential nominee. This August we will send delegates to the Democratic National Convention (DNC) in Chicago, reflecting our primary results.
- Represent citizens abroad at all meetings of the DNC. We elect 8 members to represent us at the Democratic National Committee and in all DNC meetings.

What is Democrats Abroad doing in 2024?

Everything we can to turn out the vote!

Democrats Abroad is mobilizing volunteers to: make sure overseas voters know they have the right to vote; support voters in successfully requesting and returning their overseas absentee ballot in time to be counted; and calling/texting/post carding voters both abroad and stateside to remind them to vote and why it's so important in 2024.

As the official state party representing overseas Democratic voters, Democrats Abroad held its Global Presidential Primary from March 5 through March 12, 2024, with over 100 voting center events in 40+ countries around the world. This was the only opportunity for Americans living abroad to cast an election ballot in person, some for the very first time, and generated strong global media interest.

Democrats Abroad [insert CC here and any information about your 2024 GPP activities]

Previous coverage:

[insert any clips or links to show press coverage in your CC]

Why does our work matter?

Overseas votes have been the margin of victory in battleground states – that's why the DNC is doubling down on our efforts to get Americans living abroad to register, vote, and return their ballot on time, in every election across the country.

In 2020, Democrats Abroad country committees around the world collectively secured enough votes in Arizona (18,483) and Georgia (18,867) to hand President Biden the win.

STATE	2020 OVERSEAS TURNOUT	2020 MARGIN FOR BIDEN
ARIZONA	18,483	10,457
GEORGIA	18,867	11,779

* Data from the Electoral Assistance Commission's 2020 Election Administration and Voting Surveys

III. What can Democrats Abroad offer the media?

Key Spokespeople

Place your available speakers with their name, title, voting state, and short bios in this section. Also add any languages that are spoken fluently.

Story ideas

- Small voting blocs can make a big difference in U.S. national elections, and Americans living overseas could decide who becomes the next U.S. president.
- How might American voters living abroad affect the U.S. national election, considering we are not counted in polls leading up to this decisive moment?
- How is the US economy affecting the attitudes and decisions of American voters abroad?
- What issues do American voters living abroad care about most in 2024? What motivates people to cast their ballots, and for whom?
- Democrats Abroad is conducting voter registration drives between now and October
[insert details about any upcoming GOTV events your CC has]

IV. Important dates and events for your calendar

It's going to be a busy U.S. election cycle. Democrats Abroad has a full calendar of events and we are always adding more. Many of these are occasions to engage directly with DA officials and American voters, along with photo and video moments.

If you have an idea for a story (digital or print), get in touch and we'll do our best to arrange a suitable opportunity.

- June 27: First U.S. Presidential Debate
- July 15 -18, 2024: Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- July 15-18, 2024: Democrats Abroad Primer on the Democratic Convention (online only; must RSVP)
- August 18-22, 2024: Democratic National Convention in Chicago, Illinois
- September 10: Second U.S. Presidential Debate
- September 25, 2024: U.S. Vice-Presidential Debate
- November 5, 2024: U.S. Elections
- By December 11, 2024—Electors Appointed
The State Executive of each state signs the Certificate of Ascertainment to appoint the electors chosen in the general election
- December 17, 2024—Electors vote
The electors in each state meet to select the President and Vice President of the United States.
- January 6, 2025—Congress counts the vote
Congress meets in a joint session to count the electoral votes (unless Congress passes a law to change the date from a Saturday or Sunday).
- January 20, 2025—Inauguration Day
The President-Elect is sworn in as President of the United States

V. Fast Facts on U.S. Elections

On 5 November 2024, U.S. citizens will go to the polls to elect the president, 435 members of the House of Representatives and 33 senators, as well as state and local officials.

What is the Electoral College?

The Electoral College is uniquely American, in part a compromise by the Founding Fathers between the election of the President by Congress and election of the President by a popular vote of citizens. Thus, Americans do not vote directly for their president, but rather choose members of the Electoral College who then meet in December and cast their votes based on how the majority of voters in their state cast their ballots on election day.

How many electoral votes does it take to win the presidency?

The Electoral College consists of 538 electors. A majority of 270 electoral votes is required to elect the President

Is the Electoral College outdated?

Arguments for abolishing the electoral college include that doing so would allow for a more representative “one person, one vote” democracy. Doing so would also eliminate “swing states” where a disproportionate amount of campaign resources and attention are now focused. The Democratic Party has no official position on the subject.

Electoral College Votes By State with Battleground States to Watch in Blue

