

Global Presidential Primary (GPP) Deadlines and Decisions for Country Committee Chairs

Country Committees must be compliant by December 31, 2015

The DA Charter sets out the main criteria for compliance. Watch DPCA-Leadership for the forthcoming document with more information on Country Committee compliance. Note that voters residing in non-compliant countries can still vote in the GPP by mail, email, or fax.

Voting Center decisions must be communicated by December 31, 2015

The GPP Team will circulate an online form to make the following information easy to submit in all ordinary cases. Any Country Committee that needs a waiver should begin communicating with the GPP Team or a Regional Vice Chair as soon as possible and obtain all the waivers before December 31, 2015.

Total number of Voting Centers established by a Country Committee

- A Country Committee must have at least as many Voting Centers as recognized chapters. If a Country Committee does not have multiple recognized chapters, then it must establish at least one Voting Center.
- Each Country Committee is requested to establish as many as the Country Committee had in 2012 if possible. Additional Voting Centers are permitted and are not expected to set requirements for the future.
- Any request for a waiver for good cause from the required number of Voting Centers must be submitted in writing, and early enough to ensure that, by December 31, either the DPCA Executive Committee grants a waiver or the Country Committee complies if not granted a waiver.

Addresses of the Voting Centers established by a Country Committee

- The addresses of each Voting Center and when each Voting Center will be open for voting must be sent to the International Chair by December 31.
- Every Voting Center must meet the criteria of accessibility in the Delegate Selection Plan. Requests for waivers to allow a Voting Center in a private home must be submitted in writing to the International Chair before December 31 and resolved (approved or rejected with a non-private location substituted) by December 31.

Voting Center Managers

- Each Voting Center will be run by one Manager. A list of Voting Center Managers for the Country Committee, including names and contact information, should be sent to the International Chair by December 31.

Other decisions to be communicated by December 31, 2015

- The name, email address, and mailing address of the Country Committee Chair or designee who will receive requests for absentee ballots from January 11, and the name and mailing address of the Country Committee Chair or designee who will receive absentee ballots returned by mail, up to March 13.
- Whether a Country Committee opts to hold a First-Tier Caucus to determine the delegation from that Country Committee to its Regional Caucus. If a Country Committee does not hold a First-Tier Caucus, then its delegation consists of the elected officers at the country level and the recognized chapters' chairs.

Important Dates for Handling Absentee Ballots

Ballots returned by fax or by email go directly to the International Chair by March 8, 2016.

Ballots from voters in areas with a Country Committee may be mailed to the Country Committee Chair or the International Chair. Ballots from other areas must be mailed to the International Chair.

January 11, 2016: Earliest date that Country Committee Chairs (and the International Chair) must respond to valid requests for absentee ballots by sending a blank ballot by email, mail, or fax.

March 13, 2016: Last date that Country Committee Chairs (and the International Chair) must accept absentee ballots sent by mail. All absentee ballots collected should be sent to the International Chair (in Prien, Germany) on this date.

The Last Deadline for Country Committees for the 2016 DSP

April 13, 2016: The names of Regional Caucus electors from each Country Committee. These names will either be (1) the elected officers at the country level and chapters' chairs, or (2) the electors selected at the First-Tier Caucus for the Country Committee.

Other Deadlines, for your information

December 31, 2015: The deadline for each of the Regional Vice Chairs to determine the date, time, and place of their respective Regional Caucuses.

January 4, 2016: The deadline for Presidential Candidates to:

- gain access to the Global Presidential Primary;
- certify the name of the authorized representative to Democrats Abroad; and
- submit concrete steps to ensure that their delegation achieves affirmative action goals, including defraying expenses of delegates otherwise unable to participate.

March 21: The deadline for the International Chair to establish the percentages of presidential preferences resulting from the Global Presidential Primary, and to notify Regional Vice Chairs of the allocation of delegates to each Regional Caucus, based on the democratic strength of each region.

March 24: The deadline to apply as a candidate for At-Large Delegate elected at Regional Caucuses. (Candidates may apply as candidate for At-Large Delegate elected at Global Convention, Alternate, or PLEO with the same notice.)

April 14: The deadline to apply as a candidate for At-Large Delegate elected at Global Convention, Alternate, or PLEO.