**Resolution urging action on Gun Violence Prevention**

*Proposed by Sanchi Rohira (DA-India)*

*Sponsored by Susan Alksnis (Co Chair, Progressive Caucus; Canada, DPCA Voting Rep)*

WHEREAS every day an average of 100 Americans are killed with guns and hundreds more are shot and injured[[1]](#footnote-1);

WHEREAS as of October 27th 2018, a total of 307 mass shooting incidents had occurred in the United States since the beginning of that year (Gun Violence Archive, 2018)

WHEREAS at the end of 2018, the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention reported that approximately 40,000 people died due to guns in 2017 and that gun deaths in the United States are at the highest in 50 years2;

WHEREAS firearms are reported to be the second leading cause of death for American children3;

WHEREAS March 2018 saw one among the largest youth-led protest movements in modern US history, the March For Our Lives, which called for comprehensive gun safety legislation at the local, state and federal levels;

WHEREAS the American people elected a gun-sense-majority to the United States House of Representatives during the 2018 midterm elections;

WHEREAS the March For Our Lives had over 800 sister-marches and rallies across the United States and around the world, many of the latter of which were organized and supported by Democrats Abroad members and country chapters;

WHEREAS in March 2018, Democrats Abroad invited all members to join the March For Our Lives’ call for stronger gun control;

WHEREAS in March 2018, Democrats Abroad initiated and conducted a ‘Virtual March For Our Lives’4;

WHEREAS by virtue of currently residing in countries with tougher firearm regulations, Democrats Abroad members closely witness the effectiveness of such legislation in preventing the rampant loss of life that is seen in the United States;

WHEREAS Democrats Abroad members are concerned by the possibility of their friends and family, who continue to reside in the United States, experiencing gun violence of various kinds;

WHEREAS Democrats Abroad members therefore acknowledge the possibility of societal life free from gun violence and strongly wish for its implementation in the United States;

WHEREAS the 2016 Democrats Abroad Platform calls for universal and complete background checks, greater control of assault weapons and ammunition, funding gun violence research, abolition of all “Stand Your Ground” and “Open Carry” laws, and other measures to help ensure dangerous people are prohibited from having guns;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Democrats Abroad will actively campaign for the support and enactment of gun-sense legislation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Democrats Abroad will call on the Democratic National Committee to urge all policymakers to actively prioritize gun violence prevention legislation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Democrats Abroad will urge the Democratic National Committee and the Party as a whole to strive for the enactment of policy goals such as:

* the strengthening and making required universal of background checks on gun sales,
* better monitoring, and extending said background checks to, online gun sales,
* better funding the CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) to conduct federal research on gun violence,
* the elimination of ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives) restrictions, which disable the proper monitoring of gun sales
* high-capacity magazine bans,
* the banning of the manufacturing and selling of semi-automatic assault rifles and the introduction of programs which manage those already owned (for example: registering them under a federal database/offering to buy them back),
* a stricter disarmament of domestic abusers and high risk individuals,
* pathways for better coordination between local, state and federal law enforcement to prevent individuals likely to perpetrate gun related crimes from accessing firearms;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Democrats Abroad will call on the Democratic National Committee and the Party to recognize gun violence as a public health issue.

1. ,3 "Gun Violence In America - Everytownresearch.Org". 2019. *Everytownresearch.Org*. <https://everytownresearch.org/gun-violence-america/>.

2 Nearly 40,000 People Died From Guns In U.S. Last Year, Highest In 50 Years". 2019. *Nytimes.Com*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/18/us/gun-deaths.html>.

4 "Dems Abroad Marches For Our Lives". 2019. *Democrats Abroad*. <https://www.democratsabroad.org/dems_abroad_marches_for_our_lives>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)