

**March 2022**

## **DEMOCRATS ABROAD GREECE**

### **BYLAWS**

#### **Article I. Name**

1. These Bylaws govern the non-profit organization “Democrats Abroad Greece”, abbreviated as “DAGR”, formally recognized in Greece as “Σύλλογος Δημοκρατικού Κόμματος Η.Π.Α. στην Ελλάδα”.
2. The headquarters jurisdiction of DAGR for Greek legal purposes is the Municipality of Athens. The physical address of DAGR’s headquarters within the Municipality can be changed without an amendment to the Bylaws.

#### **Article II. Purpose and Relationship to Democrats Abroad**

1. The founding members of DAGR express their intent to reinforce the ideals of a democratic state and in particular to advance the interests and ideals of the Democratic Party of the United States (the “Democratic Party”) and of The Democratic Party Committee Abroad (the “DPCA” or “Democrats Abroad”), as stated in the Charter of the Democratic Party and the DPCA Bylaws, and to provide for appropriate action by its supporters residing in Greece. To this end, DAGR will:
  - a. Help build and support the community of American citizens living in Greece who support the Democratic Party;
  - b. Support mutual political and cultural understanding between the peoples of Greece and the United States;
  - c. Spread the values, principles and policies of the Democratic Party;
  - d. Provide information regarding the Democratic Party and its candidates for election.
  - e. Share U.S. election information and assist U.S. citizens in Greece to exercise their voting rights.
  - f. Collaborate closely with the international organization of the Democratic Party Committee Abroad (the “DPCA” or “Democrats Abroad”), that has been recognized by the Democratic Party of the United States as the official organization representing American Democrats residing outside of the United States.
2. Democrats Abroad Greece will take all necessary steps to maintain its recognition as a Country Committee within the DPCA, as a member of the European-Middle East-Africa (EMEA) Region.

#### **Article III. Means**

For the purposes above, DAGR will engage in a range of lawful activities that may include:

- a. Organizing political, cultural, social, environmental, and other events.
- b. Organizing lectures, presentations, distribution of printed materials, and other activities concerning the policies, values, candidates, and issues affecting the Democratic Party.
- c. Maintenance of an internet presence, in English and/or Greek, to publicize the work and message of DAGR.
- d. Maintenance of office space in Athens.
- e. Supporting the policies and election mobilization of the Democratic Party in Greece by any other suitable and effective means.

#### **Article IV. Resources**

The income and resources of DAGR are derived from:

- a. Contributions in money, time, material goods, and services from U.S. citizens and legally registered U.S. political organizations in Greece and elsewhere.
- b. Income from any property, including real estate, intellectual property, that may be obtained by DAGR from members, other individuals, public or private entities.
- c. Any other support compliant with Greek and US law and regulations.

#### **Article V. Financial Management**

1. Income and resources can be expended only in order to serve the operational needs and advance the purposes of DAGR. The fiscal year runs from 1 January to 31 December of each calendar year.
2. The Executive Committee decides, supervises, and bears responsibility for every expenditure made by DAGR, in accordance with applicable Greek and US law and the bylaws of DAGR. It is therefore required to maintain a record as necessary to track all income and expenses in an uninterrupted, clear, and controllable manner.

#### **Article VI. Members**

1. Members must be citizens of the United States, of voting age, who subscribe to the principles of the Democratic Party of the United States and of Democrats Abroad, are resident in Greece, and submit a written request, in person or electronically. This request must include full identifying and contact information. The Executive Committee has the power to reject a request where doubt exists that the applicant fulfills the criteria for membership.
2. To the extent possible, all the various elements of the Democratic Party and of the Democratic Party community in Greece shall be represented within the organization.

#### **Article VII. Rights and Obligations of Membership**

1. All members have the right to participate in DAGR activities, to be informed of those activities, and to take part in regular or special general assemblies of the members.
2. The approved membership application and the list of members include personal information on the member's name, mail and email addresses, telephone and fax numbers and U.S. voting district, state and other information. The membership records shall be

maintained by the Secretary in such a manner in order to protect the information therein, pursuant to applicable data protection rules.

3. Each member has the right to inspect and correct his or her data in the membership records. Membership records shall otherwise not be open to inspection except by the Executive Committee and persons authorized by it, notably the database manager. No use of the membership database is permitted for purposes other than those related to the activities of the Democratic Party, of Democrats Abroad or of Democrats Abroad Greece. No candidate for any office may use or access the membership database for the purposes of campaigning for office or soliciting votes or proxies.
4. Membership in Democrats Abroad Greece automatically results in membership in Democrats Abroad. By becoming a member of Democrats Abroad Greece, the member consents to the delivery of his/her name, mail and e-mail addresses, telephone and fax numbers and U.S. voting district/State and other information contained on the membership list of the organization to the DPCA and to such lawful use thereof as the DPCA shall make from time to time. The current list of members as maintained by the Secretary pursuant to Article VI shall be delivered to the appropriate officers of the DPCA no later than January 31 of each year in such form and format as the DPCA shall from time to time require.

## **Article VIII. Cessation of Membership**

1. Every member is free to resign from membership, through a declaration made to the Executive Committee.
2. A member who by her or his actions demonstrates that she or he no longer subscribes to the principles of the Democratic Party of the United States and of Democrats Abroad may be excluded from membership by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Executive Committee; provided however that such vote may only be taken after the member has had reasonable notice (no less than 30 days) of the Executive Committee's intention to exclude the member and has had reasonable opportunity to contest the proposed action by the Executive Committee. The next general meeting held after this decision has the power irrevocably to confirm or override this decision.
3. The secretary will remove members from the rolls if they have died or have moved out of Greece permanently. A former member may be reinstated on the same conditions as a new member.

## **Article IX. Governing Bodies**

The governing institutions of DAGR are:

- a. The General Meeting (GM)
- b. The Executive Committee (ExCom).

## **Article X. General Meetings**

1. The General Meeting of members is the supreme decision-making organ of DAGR.
2. Every registered member has the right to participate in the General Meeting, including by granting a proxy to another member. Proxy forms shall be kept with the minutes of those

meetings. All proxies shall be in writing or by printable electronic means and shall be signed either physically or electronically. The proxy shall name the person to whom the proxy is being given and may be (i) either general or limited, (ii) uninstructed or instructed and (iii) transferable to another person or non-transferable. Proxies may not be used to determine whether a quorum is present. A proxy may be given during the course of a meeting if the proxy giver must leave the meeting temporarily or permanently. No member shall hold more than three proxies.

## **Article XI. Convoking General Meetings**

1. General Meetings can be regular or special. The regular general meeting of members shall be held no later than March 31 of each year **and no later than January 31 in DAGR Executive Committee election years**. A special general meeting can be held when called by (i) the Chair, (ii) one-third of the Executive Committee; or (iii) 10% of the membership who require the holding of a meeting.
2. The General Meeting convenes following an invitation by the Executive Committee specifying the place (physical and/or virtual), the date, day, and hour, and the agenda items to be discussed. These invitations are signed by the Chair or his/her deputy and are directed personally to each member, by postal mail, fax, or email, at the address each member has declared.
3. Meetings of Democrats Abroad Greece may be held in person or by video-conference or such electronic means as the Executive Committee may from time to time approve by a 3/4ths majority.

## **Article XII. Quorum and Decisions of the General Meeting**

1. A General Meeting has a quorum when attended by at least twenty **(20) members**.
2. Decisions are taken by an absolute majority of those voting. Each member in attendance at the General Meeting is entitled to one personal vote and one vote for each absent member whose proxy he or she holds.
3. If the General Assembly falls short of a quorum, it shall be convened again within eight days, in the same place, with the same agenda. This reconvened General Meeting can make valid decisions regardless of the number of members in attendance.
4. Decisions at such Meetings are taken by an absolute majority of the members in attendance.
5. General Meetings held with the purpose of amending these Bylaws or dissolving the Organization require the attendance of **more than half the registered members**. Decisions on these matters require a majority of two-thirds of those members present and voting. In the event a quorum is not achieved, a new General Meeting shall be convened, subject to the same special quorum and voting majority requirement.

## **Article XIII. Presidium and minutes of the General Meeting**

1. The Executive Committee Chair or the Chair's deputy presides over the opening of the General Meeting, and invites the membership to elect one member of the Organization as Chair of the General Meeting, and another as Secretary, to keep the minutes of the

session. The General Meeting may elect an assistant secretary to assist in keeping the minutes. Members of the Executive Committee may serve in these roles if other members are unwilling. The meeting Chair and Secretary constitute the Presidium of the General Meeting, which decides on all procedural issues. In the event of a tie vote of the Presidium, the vote of the Chair shall prevail. Before beginning the meeting, the Presidium will examine the registry of members, determine the presence of a quorum, and record its determination in the minutes. All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with a widely used handbook of parliamentary procedure.

2. The Minutes of General Meeting sessions will be entered in summary form in a record book, signed by the Chair and the Secretary. On the request of a member, the Chair shall cause to be entered in the record book an accurate summary of the opinion of the requestor.

## **Article XIV. Powers of the General Meeting**

The General Meeting of members is the ultimate authority on DAGR issues.

- a. Every two years it elects the officers and members-at-large of the Executive Committee, and any Voting Representatives or Non-Voting Representatives to which DAGR is entitled.
- b. It exercises control over the performance of the Executive Committee in the preceding period.
- c. It approves or disapproves the accounts and the report of the Chair and the Treasurer for the preceding calendar year, and the budget for the new year. The relevant information is submitted to the General Meeting in writing before proceedings begin, and presented orally by the Chair or the appropriate member of the Executive Committee. Approval of the reports submitted by the Executive Committee implies the cessation of its members' responsibility to the Organization for its conduct during the preceding year.
- d. Approves, upon a proposal by the Executive Committee, amendments to the Bylaws or dissolution of the Organization.
- e. Confirms the expulsion of a member or an expelled member's readmission.
- f. Decides on any other subject placed on the agenda in writing by the Executive Committee or by ten percent (10%) of the membership.

## **Article XV. Executive Committee**

1. DAGR is governed and represented by the Executive Committee (Executive Committee), which is elected by the General Meeting and comprises 11 members, a number that may be increased if additional chapters are approved. The term of the Executive Committee is two years. No Country or Chapter Officer can serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.
2. The Country Officers of Democrats Abroad Greece shall be the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Counsel. The Executive Committee is composed of the five Country Officers, the Chapter Chairs; one (1) voting Chapter Representative elected by each Chapter; and two (2) At-Large members elected from the membership for those areas of Democrats Abroad Greece not represented by a Chapter. All members of the Executive Committee shall be members of Democrats Abroad Greece at the time of their election.

3. The Chapter Representative on the Executive Committee shall be elected at a meeting of members of the respective Chapter held within the first three (3) months of each odd numbered year. The results of such elections shall be certified by the Chapter Chair to the Country Secretary.
4. In compliance with the rules of the Democratic Party, the Vice-Chair shall be of the opposite gender from the Chair.

## **Article XVI. Removal from Office**

1. Any Country Officer or member of the Executive Committee may be removed from office by a vote of two-thirds of those present at a duly convened General Meeting or of those voting in a duly organized membership vote by mail, fax or electronic ballot on the question. Notice of any meeting under this Article must be given in writing to the membership at least 30 days in advance. A Chapter Chair can be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the Chapter Membership, on the same terms as other Executive Committee members.
2. If the position of Country Chair becomes vacant for whatever reason, the Vice-Chair shall succeed to the office of Chair and a special election shall be held to fill the office of Vice-Chair.
3. A vacancy among the Country Officers, Chapter Chairs or members of the County Executive Committee shall exist when such member has (i) resigned or ceased to reside in the Territory or (ii) has been removed pursuant to the procedures referred to in Article XVI.2. Any vacancy shall be filled by special election held at a meeting of the general or chapter members of the organization, respectively, no less than 30 days and no more than 60 days from the date of the vacancy, in conformity with Article XI hereof. Until such vacancy is filled, the Country Chair may appoint at his or her discretion a member to fill the vacancy on a temporary basis. Any member elected at a special election to replace a vacancy shall serve only until the next regularly scheduled election pursuant to Article XXII.1.
4. For the purpose of the preceding sentence and the two consecutive terms limitation set forth in Article XV.1, 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.

## **Article XVII. Executive Committee Meetings**

1. Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at least quarterly. The Chair shall call a special session when he or she considers it necessary, or when one-third of the Executive Committee members request it, within 10 days of that request. For regular sessions, at least two (2) weeks' written notice, and for special sessions at least five days, shall be given to all Executive Committee members, with the agenda of business to be discussed included with the notice of the meeting. In extremely urgent cases, an emergency session can be convened telephonically, with at least 24 hours' notice. In a case where the Chair is unable, the Vice Chair may call the meeting. The agenda of any meeting of the Executive Committee or other committee shall include any item of business submitted in writing to the Chair in advance by two (2) members of the Executive Committee or other committee, as the case may be.
2. Decisions of the Executive Committee are taken by a majority of the members present, when a quorum of at least half the members are present in person or via teleconferencing.

3. The discussions and decisions of the Executive Committee will be recorded in the minutes, which must be discussed and approved by the Executive Committee. The minutes shall be open for inspection by members.
4. No member of the Executive Committee can refuse to sign the minutes, once approved, of a meeting at which he or she took part. Absence of a participating member's signature does not render invalid any decisions taken, provided the fact of this refusal is recorded. Each Executive Committee member has the right to have his or her opinions and objections be included in the minutes.
5. Copies and extracts of Executive Committee meeting minutes for official purposes must be signed by the Chair, the Chair's legal substitute, or the Secretary.

## **Article XVIII. General Powers and Responsibilities of the Executive Committee**

1. The Executive Committee acts with collective responsibility in its dealings with Greek authorities and third parties.
2. The Executive Committee is responsible for all decisions concerning the management of DAGR, its financial and other resources, except those decisions assigned by law or these Bylaws to the General Meeting. Its decisions will comply with Greek and United States law, these Bylaws, the Bylaws of Democrats Abroad, the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, the decisions of the General Meeting, and such rules and regulations as DAGR, Democrats Abroad and/or the Democratic Party of the United States ("DNC") shall adopt from time to time.
3. The Executive Committee may on its own responsibility assign certain of its duties to third parties, including paid professional services.
4. Executive Committee members shall receive no compensation for their participation, apart from previously approved travel expenses they might incur.
5. The Executive Committee prepares, publicizes, and presents the issues and proposals for consideration at the General Meeting. It drafts and submits for approval by the General Meeting DAGR's financial and operational reports and budget.
6. **An Environment Free of Harassment:** DAGR is committed to ensuring that all members of the organization, volunteers and participants in DAGR events are treated with dignity and respect, and that they, in turn, treat others in the same way at meetings, events and in the course of volunteering for DAGR. DAGR recognizes the right of all DAGR members to meet, work, volunteer, and attend events in an environment free of harassment and bullying. Sexual harassment occurs when the perpetrator engages in unwanted conduct of a sexual nature and has the purpose and effect referred to above. Sexual harassment also occurs when a person engages in unwanted conduct of a sexual nature that has the purpose and effect referred to above and the recipient either rejects or submits to it, and because of that rejection or submission, is treated less favorably. Conduct of a sexual nature can become sexual harassment if it continues once it has been made clear that it is regarded by the recipient as offensive and unwanted, although a single incident will be regarded as harassment if it is sufficiently serious. The clearly unwanted nature of the behavior distinguishes it from behavior that is welcome and mutual.
7. **Duties and Misconduct Regarding Sexual Harassment:** DAGR Officers have a duty to establish and strive to maintain an environment free of sexual harassment. Failure in this duty constitutes, in grave cases, unacceptable conduct that seriously harms the interests of

DAGR and the DPCA. Such a failure is grounds for disciplinary action under the DPCA Charter (Section 5.8). Such misconduct includes the following behaviors at any event or activity associated with DAGR:

- a. behavior constituting sexual harassment as described above;
- b. willful failure of responsible officer to investigate allegations of sexual harassment at any level of participation in DAGR;
- c. retaliation of any kind to allegations of sexual harassment, regardless of the results of their investigation, and
- d. willfully breaching the confidentiality of an investigation into allegations of sexual harassment.

This policy applies only to sexual harassment as described in the section above and not to other potentially unwelcome conduct. A person who feels that his/her safety is at risk due to harassment or for any other reason is encouraged to take other appropriate steps to ensure that his or her own safety, in addition to reporting the conduct to a responsible leader of DAGR. DAGR assumes no liability or responsibility for the actions of any member or event attendee. DAGR reserves the right to refer any breach of this policy that breaks criminal law in whatever jurisdiction to law enforcement as well as dealing with it under the provisions set forth in the DPCA Code of Conduct.

## **Article XIX. Specific Responsibilities and duties of Executive Committee Members**

1. The **Chair** represents DAGR with state organizations, DAGR members, and third parties, and is responsible for its operations. As the chief executive officer of the organization, the Chair shall call and preside at all meetings of the membership (until a General Meeting presidium is elected) and the Executive Committee, establishing the agenda of such meetings (subject to Article XIII.7), and shall have responsibility for all activities approved by the organization. The Chair, with the Secretary, validates any documents or extracts of official DAGR records. With the Treasurer, the Chair validates DAGR accounting documents and orders for payment. The Chair cannot, in his or her official capacity, be involved in events and activities counter to the purposes of DAGR. The Chair shall sit ex-officio on all committees and subcommittees of the organization, including Chapters, with full voting privileges.
2. In the absence of the Chair, the **Vice-Chair** shall call and preside at meetings of the membership and the Executive Committee. The Vice-Chair shall have such other duties as the Chair shall define in consultation with the Executive Committee.
3. The **Secretary** shall maintain the records and official stamp of DAGR, including the roster of members (containing all such information as Greek authorities or the DPCA may from time to time require), minutes of all meetings, and all files and administrative records of the organization. The Secretary drafts minutes of Executive Committee meetings and other reports and correspondence, in conjunction with the Chair and other members of the Executive Committee. In the absence of the Secretary, the Executive Committee may appoint one of its members to perform these duties.
4. The **Treasurer** shall manage the finances of the organization, handle its receipts and approved payments, draft annual financial reports and the budget (in consultation with



ExCom) and make and maintain such financial reports as may be required by law (including without limitation the laws and regulations of the United States and the several States applicable to political parties and contributions to them). All such records shall be open for inspection by members. The Treasurer will promptly deposit in the DAGR bank account any funds that exceed a minimum amount decided upon by the Executive Committee. Payments and cash withdrawals require prior permission from the Executive Committee. The Treasurer is accountable to the General Meeting, the Excom, and any duly appointed control committee, in the event of any financial irregularity. In the Treasurer's absence, the Executive Committee may appoint one of its members as a substitute. The Treasurer shall consult with the International Treasurer of Democrats Abroad from time to time on matters concerning the maintenance of financial records and financial reporting (notably to the United States Federal Election Commission).

5. The **Counsel** shall be available for consultation by the Executive Committee or its officers on legal and procedural questions relating to Democrats Abroad Greece and its activities. The Counsel shall consult with the International Counsel from time to time on emergent matters, including notably questions on voting issues and financial record keeping.
6. **Duties of other Executive Committee members:** The members of the Executive Committee play a constructive role, assisting the Country Officers in their duties. They can be assigned specific responsibilities in various areas, including in representing the Executive Committee in Standing and Ad Hoc committees, working groups, events, etcetera.

## **Article XX. Voting Representatives to the DPCA**

1. **Description:** The members of DAGR are represented in the DPCA by the Chair and Vice-Chair of DAGR and by DAGR's Voting Representatives, if any. DAGR's votes in the DPCA are cast by the Chair, Vice Chair, and any Voting Representatives, or by their valid proxies. The number of Voting Representatives shall be established by the Executive Committee of DAGR based on DAGR's allocation of vote numbers by the DPCA and as allowed by the DPCA Charter.
2. **Duties:** Voting Representatives may be, but need not be, members of the DAGR Executive Committee. Voting Representatives will attend meetings of the DAGR Executive Committee at which issues relevant to DPCA are on the agenda. They will attend all DPCA meetings at which they are entitled to vote, either electronically (using methods approved by the DPCA) or in person; if they are unable to attend, they will arrange effective proxies as allowed by the rules of the DPCA.
3. **Election:** Voting Representatives shall be nominated and elected in the same manner and at the same time as the DAGR Executive Committee officers. Voting Representatives may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Executive Committee present at an Executive Committee meeting upon grounds found by the Executive Committee to constitute good and sufficient cause.
4. **Term:** Voting Representatives shall serve for terms of two years or until successors are elected or they resign or are removed from office. No limit is placed on the number of terms a Voting Representative may serve.
5. **Gender:** Gender balance rules of the Democratic Party apply to the Voting Representatives. The DPCA Voting Delegation, consisting of the Chair, Vice Chair, and Voting Representatives, shall have an equal number of male and female members, unless

the combined total number of male and female members is an odd number, in which case the gender imbalance shall be no greater than one. Voting Representatives whose gender is non-binary (not categorizable as male or female) are not included in this total.

6. **Allocation of DPCA Votes:** The DPCA votes allocated to DAGR from time to time shall to the extent possible be allocated evenly among the Chair, the Vice Chair and all Voting Representatives, such that each of these persons has exactly one vote as long as such allocation is permitted or required by the DPCA Charter. However, nothing in these Bylaws shall restrict the use of proxy voting in the manner and to the extent allowed by the DPCA.
7. Where the DPCA determines in accordance with the Charter of the DPCA that a Voting Representative has ceased to be a member of the DPCA, such determination shall be deemed to be a resignation by that Voting Representative, giving rise to a vacancy.
8. Where a vacancy arises for a Voting Representative before the next-following Election Meeting of the AGM, the DAGR Chair may appoint an elected Non-Voting Representative, described in the following Article, to fill the remainder of the term as Voting Representative, subject to approval by majority vote of Executive Committee members present at the next-following meeting of the Executive Committee. The appointment must comply with the gender balance requirements that apply to the election of Voting Representatives.

## **Article XXI. Non-Voting Representatives**

1. **Description and duties:** DAGR shall elect a number of Non-Voting Representatives to the DPCA equal to the number of Voting Representatives plus one. Non-Voting Representatives shall be nominated, elected, and removed in the same manner and according to the same gender, term, and other rules as Voting Representatives. Non-Voting Representatives must be able to serve effectively when required in the place of absent members of the DAGR's DPCA Voting Delegation. Therefore, they will attend Executive Committee and DPCA meetings in accordance with the requirements for Voting Representatives stated in Article XX.2.
2. **Term:** DPCA Non-Voting Representatives shall serve for terms of two years or until successors are elected or they resign or are removed from office or they become Voting Representatives in accordance with Section XX.8 above.
3. Where a vacancy arises for a Non-Voting Representative before the next-following Election Meeting of the AGM, the DAGR Chair may appoint a DAGR member to fill the remainder of the term as Non-Voting Representative, subject to approval by majority vote of Executive Committee members present at the next-following meeting of the Executive Committee. This appointment must comply with the gender balance requirements that apply to the election of Non-Voting Representatives.

## **Article XXII. Nominations and Elections**

1. Elections to select members of the Executive Committee will be conducted by a specially constituted Nominations Committee before the end of January in each odd-numbered year, at the conclusion of the respective general and chapter meetings of the Organization. In the event of a serious problem, elections can be briefly postponed by decision of the Executive Committee.

2. At least two months prior to the annual general meeting, a three-member committee to nominate candidates (the "Nominations Committee") for election to country and chapter offices shall be named by the Chair with the approval of the Executive Committee. At the meeting approving the appointment of the Nominations Committee, the Executive Committee shall decide, in view of local circumstances and to promote the greatest participation, whether the elections shall be conducted (i) by mail, fax or electronic ballot; (ii) by vote in person or by proxy; or (iii) by a combination of the above, and shall adopt rules with respect to the election. The Nominations Committee shall notify its nominations to the membership no less than 30 days prior to the annual general meeting and no less than 21 days prior to a Chapter elections meeting.
3. In the case of a special election held to fill a vacancy pursuant to Article XVI, the Nominations Committee shall be appointed immediately upon the occurrence of the vacancy and shall notify its nominations to the membership no less than 15 days prior to the meeting at which the special election will be held.
4. Members of the Nominating committee may not be candidates for election to the Executive Committee.
5. All DAGR members, apart from members of the nominating committee, have the right to nominate themselves as candidates. If the elections are to be conducted by mail, fax or electronic ballot, any member of the organization wishing to run for an office who was not nominated by the Nominations Committee shall declare his/her candidacy at least 14 days before the respective elections meeting by a letter, fax or email addressed to the Chair of the Nominations Committee. The Secretary shall send ballots by mail, fax or electronically to the membership of the organization no earlier than 13 days before the respective elections meeting and no later than 7 days before such meeting. If the elections are conducted with the use of postal or digital ballots, no nominations may be made during the course of the General Meeting, except when there is no declared candidate for an office to be filled.
6. In order to comply with the gender balance rule in Article XV.4, the election of the country Chair shall determine the gender required for the election of the Vice Chair; in the event that the majority of votes for Vice Chair results in the election of a candidate of the same gender as the elected Chair, such election shall be invalidated due to ineligibility to serve and the Vice Chair position deemed vacant, thereby requiring a special election for the Vice Chair position in accordance with Articles XVI and XXII.3.
7. In the event that the election of Voting Representatives or Non-Voting Representatives produces a result that violates the gender balance rule, the election of the VR or NVR receiving the smallest number of votes will be invalidated, and a special election called.
8. The chair of the General Meeting shall yield to the members of the Nominations Committee to conduct the elections. Democratic Party rules require that ballots must be signed by the voter and open to inspection by the membership.
9. The election results shall be entered in the Minutes of the General Meeting and signed by the Presidium.

### **Article XXIII. Record-Keeping**

1. DAGR is required to keep the following records:
  - a. Register of members

- b. General Meeting minutes
  - c. Executive Committee minutes
  - d. Income-Expense register
  - e. Property register
  - f. Register of incoming and outgoing correspondence.
2. In addition, DAGR must keep any other records required by local authorities or its own operations (donors, volunteers, etc.). These records must be maintained in a safe manner and validated where required by the appropriate authorities.

## **Article XXIV. Standing and other Committees**

1. The Chair may create standing or ad hoc committees with duties the Chair shall specify.
2. With the approval of a majority of the Executive Committee, the Chair appoints and removes the chairs of these committees. The terms of all incumbent committee Chairs shall automatically expire upon the election of new Country Officers.
3. Each committee chair shall determine the composition of the committee upon consultation with the Executive Committee Chair.
4. Meetings of all standing or ad hoc committees created under this article shall be open to all DAGR members.

## **Article XXV. Chapters**

1. Chapter committees may be duly recognized from time to time by the Executive Committee of Democrats Abroad Greece. To qualify as a Chapter, a group must have at least twenty (20) members all of whom shall be resident in the specified city, regional unit, or region, or selected by other criteria determined by the Executive Committee. Chapters may be recognized or dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee members present and voting. From time to time the Executive Committee shall adopt Standing Resolutions for the governance of the Chapters.
2. Membership in a Chapter is open to any American citizen of voting age who has joined Democrats Abroad Greece and is resident in the Chapter's geographic region or meets other criteria determined by the Executive Committee for the recognition of Chapters. Members of Democrats Abroad Greece not residing in the city or region of a recognized Chapter may elect to join the Chapter geographically nearest to their place of residence by submitting a paper or electronic membership form to the Country Chair.
3. Democrats Abroad Greece has recognized the following Chapters: Athens and Thessaloniki. Additional chapters may be added as formed, with amendment to the bylaws to increase the membership of the Executive Committee.
4. Each Chapter shall be headed by a Chapter Chair elected from among the members of the Chapter at a meeting of the Chapter held in the first three months of odd numbered years. A Chapter Representative to the Executive Committee will be elected at the same meeting. The Chapter Chair may appoint a Chapter Secretary and a Chapter Treasurer from the Chapter membership. The Chapter Chair shall, in coordination with the Country Chair and the Executive Committee, call and preside at all Chapter meetings, establishing the agenda of such meetings (subject to Article XIV), and generally shall have responsibility for all Chapter activities approved by the organization.

5. The Chapters shall be recognized only for the internal purposes of Democrats Abroad Greece and are an integral and integrated part of Democrats Abroad Greece. They shall be subject to and operate in accordance with these Bylaws and such Standing Resolutions as the Executive Committee shall from time to time adopt, as well as the Bylaws of Democrats Abroad and its Standing Resolutions. They shall have no bylaws of their own. The Chapter Treasurer, if appointed, shall be subject to the supervision of the Country Treasurer and the Chapter Chair, and shall respect the same local, DPCA and FEC regulations and record-keeping requirements regarding donations and expenditures. A chapter shall not operate any separate bank accounts. All funds raised by a Chapter, after payment of expenses related to the event at which such funds were raised, shall be the property of Democrats Abroad Greece. In no event shall the expenditure of funds be agreed to or any funds be disbursed by the Chapter without the prior consent of the Country Treasurer.
6. A meeting of a Chapter shall be quorate if at least seven (7) members are present in person, other than election meetings, where a quorum shall consist of the lesser of ten (10) members or one-third of the members.

### **Article XXVI. Amendments**

These Bylaws may be amended in accordance with Article XII.5 by decision of a General Meeting, where the purpose of amending the bylaws has been clearly stated on the meeting agenda, and the text of the proposed amendments has been shared with the membership at least two weeks in advance.

### **Article XXVII. Dissolution**

1. DAGR may be dissolved by decision of a general meeting convened for that purpose, or by judicial decision, or if the number of members drops below ten.
2. Once DAGR is dissolved, it is placed under liquidation and exists for that purpose only. Liquidators are appointed by the general meeting or the courts, three DAGR members, who will see to liquidation in accordance with the law and the bylaws. After the dissolution and liquidation of DAGR, whatever property it possesses will be given to the organization Lighthouse of the Blind of Greece, or, if that organization no longer exist, to the Fulbright Foundation.

### **Article XXVIII. Supplemental Provisions**

1. If an issue arises that is not covered by these bylaws or the bylaws of the DPCA, the General Assembly will decide in a manner consonant with U.S. electoral law and Greek law regarding non-profit organizations.
2. In the event of a conflict between these Bylaws, or the rules adopted by the Executive Committee, and the documents, rules and regulations of the DPCA and/or the DNC, the latter shall prevail.

## **Article XXIX. Final Provision**

The Bylaws, enacted in 27 articles by the General Meeting held on 4 July 2011 and signed by its members, were modified at the General Meeting held on 30 March 2022, with amendments and the addition of new articles to total 29.