

The Democrats Abroad China Guidelines & Application Process for New DACN Group Creation

Within the Democratic Party, there exists many groups that are connected by identity, ideology, specific policy, and topics. The Democrats Abroad Country Committee encourages individuals to connect with one another and organize towards activism in line with the principles of the Democratic Party.

This document contains guideline as well as the application process for submission.

Guidelines:

- 1) **The Democratic Party is a 'Big Tent' Organization:** This means that groups should abide by inclusivity, and not exclusivity. This includes groups aligned on ideology, permitting those who do not share the same policy views, to also join and participate.
- 2) **Ethics & Respect:** Because DACN is an entity that bears obligations and liabilities for any associations or satellites, all groups within the DACN umbrella must abide by the established Code of Conduct and Ethics. [This can be found here.](#)
- 3) **US Citizen & Democrats Abroad Member Specific:** One exception for exclusivity, is that members within a DACN umbrella group must all be American Citizens and must be registered with Democrats Abroad. US Citizens can register with DACN with [this link.](#)
- 4) **Censored Topics:** Out of respect for our host country, groups pertaining to China, or any affiliated topic cannot have DACN association status. Additionally, it is prohibited for China, and China-related topics to be discussed. To not discuss the politics of the host country is a Democrats Abroad Global rule across all countries with DA chapters.
- 5) **Activism & Education:** Groups are encouraged to be goal oriented. The best forms of activism for Americans living overseas include activities relating to get out the vote (GOTV), producing materials for educating Americans here and abroad, lobbying politicians at the Federal level (Members of Congress, etc), and events that spread policy awareness and knowledge aligned with the [Democratic Party Committee Abroad Vision Statement.](#)
- 6) **Definition of Functioning Group:** To progress towards consideration for association, a group should have at minimum 10 members who currently reside in China.
- 7) **Moderation:** A group should have at least 3 group moderators and always an odd number. Members can volunteer to moderate up to a maximum of three different DA-endorsed groups.

Process for Application (in steps):

- 1) **Initial Introduction to the Board:** At any of the monthly DACN board meetings, during the open-floor portion, a representative of proposed group should make an introduction of themselves, and introduce their group with a declaration of intent to apply for DACN association status.
- 2) **Board Meeting Attendance & Declaration of Intent:** A group representative should attend a minimum of **two** DACN board meetings to acclimate themselves to board process, issues, and to be informed on DACN priorities. The group representative can then request a floor motion for the board to host a special voting session to review the bylaws of the proposed group at the second consecutively attended DACN board meeting.
- 3) **DACN Board Reviews Group/Caucus Bylaws, Charter, or Description:** The DACN will vote to approve a group's formation after reviewing its Statement of Intent, which must include the reason the group is forming, the reason it is unique enough to not be already covered by existing DACN-endorsed groups, and the moderation rules for that group (which can include extra rules on top of DACN's established code of conduct). This can also be further solidified by bylaws, charter, mission statement, etc, if the moderators of the group would like to add other layers of organization.
- 4) **Caucus/Group Lead Appointment:** At the next DACN board meeting, the DACN Chairperson and Country Caucus Liaison (This is in the bylaws) will select and appoint a group Lead. Only registered Democrats Abroad members who are American Citizens who currently reside in China are eligible for appointment. They report to the DACN Country Caucus Liaison.

Management:

- 1) **Ownership:** WeChat Groups allow for three admins with the power to set group rules, make group announcements, and approve or delete group members. For a group to be DA endorsed, all three admin spots must be filled, and one system admin must be a DACN Leadership Board member. The group can choose to have more than three people moderating the group, as long as there is always an odd number of moderators and the DACN Leadership Board member has one of the system admin slots."
- 2) **Participation:** All Democrats Abroad registered members who are US Citizens may participate freely within the groups, provided they abide by the DACN Code of Conduct, and the rules of the group.

- 3) **Removal:** Members who violate the DACN Code of Conduct and Ethics will be first issued a private warning. On the second infraction, a removal from groups for a 72-hour period will ensue. A third infraction will result in either a long-term or permanent ban.
- 4) **Fatal Errors:** A fatal error is described as an infraction that is so serious, that a permanent or long-term ban will be instituted immediately.
 - a. **DOXXING:** Revealing personally identifiable information of anyone within DA membership with malicious intent.
 - b. **Blatant Racism/Sexism/Discrimination:** Is not tolerated by any means.
 - c. **Illegal Behavior:** Breaking the law of either the US or our host country makes DACN liable, and it is incumbent upon DACN to protect itself and it's members from liability.
 - d. **Threatening violence:** This is not tolerated in any regard, including satire or humor.