

# WHAT IS THE CONSTITUENTS ABROAD ZOOM PROJECT and How You Can Help Engage Members to Participate



## **WHAT IS THIS PROJECT?**

Democrats Abroad knows that urgently needed tax reform will happen when American abroad connect with their members of Congress and demand it. We are therefore organizing and hosting Zoom calls for key members of Congress to meet their constituents abroad. In meetings we will be outlining some of our tax concerns, presenting our reform recommendations and making the case for Congress to address them in the transformational policy-making that is taking place this year.

Democrats Abroad understand which members of Congress play a critical role in the development of 2021 legislation that will foster a fairer and more inclusive economic recovery and level the playing field for U.S. taxpayers. Our work to ensure policy reforms for Americans abroad are included depends on winning the support of these members. We believe connecting them to constituents abroad who need tax relief will help achieve that. We need your support to do that.

## **WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?**

As you know, the Biden Administration and Congress are working on momentous changes to the way the government impacts the lives of citizens. Americans abroad must ensure we are not excluded.

For many years Americans abroad have been speaking to U.S. lawmakers about the genuine personal and financial hardship we experience due to the taxation of our income both by our country of residence and by the U.S. The harm caused to Americans abroad by inordinately complex U.S. tax-filing, double taxation, and policy-borne barriers to banking, saving, and investing, is so severe that it often feels to us that the U.S. is punishing us for moving to another country.

Congress enacts tax policy, and Treasury implements it, in our view without giving adequate prior consideration for the unintended adverse impact it might have on ordinary working-class citizens who are living abroad. We do not live abroad to avoid paying taxes; we pay taxes in the countries we live in, the vast majority of which have higher tax rates than does the United States. U.S. citizens abroad need Congress to understand who we are so that they can provide relief from discriminatory provisions of the U.S. tax code and strike a better balance in policy making between discouraging and apprehending tax cheats - which we strongly support - and caring for the welfare of ordinary Americans living abroad.

## **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

1. Attend a Constituents Abroad Zoom Project webinar for leaders to learn more. Dates are coming soon.
2. Share [this link to Project information](#) in your member communications and on your social media platforms.
3. Message the DemsAbroad Tax Task Force at [taxationtf@democratsabroad.org](mailto:taxationtf@democratsabroad.org) with questions, comments or suggestions on how we can make this program easier for you to support.
4. Invite the Tax Task Force to present to your members about our 2021 tax advocacy strategy.
5. And don't forget to message your own members of Congress about our tax reform recommendations. Every voice of support is needed. [Download our Campaign Guide here.](#)