

2021 Charter Amendments

Proposal No. 7 - Create DPCA Representation for Non-Country Committee Members

Sponsor(s): Merrill Oates (Hungary) 2021

Prior Sponsor(s): 2018: John Grosser, (Germany); 2019: Merrill Oates, (Hungary)

Purpose: Address lack of DPCA voting representation for members in Non-CC areas

Affected Sections: Section 5.7 Create DPCA Representation for Non-Country Committee Members

Text:

WHEREAS a significant number of members of Democrats Abroad live in countries which do not yet have a recognized DA Country Committee, or do not have the conditions for forming a DA Country Committee;

WHEREAS the combined number of these Non-CC Members is greater than the number of members in our sixth largest organized Country Committee;

WHEREAS the organizing potential for Democrats Abroad depends not only on increasing our numbers and effectiveness where we are locally organized, but also in places where we are *not* already locally organized;

WHEREAS improving representation and inclusion is a core democratic principle which we should strive to apply to our own organization, where possible and practical;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED to amend the Charter as follows:

Article One, Name; Purpose

[...]

General Membership in Democrats Abroad is open to all citizens of the United States of voting age (or who will be such before the next Federal election) living outside the US who by joining declare their support for the principles and aims of the Democratic Party of the United States of America. Membership is free, voluntary, and can be canceled by the member at any time for any reason. ~~who have declared themselves to be Democrats. Members of Democrats Abroad may also be members of a local Democratic Country Committee or organizing committee existing in the respective country or defined geographic area in which such member resides or works.~~

Section 5.7 (Non-Country Committee Representative Members-At-Large)

General members ~~Individuals residing in territories not having a recognized Democrats Abroad~~ of Democrats Abroad residing in territories without ~~not having~~ a Democrats Abroad Country Committee shall have the same benefits and privileges as other general members within DA.

All such Non-Country Committee (NCC) general members may, under the supervision of the Regional Vice Chair, elect from their number within the Region an NCC Representative to represent their interests to the DPCA, including at meetings of the DPCA. The NCC Representative shall work to encourage member organizing and growth within the Region. The NCC Representative shall be a member of the DPCA; shall hold one (1) whole vote; shall serve two year terms; and shall be limited to two consecutive terms.