

2022 Charter Amendments

Proposal No. 3 – Removing Term Limits for Non-Country Committee Representatives

Primary Sponsor(s): Josh Van der Ploeg (UK) on behalf of the Charter Committee

Co-Sponsors: Danielle Stampley (Canada), Michele O'Brien (France), Beverle Lax (Kenya), Michael March (Thailand), Alan de Rochefort-Reynolds (Australia)

Purpose: Section 5.7 (Non-Country Committee Representatives) limits Non-Country Committee (“NCC”) Representatives to two consecutive terms. However, NCC Representatives are also treated as equivalent to DPCA Voting Representatives, which gives rise to an inconsistency with the prohibition on term limits for DPCA Voting Representatives set out in Section 3.6(g).

Affected Sections: Section 5.7

Resolution Text:

WHEREAS Section 5.7 of the Charter contains a term limit for Non-Country Committee Representatives (NCCRs);

WHEREAS Section 5.7 of the Charter also treats NCCRS as equivalent to Country Committee DPCA Voting Representatives;

WHEREAS Section 3.6(g) of the Charter expressly prohibits term limits for DPCA Voting Representatives;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED to amend the Charter as follows:

Section 5.7 (Non-Country Committee Representatives)

General members of Democrats Abroad residing outside the United States (and its territories) in countries without a recognized Democrats Abroad Country Committee shall have representation within the DPCA.

All such Non-Country-Committee (NCC) general members shall, 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.~~ There shall be no term limits applied to the position of NCC Representative.

NCC Representatives shall have equivalent voting privileges under this Charter as Country Committee Voting Representatives. For the purposes of proxies, an NCC Representative shall be considered as a Country Committee Voting Representative, and any NCC general member in the same region as the Representative may be a valid proxy holder for an NCC Representative in addition to any others indicated in Section 3.7.

Elections for NCC Representatives shall take place in the first quarter of each odd-numbered year. Should a Region's NCC Representative position experience a vacancy that will last greater than six (6) months, the Regional Vice Chair shall hold a special

election within ninety (90) days. General members within territories with recognized committees-in-formation shall be able to run and vote in these elections, but general members within out-of-compliance Democrats Abroad Country Committees shall not be able to run and vote in these elections.

In the event that a recognized Democrats Abroad Country Committee dissolves, its general members will become members of the NCC Representative's constituency. In the event that a NCC Representative's territory of residence becomes a recognized Democrats Abroad Country Committee, that NCC Representative shall no longer be eligible for the position and it shall immediately become vacant.

The International Executive Committee shall maintain, and make available upon request, two documents related to Section 5.7. The first document, "Elections of NCC Representatives," shall cover those election details that are not explicitly mandated within the Charter. The second document, "The Role and Responsibilities of NCC Representatives," shall cover the role and responsibilities of NCC Representatives not explicitly mandated within the Charter.