



DEMOCRATS ABROAD

About Us

Democrats Abroad is the official arm of the Democratic Party for US citizens living outside the United States. We are Americans living in more than 190 countries around the globe: informed of critical issues at home and abroad, inspired to build a better world through our own active participation and involved at every level of the U.S. political process. Our mission is to register voters abroad and get out the overseas Democratic vote for U.S. elections. DA outreach turns out the extra absentee ballots needed to win tight races. Our members vote in every state and every Congressional district. Recently our votes from abroad have provided the winning margins in the Senate races of Jon Tester, Jim Webb, Mark Begich, Al Franken, as well as Loretta Sanchez and Scott Murphy in the House.

A Brief History

Democrats Abroad began simultaneously in London and Paris in 1964, when U.S. citizens residing abroad did not yet have the right to vote by absentee ballot in most states. In 1972, the DNC granted Democrats Abroad 9 non-voting delegates to the National Convention. Then, in 1976, many overseas Americans cast their first federally mandated overseas absentee ballots and Democrats Abroad attained full Democratic state committee status, with voting delegates to the National Convention and members on the DNC. Democrats Abroad now holds eight seats on the DNC and sent a 25-strong, 19-vote delegation to the 2012 Convention.

Global Presidential Primary '08

In 2008, Democrats Abroad kicked off its delegate selection process with its first Global Presidential Primary. For the first time ever, this allowed Democrats around the world to participate in the primary process in their own country of residence and as a global community. Ballots were cast at Voting Centers in 33 countries, as well as by mail and internet. Votes poured in from more than 160 countries and territories from Antarctica to Zambia. Again in 2012, Democrats everywhere cast global primary votes and participated in primary season excitement from their countries of residence.

Democrats Abroad Today

Over the years, Democrats Abroad has grown from those two small committees in London and Paris to include organized committees in over 50 countries throughout Europe, Asia, Oceania, Africa and the Americas. As Americans overseas learn more about their right to participate in the U.S. political process and its potential impact, Democrats Abroad continues to grow. Organizing for our 2014 Get Out The Vote (GOTV) efforts is already firmly underway. Overseas participation can make a big difference in close elections and DA will be working hard in 2014 to elect a Congress that will work with our President to help deliver his agenda for America.

VoteFromAbroad.org

Our voter registration website is the easiest and most comprehensive online solution to the complexities of overseas voting. It is provided as a public service in both English and Spanish by Democrats Abroad. By offering voters the opportunity to sign up to informational mailings when they register, it is the only online tool that allows our party to build a voter file of Americans overseas including state by state listings.