



**Northern Italy Chapter Candidates:**

***Mark Pendell***      ***Chapter Chair***  
***Mychelle Vincent*** ***Chapter Vice-Chair***  
***Stephany Miranda*** ***Chapter Treasurer***  
***Christian Slayton*** ***Chapter Secretary***



**Name: Mark Pendell**

**Running for: Chair - Northern Italy Chapter**

**Lives in: Milan**

*We as Democrats have achieved victory winning the White House & Senate, as well as maintaining our majority in the House. We must continue this momentum for the 2022 midterm elections and ensure that we keep the levers of power in Washington D.C.*

*For the past two years, Democrats Abroad Italy has transformed our Country Committee via our dynamic leadership team: increased our membership to be the 5<sup>th</sup> largest Country Committee in EMEA, raised 15K EUR to help get out the vote, tripled our voter turnout for the 2020 election vs. 2016 with 20,000 Democratic voters in Italy.*

*As Vice Chair of the Milan Chapter, and Chair of the National Fundraising Taskforce, I feel that I have made a significant contribution to these outstanding results. This is why I wish to be a candidate for Chair of the DA Italy Milan Chapter.*

*With a new team, we will continue our program of cultural and social activities, in particular American Town Hall meetings in partnership with the U.S. Consulate of Milan. We will also encourage and support the formation of precincts in other cities in Northern Italy. Our collective efforts under my leadership will continue to engage our members, raise funds, turn out the vote and deliver a Democratic win in 2022!*



**Name: Mychelle Vincent**

**Running for: Vice-Chair - Northern Italy Chapter**

**Lives in: Milan**

*I am a progressive Democrat from a rural community in Northern California, I have been living in Milan for two years. My decision to run for Vice Chair of the Northern Italy Chapter comes from my ever-growing passion for making meaningful changes in the United States.*

*As I am sure most Americans in Democrats Abroad can relate, I have been frustrated by the difficulty of physically participating in movements of change from abroad and I see this as my opportunity to encourage those desired reformations. Over the years I have participated in many protests in the US, and although the experience is always inspiring, I can't help but feel like I could be doing a lot more.*

*When it comes to issues, I feel passionately about, I relentlessly advocate and stand up for what I believe to be right. While I am in office, I hope to increase voter turnout in our chapter to help advance some of the most important issues. I plan to spend most of my energy in office on advocating for Universal Healthcare in the US, issues of racial and gender inequality and transforming our election system by abolishing the electoral college and introducing ranked voting.*



**Name: Stephany Miranda**

**Running for:** Treasurer: Northern Italy Chapter

**Lives in:** Milan

*I am a licensed Texas attorney and I moved to Milan at the end of 2019. I have participated in several Democrats Abroad events and I am ready to become more involved with this wonderful organization. I held my first treasurer position in high school, as part of the Future Business Leaders of America, I was then treasurer of the Alpha Kappa Delta Honor Society at Texas Tech, during my undergraduate studies and then in law school I was treasurer for the Hispanic Law Students Association. I have the necessary experience, knowledge and skills that make me an ideal candidate for this position.*



**Name: Christian Sergei Ivashenko Slayton**

**Running for: Secretary**

**Northern Italy Chapter**

**Lives in: Milan**

*The past couple of years have shown us what is truly at stake in this political tug-of-war between Democrats and those who follow Donald J Trump. The disagreements we have are no longer with people like John McCain or Mitt Romney. And they certainly are not about things like the national deficit.*

*What we are fighting over is the fundamental nature of what we want the United States to look like. We are fighting for integrationalist pluralism. This struggle between those who want to define their communities by the color of people's skins and those who want to give everyone the opportunity to become one of us.*

*If we lose this battle, the ramifications will be global. I have lived around the world, on four continents and in almost ten countries, and if that experience has taught me anything it is this: integrationalist pluralism is rare. Vanishingly rare. The currently mainstream position in the United States, that foreigners who do not look like the majority can come in and integrate, would be considered unthinkable. Not just radical: unthinkable. Even the most liberal don't support it.*

*If we lose this fight now, we may never have another chance to build a society where all can be welcomed.*

*My goal is simple: I will do whatever I can to get people to vote Blue. Not just in Italy, but throughout Europe. I believe that the best way to do that is to help build communities here in Italy that welcome in Americans (and others!) and that promote communal values of liberalism and pluralism. I am very excited to join the wonderful team in Milan, and I hope that together we can convince multitudes to vote for the Democrats. And not just in one election, but throughout their entire lifetimes.*

*Let's do this.*