

Candidate Statement

Name: Antar Keith
Chapter: Saxony
Position: Vice Chair
Gender: Male



Candidate Statement:

Born to a working-class family in the Bronx, New York, I gained firsthand knowledge of political disenfranchisement in the United States. I completed a B.A. in Adolescent Education in English Literature in New York before pursuing an M.A. in National and Transnational Studies in Münster, Germany. Shortly after moving to Germany in 2015, I began working with DA Münster/Osnabrück. Eventually, I settled in my current residence of Leipzig, where I was one of the founding members of what would become DAG Saxony. As a teacher at the German Federal Office of Languages, I regularly build bridges between countries and cultures, and this is exactly what DAG seeks to accomplish for US voters in Saxony.

As Acting Vice-Chair, I have worked side by side with our team to coordinate and run Get Out the Vote drives in Leipzig, Halle, and Dresden. I have participated in multiple phone-banking operations both for the 2020 US general election as well as the post-election Georgia Senate runoffs. In the aftermath of George Floyd's slaughter, I participated in the June 7th BLM protest in Leipzig as a keynote speaker. I held chapter-level talks on U.S. Reparations, as well as an international talk on U.S. Reparations for the DA Global Black Caucus. Furthermore, I regularly lead chapter discussions on US current events and how they affect the lives of Americans around the world. Along with Kaitlyn Kennedy, I have given talks on DAG, U.S. electoral politics, and street-level activism to various educational and cultural institutions in the region.

My vision for our chapter going forward is to take a greater focus on building both membership and momentum. Expanding our network through (virtual) social activities, collective missions, and education about US electoral politics is important and provides a sense of community during an alienating pandemic. This is essential not only for solidifying Democratic gains in the 2022 midterm elections, but also for creating a more powerful position to advocate DA's policy platform at the federal level. Finally, I would like to create opportunities for greater dialogue between center-left Democrats and progressives in order to improve our mutual understanding and productivity.