



Meet the 2021 Global Nominations and Elections Committee

Asha Subas (Chair)

Resides in United Kingdom

Votes out of California

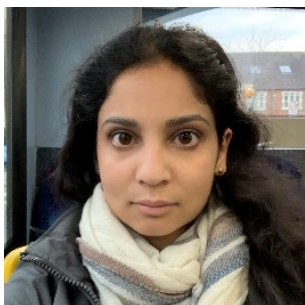
DA member since 2018

DA involvement At the U.K. country committee level, I have served on the 2019 Elections

Committee, 2019 Bylaws Committee, and 2020 Global Primary Committee. I also wear various hats, such as helping with compliance and running the U.K.-wide speakeasy, and am Immigration Policy Group leader within the Policy Network and Resolutions Committee. At the international/global level, I was on the 2020 Platform Committee and served as a lawyer on the voter protection team for the 2020 election.

Motivation I see politics as essentially being a job of service to your community, and I want to do my part to encourage processes that are kind, generous, transparent, and fair. What better way to model these goals and principles than to be part of an elections committee? At a time where faith and trust in democracy is low, I'm hoping that we at Democrats Abroad can model what healthy democracy looks like.

Pets We have a wonderfully old and eccentric black lab mix named Tetris. He looks like a wise wizard out of *The Lord of the Rings*, and at this point is a world-weary traveller across continents and oceans.



Edgar Lopez-Vallejo

Resides in Mexico

Votes out of New York

DA member since 2016

DA involvement As Chair of the Media Relations committee in Mexico City, I have taken care of DA's involvement with the news media in Mexico, organizing and unifying the voice of our team of spokespersons, and promoting our points of view in the country and our relevance as a trusted voice in the public opinion sphere. During the 2020 campaign, we promoted in our media appearances the Democratic Party platform and that U.S. citizens living in Mexico registered and voted from abroad, and opposed vigorously in news debates the Republican points of view and those of their surrogates in Mexico. As a Steering Committee member of the Hispanic Caucus, I have worked to make our points of view known, to encourage the participation of the Hispanic members of DA, and to increase the Caucus's relevance. Currently, I am serving on both the Mexico and the Global Elections Committees.

Motivation It seems to me that the objective of a political organization like ours is to advocate for the principles we think are right for our world, and that means we strive to actually sway the march of History toward democracy, improvement, and progress. And as an



organization, we can be only as relevant and effective at those ends as the people who work in it, all the way up and down its structure. Therefore, I feel that spending my best efforts to find the best candidates to serve as officers in the organization is an effective way for me to serve my turn.

Profession Economic policy by trade, mediamaker by predilection.

Pets I prefer to tend my garden; birds come along with it.

Irrelevant fact I love the arts, especially music, cinema, dance, and gastronomy.

Favorite ice cream flavor Pistacchio!

Taken up/given up during the pandemic I have taken on a lot of work for DA, and lots of time to spend with my parents. And I have given up having fun with friends—although I still dance in my own one-person parties.

Eliot Goldman

Resides in France

Votes out of Massachusetts

DA member since 2017

DA involvement Soon after becoming a member of DA, I decided the best way I could contribute would be as a member of the Global IT team

Motivation I was in high school for the inauguration of President Kennedy, and I can



still hear him asking us to ask what we can do for our country. So I've been a Peace Corps volunteer, an elected and appointed official in local government, and a Congressional staffer. I'm also a great-grandfather, and I want to do what I can to ensure that the generations that follow will want to have the same love of country that has inspired me.

Profession Retired

Pets None

Irrelevant fact In the early 90s, I started a part-time chocolate truffle business that I had to quit before it took over the rest of my life.

Favorite ice cream flavor Caramel

Gail Fagen

Resides in Italy

Votes out of Iowa

DA member since 1986!

DA involvement I was active in DA and worked a lot with non-partisan voter registration in

Belgium, then joined the global IT team when I moved to Italy.

Motivation Our organization provides a fantastic dual outreach service. On one hand, our public face is a key in promoting the image of Americans in the countries we live in. On the other, for many Americans living abroad, voting is crucial to maintaining their sometimes tenuous link with their home country. AND, last but not least, DA is a great group of people!

Profession Freelance translator

Pets Our cat, Ginger, manages a staff of 2 humans. Although felines do not necessarily have "Democratic" personalities, we used her



name and picture once for database testing and she actually got phonebanked.

Irrelevant fact I love hiking.

Favorite ice cream flavor There are too many flavors of *gelati* in Italy to have a favorite!

Michael Ramos

Resides in Australia

Votes out of Illinois

DA member since 2016?
2015?

DA involvement I have voted in every primary, special, and general election I've been eligible for

since moving abroad; assisted in registering other voters living abroad; created protest signs and organized local protests; participated in pro-science marches; contributed to discussions, research, and activism on the local, country, regional, and global levels; created and maintained a caucus podcast; written articles and blog posts; drafted take-action templates for members to contact their members of Congress; made formal recommendations to increase diversity and inclusion within DA; written letters and made phone calls to U.S. elected officials; campaigned for and endorsed previous DA candidates for office; created and shared DA-related social media content; and more . . .

Motivation As with all things, I see room for improvement in all aspects of U.S. society. DA allows me to contribute my efforts to the issues I consider to be a priority even while living abroad, such as promoting the voices of Hispanic Americans and Democratic Hispanic



American candidates, ensuring that veterans and military families' issues and concerns are not forgotten or ignored, enacting tax reform for Americans living abroad, ensuring that all U.S. and Democratic Party elections are fair, democratically run, and transparent, and encouraging S.T.E.M.M.-based evidence in all policy making.

Profession Pre moving abroad: Democratic congressional staffer. Post moving abroad: homemaker and stay-at-home dad.

Pets Two cats

Irrelevant fact I collect Captain America comic books.

Favorite ice cream flavor Chocolate chip cookie dough

Taken up/given up during the pandemic I've started drawing and painting baseball-inspired pictures since the pandemic began, and I've given up nothing I can recall.

Rachel Eugster

Resides in Canada

Votes out of

Massachusetts

DA member since

Sometime between the 2004 Roll Call and the 2008 primaries

DA involvement Helped rebuild my local chapter to viability and guide it through the 2012 election season. Elected DPCA Voting Rep and chapter co-chair in 2019. Served on several DA Canada committees. Co-host of DA Global podcast *The Blue Vote Café*. Served on the 2020 Global Platform Committee.

Motivation My mother was an activist, and although I did not see myself following the



same path, the siren call was strong. Living outside the country offers both a long lens and a way to be involved that feels like it can make a bigger difference than anything I could do back in the States. Although I'd stepped back from DA for a time after 2012, 2016 was galvanizing. Working for change was the best way to keep the horror at bay.

You cannot set democracy into place and walk away from it—it requires sustained and careful tending.

Profession Several! Music, theatre, writing, editing.

Pets Rambunctious 10-year-old still-kittens, adopted when they weighed 1lb each: Tonson and Hemming (oblique Shakespeare references)

Favorite ice cream flavor The purest possible chocolate

Taken up/given up during the pandemic With the world rediscovering sourdough, I have been using the starter my stepmother created in 1964 more regularly. (And I have devised a way to mail it internationally, if anyone wants some.)

Suma Shamanna

Resides in India

Votes out of Oregon

DA member since 2014?

DA involvement I have never missed voting in any of the elections—while in the States or living abroad.

I wear multiple hats in DA:

—As a member of the Global IT Team 2016-present, I have worked on a number of IT projects, built tools to manage analytics for



membership management, zapier integrations, VFA design, development and testing, membership cleanup, CallHub management, etc.

—Global AAPI Caucus Steering Committee member 2020-present

—Data Analytics engineer, social media Global Black Caucus 2020-present

—Global NEC member 2019, 2021 (2 terms)

—DA India Country Chair 2019-present

—Two terms DA India Secretary 2015-2019

—I have built DA India CC from non-compliance to bustling with activities. The DA India CallHub team ranked in the Top 5 globally and was Number 1 in AP in calls made: connected during the 2020 Presidential election. We are probably the only ones who celebrated both the Presidential elections victory and Inauguration Day with in-person events amidst COVID-19 closures and lockdowns.

Motivation I have been politically active for a long time now, perhaps due to my nature—serving my community is a part of my life. I just cannot sit quietly, watch, and ignore changing world politics. DA, to me, is an extended family who support and encourage each other. We are all like-minded individuals who work together to achieve a greater goal: healthy democracy. I am grateful that DA provides me opportunities to voice my opinion and contribute to the causes I find important: taxation, climate issues, ERA, encouraging and supporting AAPI, women candidates.

Profession Engineer/Entrepreneur

Pets No :-(but someday!

Irrelevant fact I run marathons and am a Pinkathon Ambassador. Pinkathon is India's largest women's run. I encourage people to adapt to a healthier lifestyle.

Favorite ice cream flavor Roasted almond

Tim Ellis

Resides in Canada

Votes out of New York

DA member since 2020

DA involvement Co-Vice

Chair of Toronto

Chapter, Sanders

delegate to DNC. I

am also a member of the LGBTQ Caucus, the Progressive caucus, and a newly forming Digital Rights and Privacy Caucus.

Motivation I am at heart a problem-solver, and we've got problems. The world is on fire; the ecosystem is collapsing; I've lost dozens of friends over the past 20 years to addiction, treatable illness, and homelessness—yet the same people have been in charge my entire life, and somehow never got around to fixing those problems. I'm not willing to lose any more friends or watch the "solutions" leave most of us behind like they usually do, so I got involved in Bernie's 2016 race and, ever since then, I've made real change my mission.

Profession Digital organizer with Leadnow, and I am still a rave DJ

Irrelevant fact I once toured with Tom Morello, Evangeline Lilly and punk band Anti-Flag.

