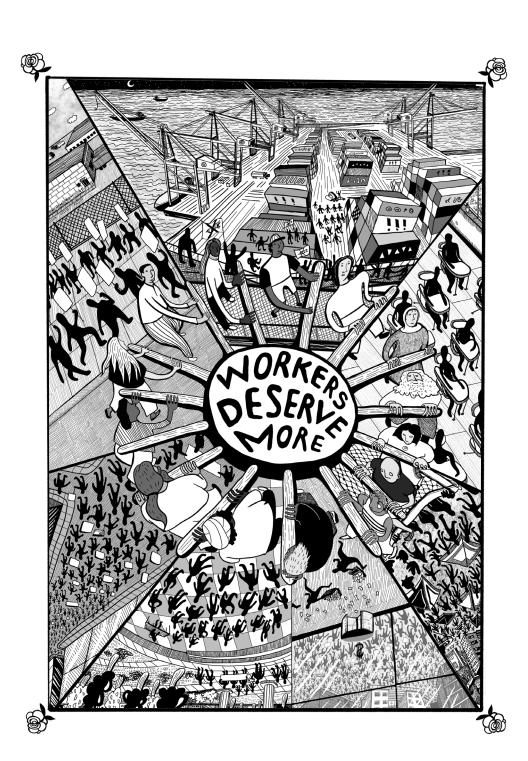


DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS OF AMERICA

2025-2026 **PROGRAM**





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Today, working people have few good options. In most political races, Americans will have the choice between far-right Republicans and corporate Democrats. In both cases, workers lose, and our politicians will remain controlled by their corporate donors, not the ordinary people who voted for them. Under this status quo, inequality will continue to worsen, corporations will continue to sell war and wreak havoc on the environment, and the worst impacts of these crises will be felt by the poor, people of color, and working people generally. But we as working people should have power over our lives, and that includes a government and economy by and for the working class.

Neither major party is capable of advancing a positive program that meets the needs of the majority of Americans. That's why the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) is presenting a bold alternative course of action. In our 2025-2026 program, "Workers Deserve More," we hope to bring together millions of people throughout the U.S. to fight for a true democracy where working people have control over their own lives, their government, and the economy. We deserve more, and we have to fight like hell to make that vision a reality.





The second Trump victory has been catastrophic for the international working class. Relying on the Democrats to defeat Republicans isn't working. An independent political party, rooted in the working-class majority, is necessary to build a future free from exploitation and oppression.

The Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) believes that we as working people can beat the ruling class and forge a better world. Our members have taken on the capitalist class through our labor and tenant unions, out in the streets, and at the ballot box by running socialists for elected office.

The US political and economic system is failing the working class. Millions struggle with low wages, dangerous working conditions, and limited control over our own lives, all while the top one percent has gotten richer and richer.

Billionaires control access to basic human needs like housing, healthcare, and education, and make a profit off of them. This capitalist economic system is the cause of violence, unemployment, and a climate crisis that poses an existential threat to life on earth.

Black and brown workers in racially segregated communities bear the brunt of capitalism's cruelties, suffering especially from poverty wages, discrimination, deportation, and unemployment, often pushing workers into illegal activity to survive. Instead of investing in working-class communities, capitalists prefer to police and incarcerate workers they consider expendable to protect their wealth.

Accelerating declines in living standards are exploited by the Christian nationalist right and figures like Donald Trump. Americans rejected the farright agenda in the 2020 elections and watched a failed coup attempt to overturn the election results.

The far right threatens Americans' civil liberties. They attack the right of people to decide whether to have a kid by overturning Roe v. Wade and continue to restrict abortion access. Now they attack the rights of queer and transgender people by banning gender-affirming care. These culture wars are intended to pit workers against each other to empower a rightwing government.

These attacks are all the more disturbing because we're missing a real and powerful opposition to it in the U.S. The center-right Democratic Party is controlled by its elite donor class, and cannot act as an effective political counter to the nationalist far right. Only a party that fights for working people can win the battle against fascism.

PROGRAM FOR 2025-2026, CONT'D.

Under Joe Biden, the United States prioritized funding a massive military budget and expanding oil drilling. Democratic elites embraced Trump's racist immigration policies and — most abhorrently — supported Israel's genocide in Gaza, all while brutally cracking down on student protests. This undermined the trust that many placed in Biden and the Democrats.

Without a working-class alternative to the Democratic Party, capitalists, Democrats, and the far right will continue to perpetuate violence and injustice at home and abroad. Workers are realizing that we deserve more from our political parties. As socialists, our goal is to defeat the right and build a real democracy. We stand against the capitalist class and the politicians that serve their interests at the expense of the rest of us.

We've won higher wages and better working conditions by going on strike as unionized teachers, auto workers, nurses, and graduate students. We've joined the movement to defend abortion rights and helped win ballot initiatives from Ohio to Kansas to protect the right to get an abortion.

We also organized more than 350,000 calls to Congress demanding a ceasefire

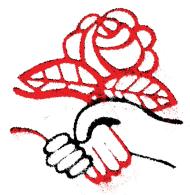
in Gaza. DSA's youth section, the Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA), has been fighting on their campuses for university divestment from Israel, and for a free Palestine.

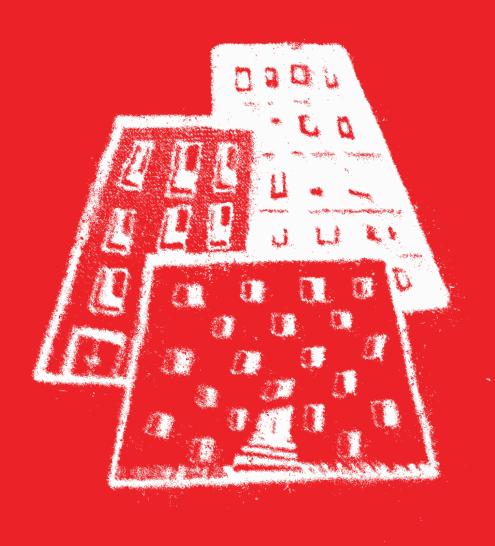
DSA'S MISSION IS
TO UNITE WORKERS
INTO A POWERFUL
POLITICAL MOVEMENT
TO WIN THE BATTLE
FOR DEMOCRACY AND
CHANGE THE WORLD.

Our goal is to put workers in charge of the government through a new democratic constitution that establishes civil, political, and democratic rights for all, is based on proportional representation in a single federal legislature, and ends the role of money in politics.

With a government by, for, and of the working class and with powerful labor unions and social movements organizing in every city and town, we hope to build a socialist society where people come before profit, basic needs are guaranteed, the largest corporations are put under public ownership and democratic control, peace around the world is secured, and workers around the world join together in common struggle to construct socialism worldwide.

This year, defeating the far right, protecting the rights of the working-class from the U.S. to Palestine, and fighting for democracy are our top priorities. Through our grassroots struggles, we will build a movement with the power to take on the capitalist class and build an equal, democratic, and liberated world.





WE FIGHT FOR...

THRIVING WORKING CLASS COMMUNITIES



MEDICARE FOR ALL

Universal healthcare with no premiums, co-pays, or deductibles. Guarantees for reproductive and gender-affirming care.



FIGHT MASS INCARCERATION AND POLICE BRUTALITY

Abolish mandatory minimums and cash bail, and demilitarize police departments.



HOUSING FOR ALL

Establish universal rent-control and the guaranteed right to counsel for all tenants. Public investment in building quality multi-income social housing.



END THE WAR ON DRUGS

Treat drug addiction as a health issue, not a criminal one.



COLLEGE FOR ALL

Make all public higher education tuition-free with no out-of-pocket cost for room and board and cancel all student loan debt.



SUPPORT WORKING FAMILIES

Expansive paid family leave for all workers, and free public universal childcare and pre-K.



WE FIGHT FOR...
AN ECONOMY
FOR THE
WORKING CLASS



32-HOUR WORK WEEK

A 32-hour work week with no reduction in pay or benefits.



UNION POWER

Protect all workers' rights to strike and form a union, make it easier for workers to join unions, and invest in the National Labor Relations Board.



TAX THE RICH

Raise taxes on the richest earners, for-profit corporations, large inheritances, and private colleges and universities. Establish a wealth tax for the wealthiest in society.



GREEN NEW DEAL

Massive public investment to transition away from fossil fuels toward a green and sustainable economy. Guaranteed support for workers in the fossil fuel industry, massive infrastructure and jobs programs, and public ownership over major transportation and energy infrastructure and natural resources.



WE FIGHT FOR...
WORKING-CLASS
FOREIGN POLICY



FREE PALESTINE

An immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza, an end to military and economic aid, and weapons sales to Israel, respect of the authority of the International Criminal Court and the International Court of Justice, and national sovereignty for the Palestinian people.



END THE U.S. WAR MACHINE

Greatly reduce the U.S. military budget, close overseas bases, and bring troops home.



NO MORE ECONOMIC WARFARE

End economic sanctions that impact the sovereignty of countries whose governments act independently of the United States, such as Cuba, Venezuela, and Iran.



FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

Allow workers to freely migrate between countries to seek employment without restrictive immigration controls.

Demilitarize the border, end all immigrant detention and deportations, immediate amnesty for all immigrants regardless of current immigration status, and provide access to jobs, labor rights, and social services to all immigrants.



WE FIGHT FOR...
WORKING-CLASS
DEMOCRACY



UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE

Extend full voting rights to people with criminal convictions and noncitizens and establish statehood for Washington D.C.



A REPRESENTATIVE CONGRESS

Replace the two-party system with a multi-party democracy through proportional representation elections. Expand the number of seats in the House of Representatives and end the Senate filibuster.



POPULAR VOTE FOR PRESIDENT

Replace the Electoral College with a national popular vote for President.



REDUCE THE POWER OF THE SUPREME COURT

Limit the Court's power of judicial review which it uses to effectively create and abolish laws outside the legislative process.



NORKERS DESERVE MODRES MODRES MODRES

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WORKERS DESERVE MORE!

DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS OF AMERICA 2025-2026 PROGRAM







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