

# Democracy Protection Network

The Democracy Protection Network supports civil society organizations and leaders who defend democracy or are targeted in ways intended to intimidate and silence them.

## Facing a threat? The DPN can help.

Founded in 2024, the DPN provides no-cost services and advice to organizations and individuals across the ideological spectrum. We offer both crisis response and resilience building services.

### WHY THE DPN EXISTS

To preserve American democracy in the face of a growing constitutional crisis, we must protect civil society organizations and leaders who stand up for accountability and democratic values.

Right now, they're facing **unprecedented threats**: online harassment, physical intimidation, and highly politicized government investigations. These attacks drain resources, detract from the core work, and send troubling signals to peers.

**The Democracy Protection Network exists to make sure these individuals and organizations have access to the protection and support they need to stay on the field.**

## Our Services

DPN staff carefully review each application, determine eligibility, and then connect applicants to the services they need:



Legal Advice and Representation



Physical Security



Cybersecurity



Crisis Communications



Online Threat Monitoring



Personally Identifiable Information (PII) Removal

### Our services help with:

#### CRISIS RESPONSE

For those who've been singled out and face an immediate threat from public or private actors. This could look like a subpoena, online harassment or doxxing, physical threats, etc.

#### RESILIENCE BUILDING

For those who have a credible fear they may be targeted. Indicators include rhetoric from government officials or prominent influencers, social media harassment, inclusion on lists or reports used in politicized investigations, and/or receipt of funding from donors who are being targeted.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

**Civil society organizations and leaders across the ideological spectrum** are eligible for DPN services if they are focused on defending democracy or targeted in ways intended to silence and disrupt their work.

### 1. Democracy Defenders

Organizations and leaders who work directly to protect and strengthen U.S. democracy. *Examples could be:*

- ▶ An organization working against political violence
- ▶ A nonpartisan civic engagement organization or leadership training program
- ▶ An advocacy group that tracks corruption and holds public officials accountable
- ▶ A faith-based organization that engages in nonpartisan voter education and mobilization
- ▶ Election officials who face threats due to their work administering elections

### 2. Individuals and Organizations Targeted in Ways Intended to Silence Them and Disrupt Their Work

*These could include:*

- ▶ Advocacy nonprofits threatened with loss of their 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status
- ▶ Prosecutors or law enforcement officials who face retribution due to political differences
- ▶ Direct service organizations investigated by Congress with the intent to intimidate
- ▶ Leading voices writing about political violence who are targeted by social media influencers
- ▶ Groups facing investigation because they criticize government policy or work on issues disfavored by the government

*The DPN cannot serve candidates for public office, PACs, political parties, for-profit organizations, individuals or organizations based outside of the U.S., or those who support or engage in violence or terrorist activity.*

## How to Apply

Use our secure online application at **DemocracyProtectionNetwork.org**. DPN staff reviews all applications and generally provides an initial response within **three business days**, or sooner in urgent cases.

DPN's case managers provide advice and connect each qualified applicant with the appropriate provider in our network. DPN also acts as navigator, connecting applicants to other trusted partners when needed.

We encourage anyone who is unsure about their eligibility to apply. The DPN is here to ensure that **all those under threat get the help they need, at no cost to them.**

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DemocracyProtectionNetwork.org