

Theme: American Presidential Primaries

Despite its economic and political decline, The United States of America remains the world's only superpower. Decisions taken within its borders have global ramifications. The United States has a global influence not only economically, but culturally. Just as Donald Trump's rise set off a whole host of right-wing movements in the western world, the progressive transformation of the Democratic party has the potential to influence politics throughout the world. For this reason, PAC believes it is important for our readers to be informed of the people and the ideas involved in the American presidential election. This bulletin will be the first of three planned special editions on the American Democratic primaries.



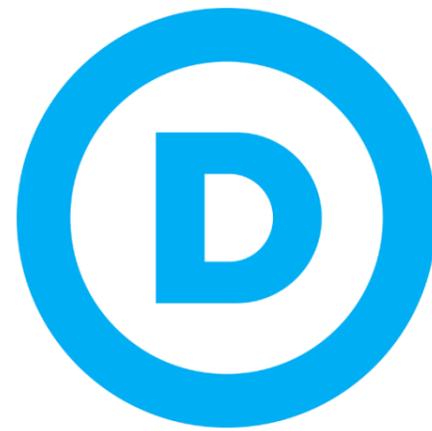
Seal of the President of the United States



Donald Trump

The next American presidential election is scheduled to be held on November 3rd, 2020 however campaigning has already begun. The election of Donald Trump, a developer who bankrupted multiple businesses and had no previous political experience laid bare the underlying nativism in America and the resentment of white working-class Americans in the central American states who felt left behind by the American dream.

But Trump's election also galvanised the American left. In the two and a half years since Trump became president, the Democratic party has moved from being a center-left establishment to a firmly progressive organisation. The 2018 mid-term elections ensured that the democratic party is now more diverse than ever before, with the largest number of women and minority representatives in the party's history. It has also resulted in democratic presidential candidates endorsing socialist policies that would have been taboo earlier.



Democratic Party Logo

The Candidates – Part 1

A record 25 candidates are currently running for the Democratic nomination for President of the United States. However, at this moment there are only four candidates who have broken away from the pack and have a clear chance of winning the nomination. This edition will focus on two candidates in the current bulletin and the rest will be covered in the next special edition –

i. Joe Biden: Biden was the Vice President during Barack Obama's tenure as president. Biden currently leads the democratic candidates, but the gap between him and the other frontrunners is narrowing as the days go by. Biden is a moderate democrat, and this brings him support from independents and moderate Republicans, but it is also his biggest weakness. Biden is seen as out of step with the rising progressivism in the Democratic party.



Joe Biden

ii. Bernie Sanders: Bernie Sanders is a firebrand socialist who currently serves as a Democratic Senator from the State of Vermont. He burst into the national consciousness during the 2016 presidential primaries with previously radical ideas such as Medicare-for-all, free higher education and higher taxes on the rich. Indeed, Sander's rise is seen to have catalysed the emergence of the progressive movement in the democratic party



Bernie Sanders