IDC1 Handbook

Welcome to the online assembly of the International Department of Citizenship, IDC1

About Us

Our Vision | How We're Structured | How We Work | Member Duties

The International Department of Citizenship is an organizing body dedicated to empowering citizen projects which lay the groundwork for revolution and allow workers to control the means of production in a democratic & decentralized world.

Our goal is to organize and coordinate actions which challenge capitalism, injustice, and the centers of power most susceptible to corruption.

We aim to create a central confederation which facilitates a network of fully independent regional mutual aid groups.

IDC1 is the online assembly of the IDC.

We create and manage digital tools and resources, with a goal of establishing a communications infrastructure to support and empower citizen movements.

We operate as a collective, meaning we have a flat structure without any bosses or orders. You're free to set your own schedule and create your own projects to invite others to, but we have lots objectives in need of help if you're just looking to get started with collaborating ASAP.

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IDC1 is made up of **committees** which support IDC1 infrastructure and strategic vision, and many different **projects** (or work groups) committed to building dual power directed toward revolution.

Our **General Assembly** meets once a month, with all committees and projects sending one member to advise the assembly of activity and progress.

Everyone is encouraged to create or propose a project, with the only requirements being contact info and a project description must be shared so it can be promoted to members. We offer optional project templates and tools to support you.

Current Committees:

Communications: Manage content creation, social media channels, and other PR; *like a typical Communications team*.

Operations: Manage day to day administration, systems, and recruitment; *like HR and IT teams*.

Research and Development: Research and develop information, tools, and collaborative external projects; *like policy and practice, software development, and information management teams*.

Social: Research and implement opportunities for group cohesion and social outreach; *like typical social support teams*.

SUSPENDED (COVID-19): Direct Action: Support activities offline. E.g., postering, training, and volunteering with other orgs to learn best practices; *like outreach, offsite, and volunteer teams*.

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All members are encouraged to immediately act on any need they see pressing in society and then share their efforts with the group at large to request feedback or support.

The project will be promoted for collaboration on the IDC1 Airtable overview.

IDC1 committees propose strategic activities for members looking to contribute without leading a specific project themselves. Any member may contribute, dropping in or out as you see fit.

We use Airtable to provide a broad overview of ongoing projects and tasks which members are encouraged to engage in.

We use Trello to manage specific projects.

We use Discord for group discussion.

We use Signal for private chat.

We use free software to ensure all members have access and that our efforts may be shared to future projects to minimize duplicate labour.

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As we operate under a consensus model, we ensure all members are respected and encouraged to operate without judgment or pressure.

As such, if an **applicant** is not able to provide a verifiable identity or history of leftist support, a short period of trust building will commence under an **initiate** period. **Initiates** will pick a few activities which interest them and be given a short period of time 1-4 weeks to build trust and become a full **member**.

Members are invited to take on any activity they choose and have basic access to all projects.

Committee Members have volunteered to take on more administrative tasks and have administrative privileges, but have no authority to issue orders or directions. Due to software limitations, **Committee Members** typically have the highest level of access and the ability to execute directions given by the General Assembly. To be clear, the *ability* to execute is not to be confused with the *discretion* to execute which can only come through transparent consultation with other committee members.

Any confusion with any action is encouraged to be publicly made without judgment or reprisal. IDC1 is a flat group, without hierarchy.

SHARED VALUES

Direct Democracy

We believe **technology allows us to evolve beyond representative democracy and that all members of a democracy have a right to be directly heard** - especially within our organization.

Dual Power

While we believe that revolution is necessary to advance the human condition, **we must first build a parallel infrastructure before we tear down the old.**

Mutual Aid

Charities are vertical distributions of power, often carrying bloated operational costs, dictatorial boards, and suffering a conflict of interest wherein success would result in mass job loss. **Mutual aid is horizontal, where the affected must be directly involved in engineering solutions to ensure elimination of obstacles is truly and fully prioritized.**

Member Guidelines

Rights & Responsibilities | Benefits & Protections

A member is a person who performs a task without compensation or expectation of compensation through the direction of the IDC or on its behalf. After application, a member requires enrollment via invitation from the IDC before being assigned or involved in a project.

Rights

• To be heard in a timely fashion

• To receive training for any task you're requested to perform

• To know as much about the IDC as possible

• To be treated as a peer by all fellow members

• To be given sound guidance and direction when you request it

Responsibilities

• To respect all members as an equal peer

• To ask questions if you are unsure of anything

• To be willing to learn and participate

• To give as much notice as possible if you cannot maintain your voluntary commitment

• To be sincere if you offer service and believe in the value of the job to be done

• To respect confidentiality

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Benefits

• Training and ongoing access to support

• A letter of reference upon request

• Opportunities to connect with others who share your interests

• An environment of personal and communal development where your skills, network, and resume will be bolstered

• The opportunity to be challenged in a meaningful and interesting way

Protections

As a small, collaborative community, we have zero tolerance for any form of harassment. All members of the community share responsibility for maintaining an environment free of harm, but a particular burden is placed on those in positions of administrative authority to ensure that allegations brought to their attention are dealt with in an immediate fashion.

The IDC is committed to providing an environment that is safe and supportive of the dignity and self-esteem of all members. **It is incumbent upon all not to condone or tolerate any behavior that constitutes harassment.** Please report any case, observed or otherwise, to an operations committee member or theidc@protonmail.com.

STARTING OUT

WE USE <u>AIRTABLE</u> TO PROVIDE AN ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

WE USE <u>TRELLO</u> TO MANAGE SPECIFIC PROJECTS

WE USE <u>DISCORD</u> AS OUR ONLINE HANGOUT AND MEETUP SPACE

WE USE <u>SUBSTACK</u> TO PROVIDE REGULAR NEWSLETTER UPDATES

We value a vibrant atmosphere of motivated individuals engaged collaboratively through open and clear communication. Conducting an interview to ensure you're heard, welcomed, and suggested activities which suit your talents and goals is how we'll start our relationship.

We'll invite you to the IDC1 Discord group which will give you access to our daily interactions, and Airtable which will give you an organizational overview.

Go easy on yourself and share every question which may arise as it will take time to develop a satisfying understanding and comfort level with the role you'd like to play, but when you see something you like - go for it and know you're supported, even in failure.

We're here to help each other, so please ask for assistance or clarification at any time, for anything - no matter how small or trivial it may seem.

Thank you for your time and interest.

We begin our journey amidst the COVID-19 pandemic a crippled economy, and on the verge of a class war via austerity like we've never seen.

We believe that with your help, we can can collectively write a new chapter of history; a chapter in which every citizen may recognize their power and potential - and easily seize it to shape a better world for all.

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