global 1

global. A global definition is effective until the end of the document or until it is overridden by another definition, even when it occurs within a group. Thus a global definition is unaffected by group boundaries. You can make any definition global by prefixing it with the \global command (p. '\global') unless \globaldefs (p. '\globaldefs') is negative.

There's a special way of making a macro definition global. Normally you define a macro using either the \def command or the \edef command (p. '\edef'). If you use \gdef or \xdef instead of \def and \edef respectively, the macro definition will be global. That is, '\gdef' is equivalent to '\global\def' and '\xdef' is equivalent to '\global\def'.