The Place of Honor

To the right is the place of honor. That is the fundamental rule governing the location of the national flag in all situations when it flies from a staff.

When displayed on a stage or platform, the national flag should be to the speaker's right. Any other flag is on the speaker's left.

This is correct even if there is one or more national flags with the audience, provided the flags are all on staffs.

This is correct also if the audience or congregation is on the same level as the speaker.

If the national flag is not on a staff, display it flat against a wall with the blue union (point of honor) to the flag's own right.

If there is a national flag held by a member of the audience, it should be on that person's right facing the speaker. Any other flag should be on the audience's left. National colors brought in with the audience but placed in front of the audience would be positioned according to the custom of placing the flag on the speaker's right. Color guards with the national flag and an organization flag may keep both flags together at the right of the audience with the national flag on the right of any other.

A flag hanging over an audience should face toward the main entrance to the auditorium—the point of honor on the flag's own right (to the left as seen by the people entering).

A flag hanging from a balcony (or stairway) should never be draped, but allowed to fall free. The point of honor is on its own right—always.
Diagrams of Flag Positions

Note: A stands for the national flag; B stands for any other flag.

Diagrams 1, 2, 3, and 4 apply to lecture halls, classrooms, club rooms, churches, auditoriums, etc.

Flags displayed by both speaker and audience, whether on same level as speaker or platform.

Scouts (or any organization) with their flags but no formal formation or color guard.

Cater-cornered

Outdoor entrance to building

Office

Library

Entrance

Sidewalk

A

B

Speaker

Audience

A

Books

Librarian Desk

Books

Books

Books

B

Audience

A