

Country: Eswatini

Years: 1968 – 1981

Leader: King Sobhuza II

Ideology: Right

Description: Manzano (2017) identifies King Sobhuza II as Right. CHISOLS identifies King Sobhuza II's party affiliation as none. Rulers (2021) writes "Swaziland achieved full independence in September 1968 as a constitutional monarchy. In April 1973, however, Sobhuza repealed the constitution, dissolved the legislature, disbanded all political parties, and assumed supreme power to rule. A new constitution proclaimed in 1978 provided for a merely consultative parliament (Libandla). Opposition to his rule was small." Peace Corps (2013) writes "The first post-independence elections were held in May 1972; however, in 1973, King Sobhuza II repealed the constitution and dissolved Parliament, imposing a state of emergency in which he assumed all powers of government and prohibited political parties. A new constitution in 1978 continued to concentrate political power in the hands of the monarch, but called for the appointment of a prime minister and a cabinet and an elected Parliament, the Libandla, in which political parties would remain illegal. The Parliament's functions were restricted to conveying advice to the king and his principal advisory body, the Likoqo (Supreme Council of State)." International Coalition of Jurists (2016) writes "Since 1973, when Sobhuza II, the previous King of Swaziland, proclaimed to be the 'supreme power in the Kingdom of Swaziland' and to hold all legislative, executive and judicial power, Swaziland has become Africa's last remaining absolute monarchy, and one of the vanishingly few existing globally. King Sobhuza II proceeded to repeal the 1968 Constitution that had provided for a constitutional monarchy and a clear separation of powers."

Years: 1982

Leader: Queen Dzeliwe Shongwe

Ideology: Right

Description: Manzano (2017) identifies Queen Dzeliwe as Right. CHISOLS identifies Queen Dzeliwe Shongwe's party affiliation as none.

Years: 1983 – 1985

Leader: Queen Ntombe Thwala

Ideology: Right

Description: Manzano (2017) identifies Queen Ntombe as Right. CHISOLS identifies Queen Ntombe Thwala's party affiliation as none.

Years: 1986 – 2020

Leader: King Mswati III

Ideology: Right

Description: Manzano (2017) identifies King Mswati III as Right. CHISOLS identifies King Mswati III's party affiliation as none. *Encyclopedia Britannica* (2020) writes "National economic policy is based on the free enterprise or market philosophy, with fiscal measures to redistribute resources to education, health, and community improvement projects." Rulers (2021) writes "Mswati III... Despite his youth, he was quick to consolidate his power. In May he dissolved the Liqoqo (council of elders), which was the king's traditional advisory body but which had become the most powerful body in Swaziland during the three years without a monarch and thus posed a potential threat to his power base. In October he reshuffled his cabinet, putting two of his brothers in key positions." Peace Corps (2013) writes "The current monarch, King Mswati III, was crowned in April 1986. Shortly afterward, he abolished the Liqoqo, and in 1987, a new Parliament was elected and a new cabinet was appointed... National executive power in Swaziland is vested in the king, who appoints, and is assisted by, a prime minister and cabinet." International Coalition of Jurists (2016) writes "Since 1973, when Sobhuza II, the previous King of Swaziland, proclaimed to be the 'supreme power in the Kingdom of Swaziland' and to hold all legislative, executive and judicial power, Swaziland has become Africa's last remaining absolute monarchy, and one of the vanishingly few existing globally. King Sobhuza II proceeded to repeal the 1968 Constitution that had provided for a constitutional monarchy and a clear separation of powers. Although a new Constitution containing a bill of rights was adopted in 2005 as supreme law, constitutional rights have not made effective through necessary implementing legislation and are often not respected in practice, or are not interpreted and implemented consistently with regional and international human rights law and standards. Under the 2005 Constitution, the King remains the hereditary Head of State. Executive authority vests in the King, which he may exercise directly or through the Cabinet or a Minister. Supreme legislative authority vests in the King-in Parliament, i.e. the King acting with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Assembly... the constitutional and legislative framework does not respect the separation of powers nor does it provide the necessary safeguards for the independence of the Judiciary."

References:

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<https://www.britannica.com/place/Eswatini>
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