

Country: Georgia

Year: 1991

Leader: Zviad Gamsakhurdia

Ideology:

Description: CHISOLS identifies Gamsakhurdia's party as MM-TS. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Round Table-Free Georgia (MM-TS) as "Georgian nationalist bloc". Nelson (1992) states that Round Table-Free Georgia called for a switch from Communism to a market economy. Horowitz (2003) states, "Gamsakhurdia displayed pronounced populist-authoritarian tendencies. Relative to other Georgian elites, he was unusually suspicious of unrestrained economic liberalization and political freedoms." UPI (1990) describes Round Table-Free Georgia as a "pro-independence, anti-Communist party."

Years: 1992-2002

Leader: Eduard Shevardnadze

Ideology: left

Description: CHISOLS identifies Shevardnadze's party as SMK. Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Shevardnadze's ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Citizens Union of Georgia (SMK) to be centrist: "centrist, pro-Shevardnadze". Rulers (2019) writes that Shevardnadze "become one of Gorbachev's closest associates, helping promote the reform policies of glasnost and perestroika". Martin writes that "Mr. Shevardnadze's revisionist thinking outpaced that of Mr. Gorbachev, whose title was general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. 'He thought he was refining socialism while I was no longer a socialist,' Mr. Shevardnadze told The New York Times Magazine in 1993. Freedom House (1998) identifies CUG as centrist, writing that "Shevardnadze, a former Soviet foreign minister and politburo member, won over 75 percent of the vote in the 1995 elections, and his centrist Union of Georgian Citizens won 150 of 235 seats in parliament." BBC News (1999) also identifies CUG as centrist, writing that "After votes from six constituencies had been counted it was too early to say, though, whether Mr Shevardnadze's centrist Citizens' Union of Georgia (CUG) would be able to defend its absolute majority." In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party's ideology as "Center-left" (-0.402) in 1995 and "Center" (-0.195) in 1999. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify leader party's cohesion as "A high level of visible disagreement" in 1995 and 1999.

Year: 2003

Leader: Nino Burdjanadze

Ideology: right

Description: CHISOLS identifies Burdjanadze's party as BDA. Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as rightist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Burjanadze-Democratic Alliance (BDA) to be leftist: "reform, social-democratic". Jones (2006: 477) identifies Burdjanadze as centrist, writing that "[National Movement – Democrats] is a coalition of the United National Movement founded in October 2001 by Mikheil Saakashvili, the United Democrats led by Zurab Zhvania and Nino Burjunadze, the Union of National Solidarity, and members of the youth movement "Kmara." The bloc, though represented by a single faction in parliament, consists of two separate parliamentary parties, the United National Movement and the United Democrats. It is liberal and centrist, pro-European, pro-market, and reformist. In the March 2004 elections, it took a strong stand against corruption and urged increased pensions and radical reform of the state structures. Its platform focused on the "improvement of social welfare" and promised to address urgent social issues (pensions, minimum salaries, health care reform) that "are of vital importance for our population." In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party's ideology as "Center" (0.356) in 2003. In V-Party (2020), 6 experts identify leader party's cohesion as "A high level of visible disagreement" in 2003.

Years: 2004-2006

Leader: Mikheil Saakashvili

Ideology: rightist

Description: CHISOLS identifies Saakashvili's party as ENM. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Saakashvili's ideology as centrist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies United National Movement (ENM) as rightist, "center-right, liberal-conservative". In the Global Party Survey 2019, 9 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the United National Movement (UNM) as 8.4. Radio Free Europe (2013) identifies ENM as rightist, writing that "Saakashvili also ensured that [ENM] hewed to a rightist platform". Rulers (2019) writes that "he returned in 1995 to become a candidate for the liberal Union of Georgian Citizens (SMK) party". Jones (2006: 477) identifies Saakashvili as centrist, writing that "[National Movement – Democrats] is a coalition of the United National Movement founded in October 2001 by Mikheil Saakashvili, the United Democrats led by Zurab Zhvania and Nino Burjunadze, the Union of National Solidarity, and members of the youth movement "Kmara." The bloc, though represented by a single faction in parliament, consists of two separate parliamentary parties, the United National Movement and the United Democrats. It is liberal and centrist, pro-European, pro-market, and reformist. In the March 2004 elections, it took a strong stand against corruption and urged increased pensions and radical reform of the state structures. Its platform

focused on the “improvement of social welfare” and promised to address urgent social issues (pensions, minimum salaries, health care reform) that “are of vital importance for our population.” BBC News (2012) identifies Saakashvili as rightist, writing that “Critics also accuse Mr Saakashvili, the economic liberal, of having failed to tackle poverty.” Ukraine Crisis Media Center (2020) writes that “When Saakashvili aimed for the government seat, he said his main goal would be to make liberal economic reforms and negotiate billion-dollar aid for Ukraine with Western creditors.” In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Right” (1.721) in 2004.

Year: 2007

Leader: Nino Burdjanadze

Ideology: right

Description: CHISOLS identifies Burdjanadze’s party as BDA. Manzano (2017) identifies Burdjanadze earlier as rightist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Burjanadze-Democratic Alliance (BDA) to be leftist: “reform, social-democratic”. Jones (2006: 477) identifies Burdjanadze as centrist, writing that “[National Movement – Democrats] is a coalition of the United National Movement founded in October 2001 by Mikheil Saakashvili, the United Democrats led by Zurab Zhvania and Nino Burjunadze, the Union of National Solidarity, and members of the youth movement “Kmara.” The bloc, though represented by a single faction in parliament, consists of two separate parliamentary parties, the United National Movement and the United Democrats. It is liberal and centrist, pro-European, pro-market, and reformist. In the March 2004 elections, it took a strong stand against corruption and urged increased pensions and radical reform of the state structures. Its platform focused on the “improvement of social welfare” and promised to address urgent social issues (pensions, minimum salaries, health care reform) that “are of vital importance for our population.” In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (0.356) in 2003. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify leader party’s cohesion as “Some visible disagreement” in 2004.

Years: 2008-2012

Leader: Mikheil Saakashvili

Ideology: rightist

Description: CHISOLS identifies Saakashvili’s party as ENM. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Saakashvili’s ideology as centrist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies United National Movement (ENM) as rightist, “center-right, liberal-conservative”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 9 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the United National Movement (UNM) as 8.4. Radio Free

Europe (2013) identifies ENM as rightist, writing that “Saakashvili also ensured that [ENM] hewed to a rightist platform”. Jones (2006: 477) identifies Saakashvili as centrist, writing that “[National Movement – Democrats] is a coalition of the United National Movement founded in October 2001 by Mikheil Saakashvili, the United Democrats led by Zurab Zhvania and Nino Burjunadze, the Union of National Solidarity, and members of the youth movement “Kmara.” The bloc, though represented by a single faction in parliament, consists of two separate parliamentary parties, the United National Movement and the United Democrats. It is liberal and centrist, pro-European, pro-market, and reformist. In the March 2004 elections, it took a strong stand against corruption and urged increased pensions and radical reform of the state structures. Its platform focused on the “improvement of social welfare” and promised to address urgent social issues (pensions, minimum salaries, health care reform) that “are of vital importance for our population.” BBC News (2012) identifies Saakashvili as rightist, writing that “Critics also accuse Mr Saakashvili, the economic liberal, of having failed to tackle poverty.” Ukraine Crisis Media Center (2020) writes that “When Saakashvili aimed for the government seat, he said his main goal would be to make liberal economic reforms and negotiate billion-dollar aid for Ukraine with Western creditors.” In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Right” (1.728) in 2008 and “Center-right” (1.02) in 2012.

Years: 2013-2017

Leader: Giorgi Margvelashvili

Ideology: left

Description: Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Margvelashvili’s ideology as rightist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as Georgian Dream - Democratic Georgia (KODS), which is identified as leftist “center-left, social liberal, populist”. Aprasidze (2016: 122) identifies GD-DG’s ideology as leftist, writing that “Georgian Dream-Democratic Georgia defines itself as a centre-left party, while its partners range ideologically from liberal via nationalist to mercantilist”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 9 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Georgian Dream (GD) as 4.6. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.808) in 2012 and “Center” (-0.365) in 2016. CHILSOS identifies Margvelashvili’s party as GD-DG. DPI has no information on GD-DG.

Years: 2018

Leader: Mamuka Bakhtadze

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify leader's party affiliation. Political Handbook of the World (2019: 573) identifies Bakhtadze's party affiliation as Georgian Dream-Democratic Georgia (GD-DG), writing "Prime Minister: Mamuka Bakhtadze (Georgian Dream)." Aprasidze (2016: 122) identifies GD-DG's ideology as leftist, writing that "Georgian Dream-Democratic Georgia defines itself as a centre-left party, while its partners range ideologically from liberal via nationalist to mercantilist". Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Bakhtadze's ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as Georgian Dream - Democratic Georgia (KODS), which is identified as leftist "center-left, social liberal, populist". In the Global Party Survey 2019, 9 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Georgian Dream (GD) as 4.6. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party's ideology as "Center" (-0.365) in 2016. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party's cohesion as "Some visible disagreement" in 2016. DPI has no information on GD-DG.

Years: 2019-2020

Leader: Giorgi Gakharia

Ideology: leftist

Description: World Statesmen identifies leader's party as KODS (K'art'uli Ots'neba—Demokratiuli Sak'art'velo (Georgian Dream-Democratic Georgia, center-left, social liberal, populist, pro-European, est. 21 Apr 2012)). In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government's party ideology as "Center" (-0.365) in 2016. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party's cohesion as "Some visible disagreement" in 2016. Aprasidze (2016: 122) identifies GD-DG's ideology as leftist, writing that "Georgian Dream-Democratic Georgia defines itself as a centre-left party, while its partners range ideologically from liberal via nationalist to mercantilist". World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as Georgian Dream - Democratic Georgia (KODS), which is identified as leftist "center-left, social liberal, populist". In the Global Party Survey 2019, 9 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Georgian Dream (GD) as 4.6. DPI has no information on GD-DG.

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