

Country: Estonia

Year: 1991

Head of government: Edgar Savisaar

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 465-466) identifies Savisaar's party starting in 1991 as the Estonian Centre Party, or Eesti Keskerakon (EK). Armingeon et al. (2019) identify EK as centrist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 466) adds "Described as a "canny populist," Savisaar led the EK to a first-place finish in the March 1999 balloting (28 seats and 23.4 percent of the vote) on a platform designed to appeal to segments of the populace wary of free-market economic reforms." CNN (2003) later identifies EK as leftist, writing "Estonia's leftist Centre Party narrowly won a general election on Sunday, but with only the thinnest of leads over rightwing newcomer Res Publica it could struggle to form a new government." Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Savisaar's ideology as centrist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as Estonian People's Front (ERR). In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Estonian Centre Party (EK) as 3.1. Döring and Manow (2019) identify EK's party family as social democracy. Sikk (2006: 343) writes that "[the major parties] include the moderately leftist Centre Party under the charismatic leadership of Edgar Savisaar; the market liberal Reform Party; the national-conservative Pro Patria Union". Park (1993: 273) writes that "the center-right friction was becoming more and more vibrant in Estonia after March 1990, when Edgar Savisaar's government and the center-dominated parliament was frequently challenged by the right-wing nationalist forces". Hass (2006: 1284) writes that "the Center Party (EK) is the modern successor to the Agrarian Party" created to "represent small farmers", In terms of policy, Hass (2006: 1285) writes that EK "has increasingly espoused an agrarian-oriented, populist program focusing on opposition to rural underdevelopment and urban overdevelopment and support for small businesses, the underprivileged, and decentralization". Fitzmaurice (1993: 168) identifies Savisaar as leftist, writing that "the Estonian People's Centre Party [is led] by former premier and reform communist Edgar Savisaar." In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify executive party's ideology as "Center" (0.225) in 1990. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify executive party's cohesion as "A high level of visible disagreement" in 1990.

Years: 1992-1993

Head of government: Mart Laar

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as Isamaa (Pro Patria, or IL). DPI identifies IL's ideology as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006: 465) elaborates, writing that "the Pro Patria faction [of the IRL], is generally more conservative". Armingeon et al. (2019) confirm IL to be rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006: 462) identifies Laar as rightist, writing that "the Fatherland Union (*Erakond Isamaaliit*—IL), RE, and Moderates coalesced to form a center-right government, with Mart Laar returning to the prime minister's post". Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Laar's ideology as rightist. Lentz (1994: 262) identifies Laar's ideology as rightist, writing that "Mart Laar was a member of the right-wing Fatherland coalition." World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as the National Coalition Party (RKI), and identifies the party as "christian democratic". In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Union of Pro Patria and Res Publica (IRL) as 7.3. Döring and Manow (2019) identify IL's party family as conservative. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify executive party's ideology as "Right" (1.898) in 1992.

Year: 1994

Head of government: Andres Tarand

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify party. Political Handbook of the World (2010: 458) identifies Tarand's party as Moderates, or Rahvaerakond Mõõdukad. DPI identifies the ideology of the Moderates as leftist. Armingeon et al. (2019) confirm Rahvaerakond Mõõdukad to be leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2007: 389-390), however, writes that "*Mõõdukad* won 12 legislative seats in the 1992 election, its campaign including charges on behalf of the EMKE that the rural parties in the Coalition Party and Rural Union alliance were dominated by former communists" and that "the SDE is the successor (as of 2003) to the Moderates (*Rahvaerakond Mõõdukad*—M) ... [whose] strong anticommunism enables it to participate in right-oriented post-independence governments". World Statesmen identifies Tarand as non-party. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify Moodukad's oppose-support market score as 3 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 3.5 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identify Moderates' party family as social democracy. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify executive party's ideology as "Center-left" (-0.611) in 1992.

Years: 1995-1996

Head of government: Tiit Vähi

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as KMU-K. Political Handbook of the World (2012: 451) identifies KMU as “a conservative alliance” between “the Coalition Party and Rural Union.” Armingeon et al. (2019) identify KMU-K itself as leftist. Perspective Monde (2019), however, identifies Vahi’s ideology as centrist. World Statesmen identifies party as the Coalition Party of Estonia (EK); it identifies the party as “liberal”. DPI identifies EK as centrist. Döring and Manow (2019) identify EK’s party family as social democracy. Hass (2006: 1284) writes that “the Center Party (EK) is the modern successor to the Agrarian Party” created to “represent small farmers”, In terms of policy, Hass (2006: 1285) writes that EK “has increasingly espoused an agrarian-oriented, populist program focusing on opposition to rural underdevelopment and urban overdevelopment and support for small businesses, the underprivileged, and decentralization”.

Years: 1997-1998

Head of government: Mart Siimann

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as KMU-K. Political Handbook of the World (2012: 451) identifies KMU as “a conservative alliance” between “the Coalition Party and Rural Union.” DPI identifies EK/RU as rightist. Armingeon et al. (2019), however, identify KMU-K itself as leftist. Perspective Monde (2019), however, identifies Siimann’s ideology as centrist. World Statesmen identifies party as the Coalition Party of Estonia (EK); it identifies the party as “liberal”. Döring and Manow (2019) identify EK’s party family as social democracy. Hass (2006: 1284) writes that “the Center Party (EK) is the modern successor to the Agrarian Party” created to “represent small farmers”, In terms of policy, Hass (2006: 1285) writes that EK “has increasingly espoused an agrarian-oriented, populist program focusing on opposition to rural underdevelopment and urban overdevelopment and support for small businesses, the underprivileged, and decentralization”.

Years: 1999-2001

Head of government: Mart Laar

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Laar’s party as IERSP, a coalition between Isamaa (IL) and ERSP. DPI identifies IL as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006: 465) elaborates, writing that “the Pro Patria faction [of the IRL], is generally more conservative”. Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006: 462) identifies Laar as rightist, writing that “the Fatherland Union (*Erakond Isamaaliit*—IL), RE, and Moderates coalesced to form a center-

right government, with Mart Laar returning to the prime minister's post". Armingeon et al. (2019) confirm IL to be rightist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Laar's ideology as rightist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as Fatherland Union (EI), and identifies the party as "christian-democratic". Döring and Manow (2019) identify IL's party family as conservative. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify executive party's ideology as "Center-right" (1.44) in 2007.

Year: 2002

Head of government: Siim Kallas

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as RE. DPI identifies RE as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 464) elaborates, writing that "[RE] is described as 'liberal rightist' in orientation". Armingeon et al. (2019) confirm RE to be rightist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Kallas's ideology as rightist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as the Reform Party of Estonia (ERK), and identifies the party as rightist, "liberal, center-right". In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Estonian Reform Party (ERP) as 7.3. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify Reforms's oppose-support market score as approximately 6 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 5.5 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identify ERP's party family as liberal. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify executive party's ideology as "Right" (1.847) in 1999.

Years: 2003-2004

Head of government: Juhan Parts

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as ResP, or Res Publica (RP). DPI identifies RP's ideology as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 465) elaborates, writing that "the rightist RP became a formal party in 2001". Armingeon et al. (2019) confirm Res Publica to be rightist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Parts's ideology as rightist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as Party Res Republica (ERP); it identifies the party as "center-right, populist". In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Union of Pro Patria and Res Publica (IRL) as 7.3. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify Res Publica's oppose-support market score as approximately 4 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 4.5 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identify ERP's and IRL's party family as conservative. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify executive party's ideology as "Center-right" (1.44) in 2007.

Years: 2005-2013

Head of government: Andrus Ansip

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as RE. DPI identifies RE as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 464) elaborates, writing that “[RE] is described as ‘liberal rightist’ in orientation”. Armingeon et al. (2019) confirm RE to be rightist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Ansip’s ideology as rightist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as the Reform Party of Estonia (ERK); it describes the party as “liberal, center-right”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Estonian Reform Party (ERP) as 7.3. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify Reforms’s oppose-support market score as approximately 6 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 5.5 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identify RE’s party family as liberal. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify executive party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.66) in 2003, “Center-right” (1.394) in 2007, and “Center-right” (1.394) in 2011.

Years: 2014-2015

Head of government: Taavi Rõivas

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 467) identifies Roivas’s party as RE. DPI identifies RE as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 464) elaborates, writing that “[RE] is described as ‘liberal rightist’ in orientation”. Armingeon et al. (2019) confirm RE to be rightist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Roivas’s ideology as rightist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as the Reform Party of Estonia (ERK); it describes the party as “liberal, center-right”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Estonian Reform Party (ERP) as 7.3. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify Reform’s oppose-support market score as approximately 6 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 5.5 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identify RE’s party family as liberal. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify executive party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.394) in 2011 and “Center-right” (1.557) in 2015.

Years: 2016-2020

Head of government: Jüri Ratas

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Politico identifies Ratas’s party as Estonian Center Party (*Eesti*

Keskerabond—EK). Armingeon et al. (2019) identify EK as centrist. CNN (2003) identifies party as leftist: “Estonia's leftist Centre Party narrowly won a general election on Sunday, but with only the thinnest of leads over rightwing newcomer Res Publica it could struggle to form a new government.” Perspective Monde (2019), however, identifies Ratas’s ideology as centrist. World Statesmen identifies the party as the Estonian Center Party (EKE), which it described as centrist: “centrist, populist, social liberal”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Estonian Centre Party (EK) as 3.1. Döring and Manow (2019) identify EK’s party family as social democracy. Hass (2006: 1284) write that “the Center Party (EK) is the modern successor to the Agrarian Party” created to “represent small farmers”, In terms of policy, Hass (2006: 1285) writes that EK “has increasingly espoused an agrarian-oriented, populist program focusing on opposition to rural underdevelopment and urban overdevelopment and support for small businesses, the underprivileged, and decentralization”. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify executive party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.933) in 2015 and “Center-left” (-0.829) in 2019. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify executive party’s cohesion as “A high level of visible disagreement” in 2015 and “some visible disagreement” in 2019. DPI identifies EK as centrist. AFP International Text Wire (2016) describes Ratas as a “centrist leader” and states that Ratas “heads the Centre Party. . . his group will join forces with the leftist Social Democrat SDE and conservative IRL parties to form a coalition government.”

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