

Country: Ukraine

Years: 1990-1993

Leader: Leonid Makarovych Kravchuk

Ideology: left

Description: CHISOLS identifies Kravchuk's party as none. Kuzio (2014: 47) writes that "many of Kuchma's economic policies remained as hazy as did Kravchuk's". Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Kravchuk's ideology as leftist. Lentz (1994: 780) identifies Kravchuk's ideology as leftist, writing that "he joined the Communist party in 1958". World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as KPU in 1990 and none from 1991-1993. The KPU (Communist Party of Ukraine) is described as leftist: "communist". Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify KPU's oppose-support market score as approximately 2 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 1 on scales from 1-7.

Years: 1994-2004

Leader: Leonid Danylovych Kuchma

Ideology:

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Kuchma's party as none. World Statesmen (2019) identifies party affiliation as non-party. Although Kuchma received support from the Communist Party in his bid for presidency, Political Handbook (2018: 1517) writes that "Kuchma's determined pursuit of a market economy was generating strains not only between the president and the PKU-led bloc but also within the mainly centrist political groups that provided the president's close support". Lehnert et al. (2018) writes that "although it may seem curious that leftists should vote for someone who represented economic reform, Kuchma's economic platform was vague enough to attract a wide net of supporters". Kuzio (2014: 47) also writes that "Kuchma, like all other candidates apart from the two radicals, supported a 'socially oriented economy'" and that "many of Kuchma's economic policies remained as hazy as did Kravchuk's". Kravchuk (2005: 53) writes that Kuchma "ran on a platform of renewed economic ties with Russia and an 'evolutionary approach' to reform. He surprised nearly everyone by immediately developing plans for accelerating Ukraine's transition to the market" and that Kuchma's proposed program was "comprehensive, embracing the objectives of reducing the budget deficit, stabilizing the currency and introducing the hryvnia, accelerating privatization, liberalizing prices, reducing tax burdens, cutting business regulation, and easing foreign currency restrictions". However, in early 1995 "Kuchma's commitment to reform appeared to waiver" and he began "calling instead for the creating of a 'socially oriented market economy'. He "openly expressed his view that economic reforms should adhere to Ukraine's unique

historical and cultural traditions ... and have the following general attributes: 1) Rejection of Western economic models in favor of a 'state-regulated' transition to a socially oriented market, 2) Social support of the population during the transition to a market economy, 3) Protection of the domestic market and producers, 4) State price controls." Birch (2002:340) more explicitly identifies him as rightist, writing that "the right-wing candidates – and Kuchma in particular – stressed the thread of a 'red revanche' and the breakup of the country". Tolpygo (2000: 84), in Table 1, identifies Kuchma as "right-centrist".

Years: 2005-2009

Leader: Viktor Andriyovych Yushchenko

Ideology: rightist

Description: CHISOLS identifies Yushchenko's party as BYNU. Political Handbook (2018: 1524) identifies Yushchenko as rightist, writing that "the center-right coalesced around former prime minister Viktor Yushchenko and ... announced the formation of an electoral bloc, 'Our Ukraine'" (NU). Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Yushchenko's ideology as rightist. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify NU's oppose-support market score as approximately 6.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 5.5 on scales from 1-7. PartyFacts (2020) codes Our Ukraine (Nasha Ukrayina, OU, from 2005 onward, 8366) separately from the Our Ukraine Bloc (Blok Nasha Ukrayina, NUNS, 2001-2012, 2231) a political alliance which included OU (Yushchenko's party).

Years: 2010-2013

Leader: Viktor Fedorovych Yanukovych

Ideology: centrist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government's party affiliation. Political Handbook (2018: 1518) identifies Yanukovych's party affiliation as Party of Regions, writing that "President Kuchma nominated Viktor Yanukovych, the governor of Donetsk province and leader of the recently formed pro-Russian Party of Regions (Partiya Rehioniv - PR)". CHISOLS dataset identifies PR as centrist. Wolchik & Curry (2011: 344) confirm that PR is centrist, writing that "the Party of Regions joined four other pro-Kuchma centrist groups in the For a United Ukraine bloc (ZUY)". Kuzio and D'Anieri (2014: 78) confirm Yanukovych to be a centrist, writing that "Pustovoitenko was only a passive supporter of the centrist presidential candidate, Yanukovych, in the 2004 election". Perspective Monde (2019), however, identifies Yanukovych's ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) also identifies Yanukovych as "non-party". Kuzio (2012: 564) writes that "Putin and Yanukovych are more similar in the eclectic nature of their leftist and rightist ideologies, merging Soviet-style social paternalism that

provides support to Unified Russia and the Party of Regions from former Communist Party voters. The Party of Regions has gone one step further than Unified Russia in drawing the Communist Party of Ukraine (KPU) into three parliamentary coalitions (2001, when they jointly voted no confidence in the Yushchenko government, 2006–2007 and since 2010).” Kuzio (2005: 62) identifies Yanukovych as centrist, writing that “Centrists like Yanukovych did not support integration with either Russia or the EU and NATO. Integration of whatever type would deprive them of monopolistic power (i.e., sovereignty). The use of pragmatic nationalism to legitimize their rule was clearly seen in the privatization of Kryvorizhstal, Ukraine’s largest steel mill, in June 2004.” In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify leader party’s ideology as “Center” (0.259) in 2007 and “Center” (0.112) in 2012.

Years: 2014-2018

Leader: Petro Oleksiyovych Poroshenko

Ideology: right

Description: World Statesmen (2019) identifies Poroshenko as “non-party”. Political Handbook (2018: 1697) identifies Poroshenko as the leader of the Petro Poroshenko Bloc (BPP). In the Global Party Survey 2019, 16 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Petro Poroshenko Bloc (PPB) as 7.7. Vox Ukraine (2019) identifies Poroshenko’s ideology as rightist, writing that he has a “social-democratic ideology, close to state-centered views, with a preference for right wing economic policies” and that “economically, he is the most pro-market candidate”.

Years: 2019-2020

Head of government: Volodymyr Oleksandrovych Zelensky

Ideology: rightist

Description: World Statesmen identifies Zelensky’s party as SN (Sluha Narodu, Servant of the People, populist, anti-corruption, pro-European, est. 2 December 2017. Temnycky (2020) identifies Zelensky’s party as Servant of the People (SN). In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.069) in 2019. Ortiz de Zarate (2019) states that Zelensky ended up “becoming president of Ukraine and unleashing a moral crusade against corruption, or “acaba convirtiéndose en presidente de Ucrania y desata una cruzada moral contra la corrupción,” and “Observers highlighted the ambiguity of Zelenskiy's new political party, seemingly a mere vehicle for personal proselytizing aimed at any voter, especially the disappointed and fed up professional politicians, and permeable to populism,” or “Los observadores destacaron la ambigüedad del nuevo partido político de Zelenskiy, en apariencia un mero vehículo de proselitismo personal dirigido a cualquier votante, en especial el decepcionado y harto de los políticos profesionales, y permeable al populismo.”

DPI identifies Servant of the People as centrist. Interfax: Ukraine General Newswire (2021) quotes Zelensky, “The era of poverty will end only when everyone pays taxes, when there is deregulation. . . all this will happen for sure.”

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