

Country: Venezuela

Years: 1945-1947

Head of Government: Rómulo Ernesto Betancourt Bello

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG identifies ideology as leftist. CHISOLS identifies Betancourt's party as Acción Democrática (AD). Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006) describes Betancourt as the "leader of the Democratic Action (AD) party and of the non-Communist Left in Latin America." Political Handbook also describes AD as "an advocate of rapid economic development, welfare policies, and Western values." Lentz (1994: 821) writes, "Betancourt returned to Venezuela after Gómez's death in 1936 and founded the leftist newspaper *Orve*." In 1941, Betancourt "founded the Democratic Action party." Lentz (1994: 822) later identifies AD as leftist. Later on, Lentz (1994: 824) identifies his regime as left-wing. World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as AD and identifies the party as leftist, "center-left". Huber and Stephens (2016: 20) identify AD as center-left. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify AD's ideology as "Center-left" (-0.71) in 1973.

Years: 1948-1949

Head of Government: Carlos Román Delgado Chalbaud Gomez

Ideology: rightist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Delgado Chalbaud's party as none. Encyclopedia Britannica (2019) states that the November 1948 coup which placed Gomez in power was led by "conservative forces" that were strongly opposed to the leftist economic reforms of Democratic Action. Lentz (1994: 822) writes, "Delgado was the leader of the bloodless military coup that ousted Gallegos on November 24, 1948. He became provisional president as leader of the ruling three-man military junta composed of himself, Lt. Col. Marcos Pérez Jiménez, and Lt. Col. Luis Llovera Paez Secocin." HoG identifies Pérez Jiménez's ideology as rightist.

Years: 1950-1951

Head of Government: German Suárez Flamerich

Ideology: rightist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Although Suárez Flamerich assumed the position of leader of the military junta, the CHISOLS country profiles indicate that in this position Suárez Flamerich played little more than a figurehead as Pérez Jiménez served as the "de facto leader of the country". Indeed, Irwin, Buttó and Langue (2006) confirm that

Flamerich was nominally the leader but that true governing power rested in Pérez Jiménez's hands (170). Lentz (1994: 822) corroborates this, writing, "Junta member Lt. Col. Marcos Pérez Jiménez remained largely in control of the country while Suarez served as head of state." HoG identifies Marcos Evangelista Pérez Jiménez's ideology as rightist.

Years: 1952-1957

Head of Government: Marcos Evangelista Pérez Jiménez

Ideology: rightist

Description: HoG identifies ideology as rightist. CHISOLS identifies Pérez Jiménez's party affiliation as none. Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006) states that in 1973, Pérez Jiménez belonged to a party called the Nationalist Civic Crusade, which it identifies as rightist.

Years: 1958

Head of Government: Édgar Sanabria Arcia

Ideology:

Description: World Statesmen (2019) and Rulers (2019) identify Édgar Sanabria Arcia instead of Wolfgang Enrique Larrazábal Ugueto as head of government on December 31, 1958. HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Sanabria's party affiliation as none. The Statesman's Yearbook (2014) identifies Sanabria as non-partisan. World Statesmen (2019) and Rulers (2019) identify Sanabria as the chairman of the Government Junta in power at the time. Haggerty (1990) identifies the junta as a five-man provisional military junta that came into power after the military ousted Perez Jimenez and forced him to flee the country in 1958. He was the secretary of the junta from January 1958, and then replaced Wolfgang Larrazábal as the president of the board at the end of 1958. The junta's major accomplishment was the establishment of the new democratic political system; the junta ruled in 1958 to "dismantle the institutions associated with the dictatorship and transfer power to a popularly elected civilian government." According to Historical Dictionary of Venezuela (2018), Sanabria was a lawyer and professor of history prior to his position in the board, and afterwards served as ambassador to the Vatican, ambassador to Switzerland, and ambassador to Austria. Arceneaux (1969: v-vi) examines the Patriotic Junta, "an ad hoc committee organized in the summer of 1957 for the purpose of overthrowing the military dictator, Marcos Pérez Jiménez." Arceneaux describes the government junta of 1958, which Sanabria led after Larrazábal's resignation, and its primary goals: "Throughout the remainder of 1958, the Patriotic Junta, due to its popularity and prestige, continued to exercise considerable influence on Venezuelan politics. Its call for a political truce among individual political parties (in the name of civilian

unity) was endorsed openly by the nation's entire ideological spectrum. The Government Junta that replaced the dictatorship was committed to the cause of democracy and representative institutions. When it was threatened by rightist elements in the armed forces desiring a return to military rule, the Patriotic Junta used its influence to rally mass support behind the shaky provisional government."

Years: 1959-1963

Head of Government: Rómulo Ernesto Betancourt Bello

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG identifies ideology as leftist. CHISOLS identifies Betancourt's party as Acción Democrática (AD). Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006) describes Betancourt as the "leader of the Democratic Action (AD) party and of the non-Communist Left in Latin America." Political Handbook also describes AD as "an advocate of rapid economic development, welfare policies, and Western values." Perspective monde (2019) corroborates party affiliation as AD but identifies the party as centrist. Lentz (1994: 821) writes, "Betancourt returned to Venezuela after Gómez's death in 1936 and founded the leftist newspaper *Orve*." In 1941, Betancourt "founded the Democratic Action party." After Pérez Jiménez's ouster in January of 1958, Betancourt "reorganized the Democratic Action party and was the party's nominee for president in elections the following December. Betancourt was victorious and took office on February 13, 1959. He pushed for an agrarian reform program and increased industrial development in the country." Lentz (1994: 822) later identifies AD as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as AD and identifies the party as leftist, "center-left". Huber and Stephens (2016: 20) identify AD as center-left. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify AD's ideology as "Center-left" (-0.71) in 1973.

Years: 1964-1968

Head of Government: Raúl Leoni Otero

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG identifies ideology as leftist. CHISOLS identifies Leoni's party as Acción Democrática (AD). Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006) describes AD as "an advocate of rapid economic development, welfare policies, and Western values." Perspective monde (2019) corroborates party affiliation as AD but identifies the party as centrist. Lentz (1994: 822) identifies AD as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as AD and identifies the party as leftist, "center-left". Huber and Stephens (2016: 20) identify AD as center-left. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify AD's ideology as "Center-left" (-0.71) in 1973.

Years: 1969-1973

Head of Government: Rafael Caldera Rodríguez

Ideology: rightist

Description: HoG identifies ideology as rightist. CHISOLS identifies Caldera Rodríguez's party as Comité de Organización Política Electoral Independiente (COPEI). Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006) describes COPEI, writing, "Founded in 1946, COPEI offers a moderately conservative reflection of the social doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church. It nonetheless spans a wide range of opinión, from a clerical right wing to an ultraprogressive, youthful left wing." Perspective monde (2019) corroborates party affiliation as COPEI and identifies the party as center-right. Lentz (1994: 824) writes, "[Caldera] formed the center-right Socialist Christian party (COPEI) and was elected to the National Assembly in 1946." Lentz continues, "[Caldera] again was his party's candidate for president in elections in December of 1968." Huber and Stephens (2016: 20) identify COPEI as center-right. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify COPEI's ideology as "Center" (0.304) in 1973. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify "some visible disagreement" in COPEI in 1973.

Years: 1974-1978

Head of Government: Carlos Andrés Pérez Rodríguez

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG identifies ideology as leftist. CHISOLS identifies Pérez's party as Acción Democrática (AD). Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006) describes AD as "an advocate of rapid economic development, welfare policies, and Western values." Political Handbook also writes, "At internal AD balloting in September 1991 Carlos Pérez fanned party divisiveness by backing a minority 'renewalist' faction, led by Héctor Alonzo Lopez, that sought to oust the 'orthodox' leadership." Perspective monde (2019) corroborates party affiliation as AD but identifies the party as centrist. Lentz (1994: 822) identifies AD as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as AD and identifies the party as leftist, "center-left". Huber and Stephens (2016: 20) identify AD as center-left. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify AD's ideology as "Center-left" (-0.71) in 1973 and "Center-left" (-0.591) in 1978.

Years: 1979-1983

Head of Government: Luis Herrera Campins

Ideology: rightist

Description: HoG identifies ideology as rightist. CHISOLS identifies Herrera Campins' party as Comité de Organización Política Electoral Independiente (COPEI). Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006) describes COPEI, writing,

“Founded in 1946, COPEI offers a moderately conservative reflection of the social doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church. It nonetheless spans a wide range of opinion, from a clerical right wing to an ultraprogressive, youthful left wing.” Perspective monde (2019) corroborates party affiliation as COPEI and identifies the party as center-right. Huber and Stephens (2016: 20) identify COPEI as center-right. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify COPEI’s ideology as “Center” (0.397) in 1978 and “Center” (0.508) in 1983. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify “some visible disagreement” in COPEI in 1978 and “a high level of visible disagreement” in COPEI in 1983.

Years: 1984-1988

Head of Government: Jaime Ramón Lusinchi

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG identifies ideology as leftist. CHISOLS identifies Lusinchi’s party as Acción Democrática (AD). Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006) describes AD as “an advocate of rapid economic development, welfare policies, and Western values.” Perspective monde (2019) corroborates party affiliation as AD but identifies the party as centrist. Lentz (1994: 822) identifies AD as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as AD and identifies the party as leftist, “center-left”. Huber and Stephens (2016: 20) identify AD as center-left. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify AD’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.615) in 1983 and “Center” (-0.225) in 1988. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify “some visible disagreement” in AD in 1983 and “a high level of visible disagreement” in AD in 1988.

Years: 1989-1992

Head of Government: Carlos Andrés Pérez Rodríguez

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG identifies ideology as leftist. CHISOLS identifies Pérez’s party as Acción Democrática (AD). Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006) describes AD as “an advocate of rapid economic development, welfare policies, and Western values.” Political Handbook also writes, “At internal AD balloting in September 1991 Carlos Pérez fanned party divisiveness by backing a minority ‘renewalist’ faction, led by Héctor Alonzo Lopez, that sought to oust the ‘orthodox’ leadership.” Perspective monde (2019) corroborates party affiliation as AD but identifies the party as centrist. Lentz (1994: 822) identifies AD as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as AD and identifies the party as leftist, “center-left”. Huber and Stephens (2016: 20) identify AD as center-left. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify AD’s ideology as “Center” (-0.225) in

1988. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify “a high level of visible disagreement” in AD in 1988.

Years: 1993

Head of Government: Ramón José Velásquez Mujica

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG identifies ideology as leftist. CHISOLS identifies Velásquez’s party affiliation as none. Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006) describes Velásquez as “a highly respected, pro-AD independent.” Political Handbook describes AD as “an advocate of rapid economic development, welfare policies, and Western values.” Perspective monde (2019) corroborates party affiliation as AD but identifies the party as centrist. Lentz (1994: 822) identifies AD as leftist. Huber and Stephens (2016: 20) identify AD as center-left.

Years: 1994-1998

Head of Government: Rafael Caldera Rodríguez

Ideology: rightist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. HoG identifies Rodríguez as rightist from 1963-1973. CHISOLS identifies Caldera Rodríguez’s party as Convergencia Nacional (CN/CD). Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006) describes COPEI, writing, “Founded in 1946, COPEI offers a moderately conservative reflection of the social doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church. It nonetheless spans a wide range of opinion, from a clerical right wing to an ultraprogressive, youthful left wing.” Perspective monde (2019) corroborates party affiliation as Convergencia Nacional and identifies the party as center-right. In V-Party (2020), 9 experts identify CN’s ideology as “Center-right” (0.577) in 1993.

Years: 1999-2012

Head of Government: Hugo Rafael Chávez Frías

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Chávez’s party as Movimiento V República (MVR) until 2006, and Partido Socialista Unido de Venezuela (PSUV) afterwards. DPI does not identify party ideology. Huber and Stephens (2016: 20) identify MVR’s ideology as leftist since 2005 and identify PSUV’s ideology as leftist. Perspective monde (2019) corroborates party affiliation as MVR and identifies the party as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies party affiliation as MVR and then PSUV from 2007, identifying both parties as leftist, “socialist”. In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify MVR’s ideology as “Left” (-2.38) in 1998, “Left” (-2.507) in 2000, and “Left” (-3.079) in 2005. In V-Party

(2020), 10 experts identify PSUV's ideology as "Far-left" (-3.404) in 2010. Funke et al. (2020: 152) identify Chávez as a "left-wing populist."

Years: 2013-2020

Head of Government: Nicolás Maduro

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Lansford (2015) identifies Maduro's party as Partido Socialista Unido de Venezuela (PSUV). Huber and Stephens (2016: 20) identify PSUV's ideology as leftist. Perspective monde (2021) identifies party affiliation as Gran Polo Patriótico Simón Bolívar (GPPSB) and identifies the party as leftist. World Statesmen (2021) corroborates party affiliation as PSUV and identifies the party as leftist, "socialist". In V-Party (2020), 10 experts identify PSUV's ideology as "Far-left" (-3.404) in 2010 and "Left" (-3.222) in 2015. Funke et al. (2020: 153) identify Maduro as a "left-wing populist."

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