

Country: Sierra Leone

Years: 1961-1963

Leader: Milton Augustus Strieby Margai

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies head of government as Margai, and identifies Margai's affiliation as SLPP. Perspective Monde lists Milton Margai as a member of the "Parti du peuple de Sierra Leone" (SLPP), considered "moderate left". Cahoon (2018) describes SLPP as leftist, writing "Sierra Leone People's Party (centrist, social democratic, est. 1951)." Derbyshire and Derbyshire (2000) states "the SLPP was founded in 1961 and has a left-of-center orientation". In the Global Party Survey 2019, 1 expert identifies the average left-right (0-10) score of Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP) as 2.0. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify SLPP's ideology as "Center-left" (-1.491) in 1977.

Years: 1963-1966

Leader: Albert Michael Margai

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies head of government as A. Margai, and identifies A. Margai's affiliation as SLPP. Perspective Monde lists Albert Margai as a member of the "Parti du peuple de Sierra Leone" (SLPP), considered "moderate left". Cahoon (2018) describes SLPP as leftist, writing "Sierra Leone People's Party (centrist, social democratic, est. 1951)." Derbyshire and Derbyshire (2000) states "the SLPP was founded in 1961 and has a left-of-center orientation". Clark (1994) states that in the 1960s the voting population of Sierra Leone was "split between conservatives and socialists. Sierra Leone had essentially a two party system," with one party taking a center left ideological position (as above) and the other adopting a farther left socialist ideology. According to Clark, "the conservative party was run by Doctor Sir Albert Margai". In the Global Party Survey 2019, 1 expert identifies the average left-right (0-10) score of Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP) as 2.0. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify SLPP's ideology as "Center-left" (-1.491) in 1977.

Year: 1967

Leader: Andrew Terence Juxon-Smith

Ideology:

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Juxon-Smith's party as none. Political Handbook of the World (2015) writes, "[Dr. Siaka P. Stevens] was prevented from taking office by Brig. David LANSANA's

declaration of martial law on March 21. Two days later, Lt. Col. Andrew JUXON-SMITH assumed the leadership of the national Reformation Council (NRC) that suspended the constitution, dissolved the parties, and ruled for the ensuing 13 months.” Encyclopedia Britannica (2019) writes, “The opposition All-Peoples’ Congress (APC), led by Siaka Stevens, won the 1967 general election. But the army intervened and set up a military government, the National Reformation Council, under Lieut. Col. Andrew Juxon-Smith.” Stevens is coded as leftist. Fyle (2006: 79) writes, “The officers first invited Ambrose Genda, another military officer who was also then in England, to become head of state. However, suspicious that Genda intended to hand over the government to the party that had won the elections, the military officers quickly rescinded their invitation to Genda and invited Juxon-Smith to become head of the junta and thus head of state.” In a March 1967 interview, Juxon-Smith expresses views against tribalism, stating, “One of our officers, Major Jumo went to the provinces and his reports and observations were that the people were relieved, in fact that the army had stepped in. Because they themselves were so fed up with the political rivalries... Surely, what we are trying to do now, not only rectifying the finance, we are also going to rectify the moral aspect of the State, which is a necessary element of it, so that Mr. X, who comes from the northern most part of the country, should be able to sit down with Mr. Y, who comes from the south, and discuss things. They wouldn’t necessarily see eye to eye, no two persons think alike, but they should be able to arrive at a compromise and when they do strike a compromise they should both be able to honour that compromise.” Fischer (1967) writes, “Lt.-Col Juxon-Smith returned from England on 28 March to become chairman of the N.R.C. Two days later, when the Council had been in existence for one week, he gave a long press conference, described as a draft blueprint for the N.R.C... Tribalism came next: ‘And one of the first statements I made, you know, what I tried to put across was, to kill this question of tribalism... That will be the object of the National Reformation Council.’ Regionalism was also condemned, but corruption had now become the chief enemy... Economic orthodoxy was declared: ‘The I.M.F. agreement, which saved our lives, let me confess this, for this nation has gone, you know, to the dogs, that will be rigidly adhered to as long as I am member for finance. There will be no defection from me whatsoever. We must demonstrate to the I.M.F. and to the world that we can keep within the spirit of the agreement.’”

Years: 1968-1984

Leader: Siaka Probyn Stevens

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Stevens’ party as APC. DPI identifies APC’s ideology as left. Manzano (2017) identifies Stevens

as “left”. Perspective Monde lists Stevens as a member of the “Congrès de tout le peuple” (APC), considered “moderate left”. Lansford (2015) describes the APC as “leftist and republican in outlook, the APC was formed in 1960 by Dr. Siaka Probyn Stevens”. Clark (1994) states “Margai’s opposition was a quasi-socialist party headed by Siaka Stevens. He was a friend of Sekou Toure and saw himself as a revolutionary”. Petterson (1996) states “Stevens was considered to be left wing.” Derbyshire and Derbyshire (2000) corroborate, stating “the APC was founded by Sierra Leone’s first president, Siaka Stevens, in 1960. It has a moderate socialist orientation.” Van Rensburg (1975) writes “Siaka Stevens... [is] a... pragmatic socialist”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 1 expert identifies the average left-right (0-10) score of All People’s Congress (APC) as 2.0. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify APC’s ideology as “Left” (-2.303) in 1973, 1977, and 1982.

Years: 1985-1991

Leader: Joseph Saidu Momoh

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Momoh’s party as APC. DPI identifies APC’s ideology as left. Lansford (2015) describes the APC as “leftist and republican in outlook”. Manzano (2017) identifies Momoh as “left”. Perspective Monde lists Momoh as a member of the “Congrès de tout le peuple” (APC), considered “moderate left”. Derbyshire and Derbyshire (2000) states “the APC was founded by Sierra Leone’s first president, Siaka Stevens, in 1960. It has a moderate socialist orientation.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 1 expert identifies the average left-right (0-10) score of All People’s Congress (APC) as 2.0. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify APC’s ideology as “Left” (-2.303) in 1982 and 1986.

Years: 1992-1995

Leader: Valentine Strasser

Ideology:

Description: CHISOLS identifies Strasser’s party as none. Encyclopedia Britannica (2019) writes, “In April 1992 Momoh was deposed in a coup led by Capt. Valentine E.M. Strasser, who cited the poor conditions endured by the troops engaged in fighting the rebels as one of the reasons for ousting Momoh. A National Provisional Ruling Council (NPRC) was established with Strasser as the head of state.” Lentz (1994: 681) writes, “[Strasser] led the coup that overthrew the government of President Joseph Momoh on April 29, 1992.” Political Handbook of the World (2015) writes, “In 1994, the Strasser regime’s credibility was impaired by its inability to suppress the Revolutionary United Front (RUF, below), a Sierra Leonean offshoot of Charles Taylor’s National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL,

see Liberia entry) led by Foday Savannah SANKOH; the Strasser regime claimed the RUF had been organized to punish Sierra Leone for its peacekeeping role in Liberia.” Political Handbook also writes, “On April 27 [1995], Strasser promised to lift the ban on political parties and relinquish power to a democratically elected president in January 1996.” Rulers (2020) writes, “Strasser promised to hand over power in democratic elections in 1996. But he was beaten to the punch by his No. 2 man, Brig. Julius Maada Bio, who overthrew him in a bloodless coup in January that year.” Fyle (2006: xlvii) corroborates this, writing, “On January 16, 1996, Strasser was removed in a coup and was replaced by his second in command, Julius Maada Bio.” Bio is coded as leftist. Riley (1996: 539) writes, “But this steady progress towards democratisation was halted by a *coup d’etat* in April 1992 which brought to power a populist military junta, the National Provisional Ruling Council (NPRC), led by a young army officer, Captain Valentine Strasser, aged 27. Strasser’s regime abandoned the democratisation process, banned all forms of political activity, and sought to revive Sierra Leonean society by a series of populist measures including corruption inquiries.” Wiseman (1997: 265) writes, “However, it could be suggested that the similarities between his three cases are even stronger than he indicates: specifically that the rule of Yahya Jammeh and the AFPRC in The Gambia resembles that of Valentine Strasser and the NPRC, and that of Samuel Doe and the PRC more closely than Kandeh suggests.” Both Jammeh and Doe are coded as rightist. Fyle (1994: 138) writes, “It seems evident that the young leaders of the coup had very close relationships with University students, partly because a few of them had relatively recently been students at the University, partly also since they knew that students of similar ages as theirs had continued to remain strongly opposed to the APC government.” Lansford (2015) describes the APC as “leftist and republican in outlook”. Perspective Monde identifies APC as “moderate left.” Derbyshire and Derbyshire (2000) identify APC as having “a moderate socialist orientation.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 1 expert identifies the average left-right (0-10) score of All People’s Congress (APC) as 2.0. Mark (2016) writes, “[Strasser] segued onto the importance of pan-Africanism... ‘I’m a new pan-Africanist, not one of the old ones. This is totally different from [Muammar] Qaddafi’s idea of a United States of Africa,’ he said... ‘I’m talking about things like inter-road transit to Liberia, moving towards economic integration, and movement of goods and people—that sort of thing.’”

Year: 1996

Leader: Ahmad Tejan Kabbah

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Kabbah’s party as SLPP. Lansford (2015) states “the SLPP was launched as a revival of the party

outlawed in 1978.” Cahoon (2018) describes SLPP as leftist, writing “Sierra Leone People's Party (centrist, social democratic, est. 1951).” Perspective Monde lists Ahmad Kabbah as a member of the “Parti du peuple de Sierra Leone” (SLPP), considered “moderate left”. Derbyshire and Derbyshire (2000) considers the SLPP to be “left of center”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 1 expert identifies the average left-right (0-10) score of Sierra Leone People’s Party (SLPP) as 2.0. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify SLPP’s ideology as “Center-right” (0.942) in 1996. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify “a high level of visible disagreement” in SLPP in 1996.

Year: 1997

Leader: Johnny Paul Koroma

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Koroma’s party as SLPP. Lansford (2015) states “the SLPP was launched as a revival of the party outlawed in 1978.” Cahoon (2018) describes SLPP as leftist, writing “Sierra Leone People's Party (centrist, social democratic, est. 1951).” Derbyshire and Derbyshire (2000) considers the SLPP to be “left of center”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 1 expert identifies the average left-right (0-10) score of Sierra Leone People’s Party (SLPP) as 2.0. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify SLPP’s ideology as “Center-right” (0.942) in 1996. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify “a high level of visible disagreement” in SLPP in 1996.

Years: 1998-2006

Leader: Ahmad Tejan Kabbah

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Kabbah’s party as SLPP. Lansford (2015) states “the SLPP was launched as a revival of the party outlawed in 1978.” Cahoon (2018) describes SLPP as leftist, writing “Sierra Leone People's Party (centrist, social democratic, est. 1951).” Perspective Monde lists Ahmad Kabbah as a member of the “Parti du peuple de Sierra Leone” (SLPP), considered “moderate left”. Derbyshire and Derbyshire (2000) considers the SLPP to be “left of center”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 1 expert identifies the average left-right (0-10) score of Sierra Leone People’s Party (SLPP) as 2.0. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify SLPP’s ideology as “Center-right” (0.942) in 1996 and “Center-right” (1.069) in 2002. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify “a high level of visible disagreement” in SLPP in 1996 and “some visible disagreement” in SLPP in 2002.

Years: 2007-2017

Leader: Ernest Bai Koroma

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Koroma's party as APC. DPI identifies APC's ideology as Left. Lansford (2015) describes the APC as "leftist and republican in outlook". Perspective Monde lists Koroma as a member of the "Congrès de tout le peuple" (APC), considered "moderate left". Derbyshire and Derbyshire (2000) states "the APC was founded by Sierra Leone's first president, Siaka Stevens, in 1960. It has a moderate socialist orientation." In the Global Party Survey 2019, 1 expert identifies the average left-right (0-10) score of All People's Congress (APC) as 2.0. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify APC's ideology as "Center-left" (-0.653) in 2007 and "Center" (0.066) in 2012.

Years: 2018-2020

Leader: Julius Maada Bio

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World (2018-2019) identifies Bio's party affiliation as Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP). Derbyshire and Derbyshire (2000) states "the SLPP was founded in 1961 and has a left-of-center orientation". Perspective Monde (2021) corroborates party affiliation as SLPP and identifies the party as center-left. World Statesmen (2021) corroborates party affiliation as SLPP and describes the party as "centrist, social democratic." In the Global Party Survey 2019, 1 expert identifies the average left-right (0-10) score of SLPP as 2.0. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify SLPP's ideology as "Center-right" (1.066) in 2018. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify "some visible disagreement" in SLPP in 2018.

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