Country: Albania

Years: 1945-1985

Head of government: Enver Hoxha

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as Party of Labour of Albania (PPS, or APL). DPI identifies APL’s ideology as leftist. Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 17) elaborates, writing “The Albanian Communist Party, founded in 1941, became the only authorized political organization in a system closely patterned on other communist models. It was renamed the Albanian Party of Labor (*Partia e Punës e Shqipërisë*—PPS) in 1948”. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 20) identifies Hoxha’s ideology as leftist, writing that “the People's Assembly in July 1992 banned all parties identifiable as “fascist, antinational, chauvinistic, racist, totalitarian, communist, Marxist-Leninist, Stalinist, or Enverist,” the last in reference to former communist leader Enver Hoxha”. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Hoxha’s ideology as leftist. Lentz (1994: 21) identifies Hoxha’s ideology as leftist, writing that he “remained active in communist activities and was arrested for conspiracy in 1939” and that “Hoxha was also a leader of the National Liberation Front, a communist resistance group.” World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party first as Communist Party of Albania (PCS), and as Party of Labour of Albania after 1948 (PPS); it identifies the party as leftist. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government’s party ideology as “Far-Left” (-3.811) in 1970, 1974, 1978, and 1982.

Years: 1986-1990

Head of government: Ramiz Tafë Alia

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as Party of Labour of Albania (PPS, or APL). DPI identifies APL’s ideology as leftist. Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 17) elaborates, writing “The Albanian Communist Party, founded in 1941, became the only authorized political organization in a system closely patterned on other communist models. It was renamed the Albanian Party of Labor (*Partia e Punës e Shqipërisë*—PPS) in 1948”. Perspective Monde identifies Alia’s ideology as leftist. Lentz (1994: 22) identifies Alia’s ideology as leftist, writing that “Alia became a close ally of Enver Hoxha and was elected to the Communist Party Central Committee in 1948” and that, under Alia, “Albania seemed unaffected by the wave of popular uprisings that brought other hardline communist governments in Eastern Europe to an end in 1989.” World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as the Party of Labour of Albania (PPS); it identifies the party as leftist. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government’s party ideology as “Far-left” (-3.811) in 1982 and 1987.

Year: 1991

Head of government: Vilson Faik Ahmeti

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as Party of Labour of Albania (PPS, or APL). DPI identifies APL’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 17) elaborates, writing “The Albanian Communist Party, founded in 1941, became the only authorized political organization in a system closely patterned on other communist models. It was renamed the Albanian Party of Labor (*Partia e Punës e Shqipërisë*—PPS) in 1948”. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 17) writes that “two days later Prime Minister Bufi resigned in favor of Vilson AHMETI, the first non-Marxist government head since World War II”. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Ahmeti as non-party. Jeffries (2002: 7) identifies Ahmeti as non-party, writing that “Vilson Ahmeti was a non-partisan technocrat, an engineer, and food minister.” Xhaferaj (2014: 126) writes that “Vilson Ahmeti [is] an independent minister, but proposed by the Party of Labour (later Socialist Party). In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government’s party ideology as “Far-left” (-3.811) in 1987.

Years: 1992-1996

Head of government: Aleksandër Gabriel Meksi

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as PDS. DPI identifies PDS’s ideology as rightist. Political Handbook (2015: 22) elaborates, writing that “the PDS, launched in December 1990, sought protection of human rights, a free-market economy, and improved relations with neighboring states”. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Meksi’s ideology as rightist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as the Democratic Party of Albania (PDS); it identifies the ideology as rightist: “conservative, center-right”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 13 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Democratic Party of Albania (PD) as 5.7. Markovich & Ioveva (2006: 8) identify PDS as rightist, writing that “it was clear that there were only two major parties in Albania—the leftist Socialist Party and the rightist Democratic Party”. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government’s party ideology as “Center-right” (1.226) in 1992 and 1996.

Years: 1997

Head of government: Fatos Thanas Nano

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as PSS. DPI identifies PSS’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook (2015: 20) elaborates, writing that “the PSS is a successor to the Communist Party of Albania”. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 17) identifies Nano’s ideology as centrist, writing that “student-led demonstrations in the capital on February, 20, 1991, prompted Alia to declare presidential rule and, two days later, to appoint a provisional government headed by the politically moderate Fatos Thanos Nano”. Perspective Monde identifies Nano’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as the Socialist Party of Albania (PSS); it identifies the ideology as leftist: “social-democratic, center-left”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 13 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Socialist Party of Albania (PS) as 6.4. Markovich & Ioveva (2006: 8) identify PSS as leftist, writing that “it was clear that there were only two major parties in Albania—the leftist Socialist Party and the rightist Democratic Party”. Markovich & Ioveva (2006:8) identify Nano as leftist, writing that “The man placed in charge [of the Socialist Party] was Fatos Nano, a former premier and minister for economic relations, who had a reputation as a reformer within the old party. He immediately created an executive committee and a steering committee to supplant the politburo and central committee and promoted democratic principles and market economics to move the party toward a social democratic philosophy. …. The Socialists regained power and, again under Nano’s leadership, resumed their drive toward the establishment of a social democracy”. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government’s party ideology as “Center-left” (-1.071) in 1997.

Years: 1998

Head of government: Pandeli Sotir Majko

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as PSS. DPI identifies PSS’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook (2015: 20) elaborates, writing that “the PSS is a successor to the Communist Party of Albania”. Perspective Monde identifies Majko’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as the Socialist Party of Albania (PSS); it identifies the ideology as leftist: “social-democratic, center-left”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 13 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Socialist Party of Albania (PS) as 6.4. Markovich & Ioveva (2006: 8) identify PSS as leftist, writing that “it was clear that there were only two major parties in Albania—the leftist Socialist Party and the rightist Democratic Party”. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government’s party ideology as “Center-left” (-1.071) in 1997.

Years: 1999-2001

Head of government: Ilir Rexhep Meta

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as PSS. DPI identifies PSS’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook (2015: 20) elaborates, writing that “the PSS is a successor to the Communist Party of Albania”. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 21) identifies Meta’s ideology as leftist, writing that the “left-of-center splinter from the PSS, the LSI was launched under the leadership of former prime minister Ilir Meta”. Perspective Monde identifies Meta’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as the Socialist Party of Albania (PSS); it identifies the ideology as leftist: “social-democratic, center-left”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 13 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Socialist Party of Albania (PS) as 6.4. Markovich & Ioveva (2006: 8) identify PSS as leftist, writing that “it was clear that there were only two major parties in Albania—the leftist Socialist Party and the rightist Democratic Party”. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government’s party ideology as “Center-left” (-1.071) in 1997 and 2001.

Years: 2002-2004

Head of government: Fatos Thanas Nano

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as PSS. DPI identifies PSS’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook (2015: 20) elaborates, writing that “the PSS is a successor to the Communist Party of Albania”. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 17) identifies Nano’s ideology as centrist, writing that “student-led demonstrations in the capital on February, 20, 1991, prompted Alia to declare presidential rule and, two days later, to appoint a provisional government headed by the politically moderate Fatos Thanos Nano”. Perspective Monde identifies Nano’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as the Socialist Party of Albania (PSS); it identifies the ideology as leftist: “social-democratic, center-left”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 13 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Socialist Party of Albania (PS) as 6.4. Markovich & Ioveva (2006: 8) identify PSS as leftist, writing that “it was clear that there were only two major parties in Albania—the leftist Socialist Party and the rightist Democratic Party”. Markovich & Ioveva (2006:8) identify Nano as leftist, writing that “The man placed in charge [of the Socialist Party] was Fatos Nano, a former premier and minister for economic relations, who had a reputation as a reformer within the old party. He immediately created an executive committee and a steering committee to supplant the politburo and central committee and promoted democratic principles and market economics to move the party toward a social democratic philosophy. …. The Socialists regained power and, again under Nano’s leadership, resumed their drive toward the establishment of a social democracy”. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government’s party ideology as “Center-left” (-1.071) in 2001.

Years: 2005-2012

Head of government: Sali Berisha

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as PDS. DPI identifies PDS’s ideology as rightist. Political Handbook (2015: 22) elaborates, writing that “the PDS, launched in December 1990, sought protection of human rights, a free-market economy, and improved relations with neighboring states”. Political Handbook of the World (2015:18) identifies Berisha’s ideology as rightist, writing that “Berisha was inaugurated the following day as head of a center-right coalition government”. Perspective Monde identifies Berisha’s ideology as rightist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as the Democratic Party of Albania (PDS); it identifies the ideology as rightist: “conservative, center-right”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 13 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Democratic Party of Albania (PD) as 5.7. Markovich & Ioveva (2006: 8) identify PDS as rightist, writing that “it was clear that there were only two major parties in Albania—the leftist Socialist Party and the rightist Democratic Party”. Markovich & Ioveva (2006: 9) identify Berisha as rightist, writing that “Once in power Berisha and his Democrats set out to accelerate the transformation of Albania into a genuine democracy and market economy. They began by stressing the importance of pluralism and human rights, promoted privatization in business and agriculture, and encouraged foreign investment and inter- national ties.” In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government’s party ideology as “Center-right” (1.226) in 2005 and 2009.

Years: 2013-2020

Head of government: Edi Rama

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Rama’s party as PSS (Socialist Party of Albania). Political Handbook of the World (2015: 21) identifies party as PSS. DPI identifies PSS’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook (2015: 20) elaborates, writing that “the PSS is a successor to the Communist Party of Albania”. Perspective Monde identifies Rama’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2021) identifies the party as the Socialist Party of Albania (PSS); it identifies the ideology as leftist: “social-democratic, center-left.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 13 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Socialist Party of Albania (PS) as 6.4. Markovich & Ioveva (2006: 8) identify PSS as leftist, writing that “it was clear that there were only two major parties in Albania—the leftist Socialist Party and the rightist Democratic Party”. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government’s party ideology as “Center-left” (-0.565) in 2013 and 2017. Varieties of Democracy identifies party affiliation as “Socialist Party of Albania” in 2020.

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