Country: Austria

Years: 1945 - 1952

Head of government: Chancellor Leopold Figl

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS does not identify party. World Statesmen (2019) identifies party as the Austrian People’s Party (*Österreichische Volkspartei*—*ÖVP*). Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei, ÖVP) as center. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (.335) in 1970. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify “negligible visible disagreement” in ÖVP in 1970. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the ÖVP as rightist, writing “Austrian People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei—ÖVP)… Dominated by farmers and businesspeople, it advocated a conservative economic policy”. DPI identifies the OVP’s ideology as rightist. Döring and Manow (2019) identify the ÖVP as “Christian democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 23 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Austrian People's Party (ÖVP) as 7.3. Rulers.org (2020) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “centre-right Austrian People's Party (ÖVP)”. Fichtner (2009) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “Austrian People’s Party/Österreichische Volkspartei (ÖVP)… Pledging its support for… a social market economy… The party also strove to act as an ideological umbrella organization for all bourgeois positions: conservative, liberal, and social Catholic… Throughout the 1990s… a general popular acceptance of neoliberal economics… increased the ÖVP’s appeal.”

Years: 1953 - 1960

Head of government: Chancellor Julius Raab

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Austrian People’s Party (*Österreichische Volkspartei*—*ÖVP*). Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei, ÖVP) as center. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the ÖVP as rightist, writing “Austrian People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei—ÖVP)… Dominated by farmers and businesspeople, it advocated a conservative economic policy”. DPI identifies the OVP’s ideology as rightist. Döring and Manow (2019) identify the ÖVP as “Christian democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 23 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Austrian People's Party (ÖVP) as 7.3. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (.335) in 1970. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify “negligible visible disagreement” in ÖVP in 1970. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the ÖVP as rightist, writing Rulers.org (2020) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “centre-right Austrian People's Party (ÖVP)”. Fichtner (2009) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “Austrian People’s Party/Österreichische Volkspartei (ÖVP)… Pledging its support for… a social market economy… The party also strove to act as an ideological umbrella organization for all bourgeois positions: conservative, liberal, and social Catholic… Throughout the 1990s… a general popular acceptance of neoliberal economics… increased the ÖVP’s appeal.”

Years: 1961 - 1963

Head of government: Chancellor Alfons Gorbach

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Austrian People’s Party (*Österreichische Volkspartei*—*ÖVP*). Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei, ÖVP) as center. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the ÖVP as rightist, writing “Austrian People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei—ÖVP)… Dominated by farmers and businesspeople, it advocated a conservative economic policy”. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (.335) in 1970. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify “negligible visible disagreement” in ÖVP in 1970. DPI identifies the OVP’s ideology as rightist. Döring and Manow (2019) identify the ÖVP as “Christian democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 23 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Austrian People's Party (ÖVP) as Rulers.org (2020) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “centre-right Austrian People's Party (ÖVP)”. Fichtner (2009) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “Austrian People’s Party/Österreichische Volkspartei (ÖVP)… Pledging its support for… a social market economy… The party also strove to act as an ideological umbrella organization for all bourgeois positions: conservative, liberal, and social Catholic… Throughout the 1990s… a general popular acceptance of neoliberal economics… increased the ÖVP’s appeal.”

Years: 1964 - 1969

Head of government: Chancellor Josef Klaus

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Austrian People’s Party (*Österreichische Volkspartei*—*ÖVP*). Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei, ÖVP) as center. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (.335) in 1970. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify “negligible visible disagreement” in ÖVP in 1970. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the ÖVP as rightist, writing “Austrian People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei—ÖVP)… Dominated by farmers and businesspeople, it advocated a conservative economic policy”. DPI identifies the OVP’s ideology as rightist. Döring and Manow (2019) identify the ÖVP as “Christian democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 23 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Austrian People's Party (ÖVP) as 7.3. Rulers.org (2020) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “centre-right Austrian People's Party (ÖVP)”. Fichtner (2009) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “Austrian People’s Party/Österreichische Volkspartei (ÖVP)… Pledging its support for… a social market economy… The party also strove to act as an ideological umbrella organization for all bourgeois positions: conservative, liberal, and social Catholic… Throughout the 1990s… a general popular acceptance of neoliberal economics… increased the ÖVP’s appeal.” Fichtner (2009) also identifies Klaus’ ideology as rightist, writing “a younger cohort of men… led by Josef Klaus… were eager to substitute a free market economy for the corporative policies that had increasingly come into favor in the ÖVP since 1945.”

Years: 1970 - 1982

Head of government: Chancellor Bruno Kreisky

Ideology: left

Description: HoG identifies ideology as left. CHISOLS identifies party as the Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—*SPÖ*). Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Socialist Party (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs, SPÖ) as left. DPI identifies the SPO’s ideology as leftist. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Left” (-1.917) in 1970 and “Left” (-2.235) in 1971, 1975 and 1979. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the SPO’s ideology as leftist, writing “Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—SPÖ)… the center-left SPÖ… advocates progressive taxation, high social expenditure, and economic planning. However, the SPÖ renounced state ownership as a necessary element of a democratic socialist economy in 1978.”

Years: 1983 - 1985

Head of government: Chancellor Alfred Sinowatz

Ideology: left

Description: HoG identifies ideology as left. CHISOLS identifies party as the Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—*SPÖ*). Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Socialist Party (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs, SPÖ) as left. DPI identifies the SPO’s ideology as leftist. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Left” (-1.896) in 1983. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the SPO’s ideology as leftist, writing “Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—SPÖ)… the center-left SPÖ… advocates progressive taxation, high social expenditure, and economic planning. However, the SPÖ renounced state ownership as a necessary element of a democratic socialist economy in 1978.”

Years: 1986 - 1996

Head of government: Chancellor Franz Vranitzky

Ideology: left

Description: HoG identifies ideology as left. CHISOLS identifies party as the Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—*SPÖ*). Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Socialist Party (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs, SPÖ) as left. DPI identifies the SPO’s ideology as leftist. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (-.31) in 1986, 1990, 1994 and 1995. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify “negligible visible disagreement” in SPÖ in 1986, 1990, 1994, and 1995. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the SPO’s ideology as leftist, writing “Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—SPÖ)… the center-left SPÖ… advocates progressive taxation, high social expenditure, and economic planning. However, the SPÖ renounced state ownership as a necessary element of a democratic socialist economy in 1978.”

Years: 1997 - 1999

Head of government: Chancellor Viktor Klima

Ideology: left

Description: HoG identifies ideology as left. CHISOLS identifies party as the Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—*SPÖ*). Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Socialist Party (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs, SPÖ) as left. DPI identifies the SPO’s ideology as leftist. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (-.31) in 1995 and 1999. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify “negligible visible disagreement” in SPÖ in 1995 and 1999. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the SPO’s ideology as leftist, writing “Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—SPÖ)… the center-left SPÖ… advocates progressive taxation, high social expenditure, and economic planning. However, the SPÖ renounced state ownership as a necessary element of a democratic socialist economy in 1978.”

Years: 2000 - 2006

Head of government: Chancellor Wolfgang Schüssel

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Austrian People’s Party (*Österreichische Volkspartei*—*ÖVP*). Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei, ÖVP) as center. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the ÖVP as rightist, writing “Austrian People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei—ÖVP)… Dominated by farmers and businesspeople, it advocated a conservative economic policy”. DPI identifies the OVP’s ideology as rightist. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (.125) in 1999 and “Center” (.451) in 2002 and 2006. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify “negligible visible disagreement” in ÖVP in 1999, 2002, and 2006. Döring and Manow (2019) identify the ÖVP as “Christian democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 23 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Austrian People's Party (ÖVP) as 7.3. Rulers.org (2020) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “centre-right Austrian People's Party (ÖVP)”. Fichtner (2009) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “Austrian People’s Party/Österreichische Volkspartei (ÖVP)… Pledging its support for… a social market economy… The party also strove to act as an ideological umbrella organization for all bourgeois positions: conservative, liberal, and social Catholic… Throughout the 1990s… a general popular acceptance of neoliberal economics… increased the ÖVP’s appeal.”

Year: 2007

Head of government: Chancellor Alfred Gusenbauer

Ideology: left

Description: HoG identifies ideology as left. CHISOLS identifies party as the Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—*SPÖ*). World Statesmen (2019) identifies party as the Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—*SPÖ*). Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Socialist Party (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs, SPÖ) as left. DPI identifies the SPO’s ideology as leftist. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-.987) in 2006. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the SPO’s ideology as leftist, writing “Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—SPÖ)… the center-left SPÖ… advocates progressive taxation, high social expenditure, and economic planning. However, the SPÖ renounced state ownership as a necessary element of a democratic socialist economy in 1978.”

Years: 2008 – 2015

Head of government: Chancellor Werner Faymann

Ideology: left

Description: HoG identifies ideology as left. CHISOLS identifies party as the Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—*SPÖ*). World Statesmen (2019) identifies party as the Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—*SPÖ*). Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Socialist Party (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs, SPÖ) as left. DPI identifies the SPO’s ideology as leftist. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-.562) in 2008 and “Center” (-.154) in 2013. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the SPO’s ideology as leftist, writing “Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—SPÖ)… the center-left SPÖ… advocates progressive taxation, high social expenditure, and economic planning. However, the SPÖ renounced state ownership as a necessary element of a democratic socialist economy in 1978.”

Years: 2016

Head of government: Chancellor Christian Kern

Ideology: left

Description: HoG identifies ideology as left. CHISOLS identifies party as the Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—*SPÖ*). The Columbia Encyclopedia(2018) identifies party as the Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—*SPÖ*). DPI identifies SPO’S ideology as leftist. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (-.154) in 2013. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify “negligible visible disagreement” in SPÖ in 2013. Political Handbook of the World (2015) elaborates, writing “Social Democratic Party of Austria (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs—SPÖ)… the center-left SPÖ… advocates progressive taxation, high social expenditure, and economic planning.” Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Socialist Party (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs, SPÖ) as left.

Years: 2017-2018

Head of government: Chancellor Sebastian Kurz

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Austrian People’s Party (*Österreichische Volkspartei*—*ÖVP*). Political Handbook of the World (2018: 94) identifies party as the Austrian People’s Party (*Österreichische Volkspartei*—*ÖVP*). DPI identifies OVP’s ideology as rightist. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (.86) in 2017. Political Handbook of the World (2015) elaborates, writing “Austrian People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei—ÖVP)… the ÖVP developed out of the prewar Christian Social Party. Dominated by farmers and businesspeople, it advocated a conservative economic policy”. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei, ÖVP) as center. Döring and Manow (2019) identify the ÖVP as “Christian democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 23 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Austrian People's Party (ÖVP) as 7.3. Rulers.org (2020) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “centre-right Austrian People's Party (ÖVP)”. Fichtner (2009) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “Austrian People’s Party/Österreichische Volkspartei (ÖVP)… Pledging its support for… a social market economy… The party also strove to act as an ideological umbrella organization for all bourgeois positions: conservative, liberal, and social Catholic… Throughout the 1990s… a general popular acceptance of neoliberal economics… increased the ÖVP’s appeal.”

Year: 2019

Head of government: Chancellor Brigitte Bierlein

Ideology: rightist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Bierlein as an independent. World Statesmen (2020) identifies party affiliation as non-party. Reuters (2019) writes, “[Bierlein’s] cabinet of career civil servants has depicted itself as technocratic but it was still the result of a compromise between the three main parties—the OVP, the Social Democrats and the far-right Freedom Party (FPO)—and its ministers are seen as close to one or two of them. Bierlein was appointed vice president and then president of the Constitutional Court under the same political constellation- coalitions between the OVP and FPO.” Die Presse (2018) writes “Der 68-jährige Wienerin werden gute Kontakte nicht nur zur ÖVP, sondern auch zur FPÖ nachgesagt - ihre jetzige Beförderung nicht ganz zwei Jahre vor der Pensionierung soll sie auch der FPÖ verdanken. 2003 hatte ÖVP-Kanzler Wolfgang Schüssel Bierlein noch kurz vor der Wahl namens der VP-FP-Regierung dem Bundespräsidenten als VfGH-Vizepräsidentin vorgeschlagen - unter scharfer Kritik der SPÖ, deren geschäftsführenden Klubobmann Josef Cap damals beklagte, dass "höchst qualifizierte Bewerber" zugunsten einer Bewerberin übergangen worden seien, "die als stramme Konservative" gelte und keine Verfassungsrechts-Erfahrung habe.” World Statesmen (2020) identifies ÖVP as center-right and FPÖ as conservative. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 23 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of ÖVP as 7.3 and of FPÖ as 7.2.

Year: 2020

Head of government: Chancellor Sebastian Kurz

Ideology: rightist

Description: HoG identifies ideology earlier as right. Varieties of Democracy identifies party affiliation as Austrian People’s Party.Political Handbook of the World (2018: 94) identifies party earlier as the Austrian People’s Party (*Österreichische Volkspartei*—*ÖVP*). DPI identifies OVP’s ideology as rightist. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify ÖVP’s ideology as “Center-right” (.86) in 2019. Political Handbook of the World (2015) elaborates, writing “Austrian People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei—ÖVP)… the ÖVP developed out of the prewar Christian Social Party. Dominated by farmers and businesspeople, it advocated a conservative economic policy”. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the People’s Party (Österreichische Volkspartei, ÖVP) as center. Döring and Manow (2019) identify the ÖVP as “Christian democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 23 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Austrian People's Party (ÖVP) as 7.3. Rulers.org (2020) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “centre-right Austrian People's Party (ÖVP)”. Fichtner (2009) identifies the ÖVP’s ideology as rightist, writing “Austrian People’s Party/Österreichische Volkspartei (ÖVP)… Pledging its support for… a social market economy… The party also strove to act as an ideological umbrella organization for all bourgeois positions: conservative, liberal, and social Catholic… Throughout the 1990s… a general popular acceptance of neoliberal economics… increased the ÖVP’s appeal.” World Statesmen (2021) corroborates party affiliation as ÖVP and identifies the party as “center-right.” Perspective monde (2021) corroborates party affiliation as ÖVP but identifies the party as centrist.

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