Country: Barbados

Years: 1966-1975

Head of Government: Errol Walton Barrow

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Lansford (2015) identifies Barrow’s party as the Democratic Labour Party (DLP). DPI identifies DLP’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2011) elaborates, writing “For most of the period since independence, the Barbados Labour Party and the Democratic Labour Party exhibited similar labor-oriented philosophies with political contests turning mainly on considerations of personality.” Huber and Stephens (2016: 9) concur with DPI. Lentz (1994: 74) writes, “[Barrow] was a leading proponent of the pan-Caribbean movement and a confounder of the Caribbean Community, which advocated economic cooperation in the area.” World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as DLP and identifies the party as social-democratic. In V-Party (2020), 1 expert identifies DLP’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.939) in 1971.

Years: 1976-1984

Head of Government: John Michael Geoffrey Adams

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World identifies Adams’ party as the Barbados Labour Party (BLP). DPI identifies BLP’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2011) elaborates, writing “For most of the period since independence, the Barbados Labour Party and the Democratic Labour Party exhibited similar labor-oriented philosophies with political contests turning mainly on considerations of personality.” Huber and Stephens (2016: 9) concur with DPI. World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as BLP and identifies the party as social-democratic. In V-Party (2020), 1 expert identifies BLP’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.963) in 1976 and 1981.

Years: 1985

Head of Government: Harold Bernard St. John

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Lansford (2015) identifies St. John’s party as the Barbados Labour Party (BLP). DPI identifies BLP’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2011) elaborates, writing “For most of the period since independence, the Barbados Labour Party and the Democratic Labour Party exhibited similar labor-oriented philosophies with political contests turning mainly on considerations of personality.” Huber and Stephens (2016: 9) concur with DPI. World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as BLP and identifies the party as social-democratic. In V-Party (2020), 1 expert identifies BLP’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.963) in 1981.

Years: 1986

Head of Government: Errol Walton Barrow

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Lansford (2015) identifies Barrow’s party as the Democratic Labour Party (DLP). DPI identifies DLP’s ideology as rightist, but Lansford (2015) does not substantiate the coding. Huber and Stephens (2016): 9) identify DLP’s ideology as leftist. Lentz (1994: 74) writes, “[Barrow] was a leading proponent of the pan-Caribbean movement and a confounder of the Caribbean Community, which advocated economic cooperation in the area.” World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as DLP and identifies the party as social-democratic. In V-Party (2020), 1 expert identifies DLP’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.939) in 1986.

Years: 1987-1993

Head of Government: Lloyd Erskine Sandiford

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Lansford (2015) identifies Sandiford’s party as the Democratic Labour Party (DLP). DPI identifies DLP’s ideology as rightist, but Lansford (2015) does not substantiate the coding. Political Handbook does not comment specifically on the party’s ideology under Sandiford, but does state, “Recently, however, the DLP has adopted a somewhat right-of-center posture.” Huber and Stephens (2016): 9) identify DLP’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as DLP and identifies the party as social-democratic. In V-Party (2020), 1 expert identifies DLP’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.939) in 1986 and 1991.

Years: 1994-2007

Head of Government: Owen Seymour Arthur

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Lansford (2015) identifies Arthur’s party as the Barbados Labour Party (BLP). DPI identifies BLP’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2011) elaborates, writing “For most of the period since independence, the Barbados Labour Party and the Democratic Labour Party exhibited similar labor-oriented philosophies with political contests turning mainly on considerations of personality.” Huber and Stephens (2016: 9) concur. World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as BLP and identifies the party as social-democratic. In V-Party (2020), 1 expert identifies BLP’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.963) in 1994, 1999, and 2003.

Years: 2008-2009

Head of Government: David Thompson

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Lansford (2015) identifies Thompson’s party as the Democratic Labour Party (DLP). DPI identifies DLP’s ideology as rightist, but Lansford (2015) does not substantiate the coding. Political Handbook does not comment specifically on the party’s ideology under Thompson, but does state, “Recently, however, the DLP has adopted a somewhat right-of-center posture.” Huber and Stephens (2016): 9) identify DLP’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as DLP and identifies the party as social-democratic. In V-Party (2020), 1 expert identifies DLP’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.957) in 2008.

Years: 2010-2017

Head of Government: Freundel Stuart

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Lansford (2015) identifies Stuart’s party as the Democratic Labour Party (DLP). DPI identifies DLP’s ideology as rightist, but Lansford (2015) does not substantiate the coding. Political Handbook does not comment specifically on the party’s ideology under Stuart, but does state, “Recently, however, the DLP has adopted a somewhat right-of-center posture.” Huber and Stephens (2016): 9) identify DLP’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as DLP and identifies the party as social-democratic. In V-Party (2020), 1 expert identifies DLP’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.957) in 2008 and 2013.

Years: 2018-2020

Head of Government: Mia Mottley

Ideology: leftist  
Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Lansford (2015) identifies Mottley’s party as the Barbados Labour Party (BLP), writing, “In February 2013 Mia Mottley replaced Arthur as Party Leader.” DPI identifies BLP’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2011) elaborates, writing “For most of the period since independence, the Barbados Labour Party and the Democratic Labour Party exhibited similar labor-oriented philosophies with political contests turning mainly on considerations of personality.” Huber and Stephens (2016: 9) concur. World Statesmen (2021) corroborates party affiliation as BLP and identifies the party as social-democratic. In V-Party (2020), 1 expert identifies BLP’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.963) in 2018.

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