Country: Croatia

Years: 1990-1998

Leader: Franjo Tudjman

Ideology: center

Description: CHISOLS identifies Tudjman’s party as HDZ. DPI identifies HDZ’s ideology as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 358) elaborates, writing that “the right-wing HDZ won a decisive majority of seats in the 1990 elections”. Armingeon et al. (2019), however, identify HDZ’s ideology as centrist. Perspective Monde (2019), however, identifies Tudjman’s ideology as far-right. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ); it identifies the party as: “center-right.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 16 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the HDZ Coalition (HDZ) as 4.8. Döring and Manow (2019) identifies HDZ’s party family as Christian democracy. Markovich & Akhund (2006: 316) write that “After 1991 the party program of the HDZ also pushed for a democratic political system, a free-market economy, and an orientation toward the West, especially toward Central Europe and Germany.” In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify leader party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.146) in 1992 and “Center-right” (1.488) in 1995. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify leader party’s cohesion as “Virtually no visible disagreement” in 1992 and 1995.

Year: 1999

Leader: Vlatko Pavletic

Ideology: center

Description: CHISOLS identifies Tudjman’s party as HDZ. DPI identifies HDZ’s ideology as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 358) elaborates, writing that “the right-wing HDZ won a decisive majority of seats in the 1990 elections”. Armingeon et al. (2019), however, identify HDZ’s ideology as centrist. Perspective Monde (2019), however, identifies Tudjman’s ideology as far-right. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ); it identifies the party as: “center-right.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 16 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the HDZ Coalition (HDZ) as 4.8. Döring and Manow (2019) identifies HDZ’s party family as Christian democracy. Markovich & Akhund (2006: 316) write that “After 1991 the party program of the HDZ also pushed for a democratic political system, a free-market economy, and an orientation toward the West, especially toward Central Europe and Germany.” In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify leader party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.488) in 1995. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify leader party’s cohesion as “Virtually no visible disagreement” in 1995.

Years: 2000-2009

Leader: Stjepan “Stipe” Mesic

Ideology: right

Description: CHISOLS identifies Mesic’s party affiliation as none. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Mesic’s ideology as centrist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Mesic as non-party. Bellamy (2001: 27) identifies Mesic’s party affiliation as HNS in the 2000 presidential election, writing “Stipe Mesic, leader of the Croatian People’s Party (HNS)”. Doring and Manow (2019) identify HNS’s party family as liberal. Armingeon et al. (2019) confirm HNS’s ideology to be rightist. Pickering & Baskin (2008: 530) write that “The HDZ’s moderate faction of former mid-level party leaders, including future President Stipe Mesic, lost a power struggle to the rightist faction at the party’s Second Congress in early 1994 on a platform of constitutional adjustments with the Serbian minority to solve the Krajina issue, restoration of the Croatian-Muslim alliance against the Bosnian Serbs, and rapid privatization.”

Years: 2010-2014

Leader: Ivo Josipovic

Ideology: left

Description: Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Josipovic’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2019) identifies the party as the Social Democratic Party of Croatia (SDP); it identifies the party as leftist: “socialist”. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 356) elaborates, writing that “founded in 1937 as the Communist Party of Croatia and redesignated in 1952 as the League of Communists of Croatia (*Savez Komunista Hrvatske*—SKH), the SDP was runner-up to the HDZ in the 1990 balloting”. Armingeon et al. (2019) confirm SDP to be leftist. Döring and Manow (2019) identifies SDP’s party family as social democracy. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify leader party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.81) in 2007, and “Center-left” (-0.706) in 2011.

Year: 2015-2019

Leader: Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic

Ideology: center

Description: World Statesmen (2021) and Rulers (2021) identify Grabar-Kitarovic as president from February 18, 2015, to February 18, 2020. World Statesmen (2021) identifies the party as the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ); it identifies the party as: “center-right.” DPI identifies HDZ’s ideology as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 358) elaborates, writing that “the right-wing HDZ won a decisive majority of seats in the 1990 elections”. Armingeon et al. (2019), however, identify HDZ’s ideology as centrist. Perspective Monde (2019), however, identifies Tudjman’s ideology as far-right. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 16 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the HDZ Coalition (HDZ) as 4.8. Döring and Manow (2019) identifies HDZ’s party family as Christian democracy. Markovich & Akhund (2006: 316) write that “After 1991 the party program of the HDZ also pushed for a democratic political system, a free-market economy, and an orientation toward the West, especially toward Central Europe and Germany.” In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify leader party’s ideology as “Center-right” (0.936) in 2015. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify leader party’s cohesion as “Negligible visible disagreement” in 2015. DPI identifies HDZ as rightist.

Years: 2020

Leader: Zoran Milanovic

Ideology: left

Description: World Statesmen (2021) and Rulers (2021) identify Milanovic as President on December 31, 2020. HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the world (2015: 354) identifies Milanovic’s party as SDP. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 356) identifies SDP as leftist: “The party changed its name again in April 1993 when it became the Social Democratic Party of Croatia, angering another leftist party of the same name (Socijaldemokratska Stranka Hrvatske—SDSH), with which it would merge a year later”. Armingeon et al. (2019) confirm SDP to be leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Milanovic’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2021) identifies the party as Socialist Democratic Party of Croatia (SDP); it identifies the party as leftist: “socialist”. Döring and Manow (2019) identifies SDP’s party family as social democracy. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.706) in 2011 and “Center-left” (-0.696) in 2015. DPI identifies SDP as leftist.

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