Country: Cuba

Years: 1945-1947

Leader: Grau San Martin

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Grau’s party as Partido Revolucionario Cubano Auténtico (PRCA). Perspective monde (2019) and World Statesmen (2019) corroborate party affiliation as PRCA. Pettinà (2014) describes how PRCA “played a crucial role in shaping the strong social-democratic complexion of the new Constitution approved in 1940” (2014: 725). Whitney (2000: 450) describes how, in 1936, the Cuban Communist Party “entered discussions with other leftist and radical groups” but that “nothing came of these meetings, and by late 1938 it was clear that the Cuban party was not going to form a popular front with Grau’s Partido Revolucionario Cubano (Auténtico) nor with any of the smaller nationalist groups”, implying that PRCA is a leftist group. Ramón Grau San Martin is also identified as a “Left-wing leader” by Keesing’s Record of World Events (1952: 12136).

Years: 1948-1951

Leader: Prio Socarres

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Di Tella identifies Prio Socarrás’ party as Partido Revolucionario Cubano Auténtico (PRCA) (2004: 93). Di Tella describes PRCA as “profoundly anticommunist” (2004: 93). Pettinà (2014) describes how PRCA “played a crucial role in shaping the strong social-democratic complexion of the new Constitution approved in 1940” (2014: 725). Whitney (2000: 450) describes how, in 1936, the Cuban Communist Party “entered discussions with other leftist and radical groups” but that “nothing came of these meetings, and by late 1938 it was clear that the Cuban party was not going to form a popular front with Grau’s Partido Revolucionario Cubano (Auténtico) nor with any of the smaller nationalist groups”, implying that PRCA is a leftist group. Ramón Grau San Martin is also identified as a “Left-wing leader” by Keesing’s Record of World Events (1952: 12136). Perspective monde (2019) and World Statesmen (2019) corroborate party affiliation as PRCA.

Years: 1952-1958

Leader: Batista

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Bastista’s party as PAU (Partido de Acción Unida). Whitney (2000) states that Batista led an “anti-government coalition of right-wing civilian and military elements” that overthrew the provisional government in Cuba in 1934 implying that he himself was rightist. Batista also engineered a coup against the Auténtico government of Prío Socarrás, who is coded as left, and was later overthrown by insurgent forces led by Fidel Castro (coded as left), according to Keesing’s Record of World Events (1959: 16631). Perspective monde (2019) and World Statesmen (2019) corroborate party affiliation as PAU/PAP.

Years: 1959-2007

Leader: Castro

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Castro’s party as PCC (Partido Comunista de Cuba). DPI identifies PCC’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015) elaborates, writing that the PCC, as “the country’s only authorized political party,” was the embodiment of a “commitment to one-party Marxism-Leninism, ‘adapted to Cuban mentality, history and traditions.’” Political Handbook also states, particularly about the Fidel Castro regime, “After a brief period of moderation, the Castro government embarked on increasingly radical internal policies, which gradually developed into a full-scale social revolution purportedly based on the adaptation of Marxist-Leninist ideas to Latin American conditions.” Manzano (2017) codes Castro as left. Perspective monde (2019) corroborates party affiliation as PCC and identifies the party as extreme leftist. Lentz (1994: 205) writes that after the Bay of Pigs incident of 1961, “The following month Castro declared Cuba a Socialist country and proclaimed his allegiance to Marxist-Leninist ideals later in the year.” World Statesmen (2019) corroborates party affiliation as PCC and identifies the party as communist. In V-Party (2020), 6 experts identify PCC’s ideology as “Far-left” (-3.461) in 1965 and 1970; “Left” (-2.708) in 1975, 1976, and 1981; “Far-left” (-3.467) in 1986; “Left” (-2.8) in 1993; “Left” (-2.336) in 1998; and “Left” (-2.802) in 2003.

Years: 2008-2020

Leader: Raul Castro

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government after 2008. Political Handbook of the World identifies Raúl Castro’s party as PCC (Partido Comunista de Cuba) (2015: 365). DPI identifies PCC’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015) elaborates, writing that the PCC, as “the country’s only authorized political party,” was the embodiment of a “commitment to one-party Marxism-Leninism, ‘adapted to Cuban mentality, history and traditions.’” Manzano (2017) codes Castro as left. Perspective monde (2021) corroborates party affiliation as PCC and identifies the party as extreme leftist. World Statesmen (2021) corroborates party affiliation as PCC and identifies the party as communist. In V-Party (2020), 6 experts identify PCC’s ideology as “Left” (-2.361) in 2008 and 2013.

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