Country: Guinea

Years: 1958 – 1983

Head of government: President Ahmed Sékou Touré

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Touré’s party as PDG. DPI identifies ideology of PDG as left. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on party’s ideology. Manzano (2017) identifies Touré’s ideology as left. Perspective Monde identifies Touré’s ideology as “moderate left”. According to Lansford (2015), “President Touré made a number of trips to the United States, Canada, and Western Europe from 1979 to 1983. However, distrust of the “father of African socialism” and an overvalued local currency discouraged large-scale Western involvement.” Segal (1963) quotes an interview in which Sékou Touré states “trade unionism is… an engagement to transform fundamentally any given economic and social régime… it implies action against that which is contrary to the interests of the workers”. Gallagher et al. (1964) state “The PDG differs from most other African parties in its possession of a body of theory from which its actions stem. The chief and almost the only source of this theory is the secretary-general, Sékou Touré… the party philosophy draws heavily on Marxist-Leninist doctrines”. Gallagher et al. continue by quoting Touré, who states “We have used certain parts of the Marxist doctrine to organize rational foundations for African trade unionism. We have adopted from Marxism everything that is true for Africa.” World Statesmen (2019) identifies Touré’s party as the PDG, described as “Parti Démocratique de Guinée… Democratic Party of Guinea, socialist, African nationalist, de facto state party 1960-1984”. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify PDG’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.01) in 1974 and 1980.

Years: 1984 – 1995

Head of government: President Lansana Conté

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Conté’s party as none before 1991, and as PUP after. Cowan (1986) writes “The Conte government has exhibited an almost complete reversal of its predecessor's ideological stance and a determination to seek new political and economic directions involving the private sector.” Cowan earlier describes the administration which preceded Conté’s as one in which “Toure moved toward virtual one-man rule as the PDG established a socialist system.” N’Daou (2001) corroborates this shift, writing “post-socialist Guinea… the era which started in 1984, after the death of Ahmed Sekou Toure.” McGreal (2008) states that “Conté won favour in the west by turning away from his predecessor's leftwing policies with IMF-backed cuts in government spending and a currency devaluation. He planted his political flag firmly in the western camp”. Strategic Survey (1986) noted “Conte’s desire to establish a liberal economy.” World Statesmen (2019) identifies Conte’s party as the PUP after 1991. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify PUP’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.053) in 1995.

Years: 1996 – 1998

Head of government: Prime Minister Sidya Touré

Ideology: rightist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Touré as non-party. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies Touré as the president of the Union of Republican Forces (*Union des Forces Republicains*—UFR), writing, “Sidya Touré (President of the Party and 2010 presidential candidate).” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of UFR as 10.0. UFR is a member of the Liberal International.

Years: 1999 – 2003

Head of government: Prime Minister Lamine Sidimé

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. East and Thomas (2003: 208) identify Sidimé’s party as PUP: “Lamine Sidimé is a member of the ruling Party of Unity and Progress (*Parti del’Unité et du Progrès*—PUP) … He was head of the Supreme Court before he was picked to lead a new government as prime minister in March 1999.” World Statesmen (2019) identifies Sidimé’s party as the PUP. Derbyshire and Derbyshire (2016: 112) identifies the PUP as “centrist authoritarian.” Baker and O’Toole (2005: 161) write, “Administrators loyal to [Lansana] Conté formed the Parti de l’unité et du progress (PUP; Party of Unity and Progress”; Conté is coded as rightist. Baker and O’Toole also identify Sidimé as “a key legal adviser to President Lansana Conté.” In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify PUP’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.053) in 1995 and “Center-right” (1.075) in 2002.

Years: 2004 – 2006

Head of government: Prime Minister Cellou Dalein Diallo

Ideology: rightist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Diallo’s party as the PUP. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies Diallo as the leader of the Union of Democratic Forces of Guinea (*Union des Forces Démocratiques de Guinée*- UFDG), writing, “current UFDG leader Cellou Diallo.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of UFDG as 8.5. UFDG is a member of the Liberal International. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify PUP’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.075) in 2002.

Year: 2007

Head of government: Prime Minister Lansana Kouyaté

Ideology:

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Kouyaté as non-party. Political Handbook of the World (2015) writes “former prime minister Lansana Kouyaté started the PEDN [Party of Hope for National Development, Parti de l’Espoir pour le Développement National] in March 2009… the liberal democratic party was founded on several principles, including duty, giving youth a chance, fighting poverty and demagoguery, and promoting cultural and traditional values”. PEDN is a member of the Centrist Democrat International. Political Handbook also writes, “Ahead of the second-round balloting in September [2010], the PEDN formed the Rainbow electoral alliance with the RPG, among others, to back Alpha Condé.” Condé is coded as leftist. Later on, “In January 2012, the RPG formed a new version of its 2010 electoral coalition, the RPG Rainbow Alliance…” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Rally of the Guinean People (RPG AR) as 2.0. Engeler (2008) writes, as a result of demonstrations and “violent unrest” organized by Lansana Conté’s political opposition, “Finally, on 26 February, he gave in and appointed Lansana Kouyaté as his new Prime minister… Commenting on these events, International Crisis Group wrote that, “[t]he outcome of the crisis, the appointment of a head of government from a list put forward by those involved in the social movement, looked like an exemplary victory for the people over a totally discredited power- a real revolution.” Baker et al. (2013: 234) describe PEDN, “The opposition political party that Lansana Kouyaté created and led upon being sacked by President Lansana Conté as prime minister and head of the consensus government called for by the labor unions and civil society organizations during their 2007 national strike.” Conté is coded as rightist. Baker et al. (2013: 98) also write, “Kouyate’s predilection for compromise and the Conté camp’s ruthless political maneuvers rendered the new government ineffective, and within 18 months the president sacked Kouyaté and his government and appointed Ahmed Tidiane Souaré prime minister and head of government.” Arieff and Cook (2009: 33, 39) write, “A career diplomat, Kouyaté was appointed to serve as a ‘consensus’ prime minister in early 2007 amid attempts to end nationwide anti-government protests… The unions agreed to call off the strikes in exchange for several concessions from Conté, including the appointment of a Prime Minister with some executive powers from a list of candidates pre-approved by unions and civil society groups. Conté’s selection of Lansana Kouyaté, a former diplomat, was widely welcomed.”

Year: 2008

Head of government: Prime Minister Ahmed Tidiane Souaré

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Souaré as non-party. Baker et al. (2013: 98) write, “Kouyate’s predilection for compromise and the Conté camp’s ruthless political maneuvers rendered the new government ineffective, and within 18 months the president sacked Kouyaté and his government and appointed Ahmed Tidiane Souaré prime minister and head of government.” Baker et al. (2013: lii) also refer to Souaré as an ally of President Conté, coded as rightist. Ortiz de Zárate (2009) mentions, “varios antiguos capitostes del régimen del PUP, como los ex primeros ministros Souaré y Cellou Dalein Diallo.” [various former big shots of the PUP regime, such as former Prime Ministers Souaré and Cellou Dalein Diallo.] Engeler (2008) writes, “The eventual take over of Ahmed Tidjane Souaré, a loyal follower of President Conté, as Prime minister is a sign of Conte’s success in bringing the old guard back. Power therefore remained unequally distributed because Conté and his entourage continued to pull the strings.”

Year: 2009

Head of government: Prime Minister Kabiné Komara

Ideology:

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Komara as non-party. Baker et al. (2013: 194) writes, “During the national strike of January-February 2007, Komara was one of the four technocrats whose names the coalition of labor and civil society leaders submitted to President Lansana Conté for appointment as a consensus prime minister in lieu of Conte’s sidekick, Eugéne Camara.” Ortiz de Zárate (2009) states, “El 30 de diciembre, un día después de suspender la UA a Guinea como miembro de la organización hasta que recobrara el orden constitucional, el CNDD nombró primer ministro al banquero internacional Kabiné Komara, que era el candidato propuesto por los sindicatos. Komara presto juramento el 2 de enero de 2009 y el 14 de enero present su lista de ministros, de los que 19 eran civiles, tecnócratas sin partido, y 10 militares.” [On December 30, a day after the AU suspended Guinea as a member of the organization until it regained constitutional order, the CNDD appointed international banker Kabiné Komara prime minister, who was the candidate proposed by the unions. Komara was sworn in on January 2, 2009, and on January 14 he presented his list of ministers, of whom 19 were civilians, non-party technocrats, and 10 military.” Engeler (2008) writes, “A week after the coup [by Captain Moussa Dadis Camara], he appointed as the new Prime minister Kabiné Komara, a banker who had been among the nominees of the trade unions in 2007… While few figures of the political opposition have taken a public stand so far, Guinean trade union and civil society leaders seem to perceive the newly installed military junta as the best chance for change—the nomination of Komara has clearly been a gesture in their direction.” France 24 (2008) reports, “Banker Kabine Komara, who was named prime minister by the military junta which seized power in Guinea last week, is an accomplished technocrat but a newcomer on the country’s political scene… Born in 1950 Komara started his career in the 1970s working for Guinea’s central bank under Ahmed Sekou Toure (1958-1984), Guinea’s leader turned dictator… he returned to work for the government in 1986 at the planning ministry following the 1984 coup by the late president Lansana Conte.”

Years: 2010 – 2014

Head of government: Prime Minister Mohamed Said Fofana

Ideology:

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World(2018: 576) identifies affiliation as non-party. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Fofana as non-party. Political Handbook also writes, “Condé was sworn in on December 21, and Doré and his government resigned the same day. On December 24 the president named Mohamed Said FOFANA, an economist, as prime minister and began forming a new government, giving himself the defense portfolio and including members of several other parties that had supported him in the second round.” McGovern (2012: 107-108) writes, “At the end of 2010 and beginning of 2011, Alpha Condé named his government, headed by Mohammed Said Fofana. Many Guineans were surprised by its composition, which was skewed strongly toward Maninka co-ethnics and those who had supported Condé in the bitter electoral struggle against Cellou Dalein Diallo.” Condé is coded as leftist, and Diallo is coded as rightist.

Year: 2015 – 2017

Head of government: Prime Minister Mamady Youla

Ideology:

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Melly (2016) identifies affiliation as non-party. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Youla as non-party.

Years: 2018-2020

Head of government: Ibrahima Fofana

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World (2018-2019) identifies Fofana’s party affiliation as Guinea for All (*Guinée Pour Tous*—GPT). Perspective Monde (2021) corroborates Fofana’s party affiliation as GPT. World Statesmen (2021) corroborates party affiliation as GPT. Al Jazeera (2018) describes Fofana as a “loyalist of President Conde,” who is coded as leftist. Diallo (2019) identifies Fofana’s party affiliation as RPG instead, writing, “En 2009, il rentre à Conakry et crée le parti Guinée pour tous (GPT). En 2010, il se présente à la première election démocratique du pays et n’obtient que 0,66% des suffrages. Jusqu’en 2014, il sera l’un des opposants au président Alpha Condé… En mai 2018, il dissout le GPT et rejoint le RPG-Arc-en-Ciel, la formation présidentielle.” (In 2009, he returned to Conakry and created the Guinea for All Party (GPT). In 2010, he stood in the country’s first democratic election and won only 0.66% of the vote. Until 2014, he will be one of the opponents of President Alpha Condé… In May 2018, he dissolved the GPT and joined the RPG-Arc-en-Ciel, the presidential formation.) World Statesmen (2020) identifies the RPG (Reassemblement du Peuple de Guinée/Rally of the People of Guinea) as RPG-Arc-en-Ciel from 2012. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies RPG as center-left. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Rally of the Guinean People (RPG AR) as 2.0. RPG is a member of the Socialist International.

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