Country: Mauritania

Years: 1960-1977

Head of government: Moktar Ould Daddah

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Daddah’s party as PRM from 1960 to 1961 and PPM from 1961 onward. Lansford (2017) identifies Daddah’s ideology as left, writing that Daddah “endorsed a policy of moderate socialism at home combined with nonalignment abroad.” Manzano (2017) identifies Daddah as “left”. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Daddah’s party as UPM, then PRM after 1958, then PPM after 1960. World Statesmen describes the PPM as “authoritarian, centralist, islamic socialist”. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify PPM’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.974) in 1971, 1975, and 1976.

Years: 1978

Head of government: Mustafa Ould Salek

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Salek’s party as none. Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as leftist.

Years: 1979

Head of government: Mohamed Khouna Ould Haidalla

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Haidalla’s party as none. Manzano (2017) identifies “Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydalla” as left.

Years: 1980

Head of government: Sid Ahmed Ould Bneijara

Ideology:

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Bneijara’s party as none. World Statesman (2019) describes Bneijara as “non-party”. Political Handbook of the World (2015) writes, “The following December Ould Haidalla announced that, as a first step toward restoration of democratic institutions, his largely military administration would be replaced by a civilian government headed by Sid Ahmad OULD BNEIJARA.” Lentz (1994: 545) writes, “His appointment was to have been the first step toward the return of democratic rule to Mauritania, but this policy was reversed following a military coup attempt in March of 1981… Beneijara was accused of plotting the ouster of President Haidalla in February of 1982.” Handloff (1988) writes, “Haidalla initiated several important policy changes to broaden his base of support… In December 1980, in the face of growing apprehension among CMSN members, he formed a civilian government, naming Ahmed Ould Bneijara prime minister. He also initiated steps to draft a constitution establishing a multiparty, democratic state.” Handloff later writes, “In February 1982, former CMSN president Salek and former Prime Minister Bneijara, among others, tried unsuccessfully to oust Haidalla.”

Years: 1981-1991

Head of government: Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Taya’s party as none until 1991 and PRDS after 1991. Manzano (2017) identifies Taya’s ideology as “right”. Perspective Monde identifies Taya’s party as the “Parti républicain démocratique et social” with “moderate right” ideology. World Statesmen (2019) writes that Taya’s affiliation was only military, coding “12 Dec 1984 - 18 Apr 1992 Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya (s.a.) Mil,” New York Times (2005) identifies Taya later on as a member of PRDS, writing that “Mr. Taya's former governing party [PRDS, founded 1992]” N’Diaye (2006) indicates that Taya’s party, the PRDS, was rightist, explaining that they “eagerly embraced International Monetary Fund (IMF)- and World Bank-inspired neoliberal policies.” Marty (2002) corroborates by writing that “Ould Taya created the Parti Républicain Démocrate et Social (PRDS), a gathering of conservatives… the predominant characteristic of the party is the role played by… businessmen.”

Years: 1992-1995

Head of government: Sidi Mohamed Ould Boubacar

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. While World Statesmen (2019) identifies Boubacar’s party as PRDS, described as “authoritarian, social democratic, 1992-2005 government party”, Perspective Monde identifies Boubacar’s party from 1992 to 1996 as the “Parti républicain démocratique et social” with “moderate right” ideology. New York Times (2005) identifies Boubacar as a member of PRDS, writing that “Mr. Boubacar served as prime minister from 1992 to 1996 and led Mr. Taya's former governing party [PRDS, founded 1992] until he was sent to Paris.” N’Diaye (2006) indicates that Taya’s party, the PRDS, was rightist, explaining that they “eagerly embraced International Monetary Fund (IMF)- and World Bank-inspired neoliberal policies.” Marty (2002) corroborates by writing that “Ould Taya created the Parti Républicain Démocrate et Social (PRDS), a gathering of conservatives… the predominant characteristic of the party is the role played by… businessmen.” In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify PRDS’s ideology as “Right” (2.052) in 1992.

Years: 1996

Head of government: Cheikh El Avia Ould Mohamed Khouna

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. While World Statesmen (2019) identifies Khouna’s party as PRDS, described as “authoritarian, social democratic, 1992-2005 government party”, Perspective Monde identifies Khouna’s party as the “Parti républicain démocratique et social” with “moderate right” ideology. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Khouna’s party affiliation as PRDS, writing “2 Jan 1996 - 18 Dec 1997 Cheikh El Avia Ould Mohamed Khouna (b. 1956) PRDS.” N’Diaye (2006) indicates that PRDS was rightist, explaining that they “eagerly embraced International Monetary Fund (IMF)- and World Bank-inspired neoliberal policies.” Marty (2002) corroborates by writing that “Ould Taya created the Parti Républicain Démocrate et Social (PRDS), a gathering of conservatives… the predominant characteristic of the party is the role played by… businessmen.” In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify PRDS’s ideology as “Right” (2.052) in 1996.

Years: 1997

Head of government: Mohamed Lemine Ould Guig

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Guig as a member of PRDS, writing “18 Dec 1997 - 16 Nov 1998 Mohamed Lemine Ould Guig (b. 1958) PRDS.” While World Statesmen (2019) identifies Guig’s party as PRDS, described as “authoritarian, social democratic, 1992-2005 government party”, N’Diaye (2006) indicates that PRDS was rightist, explaining that they “eagerly embraced International Monetary Fund (IMF)- and World Bank-inspired neoliberal policies.” Marty (2002) corroborates by writing that “Ould Taya created the Parti Républicain Démocrate et Social (PRDS), a gathering of conservatives… the predominant characteristic of the party is the role played by… businessmen.” In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify PRDS’s ideology as “Right” (2.052) in 1996.

Years: 1998-2002

Head of government: Cheikh El Avia Ould Mohamed Khouna

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. While World Statesmen (2019) identifies Khouna’s party as PRDS, described as “authoritarian, social democratic, 1992-2005 government party”, Perspective Monde identifies Khouna’s party as the “Parti républicain démocratique et social” with “moderate right” ideology. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Khouna’s party affiliation as PRDS, writing “16 Nov 1998 - 6 Jul 2003 Cheikh El Avia Ould Mohamed Khouna (b. 1956) PRDS.” N’Diaye (2006) indicates that PRDS was rightist, explaining that they “eagerly embraced International Monetary Fund (IMF)- and World Bank-inspired neoliberal policies.” Marty (2002) corroborates by writing that “Ould Taya created the Parti Républicain Démocrate et Social (PRDS), a gathering of conservatives… the predominant characteristic of the party is the role played by… businessmen.” In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify PRDS’s ideology as “Right” (2.052) in 1996 and 2001.

Years: 2003-2004

Head of government: Sghair Ould M'Bareck

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. While World Statesmen (2019) identifies M’Bareck’s party as PRDS, described as “authoritarian, social democratic, 1992-2005 government party”, Lansford (2017) identifies M’Bareck as non-party, writing that “prime minister Sighair Ould Mbareck… ran as an independent.” However, Perspective Monde (2019) identifies M’Bareck as rightist, writing “Sghaier Ould Mbarek… Parti républicain démocratique et social”, described as “moderate right”. N’Diaye (2006) indicates that PRDS was rightist, explaining that they “eagerly embraced International Monetary Fund (IMF)- and World Bank-inspired neoliberal policies.” Marty (2002) corroborates by writing that “Ould Taya created the Parti Républicain Démocrate et Social (PRDS), a gathering of conservatives… the predominant characteristic of the party is the role played by… businessmen.”

Years: 2005-2006

Head of government: Sidi Mohamed Ould Boubacar

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. While World Statesmen (2019) identifies Boubacar’s party as PRDS, described as “authoritarian, social democratic, 1992-2005 government party”, Perspective Monde identifies Boubacar’s party from 2005 to 2007 as the “Parti républicain démocratique et social” with “moderate right” ideology. N’Diaye (2006) indicates that PRDS was rightist, explaining that they “eagerly embraced International Monetary Fund (IMF)- and World Bank-inspired neoliberal policies.” Marty (2002) corroborates by writing that “Ould Taya created the Parti Républicain Démocrate et Social (PRDS), a gathering of conservatives… the predominant characteristic of the party is the role played by… businessmen.” Lansford (2017) identifies Boubacar as no longer a member of PRDS, writing “Mbareck resigned as prime minister on August 7 and was immediately replaced by Ould Boubacar, ambassador to France, who resigned from the former ruling PRDS party on August 9. A new cabinet, described as consisting primarily of technocrats, was announced on August 10.” Pazzanita (2008) states “Ould Boubacar was swiftly tapped to be prime minister once again, this time to demonstrate the CMJD’s commitment to stability with respect to many domestic policies”. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify PRDS’s ideology as “Right” (2.052) in 2001 and 2006.

Years: 2007

Head of government: Zeine Ould Zeidane

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. World Statesmen (2019) describes Zeidane as “non-party”. Political Handbook of the World (2015) writes, “Abdallahi was sworn in on April 19, and on April 20 he appointed as prime minister Zeine Ould ZEIDANE, the former head of the Central Bank who had finished third in the first round of presidential balloting. The new government formed on April 28 reportedly was made up largely of technocrats and at least four members of the Popular Progressive Alliance (*Alliance Populaire et Progressive*—APP).” Schlager and Weisblatt (2006: 874) write, “A left-wing nationalist party, the AC (Action for Change/Action pour le Changement) includes some of the most militant parts of the black-Moorish and Negro Mauritanian population. The party’s leader is Messoud Ould Boulkheir, who now heads the Arab Nationalist Popular Progressive Alliance (APP), a coalition of nine opposition groups.” Pazzanita (2008: 550) writes, “As it became clear that the CMJD intended to honor its earlier promises and return Mauritania to civilian rule by 2007, nearly two dozen presidential hopefuls came forward and announced their intention to run for the top position, among them Ould Zeidane, who espoused what was probably the most conservative platform of any of the candidates, among other things pledging to retain the country’s extremely controversial diplomatic ties with Israel and to embrace free-market economics and the privatization of state-owned enterprises.”

Years: 2008-2013

Head of government: Moulaye Ould Mohamed Laghdef

Ideology:

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. World Statesmen (2019) describes “Laghdaf” as “non-party”. Political Handbook of the World (2015) writes, after the presidential election of 2009, “Prime Minister Laghdaf was reappointed on August 6, and his new government, formed on August 11, was comprised chiefly of Abdelaziz loyalists from the new UPR. Notable among cabinet members was Naha Mint MOUKNASS, president of the Union for Democracy and Progress (*Union pour la Démocratie et le Progrès*—UDP)… Laghdaf’s new cabinet retained four key ministers—defense, justice, economy, and finance—and all ministers were reported to be from parties that supported the coup, including the RFD and the Islamist RNRD party led by Mohamed Jemil Ould Mansour.” Perspective Monde (2020) and World Statesmen (2020) identify UPR as centrist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Union for the Republic (UPR) as 8.5, the salience (0-10) of the economic dimension as 3.5, and the average divided-united (0-10) score of UPR as 3.0. Schlager and Weisblatt (2006: 873) identify UDP as rightist, writing, “the right-wing and economically liberal Union for Democracy and Progress (UDP).” Both UPR and UDP are members of the Centrist Democrat International. Schlager and Weisblatt (2006: 973) identifies RFD as rightist, writing, “The center-right nationalist RFD is the successor party to the Union of Democratic Forces—New Era (Union des Forces Démocratiques; UFD/EN). It is supported by the Arab bourgeoisie who are economically liberal.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of RNRD as 2.0. Pazzanita (2008: xlix) writes, “31 August: Prime Minister Ould Laghdaf selects a new-28 member cabinet: the ministers of defense, economy, finance, and justice are the same as under the prior Ould Abdellahi regime.” Ould Abdellahi is coded as centrist.

Years: 2014-2017

Head of government: Yahya Ould Hademine

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Perspective Monde identifies Hademine’s party as the “Union pour la république” with “center” ideology. World Statesmen (2019) describes Hademine as “non-party,” but also identifies UPR as centrist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Union for the Republic (UPR) as 8.5, the salience (0-10) of the economic dimension as 3.5, and the average divided-united (0-10) score of UPR as 3.0. Political Handbook of the World (2015) describes the UPR, writing, “General [Mohamed Ould] Abdelaziz and members of parliament who supported the 2008 coup and the subsequent ruling High Council of State formed the UPR in April 2009 in the run-up to the presidential election. Many of the parliamentarians were from the former governing PNDD (below).” Perspective Monde (2020) identifies PNDD as centrist. Political Handbook continues, “General Abdelaziz, for his part, campaigned under the banner of the UPR as ‘the candidate of the poor,’ pledging to lower food and fuel prices and provide greater access to health care.” UPR is a member of the Centrist Democrat International. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify UPR’s ideology as “Right” (2.073) in 2013.

Years: 2018

Head of government: Mohamed Salem Ould Bechir

Ideology: Right  
Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Bechir’s party affiliation as Union for the Republic (UPR) and identifies the party as centrist. World Statesmen (2020) corroborates party affiliation as UPR and identifies the party as centrist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of UPR as 8.5, the salience (0-10) of the economic dimension as 3.5, and the average divided-united (0-10) score of UPR as 3.0. Political Handbook of the World (2015) describes the UPR, writing, “General [Mohamed Ould] Abdelaziz and members of parliament who supported the 2008 coup and the subsequent ruling High Council of State formed the UPR in April 2009 in the run-up to the presidential election. Many of the parliamentarians were from the former governing PNDD (below).” Perspective Monde (2020) identifies PNDD as centrist. Political Handbook continues, “General Abdelaziz, for his part, campaigned under the banner of the UPR as ‘the candidate of the poor,’ pledging to lower food and fuel prices and provide greater access to health care.” UPR is a member of the Centrist Democrat International. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify UPR’s ideology as “Right” (2.073) in 2013.

Years: 2019

Head of government: Ismail Ould Bedde Ould Cheikh Sidiya

Ideology: Right  
Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Bechir’s party affiliation as Union for the Republic (UPR) and identifies the party as centrist. World Statesmen (2020) corroborates party affiliation as UPR and identifies the party as centrist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of UPR as 8.5, the salience (0-10) of the economic dimension as 3.5, and the average divided-united (0-10) score of UPR as 3.0. Political Handbook of the World (2015) describes the UPR, writing, “General [Mohamed Ould] Abdelaziz and members of parliament who supported the 2008 coup and the subsequent ruling High Council of State formed the UPR in April 2009 in the run-up to the presidential election. Many of the parliamentarians were from the former governing PNDD (below).” Perspective Monde (2020) identifies PNDD as centrist. Political Handbook continues, “General Abdelaziz, for his part, campaigned under the banner of the UPR as ‘the candidate of the poor,’ pledging to lower food and fuel prices and provide greater access to health care.” UPR is a member of the Centrist Democrat International. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify UPR’s ideology as “Right” (2.073) in 2013.

Years: 2020

Head of government: Mohamed Ould Bilal

Ideology: Right

Description: Varieties of Democracy identifies party affiliation as Union for the Republic (UPR). World Statesmen (2021) corroborates party affiliation as UPR and describes the party as “centrist, populist.” Perspective monde (2021) also corroborates party affiliation as UPR and identifies the party as centrist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of UPR as 8.5, the salience (0-10) of the economic dimension as 3.5, and the average divided-united (0-10) score of UPR as 3.0. Political Handbook of the World (2015) describes the UPR, writing, “General [Mohamed Ould] Abdelaziz and members of parliament who supported the 2008 coup and the subsequent ruling High Council of State formed the UPR in April 2009 in the run-up to the presidential election. Many of the parliamentarians were from the former governing PNDD (below).” Perspective Monde (2020) identifies PNDD as centrist. UPR is a member of the Centrist Democrat International. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify UPR’s ideology as “Right” (2.073) in 2013.

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