Country: Moldova

Year: 1991

Head of government: Valeriu Tudor Muravschi

Ideology: center

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Global Security (2018) codes Muravschi’s party as the Popular Front of Moldova (*Frontul Popular din Moldova* – *FPM*). DPI identifies MPF’s ideology as centrist. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on FPM’s ideology. Norton and Olson (2008: 91) classify Muravschi as centrist.

Years: 1992-1996

Head of government: Andrei Sangheli

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political handbook of the World (2008: 869) identifies party as Agrarian Democratic Party of Moldova (*Partidul Democrat Agrar din Moldova – PDAM*). Munteanu (2010: 46) classifies the ADPM as leftist. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.572) in 1994.

Years: 1997-1998

Head of government: Ion Ciubuc

Ideology: center

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Crowther (2008) identifies Ciubuc as independent: “The new government established under (independent) Prime Minister Ion Ciubuc and backed by President Lucinschi” and “In 1996, newly elected President Lucinschi successfully proposed a technocratic government under Ion Ciubuc but was never really able to develop a positive relationship with the legislative leadership.” Norton and Olson (2008: 91) classify Ion Ciubuc as centrist.

Years: 1999-2000

Head of government: Dumitru Braghis

Ideology: center

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World (2008: 872-873) identifies affiliation as the Braghis Alliance (*Alianţa Braghiş*). E-Democracy Moldova (2018) identifies party as social liberal and therefore centrist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 968) confirms Braghis as leftist, writing that “founded on April 15, 2006, and led by former prime minister Dumitru Braghiş, the PDSM was formed by disgruntled former members of Our Moldova Alliance. It adopted a social democratic agenda”. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify PSDM’s oppose-support market score as approximately 5.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 4.5 on scales from 1-7. World Statesmen identifies Braghis’ party affiliation as none. Cimpoesu (2014) describes Braghis as in power from 1999-2000, with the Braghis Coalition forming for the 2001 elections.

Years: 2001-2007

Head of government: Vasile Petru Tarlev

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Party of Communists of the Republic of Moldova (*Partidul Comuniștilor din Republica Moldova* – *PCRM*). DPI identifies PCRM’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 967) elaborates, writing that “the PCRM is the successor to the Soviet-era Communist Party of Moldova” and that “the PCRM called for the ‘rebirth of a socialist society’, in which a ‘pluralist economy’ would be supported by a ‘strengthened’ state sector”. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 966), however, writes that “on April 19, 2000 the Parliament endorsed a new cabinet headed by Vasile TARLEV, a political independent”. Perspective Monde (2019) Tarlev’s Tsendenbal’s ideology as leftist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 8 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Party of Communists (PCRM) as 2.5. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify PCRM’s oppose-support market score as approximately 1.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 1.5 on scales from 1-7. Crowther & Michael (2006: 900) identify PCRM as leftist, writing that “The Communist Party of the Republic of Moldova is a direct successor of the Soviet-era Communist Party. … After the party reentered political activity, it formed a parliamentary faction from among deputies who migrated to it from other left-wing party factions.” In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Left” (-1.644) in 2001 and “Left” (-1.644) in 2005.

Year: 2008

Head of government: Zinaida Greceanii

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Party of Communists of the Republic of Moldova (*Partidul Comuniștilor din Republica Moldova* – *PCRM*). DPI identifies PCRM’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 967) elaborates, writing that “the PCRM is the successor to the Soviet-era Communist Party of Moldova” and that “the PCRM called for the ‘rebirth of a socialist society’, in which a ‘pluralist economy’ would be supported by a ‘strengthened’ state sector”. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Greceanii’s ideology as leftist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 8 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Party of Communists (PCRM) as 2.5. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify PCRM’s oppose-support market score as approximately 1.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 1.5 on scales from 1-7. Crowther & Michael (2006: 900) identify PCRM as leftist, writing that “The Communist Party of the Republic of Moldova is a direct successor of the Soviet-era Communist Party. … After the party reentered political activity, it formed a parliamentary faction from among deputies who migrated to it from other left-wing party factions.” In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Left” (-1.644) in 2005.

Years: 2009-2012

Head of government: Vlad Vasile Filat

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 964) identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova (*Partidul Liberal Democrat din Moldova* – *PLDM*). Munteanu (2010: 46) classifies PLDM as rightist. Freedom House (2012) also identifies PLDM as rightist, writing that “among the pro-European parties, the reformist, center-right Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova won 23 seats”. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies PLDM’s and Filat’s ideology as rightist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Filat’s ideology as rightist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 8 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Liberal Democratic Party (PLDM) as 6.5. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (0.998) in 2009 and “Center-right” (0.998) in 2010.

Years: 2013-2014

Head of government: Iurie Leanca

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 964) identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova (*Partidul Liberal Democrat din Moldova* – *PLDM*). Munteanu (2010: 46) classifies PLDM as rightist. Freedom House (2012) confirms that Freedom House (2012) also identifies PLDM as rightist, writing that “among the pro-European parties, the reformist, center-right Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova won 23 seats”. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies PLDM’s and Leanca’s ideology as rightist.” Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Leanca’s ideology as rightist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 8 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Liberal Democratic Party (PLDM) as 6.5. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (0.998) in 2010 and “Center” (0.473) in 2014. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government party’s cohesion as “Virtually no visible disagreement” in 2010 and 2014.

Year: 2015

Head of government: Valeriu Strelet

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Azerbaijan State News Agency identifies Strelet’s party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Partidul Liberal Democrat din Moldova* – *PLDM*). Munteanu (2010: 46) classifies PLDM as rightist. Freedom House (2012) also identifies PLDM as rightist, writing that “among the pro-European parties, the reformist, center-right Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova won 23 seats”. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies PLDM’s and Strelet’s ideology as rightist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Strelet’s ideology as rightist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 8 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Liberal Democratic Party (PLDM) as 6.5. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (0.473) in 2014. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government party’s cohesion as “Virtually no visible disagreement” in 2014.

Years: 2016-2018

Head of government: Pavel Filip

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 970) identifies Filip’s party as the Democratic Party of Moldova (*Partidul Democrat din Moldova* – *PDM*). World Statesmen (2018) identifies PDM as leftist: “PDM = Partidul Democrat din Moldova (Democratic Party of Moldova, center-left, est.8 Feb 1997).” The DPM party website (2017) confirms that it is leftist, writing: “The Democratic Party of Moldova (DPM) is a modern, progressive, European centre-left party, carrying out its activity according to the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova, the legislation in force and the DPM Statute.” Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Filip’s ideology as leftist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 8 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Democratic Party of Moldova (PDM) as 5.5. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify PDM’s oppose-support market score as approximately 4.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 4.5 on scales from 1-7. Crowther & Michael (2006: 900) identify PDM as centrist, writing that “this centrist party [PDM] was formed in 1997 as the Movement for a Democratic and Prosperous Moldova.” Stefanczak (2017) identifies PDM as leftist, writing that PDM is a member of the Socialist International and that it’s “nominal ideology” is “social democracy”. Political Handbook of the World (2017: 1003) identifies PDM as leftist, writing that “in May 2004 the three primary center-left opposition parties – the AMN, the Democratic Party of Moldova (PDM), and the Social Liberal Party (PSL) – announced the formation of the Democratic Moldova Bloc” and that “in February 2010 as much as two-thirds of the membership of the Social Democratic Party left that party to join the PDM, which Lupu welcomed as a ‘consolidation’ of the centre-left”. Brezianu & Spanu (116) identify the PDM as leftist, writing that PDM is a “left-centrist party created in 2000 … The PDM’s declared goals are the consolidation of democracy, promotion of market and social reforms, and Moldova’s integration into European structures. … The party aspires to become a member of Socialist International, a worldwide organization of social democratic, socialist, and labor parties.” Freedom House (2016) also identify PDM as leftist, writing that in 2014, “among the pro-European parties, the reformist and center-right Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova (PLDM) won 23 seats, the center-left Democratic Party of Moldova (PDM) took 19, and the pro-Romanian Liberal Party (PL) secured 13.” In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (0.423) in 2014. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify head of government party’s cohesion as “Negligible visible disagreement” in 2014. Ortiz de Zarate (2019) describes PDM as “a center-left formation,” or “formación de centro-izquierda.” Necsutu (2019) describes PDM as “left-wing.” The Democratic Party of Moldova’s official platform (2021) states that they support “the right of citizens to work and of the right to build their own future in economic and social security. In this regard, the DPM believes that the state is obliged to invest in the citizen and ensure well-paid jobs and continuous professional training of citizens” and “Establishment of a fair system of redistribution of state revenues aimed at providing decent living conditions for people unable to work (children, elderly people, disabled people, etc.).” It also mentions protection of private property and “Development of a competitive mixed economy, aimed at combining a dynamic private system, an effective public sector and a system of quality services available to citizens.” DPI identifies PDM as centrist.

Years: 2019-2020

Head of government: Ion Chicu

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. World Statesmen (2020) and Perspective Monde (2020) identify Chicu’s party affiliation as non-party. Radio Free Europe (2019) writes that “[President] Dodon described Chicu as ‘a technocrat, a professional who has not been in any political party.’” Chicu (2020) writes, “We believe in the role of an engaged and smart state, one that can improve public services such as healthcare and education and take advantage of digitalization to redefine our economic profile and competitive advantage.” Calus (2020) writes, “In November 2019 a new government took power in Moldova under Ion Chicu as prime minister. Formally non-partisan, the new cabinet is in fact controlled by President Igor Dodon and the pro-Russian Party of Socialists of the Republic of Moldova (PSRM). . . Chicu, while formally unaffiliated with any party, has worked with both the Socialists and the Democratic Party of Moldova.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 8 experts identified the average left-right (0-10) score of the Party of Socialists of the Republic of Moldova (PSRM) as a 2.5. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 8 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Democratic Party of Moldova (PDM) as a 5.5. Varieties of Democracy identify party ideology as “none.”

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