Country: Moldova

Years: 1990-1996

Leader: Mircea Ion Snegur

Ideology: right

Description: CHISOLS identifies Snegur’s party affiliation as none from 1991 to 1992, ADP from 1993 to 1994, and PRH from 1995 to 1996. World Statesmen identifies his party affiliation as none in 1990. The CHISOLS country profiles add that “[Snegur] received early political support from the Popular Front, but broke off his connections to this party to join the Agrarian Democratic Party (ADP) in 1994 (Europa World Yearbook 2009). In 1995, he split from ADOP and helped form the new Party of Revival and Harmony (PRH; also Party of Revival and Accord of Moldova – PRAM; also Party of Revival and Consolation – PRC). The PRH can be considered a break-away faction of the ADP”. Rulers (2020) identifies party as the Party of Rebirth and Conciliation and ideology as rightist, writing that “after his defeat [in 1996] he remained active in Moldovan party politics, having established the centre-right Party of Rebirth and Conciliation in 1995”. Rulers (2019) writes that “Snegur favored economic reforms and increased integration with the rest of Europe. He accused parliament of blocking his efforts and trying to maintain a Soviet-style economy.” In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify leader party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.572) in 1994. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify ADP’s cohesion as “Negligible visible disagreement” in 1994. Bugajski (2002: 890) writes, “Snegur himself subsequently altered his political stripes [after 1996] and established a new alliance with the former PFM [Popular Front of Moldova].” The PFM ran against the Communist Party in 1989-1991. Rupert (1996) states, “After the collapse of Soviet rule, Snegur allied with other ex-communist leaders in the centrist Agrarian Democratic Party to slash government budgets and aggressively privatize the state-run economy. . . Last June, Snegur shattered the politics of consensus among top leaders by breaking with Agrarians to form his own party. According to Vladimir Socor . . . Snegur bolted from the Agrarians because he believed they might nominate someone else rather than support him for reelection.”

Years: 1997-2000

Leader: Petru Chiril Lucinschi

Ideology: center

Description: CHISOLS identifies Lucinschi’s party as none. Rulers (2019) writes that “Lucinschi had campaigned on pledges to reverse Moldova's economic decline. Snegur favored economic reforms and increased integration with the rest of Europe. He accused parliament of blocking his efforts and trying to maintain a Soviet-style economy.” Crowther (2008) writes that “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.” Political Handbook of the World (2015: 966) writes that “the centrist [PDM] movement had been formed in February 1997 to promote the policies of President Lucinschi”. World Statesmen (2019) identifies his party as the Party of Communists of the Republic of Moldova (PCRM). It describes the party as leftist: “communist”. 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, and 2.5 of the Party of Communists (PCRM). 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. They 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 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.” 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.” Note that the Movement for a Democratic and Prosperous Moldova (MDPM) was renamed the Democratic Party of Moldova (PDM) in 2000.

Years: 2001-2007

Leader: 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”. 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 leader party’s ideology as “Left” (-1.644) in 2001 and “Left” (-1.644) in 2005.

Year: 2008

Leader: 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 leader party’s ideology as “Left” (-1.644) in 2005.

Years: 2009-2012

Leader: 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 leader party’s ideology as “Center-right” (0.998) in 2009, and 3 experts identify as “Center-right” (0.998) in 2010.

Years: 2013-2014

Leader: 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 PLDV’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), 3 experts identify leader party’s ideology as “Center-right” (0.998) in 2010 and “Center” (0.473) in 2014. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify leader party’s cohesion as “Virtually no visible disagreement” in 2010 and 2014.

Years: 2015

Leader: Gheorghe Brega

Ideology:

Description:

Years: 2016-2018

Leader: 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

Leader: 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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