Country: Romania

Years: 1945-1946

Leader: Michael I of Romania

Ideology:

Description: CHISOLS identifies Michael’s party as none. Lentz (1994: 659) writes that “Michael led the coup that ousted Ion Antonescu, the pro-Nazi dictator in 1944”.

Years: 1947-1964

Leader: Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Romanian Communist Party (*Partidul Comunist Român* – *PCR*). DPI identifies PCR’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006: 951) elaborates, writing that “Romania's third postwar constitution, adopted in 1965 and amended in 1974, declared the nation to be a “socialist republic,” with an economy based on socialist ownership of the means of production. All power was ascribed to the people, but the PCR was singled out as the society's leading political force”. Manzano (2017) identifies ideology later as leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Gheorghiu-Dej’s ideology as leftist. Lentz (1994: 660) identifies Gheorghiu-Dej’s ideology as leftist, writing that “[Gheorghiu-Dej] was active in the labor movement as a young man and joined the outlawed Romanian Communist Party in 1930”. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify leader party’s ideology as “Far-left” (-4.284) in 1975.

Years: 1965-1988

Leader: Nicolae Ceausescu

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Romanian Communist Party (*Partidul Comunist Român* – *PCR*). DPI identifies PCR’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006: 951) elaborates, writing that “Romania's third postwar constitution, adopted in 1965 and amended in 1974, declared the nation to be a “socialist republic,” with an economy based on socialist ownership of the means of production. All power was ascribed to the people, but the PCR was singled out as the society's leading political force”. Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Ceausescu’s ideology as leftist. Lentz (1994: 661) identifies Ceausescu’s ideology as leftist, writing that “[Ceausescu] became active in the Union of Communist Youth in 1933 and became a leading organizer in the outlawed Romanian Communist Party”. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify leader party’s ideology as “Far-left” (-4.284) in 1975, “Far-left” (-4.284) in 1980, and “Far-left” (-4.284) in 1985.

Years: 1989-1990

Leader: Petre Roman

Ideology: leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the National Salvation Front (*Frontul Salvării Naționale* – *FSN*). DPI identifies FSN as centrist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1199) elaborates, writing that “at its first national convention held March 16–17, 1991, the FSN … approved a free-market reform program”, but that “in 1996 Roman … proclaimed his intention to stand on a social-democratic platform”. “Armingeon et al. (2018) identify FSN’s ideology as leftist. Pop-Eleches (2008: 466) confirms this by writing that the National Salvation Front “had emerged in 1990 as the unofficial successor to the Romanian Communist Party”. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1199) identifies Roman’s ideology as leftist, writing that “in February 1996 Roman accepted nomination as the PD-FSN candidate in the November presidential election, proclaiming his intention to stand on a social-democratic platform”. Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Roman’s ideology as leftist. Döring and Manow (2019) identify FSN’s party family as liberal. Hass (2006: 1122) writes that “throughout 1991 Roman had been moving toward some cleansing of the FSN, with the idea of replacing old Communist-era elites (the supporters of Iliescu); further, while Roman was no proponent of shock therapy—he consistently claimed that the state needed to intervene in the economy and that rapid economic liberalization brought only pain elsewhere in Eastern Europe—he did call for increased reform”.

Year: 1991

Leader: Theodor Stolojan

Ideology: rightist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1194) identifies Stolojan as non-party in 1991. Lansford (2017: 1247) writes that “Stolojan and others were expelled from the PNL in October and subsequently formed the PLD”. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1201) identifies PLD’s ideology as rightist, writing that “the PNL was reconstituted in 1990 as a right-of-center party that, in addition to supporting a free-market economy, endorsed resumption of the throne by the exiled King Mihai”. Armingeon et. al (2018) identify PNL’s and PLD’s ideology as rightist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 24 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the National Liberal Party (PNL) as 7.8. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify PNL’s oppose-support market score as 6 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 6 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identify PNL’s party family as liberal.

Years: 1992-1995

Leader: Nicolae Vacaroiu

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as FSN until 1994, and SDPR in 1995. The Washington Post (2007) identifies Vacaroiu as a leftist: “A member of the opposition left-wing Social Democratic Party, Vacaroiu was prime minister in 1992-1996.” Turner (2015: 1020) identifies party as the Party of Social Democracy from Romania (*Partidul Social Democrat Român* – PSDR). Armingeon et al. identifies PDSR and FSN as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1197) identifies PSDR as leftist, writing that “Socialist Democrats were a leftist formation that had once been closely allied with the FSN”. “Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1193) writes that “a deeply divided Parliament ended a five-week impasse by agreeing to the formation of a government led by Nicolae VĂCĂROIU, a relatively unknown tax official then without party affiliation, who proceeded to combine liberal reform with “special care” for its social consequences”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 24 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Party of Social Democracy of Romania – Social Democratic Party (PSD) as 3.9. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify PSD’s oppose-support market score as approximately 3.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as 3 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identify FSN’s party family as liberal and SDPR’s party family as social democracy. In V-Party (2020), 4 experts identify leader party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.607) in 1992.

Years: 1996-1997

Leader: Victor Ciorbea

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Romanian Democratic Convention (*Convenţia Democrată Română* – *CDR*). Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1200) identifies CDR as rightist: “At the time, the center-right CDR included the PNŢCD, the National Liberal Party (PNL), the PNL–Democratic Convention (PNL-CD), Romania's Alternative Party (PAR), the Romanian Ecologist Party (PER), and the Ecological Federation of Romania (FER).” Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify PNL’s oppose-support market score as 6 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 6 on scales from 1-7. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that CDR’s ideology is rightist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Ciorbea’s ideology as rightist. Döring and Manow (2019) identify CDR’s party family as Christian democracy.

Year: 1998

Leader: Radu Vasile

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Romanian Democratic Convention (*Convenţia Democrată Română* – *CDR)*. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1200) identifies CDR as rightist: “At the time, the center-right CDR included the PNŢCD, the National Liberal Party (PNL), the PNL–Democratic Convention (PNL-CD), Romania's Alternative Party (PAR), the Romanian Ecologist Party (PER), and the Ecological Federation of Romania (FER).” Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify PNL’s oppose-support market score as 6 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 6 on scales from 1-7. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that CDR’s ideology is rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1193) confirms Vasile’s ideology as rightist, writing that “himself an economist, Vasile promised to strengthen the market economy by accelerating privatization efforts, and in December 1998 he restructured the government”. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Vasile’s ideology as rightist. Döring and Manow (2019) identify CDR’s party family as Christian democracy.

Year: 1999

Leader: Constantin Mugur Isarescu

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify party. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1200) identifies Isarescu as nonparty. Maxfield (2010: 173-174) writes that “Isarescu was acceptable to the National Liberals because he accepted the party’s economic programme”. Armingeon et al. (2018) identify the National Liberal Party’s ideology as rightist. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 24 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the National Liberal Party (PNL) as 7.8. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify PNL’s oppose-support market score as 6 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 6 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identify PNL’s party family as liberal.

Years: 2000-2003

Leader: Adrian Nastase

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Party of Social Democracy from Romania (*Partidul Social Democrat Român* – PSDR. DPI identifies PSDR’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1197) elaborates, writing that “the left-of-center PSDR descended from the historic party founded in 1983 but was forced to merge with the Communist Party in 1948. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that PSDR is a leftist party. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 24 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Party of Social Democracy of Romania – Social Democratic Party (PSD) as 3.9. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify PSD’s oppose-support market score as approximately 3.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as 3 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identify PSDR’s party family as social democracy. In V-Party (2020), 4 experts identify leader party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.061) in 2000 and 5 experts identify ideology as “Center-left” (-1.569) in 1996.

Years: 2004-2013

Leader: Traian Basescu

Ideology: rightist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party affiliation as Democratic Party (PD). DPI does not identify PD’s ideology. Armingeon et al. (2018) identify PD as rightist. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies PD as rightist, “center-right.” World Statesmen (2019) identifies party affiliation as PD in 2005, none between 2004-2014, and PMP since 2015. Rulers (2019) identifies party affiliation as the Justice and Truth Alliance, writing that Basescu “became co-chairman of the Justice and Truth alliance formed in 2003 between his party, [the Democratic Party], and the National Liberal Party”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 24 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the National Liberal Party (PNL) as 7.8. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1200) writes that “[Traian] Basescu was succeeded as PD chair by Emil Boc, who in 2005 convinced the delegates at a PD national convention to adopt a platform favoring promarket economic policies, a shift to the center from its former left-leaning doctrine”. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify PD’s oppose-support market score as approximately 5 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 5.5 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identify PD’s party family as liberal and PMP’s party family as Christian democratic. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 25 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the People’s Movement Party as 7.5. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify head of government’s party ideology as “Center-right” (1.223) in 2008.

Years: 2014-2020

Leader: Klaus Iohannis

Ideology: rightist

Description: World Statesmen identifies party affiliation as “non-party.” Barbera (2019) identifies party affiliation as National Liberal Party, “President Klaus Iohannis of the National Liberal Party.” Dumitrache (2019) states, “The National Liberal Party, formerly headed by Iohannis.” The official PNL website (2021) states, “Following the European Parliament elections in May 2014, the National Liberal Party and the Liberal Democratic Party decided to nominate a joint candidate for the 2014 presidential election. . . Klaus Iohannis, the new president of the PNL, became the candidate of the alliance formed by the two parties, the Liberal Christian Alliance (ACL).” Deloy (2019) states that “[Iohannis joined] in 2013 the National Liberal Party (PNL), of which he became chair on 28th June 2014. Perspective Monde (2021) identifies his party affiliation as Liberal Christian Alliance. Manciu (2014) states, “President-elect Klaus Iohannis. . . announced his resignation from the PNL and from all party positions, in order to take over the presidency of Romania on Sunday.” Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1201) identifies PNL as rightist: “Founded in the mid-19th century but banned by the Communists in 1947, the PNL was reconstituted in 1990 as a right-of-center party that, in addition to supporting a free-market economy, endorsed resumption of the throne by the exiled King Mihai.” Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that PNL is a rightist party. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 24 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the National Liberal Party (PNL) as 7.8. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify PNL’s oppose-support market score as 6 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 6 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identify PNL’s party family as liberal. In V-Party (2020), 4 experts identify leader party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.259) in 2012 and “Center-right” (1.259) in 2016. DPI identifies PNL as rightist.

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