Country: Senegal

Years: 1960-1980

Leader: Leopold Sedar Senghor

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Senghor’s party as UPS. DPI identifies UPS ideology as left. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on party’s ideology. Manzano (2017) codes Senghor as left. Perspective Monde gives Senghor’s party affiliation as UPS/PSS. Whiteman (2009) describes “Senghor’s armchair socialism”. Clark and Phillips (1994) note “the UPS platform in the years before and immediately after independence in 1960 was based on what Senghor and Mamadou Dia called ‘African socialism’”. Clark and Phillips also note that the PSS was made up of “local French socialists” and was absorbed by “a Senegalese branch of the French socialist party”. Clark and Phillips state that Senghor and his successor, Abdou Diouf, maintain that they practice a form of African socialism. Mendy and Lobban Jr. (2013) write “moderate ‘African socialist’ Francophile and United States-friendly Senegalese president Leopold Sedar Senghor”. Gallagher et al. (1964) write “The UPS considers itself a ‘socialist’ party, but not in the usual sense. It is impossible, says Mamadou Dia, ‘constantly to relate the socialist fabric to our reality.’ A new socialism must be constructed which takes into account African realities. In other words, the socialist method must be applied to the Senegalese context and Senegalese tradition.” Gallagher et al. also state “Senghor developed his political thought… out of a discovery, Marxism”. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Senghor’s party as UPS before 1976 and as PSS after that date. World Statesmen describes UPS as “Union Progressiste Sénégalaise… Senegalese Progressive Union, social-democratic, ruling party 1960-1974, renamed PSS, 1958-Dec 1976” and PSS as “Parti Socialiste du Sénégal… Socialist Party of Senegal, social-democratic, 1976-2000 ruling party, former UPS, est.Dec 1976”. PSS is a member of the Socialist International. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify UPS’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.002) in 1973.

Years: 1981-1999

Leader: Abdou Diouf

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Diouf’s party as UPS until 1976 and PS afterwards. DPI identifies UPS and PS ideology as left. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on the UPS’ ideology. Political Handbook of the World (2012) elaborates, writing “Senghor's own Socialist Party (PS) adopted the centrist position of “democratic socialism,” while the two other legal parties, the Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS) and the African Independence Party (PAI), were assigned “liberal democratic” and “Marxist-Leninist” postures, respectively. Manzano (2017) codes Diouf as “left”. Perspective Monde gives Diouf’s party affiliation as UPS/PSS, coded as “moderate left”. Clark and Phillips (1994) state that in 1976, constitutional reforms led to the emergence of multiple political parties which each chose ideological positions. According to Clark and Phillips, “Senghor and the UPS leaders chose the socialist slot, the tendency that they felt they had represented all along… they changed their name in 1977 to the Socialist Party (Parti Socialiste) [PS]. Abdou Diouf took over control of the PS when Senghor resigned the presidency”. Clark and Phillips state that Senghor and his successor, Abdou Diouf, maintain that they practice a form of African socialism. Gallagher et al. (1964) write “The UPS considers itself a ‘socialist’ party, but not in the usual sense. It is impossible, says Mamadou Dia, ‘constantly to relate the socialist fabric to our reality.’ A new socialism must be constructed which takes into account African realities. In other words, the socialist method must be applied to the Senegalese context and Senegalese tradition.” World Statesmen (2019) identifies Diouf’s party as UPS before 1976 and as PSS after that date. World Statesmen describes UPS as “Union Progressiste Sénégalaise… Senegalese Progressive Union, social-democratic, ruling party 1960-1974, renamed PSS, 1958-Dec 1976” and PSS as “Parti Socialiste du Sénégal… Socialist Party of Senegal, social-democratic, 1976-2000 ruling party, former UPS, est.Dec 1976”. PSS is a member of the Socialist International.

Years: 2000-2011

Leader: Abdoulaye Wade

Ideology: Right

Description: CHISOLS identifies Wade’s party as PDS. DPI identifies PDS ideology as right. Political Handbook of the World (2012) elaborates, writing “although standing to the left of President Senghor on certain issues, it [the PDS] was required by the constitutional amendment of March 1976 to adopt a formal position to the right of the government party”. Perspective Monde describes Sall’s the PDS as “center right”. World Statesmen (2019) describes the PDS as “Parti Démocratique Sénégalais… Senegalese Democratic Party, liberal”. PDS is a member of the Liberal International. Ortiz de Zárate (2019) describes PDS as “una formación de orientación centrista y liberal” [a formation with a centrist and liberal orientation]. In V-Party (2020), 2 experts identify PDS’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.487) in 1998 and 2001, and 3 experts identify PDS’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.487) in 2007.

Years: 2012-2020

Leader: Macky Sall

Ideology: Center

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World (2018-2019) identifies Sall’s party affiliation as Alliance for the Republic-Hope (*Alliance pour la République-Yakaar*)—APR-*Yakaar*), writing, “The APR-*Yakaar* was formed in 2008 by former prime minister Mackey Sall to oppose Wade and the PDS. Sall won the 2012 presidential balloting and the APR-*Yakaar* formed the United in Hope coalition to contest legislative balloting that year.” Political Handbook also discusses the United in Hope Coalition (*Benno Bokk Yakaar*—BBY), writing, “The pro-Mackey Sall coalition was formed in 2012 by opposition parties in an effort to end the political dominance of the PDS.” Perspective Monde (2021) corroborates party affiliation as APR and identifies the party as centrist. World Statesmen (2021) corroborates party affiliation as APR. APR is a member of the Liberal International. The Statesmen’s Yearbook (2020: 1056) states, “Macky Sall, a former prime minister under President Wade and founder of the liberal Alliance for the Republic (APR), was elected president in March 2012. Having broken with Wade’s administration over issues of transparency and public spending, Sall pledged to cut the size of government and tackle Senegal’s long-standing problems of unemployment, poor infrastructure and food insecurity.” Wade is coded as rightist. Ortiz de Zárate (2019) describes Sall as “un politico progresista” [a progressive politician]. Ortiz de Zárate also writes, “… hacia 1990, optó por afiliarse al Partido Democrático Senegalés (PDS) de Abdoulaye Wade, una formación de orientación centrista y liberal…” […around 1990, he chose to join the Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS) of Abdoulaye Wade, a formation with a centrist and liberal orientation…] In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify APR-Yakaar’s ideology as “Center” (-0.101) in 2012 and “Center” (-0.071) in 2017.

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