Country: South Africa

Years: 1945-1947

Head of government: Jan Christian Smuts

Ideology: Center

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Smuts’s party as UP. WorldStatesman.org (2019) identifies UP as center-right: “UP = United National South African Party (liberal conservative, centrist, 5 Dec 1934-1977).” Perspective monde (2019) identifies UP as center. Encyclopaedia Britannica (2018) writes that “After the war, the “liberalism” of Smuts and the United Party came under fierce attack from the National Party (during this time, using the name Re-united National Party), which won the general election of 1948.” In V-Party (2020), 4 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (0) and party’s cohesion as “Negligible visible disagreement” in 1970.

Years: 1948-1953

Head of government: Daniel Francois Malan

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Malan’s party as NP. DPI identifies NP’s ideology as right. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on party’s ideology. Manzano (2017) corroborates that Malan is Right. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Malan as Right. World Statesmen (2019) writes “Daniel François "D.F." Malan… NP… NP = National Party-Nasionale Party (Afrikaner nationalist, conservative, Apartheid 1948-1989”. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.622) in 1970.

Years: 1954-1957

Head of government: Johannes Gerhardus Strijdom

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Strijdom’s party as NP. DPI identifies NP ideology as right. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on party’s ideology. Manzano (2017) corroborates that Strijdom is Right. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Strijdom as Right. World Statesmen (2019) writes “Johannes "Hans" Gerhardus Strijdom… NP… NP = National Party-Nasionale Party (Afrikaner nationalist, conservative, Apartheid 1948-1989”. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.622) in 1970.

Years: 1958-1965

Head of government: Hendrik Frensch Verwoerd

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS Verwoerd’s party as NP. DPI identifies NP ideology as right. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on party’s ideology. Manzano (2017) corroborates that Verwoerd is Right. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Verwoerd as Right. Lentz (1994) identifies Verwoerd’s ideology as rightist, writing “Verwoerd returned to South Africa… in 1928. He became active in right-wing politics”. World Statesmen (2019) writes “Hendrik Frensch Verwoerd… NP… NP = National Party-Nasionale Party (Afrikaner nationalist, conservative, Apartheid 1948-1989”. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.622) in 1970.

Years: 1966-1977

Head of government: Balthazar Johannes Vorster

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Vorster’s party as NP. DPI identifies NP ideology as right. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on party’s ideology. Manzano (2017) corroborates that Vorster is Right. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Vorster as Right. World Statesmen (2019) writes “Balthazar Johannes "B.J." Vorster… NP… NP = National Party-Nasionale Party (Afrikaner nationalist, conservative, Apartheid 1948-1989”. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.622) in 1970, 1974, and 1977.

Years: 1978-1988

Head of government: Pieter Willem Botha

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Botha’s party as NP. DPI identifies NP ideology as right. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on party’s ideology. Manzano (2017) corroborates that Botha is Right. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Botha as Right. World Statesmen (2019) writes “Pieter Willem "P.W." Botha… NP… NP = National Party-Nasionale Party (Afrikaner nationalist, conservative, Apartheid 1948-1989”. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.622) in 1977, 1981, and 1987.

Years: 1989-1993

Head of government: Frederik Willem de Klerk

Ideology: Right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies de Klerk’s party as NP. DPI identifies NP ideology as right. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on party’s ideology. Manzano (2017) corroborates that de Klerk is Right. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies de Klerk as Right. World Statesmen (2019) writes “Frederik Willem de Klerk… NP… NP = National Party-Nasionale Party (Afrikaner nationalist, conservative, Apartheid 1948-1989”. In V-Party (2020), 5 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.622) in 1989.

Years: 1994-1998

Head of government: Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Mandela’s party as ANC. DPI identifies ANC ideology as left. Political Handbook of the World (2015) elaborates, writing “African National Congress (ANC)… On May 28–31, 1992, the ANC held a policy conference in Johannesburg, during which it celebrated its evolution from a liberation movement to a political party and replaced a 1955 commitment to comprehensive nationalization with an emphasis on a mixed economy. In January 1994, prior to its assumption of power, it did, however, announce an ambitious program to end economic apartheid by redistributing land, building more than a million low-income dwellings, assuming state control of the mining industry, and breaking up white-owned conglomerates.” Manzano (2017) corroborates that Mandela is Left. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Mandela as Left. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 26 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of African National Congress (ANC) as 3.1. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Mandela’s ideology as leftist, writing “Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela… ANC… ANC = African National Congress… democratic socialist”. The leftist Socialist International (2020) identifies the African National Congress (ANC) as one of its members. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.357) in 1994.

Years: 1999-2007

Head of government: Thabo Mvuyelwa Mbeki

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Mbeki’s party as ANC. DPI identifies ANC ideology as left. Political Handbook of the World (2015) elaborates, writing “African National Congress (ANC)… On May 28–31, 1992, the ANC held a policy conference in Johannesburg, during which it celebrated its evolution from a liberation movement to a political party and replaced a 1955 commitment to comprehensive nationalization with an emphasis on a mixed economy. In January 1994, prior to its assumption of power, it did, however, announce an ambitious program to end economic apartheid by redistributing land, building more than a million low-income dwellings, assuming state control of the mining industry, and breaking up white-owned conglomerates.” Manzano (2017) corroborates that Mbeki is Left. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Mbeki as Left. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 26 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of African National Congress (ANC) as 3.1. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Mbeki’s ideology as leftist, writing “Thabo Mvuyelwa Mbeki… ANC… ANC = African National Congress… democratic socialist”. The leftist Socialist International (2020) identifies the African National Congress (ANC) as one of its members. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.92) in 1999 and 2004.

Years: 2008

Head of government: Kgalema Motlanthe

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS Motlanthe’s party as ANC. DPI identifies ANC ideology as left. Political Handbook of the World (2015) elaborates, writing “African National Congress (ANC)… On May 28–31, 1992, the ANC held a policy conference in Johannesburg, during which it celebrated its evolution from a liberation movement to a political party and replaced a 1955 commitment to comprehensive nationalization with an emphasis on a mixed economy. In January 1994, prior to its assumption of power, it did, however, announce an ambitious program to end economic apartheid by redistributing land, building more than a million low-income dwellings, assuming state control of the mining industry, and breaking up white-owned conglomerates.” Manzano (2017) corroborates that Motlanthe is Left. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Motlanthe as Left. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 26 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of African National Congress (ANC) as 3.1. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Motlanthe’s ideology as leftist, writing “Petrus Kgalema Motlanthe… ANC… ANC = African National Congress… democratic socialist”. The leftist Socialist International (2020) identifies the African National Congress (ANC) as one of its members. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.92) in 2004.

Years: 2009-2017

Head of government: Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies Zuma’s party as ANC. DPI identifies ANC ideology as left. Political Handbook of the World (2015) elaborates, writing “African National Congress (ANC)… On May 28–31, 1992, the ANC held a policy conference in Johannesburg, during which it celebrated its evolution from a liberation movement to a political party and replaced a 1955 commitment to comprehensive nationalization with an emphasis on a mixed economy. In January 1994, prior to its assumption of power, it did, however, announce an ambitious program to end economic apartheid by redistributing land, building more than a million low-income dwellings, assuming state control of the mining industry, and breaking up white-owned conglomerates.” Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Zuma as Left. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 26 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of African National Congress (ANC) as 3.1. World Statesmen (2019) identifies Zuma’s ideology as leftist, writing “Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma… ANC… ANC = African National Congress… democratic socialist”. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies Zuma’s ideology as leftist, writing “COSATU and SACP leadership announced their support for Zuma, in part due to his pledge to pursue a more left-wing agenda than Mbeki should he come to power… Zuma, a populist who enjoyed the support of… the Communist Party of South Africa, and other left-wing elements of the ANC… became the presumptive ANC candidate for the 2009 presidential election.” The leftist Socialist International (2020) identifies the African National Congress (ANC) as one of its members. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.343) in 2009 and 2014.

Years: 2018-2019

Head of government: Cyril Ramaphosa

Ideology: Left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify ideology. Perspective Monde (2020) identifies Ramaphosa’s ideology as leftist, writing “Cyril Ramaphosa… Congrès national africain [African National Congress, ANC]… Gauche modérée [moderate left]”. World Statesment (2020) identifies Ramaphosa’s ideology as leftist, writing “Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa… ANC… ANC = African National Congress… democratic socialist”. DPI identifies ANC ideology as left. Political Handbook of the World (2015) elaborates, writing “African National Congress (ANC)… On May 28–31, 1992, the ANC held a policy conference in Johannesburg, during which it celebrated its evolution from a liberation movement to a political party and replaced a 1955 commitment to comprehensive nationalization with an emphasis on a mixed economy. In January 1994, prior to its assumption of power, it did, however, announce an ambitious program to end economic apartheid by redistributing land, building more than a million low-income dwellings, assuming state control of the mining industry, and breaking up white-owned conglomerates.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 26 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of African National Congress (ANC) as 3.1. The leftist Socialist International (2020) identifies the African National Congress (ANC) as one of its members. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.343) in 2019.

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