Country: United States

Years: 1945 - 1952

Head of government: President Harry S. Truman

Ideology: center

Description: HoG identifies ideology as center. CHISOLS identifies party as the Democratic Party. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Democratic Party’s ideology as centrist. DPI identifies the Democratic Party’s ideology as centrist. In V-Party (2020) 4 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.122) in 1970. Political Handbook of the World (2015) writes “Democratic Party… Its basis has traditionally been an unstable coalition of conservative politicians in the southeastern states, more liberal political leaders in the urban centers of the Northeast and the West Coast, and populists in some towns and rural areas of the Midwest… The party was weakened in 1968 by the conservative secessionist movement of southern Democrats led by George C. Wallace”.

Years: 1953 - 1960

Head of government: President Dwight David Eisenhower

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Republican Party. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. DPI identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. In V-Party (2020) 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.352) in 1970. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist, writing “Republican Party… Generally more conservative in outlook than the Democratic Party… In recent years Republicans have tended to advocate welfare and tax reforms, including a simplified tax system and revenue-sharing to relieve the burden of local property taxes; the achievement of a “workable balance between a growing economy and environmental protection”; and military preparedness sufficient to preclude the nation’s becoming a “second-class power.” The party’s base has shifted primarily to the South and West.”

Years: 1961 - 1962

Head of government: President John Fitzgerald Kennedy

Ideology: center

Description: HoG identifies ideology as center. CHISOLS identifies party as the Democratic Party. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Democratic Party’s ideology as centrist. DPI identifies the Democratic Party’s ideology as centrist. In V-Party (2020) 4 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.122) in 1970.Political Handbook of the World (2015) writes “Democratic Party… Its basis has traditionally been an unstable coalition of conservative politicians in the southeastern states, more liberal political leaders in the urban centers of the Northeast and the West Coast, and populists in some towns and rural areas of the Midwest… The party was weakened in 1968 by the conservative secessionist movement of southern Democrats led by George C. Wallace”.

Years: 1963 - 1968

Head of government: President Lyndon Baines Johnson

Ideology: center

Description: HoG identifies ideology as center. CHISOLS identifies party as the Democratic Party. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Democratic Party’s ideology as centrist. DPI identifies the Democratic Party’s ideology as centrist. In V-Party (2020) 4 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.122) in 1970. Political Handbook of the World (2015) writes “Democratic Party… Its basis has traditionally been an unstable coalition of conservative politicians in the southeastern states, more liberal political leaders in the urban centers of the Northeast and the West Coast, and populists in some towns and rural areas of the Midwest… The party was weakened in 1968 by the conservative secessionist movement of southern Democrats led by George C. Wallace”.

Years: 1969 - 1973

Head of government: President Richard Milhous Nixon

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Republican Party. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. DPI identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. In V-Party (2020) 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.352) in 1970 and 1972. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist, writing “Republican Party… Generally more conservative in outlook than the Democratic Party… In recent years Republicans have tended to advocate welfare and tax reforms, including a simplified tax system and revenue-sharing to relieve the burden of local property taxes; the achievement of a “workable balance between a growing economy and environmental protection”; and military preparedness sufficient to preclude the nation’s becoming a “second-class power.” The party’s base has shifted primarily to the South and West.”

Years: 1974 - 1976

Head of government: President Gerald Rudolph Ford

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Republican Party. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. DPI identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. In V-Party (2020) 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.352) in 1974 and 1976. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist, writing “Republican Party… Generally more conservative in outlook than the Democratic Party… In recent years Republicans have tended to advocate welfare and tax reforms, including a simplified tax system and revenue-sharing to relieve the burden of local property taxes; the achievement of a “workable balance between a growing economy and environmental protection”; and military preparedness sufficient to preclude the nation’s becoming a “second-class power.” The party’s base has shifted primarily to the South and West.”

Years: 1977 - 1980

Head of government: President James Earl Carter

Ideology: center

Description: HoG identifies ideology as center. CHISOLS identifies party as the Democratic Party. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Democratic Party’s ideology as centrist. DPI identifies the Democratic Party’s ideology as centrist. In V-Party (2020) 4 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-.859) in 1976, 1978 and “Center-left” (-.663) in 1980. Political Handbook of the World (2015) writes “Democratic Party… Its basis has traditionally been an unstable coalition of conservative politicians in the southeastern states, more liberal political leaders in the urban centers of the Northeast and the West Coast, and populists in some towns and rural areas of the Midwest… The party was weakened in 1968 by the conservative secessionist movement of southern Democrats led by George C. Wallace”.

Years: 1981 - 1988

Head of government: President Ronald Wilson Reagan

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Republican Party. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. DPI identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. In V-Party (2020) 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Right” (1.744) in 1980 and 4 experts identifying party ideology as “Right” (2.027) in 1984, 1986 and 1988. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist, writing “Republican Party… Generally more conservative in outlook than the Democratic Party… In recent years Republicans have tended to advocate welfare and tax reforms, including a simplified tax system and revenue-sharing to relieve the burden of local property taxes; the achievement of a “workable balance between a growing economy and environmental protection”; and military preparedness sufficient to preclude the nation’s becoming a “second-class power.” The party’s base has shifted primarily to the South and West.”

Years: 1989 - 1992

Head of government: President George Herbert Walker Bush

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Republican Party. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. DPI identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. In V-Party (2020) 4 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Right” (2.027) in 1988 and “Right” (1.754) in 1990 and 1992. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist, writing “Republican Party… Generally more conservative in outlook than the Democratic Party… In recent years Republicans have tended to advocate welfare and tax reforms, including a simplified tax system and revenue-sharing to relieve the burden of local property taxes; the achievement of a “workable balance between a growing economy and environmental protection”; and military preparedness sufficient to preclude the nation’s becoming a “second-class power.” The party’s base has shifted primarily to the South and West.”

Years: 1993 - 2000

Head of government: President William Jefferson Clinton

Ideology: center

Description: HoG identifies ideology as center. CHISOLS identifies party as the Democratic Party. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Democratic Party’s ideology as centrist. DPI identifies the Democratic Party’s ideology as centrist. In V-Party (2020) 4 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (-.405) in 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998 and “Center-left” (-.871) in 2000. Political Handbook of the World (2015) writes “Democratic Party… Its basis has traditionally been an unstable coalition of conservative politicians in the southeastern states, more liberal political leaders in the urban centers of the Northeast and the West Coast, and populists in some towns and rural areas of the Midwest… The party was weakened in 1968 by the conservative secessionist movement of southern Democrats led by George C. Wallace”.

Years: 2001 - 2008

Head of government: President George Walker Bush

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Republican Party. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. DPI identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. In V-Party (2020) 4 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Right” (1.754) in 2000 and “Right” (2.043) in 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist, writing “Republican Party… Generally more conservative in outlook than the Democratic Party… In recent years Republicans have tended to advocate welfare and tax reforms, including a simplified tax system and revenue-sharing to relieve the burden of local property taxes; the achievement of a “workable balance between a growing economy and environmental protection”; and military preparedness sufficient to preclude the nation’s becoming a “second-class power.” The party’s base has shifted primarily to the South and West.”

Years: 2008 - 2016

Head of government: President Barack Hussein Obama

Ideology: center

Description: HoG identifies ideology as center. CHISOLS identifies party as the Democratic Party. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 1576) identifies party as the Democratic Party, writing that “Barack H. Obama (Democratic Party) was elected on November 4, 2008”. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Democratic Party’s ideology as centrist. DPI identifies the Democratic Party’s ideology as centrist. In V-Party (2020) 4 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-.871) in 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016. Political Handbook of the World (2015) writes “Democratic Party… Its basis has traditionally been an unstable coalition of conservative politicians in the southeastern states, more liberal political leaders in the urban centers of the Northeast and the West Coast, and populists in some towns and rural areas of the Midwest… The party was weakened in 1968 by the conservative secessionist movement of southern Democrats led by George C. Wallace”.

Year: 2017-2020

Head of government: President Donald John Trump

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. Varieties of Democracy identifies party affiliation as Republican Party. Encyclopedia Britannica (2018) identifies party as Republican Party. DPI identifies ideology of Republican Party as right. Armingeon et al. (2019) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist. In V-Party (2020) 4 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Right” (2.043) in 2016 and 2018. Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies the Republican Party’s ideology as rightist, writing “Republican Party… Generally more conservative in outlook than the Democratic Party… In recent years Republicans have tended to advocate welfare and tax reforms, including a simplified tax system and revenue-sharing to relieve the burden of local property taxes; the achievement of a “workable balance between a growing economy and environmental protection”; and military preparedness sufficient to preclude the nation’s becoming a “second-class power.” The party’s base has shifted primarily to the South and West.” World Statesmen (2021) corroborates party affiliation as the Republican Party and describes the party as “conservative, center-right.” Perspective Monde (2021) corroborates party affiliation as the Republican Party and identifies the party as rightist.

References:

Armingeon, Klaus, Virigina Wenger, Fiona Wiedemeier, Christian Isler, Laura Knöpfel, David Weisstanner and Sarah Engler. 2019. Supplement to the Comparative Political Data Set – Government Composition 1960-2017. Bern: Institute of Political Science, University of Berne.

Encyclopedia Britannica. 2018. *Various entries*. [www.britannica.com](http://www.britannica.com).

Political Handbook of the World. 2015. “United States”. CQ Press.