

## South Africa

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South Africa is coded as a democracy from independence in 1920. While we do not have Cheibub et al. coding for the democratic subtype, we code South Africa as a parliamentary regime. All of the leaders coded by Archigos are PMs. South Africa did not have universal suffrage since the right to vote and run for office was dependent on ethnicity; the majority of the population was therefore excluded from the political sphere. However, the South African government did depend on support from a majority in parliament and because parties entered parliament through elections. The key parties during the pre-45 period are the South Africa Party (SAP) and the conservative Afrikaner nationalist National Party (NP) and the Liberal Party (LP); the SAP and NP would later merge into the United Party (UN), which would govern beyond 1945.

In 1920, South Africa was governed by an SAP government of Smuts, which would govern until 1924, initially with Unionist (U) support, but later the SAP absorbed the Unionists (Walshe & Roberts 2001). The SAP lost the 1924 elections to the National Party of Hertzog, which formed a coalition of the National Party and the Labour Party named the “Pact Government” (Walshe & Roberts 2001, South Africa 2011, Library of Congress). This is a SOLS change. In the elections of 1929, the NP acquired a majority and Hertzog consequently formed a single party majority government. However, although Hertzog’s NP had a majority in parliament, the effects of the Great Depression led Hertzog to enter in a coalition with the SAP in 1933 (minor SOLS change – dated 12 May – Derrick 2008) and by December 1934 the NP and SAP had merged into the UP (Walshe & Roberts 2001, South Africa 2011, worldstatesmen.org).

However, the coalition between Hertzog and Smuts broke down over disagreement about whether South Africa should join the war in 1939. When Hertzog lost the debate in parliament by a narrow margin, his faction left the UP and returned to the NP. By our rules, we code no minor SOLS change here since the Smuts faction maintained the name UP. Thereafter, the UP (now only the SAP-wing) wins the 1942 elections and no further SOLS changes are coded (South Africa 2011).

South Africa is coded as a democracy from 1945 through 2008 with exception of two years of civil unrest, 1992 and 1993. The coding of South Africa as a democracy is somewhat questionable given that a large part of the population is still effectively excluded from power. Cheibub et al. (2010) also do not code a democratic regime type during that time. However, Woldendorp et al. (2000, 467) list it as a parliamentary system until 1984 and van Cranenburgh (2013) confirms that South Africa remains parliamentary. Jan Christian Smuts of the UP party ruled until 1948. Elections in 1948 brought Daniel François Malan of the National Party (NP), to power in coalition with the Afrikaner Party (AP). This is a SOLS change. April 14, 1953 elections changed the composition of government and returned sole control back to NP. Because the AP was absorbed into the NP (Kotze 2000, 123), we do not code this as a minor SOLS change. Therefore the SOLS for 1948 is coded as UP, NP/AP. NP/AP remained the coalition in power through 1952. Malan was in office until his retirement in 1954. In 1953, Malan is still the leader but the NP and AP were merged into the National Party (NP).

In 1954, Malan was replaced by Havenga (acting, according to worldstatesmen.org but not with Archigos) and then Strijdom. The transition to Havenga is not a SOLS change since Havenga was an interim leader (and from the same party) and the transition to Strijdom was also not a SOLS change since he also had the same party affiliation.

In 1958, Strijdom was replaced by Swat (acting) and then by Verwoerd. These are again not SOLS changes as Swat was interim (and from the same party) and Hendrik Frensch Verwoerd replaced Strijdom as head of the NP party and thus as PM. In 1966, Verwoerd was replaced by first Donges (acting) and then Vorster. These again are not SOLS changes since Donges was interim and Vorster was from the NP like Verwoerd. In 1978 Pieter Willem Botha replaced Vorster as head of the NP party and as PM. This is again not a SOLS change.

According to Woldendorp et. al. (2000, 467), in 1984 the country moves from a parliamentary system to a semi-presidential mixed system. Botha continues as leader of South Africa but is now President. (In 1984 elections change the composition of government to an NP majority in coalition with the LP and NPP. We do not code this as a minor SOLS change since the country is considered a presidential system at this point and thus we code only the party affiliation of the president). In sum, the SOLS for 1984 is solely NP because there is only one leader: Botha (Prime Minister) in this year and there is no leadership change. However, a post of PM was abolished on Sep. 14, 1984. In other words, Botha was a PM until that date, but after that date, he became State President. But, we do not need to indicate two SOLSs for him.

In 1989, power transitions from Botha to Heunis, back to Botha and then to de Klerk. Since all were members of the NP, none of these are SOLS changes (and Heunis is acting). Later in the year apartheid is terminated and the Transitional Executive Council (TEC) is set up to organize non-racial multiparty elections in 1994. From 1992 to 1994 the country is coded as an authoritarian regime but since de Klerk is in power during those years, there is no SOLS change. From 1994 until 2008 South Africa is again considered a democracy. In 1994 elections brought Nelson Mandela of the African National Congress (ANC) to power as State President. This is a SOLS change since the NP and the white minority loses power to the ANC opposition movement supported by black South Africans. In 1997, Mandela stepped down as head of the ANC and was replaced by Thabo Mbeki (ANC). In 1999 Mbeki won elections to become president. This is not a SOLS change. In 2008, Mbeki resigned as president and was replaced by Kgalema Motlanthe of the ANC. This is not a SOLS change since the leader is responsible to the ANC just like his predecessor.

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Edited by Naoko Matsumura (Rice) 07/02/2014