

Zambia

Vanderbilt

Zambia gained its independence from Great Britain in 1964. Zambia is coded as non-democratic until 1991, democratic between 1991 and 1996, and then again non-democratic until 2008 which is coded as democratic. During each of these periods of democratic rule we code Zambia as a mixed system democracy (Schlager et al. 2006; Maddex 2008; Nijzink et al. 2013). Note, however, that Cheibub et al. (2010) code Zambia as non-democratic for all years (and thus do not provide democratic sub-regime type information) and GWF code Zambia as a single-party authoritarian regime from 1968 until 1991.

Kenneth David Kaunda of the ZANC (Zambia African National Congress) party ruled as the country's first president. In 1972 ZANC was renamed United National Independence Party (UNIP) and Kaunda's SOLS changes from ZANC to UNIP (Cahoon 2010). Kaunda transitioned the country to democracy. Frederick Jacob Titus Chiluba of the Movement for Multi-party Democracy (MMD) won the 1991 elections to become president. This is a SOLS change since Chiluba has the support of a different party (and its voters) than the previous single-party. From 1991 until 1996 the country is coded as a democracy. The latter part of Chiluba's rule was characterized by high levels of corruption (U.S. Department of State 2010). After 1996, it seems that Chiluba has established the MMD as a single-party. We code Zambia as non-democratic and Geddes codes a single-party regime. Since this transition occurs without leadership change (Chiluba remains in power), there is no SOLS change here. (Note though that this may be problematic because Chiluba's basis of support changes from the people of Zambia to the members of his ruling party)

In 2002 Levy Patrick Mwanawasa, also of the MMD, succeeds Chiluba. This is not a SOLS change since the same single-party continues to choose and support the leader. In 2008, Mwanawasa died and was succeeded temporarily by his vice president Rupiah Bwezani Banda in accordance with the constitution (U.S. Department of State 2010). Banda was required to hold elections within 90 days. The elections were held on schedule and Banda won more votes than his competition to become president. Banda was a member of MMD by the time, and therefore, this transition is not coded as a SOLS change. GWF continues to code the country as a single-party state until 2010 and Cheibub et. al. (2009) still consider the country to be authoritarian. It should be noted that even though POLITY codes Zambia as a democracy and we follow the democracy rules beginning in 2008, we do not code a SOLS change in 2008 because of the fact that both Mwanawasa and Banda belonged to the same party (see Diamond and Plattner 2010: 304) and Banda was Mwanawasa's Vice President.

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