

Slovenia

Vanderbilt

After its separation from Yugoslavia in 1991, Slovenia is considered a democratic country with a mixed parliamentary-presidential regime.

In 1990 there were parliamentary elections in Slovenia in which Alojz Peterle assumed office as Prime Minister from the Slovene Christian Democrats (SKD), which formed the DEMOS coalition. After that election, there was a referendum in which the majority of Slovenians voted for independence. Independence was declared in June 1991. Peterle became PM of the newly independent Slovenia as the head of the DEMOS coalition. He continued to rule despite the break-up of DEMOS but resigned as a result of a no-confidence motion in April of 1992. Janez Drnovsek (LDS) was elected PM representing a broad coalition headed by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDS), and including the SDS, ZLDS and ZS. This is a SOLS change since Drnovsek came from a different party than Peterle.

In 1993 Peterle's party entered into coalition, combining LDS, SKD, ZLDS, ZS, and SDSS (interparline). This is a minor SOLS change January 12, 1993. In 1994 two parties (ZS and SDSS) left the group. Similarly, in 1996 the ZLSD exited the coalition, and in 1997 the SKD left as the SLS and DeSUS entered the coalition. Each of these changes is a minor SOLS change.

Drnovsek governed the country until 2002, with the exception of a short period out of office. This period was in 2000 when the Slovenian People's Party (SLS) joined the Slovenian Christian Democrats (SKD), and they formed a new government in coalition with the SDS, headed by Andrej Bajuk. The Bajuk government would only be in charge until the next elections in 2000, when it was replaced by a new Drnovsek government coalition (LDS/SLS-SKD/ZLSD/DeSUS). The change from Drnovsek to Bajuk is a SOLS change because they belonged to different parties.

In October 2002 Slovenia held new parliamentary elections in which a broad coalition headed by the LDS won. The coalition also included the Slovene People's Party (SLS) and the United List of Social Democrats (ZLSD) (Republic of Slovenia 2010). In November Janez Drnovsek was named again as PM. The return of Drnovsek is a SOLS change. In 2002 Drnovsek was elected as president of Slovenia. His position was filled by Anton Rop, his immediate successor who became the leader of the LDS and seems to have led the same coalition. As such, this change from Drnovsek to Rop is not a SOLS change since they belonged to the same party.

In 2004 the SLS-SKD left the coalition. We code a minor SOLS change on April 2, 2004. There were new elections on October of that year, in which Janez Jansa from the Slovenian Democratic Party (SDS) won the majority and he was appointed as PM. "The Slovenian Democratic Party (SDP), New Slovenia, and the Slovene People's Party formed a centre-right government (SDS/SLS/NS-KLS/DeSUS), headed by the SDP leader Janez Janša (Republic of Slovenia, 2010) This is a SOLS change.

Finally in new elections, held on September 2008, a new coalition headed by the Social Democrats (ZLSD) won and Borut Pahor followed Jansa as PM in November. Pahor led a coalition with Zares, DeSUS and the Liberal Democrats (LDS) (Inter-Parliamentary Union 2010, "Slovene parties sign" 2008).

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