

## Sweden

Rice

In 1919, the Prime Minister of Sweden was Nils Edén, a member of the Liberal Coalition party (LS). He had been in office from 1917, and remained in office until 1920 in coalition with the Sweden Social Democratic Worker's Party (SAP).<sup>1</sup> In 1920 new elections brought Karl Hjalmar Branting, the leader of the Sweden Social Democratic Worker's Party (SAP) to power (SOLS change). During the 1920s and early 1930s, no single party was able to dominate the parliament, and as a result, governments did not last for long periods of time (Kent 2008, 220). Branting, for example, was only in office for seven months, and was replaced by a caretaker government headed by Louis De Geer, an Independent Liberal, in October 1920 (no SOLS change – Scott 1988, 485). De Geer similarly was in office for four months before another caretaker government under Independent Liberal Oscar von Sydow took office in February 1921 (no SOLS change). Von Sydow was succeeded by a new Branting government in October 1921. Because the two non-socialist governments were caretaker governments, no SOLS changes were coded (Sweden.gov 2011; Erixon 2006; Scott 1988) and there is no SOLS change for Branting's return.

Branting's second government lasted for one and a half years, until April 1923, when a National Party (NP) government, led by Ernst Trygger, was able to take power (SOLS change). This government similarly lasted for one and a half years, until Branting was able to create a third government in October 1924 (SOLS change). Branting became seriously ill after taking office, and stepped down in January 1925. He was replaced by one of the top members of the SAP, Rikard Sandler (no SOLS change). Sandler's government lasted until June 1926, when a National Liberal Alliance (FF) government was formed, led by Carl Gustaf Ekman (SOLS change). Ekman's government lasted until October 1928, when it was replaced by an NP government led by Saloman Arvid Lindman (SOLS change). Ekman was able to form a second government in June 1930 (replacing Lindman's—SOLS change), which lasted until August 1932, when he was forced to resign following a controversy regarding political contributions. He was replaced briefly by Felix Hamrin, also of the National Liberal Alliance. Hamrin was in office for a little more than a month, until elections could be held.

The elections of September 1932 brought Per Albin Hansson, the leader of the SAP, to the office of Prime Minister. This began a period of SAP dominance of Parliament. Hansson's first government lasted until June 1936, when he was ousted by a vote of no confidence. Axel Pehrsson-Bramstorp, the leader of the Agrarian Alliance (BF) party, was told by the King to form an interim government (no SOLS change) which governed until September 1936 (Sweden.gov 2011; Nordstrom 2000, 298). Hansson's SAP (SDA) was then voted back into power, and Hansson formed his second government this time in coalition with the BF (minor SOLS change). On December 13, 1939, Hansson created a grand coalition government including four parties—the SDA, the BF, the NP, and the FP (liberal party). Only the communist party and the socialist party were left out. This cabinet ruled until July 31, 1945 (Lewin 1988, Denti 2007) when Hansson formed a purely Social Democratic government (Scobbie 2010: 139, Cook 2014: 557). We code this as a minor SOLS change.

Upon Hansson's death on October 6, 1946, Östen Undén took over the premiership in an acting capacity ("Per Albin Hansson"; Cahoon; Goemans et al. 2005). Undén's premiership

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<sup>1</sup> Starting with Hansson's 1936 government we refer to the SAP as SDA. This is the notation Woldendorp et al. use for the post-45 period for the Swedish social democrats.

lasted only four days because Tage Fritiof Erlander of the SDA took over as PM. We do not code Undén as a leadership change since he only served in an acting capacity for four days, nor do we code the Erlander leadership transition as a major SOLS change since he was of the same party as Hansson.

Erlander would serve as PM for nearly 20 years until retiring from politics in 1969 ("Tage Erlander"). Upon his retirement, Erlander was replaced by Sven Olof Joachim Palme of the SDA on October 14, 1969. We do not code this leadership transition as a major SOLS change since both Erlander and Palme were of the same political party. A few minor SOLS changes occurred during Erlander's tenure. On September 30, 1951, the SDA formed a coalition government with the Bondeförbundare/ Centerpartiet (BF/CP) (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 501). A second minor SOLS change occurred when the BF/CP left the coalition on October 30, 1957. We code minor SOLS changes for both dates.

Thorbjörn Fälldin of the CP party ended the SDA dominance of Swedish politics when he became PM on October 4, 1976 ("Thorbjörn Fälldin"; Cahoon; Goemans et al. 2005). We code a major SOLS change for October 4, 1976 since the predecessor and successor were of two different parties. Fälldin tenure as PM was short lived due to his 1978 resignation (The Columbia Encyclopedia 2008). He was replaced by Ola Ullsten of the Folkpartiet Liberalerna (FP) on October 18, 1978. We code a major SOLS change for this date. Ullsten's premiership was likewise short-lived due to being replaced by Fälldin a year later on October 9, 1979 (Cahoon; Goemans et al. 2005). I code a major SOLS change of 1979 since Falldin and Ullsten were not of the same party.

A minor SOLS change occurred on May 22, 1981 when the coalition made up of the CP, FP, and MUP changed when the MUP left the coalition (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 501). We code a minor SOLS change accordingly.

Former PM Palme returned to the premiership in 1982 when national elections put the SDA party back on top (Álvarez-Rivera 2010; The Columbia Encyclopedia 2008; Cahoon; Goemans et al. 2005). We code a major SOLS change for October 7, 1982 since former and latter PM were of different parties. Palme was assassinated on February 28, 1986 and was replaced by then deputy PM Ingvar Gösta Carlsson also of the SDA ("Palme, Olof"). The Palme/Carlsson leadership change is not coded as a major SOLS change since both men were of the same party (Cahoon; Goemans et al. 2005).

In 1991, Carl Bildt of the Moderata Samlingspartiet (MUP) party became the new PM. We code a major SOLS change for October 30, 1991 since Samlingspetiet and Carlsson were form different political parties. Three years later, Carlsson of the SDA would return to the premiership on December 7, 1994 (Cahoon; The Columbia Encyclopedia 2008; "Göran Persson"). We code a major SOLS change for 1994. Carlsson was replaced by fellow party member Göran Persson on March 21, 1996 but since both me are of the same party, we code no major SOLS change.

Persson served as PM until being replaced by Fredrik Reinfeldt of the Moderate party on October 6, 2006 (Cahoon; Goemans et al. 2005). Since Persson and Reinfeldt were of different political parties, we code a major SOLS change for 2006. Reinfeldt was the last Swedish leadership and SOLS change to occur prior to the end of this projects temporal domain.

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Revised by Naoko Matsumura (Rice) on 03/06/2014

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