

Turkmenistan

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In 1991, like the other former members of the USSR, Turkmenistan became independent. From that point, until the present, it has been a single party-personalist hybrid. Saparmyrat Niyazov, a member of the Turkmen Communist Party (TCP) became the President in 1991, and quickly established himself as an authoritarian ruler. Niyazov changed the name of his party to the Turkmen Democratic Party (TDP) in 1992, and remained the sole ruler until his death in 2006. Elections were then held, but they did not meet international standards, especially considering that the TDP was the only legal party at the time. The winner of the elections was Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, the former Deputy Prime Minister and also a member of the TDP. This is not a SOLS change. He remains in office in the present day.

References

United States Department of State. "Country Background Note: Turkmenistan". Last edited 30 September 2009. <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/35884.htm>

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