

Cyprus

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Cyprus is coded as a democracy from independence in 1960 until 1963 and then again starting in 1968. The country is missing democratic regime type coding based on Cheibub et al before 1983, but Archigos lists the leader as president and Linz and Valenzuela (1994, 93) explain that Cyprus in the early 1960s was “more presidential than parliamentary” and the president was chosen by voters, not the legislature (94). Accordingly, we consider Cyprus a presidential democracy. Archbishop Makarios III, Non-Party, ruled as president in 1960. Cyprus was consociational—“during its first few years of independence was ruled by a directly elected duumvirate (a Greek Cypriot president and a Turkish Cypriot vice president with virtually equal powers).” From 1963 until 1968 the country is considered authoritarian, but Geddes has not provided regime type coding. We also do not assign any particular regime type because Cyprus’ institutions were in flux during these years as a result of the civil war between Greek and Turkish Cypriots. In 1963 Makarios tried to alter the constitution to enhance Greek power and the country is thereafter plunged into a civil war, with Greek Cypriots “under the formal but truncated governmental machinery and the Turks under their vice-president” and some members of the legislature (Lijphart 1977, 159).

In 1964 UN peacekeepers were sent to the island. In 1968 Makarios won elections to remain president. Starting in 1968 the country is once again considered democratic, but is missing democratic regime type coding from Gandhi et al. In 1973 Makarios is reelected once again. In 1974 Greece intervened: “An externally-inspired coup deposed Makarios and installed Nicos Sampson, a right-wing ex-EOKA fighter [National Organization of Cypriot Fighters] generally regarded as a puppet of Athens” (King and Ladbury 1982, 4). The U.S. Department of State (2010) also writes: “In July 1974, the military junta in Athens sponsored a coup led by extremist Greek Cypriots against the government of President Makarios, citing his alleged pro-communist leanings and his perceived abandonment of enosis.” This is a SOLS change. Five days later Turkey intervened militarily and Sampson was ousted. Glafkos Clerides of the Unified Democratic Party (Eniaion) was appointed interim president (Ker-Lindsay and Faustmann 2009, 110). This is not a SOLS change. In December, Makarios returned. This is a SOLS change. In 1977 Makarios died and the then Foreign Minister Spyros Kyprianou of the Democratic Party (DIKO) became president. Kyprianou had been speaker of the House of Representatives (Borowic 2000, 124) and it is not clear that he was closely affiliated with Makarios. Shortly after taking power as a provisional leader, in 1978 and again in 1983, he was reelected to the office (Wolfe 1988, 81). The start of his presidency in 1977 marks a SOLS change. (Starting in 1983, Gandhi et al. code the country as a presidential democracy.)

In 1988 Georgios Vassiliou, Non-Party, defeated Kyprianou in elections and became president (Ker-Lindsay and Faustmann 2009). “Following the breakdown in relations between AKEL and Kyprianou over Kyprianou’s handling of peace talks, AKEL had decided to throw its weight behind Vassilou [...] (Ker-Lindsay and Faustmann 2009, 128). “Vassilou represented a major break with the past. An independent candidate supported by AKEL, he was a political newcomer (Ker-Lindsay and Faustmann 2009, 118). AKEL stands for Progressive Party of the Working People, a communist party. This is a SOLS change. In 1993 Clerides of the Democratic Coalition (DISY) became president. DISY stands for Democratic Coalition and is a conservative

party. Thus, this is a SOLS change. In 2003 Efstathios “Tassos” Papadopoulos, DIKO, became president. This is a SOLS change. In 2008 Dimitris Christofias of the Progressive Party of the Working People (AKEL) became president. This is a SOLS change.

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