Burkina Faso
Rice

Burkina Faso gained its independence from France in August 1960. The first President, Maurice Yameogo, a member of the Democratic Union of Volta, banned opposition political parties soon after taking office, and consolidated his power, making Burkina Faso a personalist state from 1960 until 1966. In 1966, Yameogo was overthrown in a military coup led by Lieutenant Colonel Aboubakar Sangoule Lamizana, resulting in a SOLS change. Lamizana was initially backed solely by the military, but later created the National Movement for Renewal (NMR) to provide a party base. This was not a SOLS change since Geddes codes the country as pure-Personalist regime since 1960 to 1974. Lamizana remained in office, largely in a personalist system, until 1980. However from 1978 to 1979 (contrary to Cheibub et al. 2010) we code his rule as a mixed system democracy according to several sources ("Historical cases"; Nijzink et al. 2013).

In 1980, Lamizana was ousted from power by Colonel Saye Zerbo, beginning a period of military rule. This is a SOLS change. Zerbo came to power with the support of the unions and various civil groups, but was also overthrown in 1982 by Major Dr. Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, who became the Chairman of the Committee of Popular Salvation, indicating a SOLS change. Ouedraogo was only in power for one year until he too was overthrown in 1983 by the Prime Minister, Captain Thomas Sankara. This does not represent a SOLS change. Sankara established a personalist system under the National Revolutionary Committee, and was in power until 1987. The reason that we code a SOLS change with Ouredraogo, but not with Sankara is based on our notion that Sankara was already strong when Ouregraogo was in power. We can consider Ouedraogo to be the end of military regime (GWF code the military regime until 1982, then code the personalist regime until 1987).

In 1987, Sankara was assassinated in a coup orchestrated by Captain Blaise Campaore, who created another personalist system. This is a SOLS change. Campaore remains in power in the present day. He was initially a member of the military and a member of the Marxist Organization for People's Democracy- Worker's Movement (ODP-MT).). In 1991 Compaoré's SOLS changes from Mil/FP to ODP- MT (Organisation pour la Démocratie Populaire-MT). However, this is not a SOLS change because throughout this period, his regime is coded as a pure-personalist regime. In 1996, the ODP-MT abandoned Marxism and changed its name to the Congress for Democracy and Progress (CDP). As Burkina Faso has a personalist system throughout this, the party affiliation of the leader is almost irrelevant. Campaore has won reelection three times, in 1991, 1998, and 2005. In 1998, the election results were contested, but Campaore emerged the victor. In 2005, the elections were deemed free and fair, but the dominance of the CDP means that it is difficult for smaller parties to win support.

In October 2014, President Compaore resigned as people protested his plans to extend his rule (Smith 2014a). According to the constitution, the head of the National Assembly should have taken over as acting president, but General Traoré, head of the armed forces, dissolved the parliament and initially declared himself in charge of the country (DW 2014b). Protesters were not assuaged, claiming Traoré was too close to Compaore (Flynn 2014). Lieutenant Colonel Zida, an officer in the presidential guard, countered his claim, declaring himself in charge (Smith

2014a; Flynn 2014). Senior military officials agreed to support Zida as leader of the transition period and Traoré conceded, signing a statement issued by military chiefs supporting Zida (Smith 2014b; DW 2014a). The military stated the conflicting claims for power were due to confusion and allegedly Traoré and Zida had been meeting since Zida took power (EFE 2014). The African Union pressured Zida to turn power over to a civilian leader, and in November 2014 Kafando was named interim president (Farge 2014). The millitary coup held power for less than 30 days, so the coup is coded as a 30-day SOLS change. We code the 30-day SOLS change as occurring in the transition from Compaore to Traoré and we do not code a SOLS change between Traoré and Zida. This coding takes the rival claims of Traoré and Zida to be due more to confusion than rival military factions or two separate coups. The transition from Zida to Kafando is not coded as a SOLS change because Kafando was an interim leader.

In 2015, the presidential guard launched a coup against the transitional government fueled by their dissatisfaction with electoral rules in the upcoming elections that blocked members of Compaore's former party from running (Stanglin 2015). General Gilbert Diendéré was named head of the country, though Diendéré is not coded as an effective leader in Archigos so is not included in the dataset. As a result, there is no SOLS change. Popular unrest resulted in a reinstating of the transitional government after the military backed the transitional government and people, forcing presidential guard to step down (Eizenga 2015a).

Roch Marc Christian Kaboré was elected president in the 2015 elections (Eizenga 2015b). In 2015, Burkina Faso became a democracy, so we look at the political affiliation to determine whether a SOLS change occurred. Kafando is considered an interim leader, so his affiliation is not considered in determining whether a SOLS change occurred in 2015. The leader prior to the interim was Lieutenant Colonel Zida, leader of the military coup. Kaboré, a former member of Compaore's party (CDP), had resigned prior to Compaore's resignation, formed new political party (MPP). Because Kaboré was not a military officer and had a political affiliation not connected to the military, we code a SOLS change. MPP should be considered a splinter party from CDP. The policies of the two parties are very similar, but CDP also had a candidate in the presidential election (Eizenga 2015b).

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