Philippines
Rice

After the end of World War II, the Philippines, which previously had been a commonwealth of the United States, gained their independence (on July 4, 1947). The first president was Manuel Roxas y Acuña, a member of the Partido Liberal (Liberal Party, PL). He was in office until his sudden death in 1948. He was then replaced by his Vice President, Elpidio Quireno y Rivera. This is not a SOLS change. Quireno was reelected in 1949, but lost the elections of 1953 to Ramon Magsaysay y del Fierro, a member of the opposition Partido Nacionalista (PN) This is a SOLS change. Magsaysay was then killed in a plane crash in 1957, and the presidency was assumed by his Vice President, Carlos Garcia. This is not a SOLS change. Garcia was then reelected in the elections that were scheduled later that same year.

Garcia lost the 1961 Presidential elections to Diosdado Macapagal of PL. This is a SOLS change. President Macapagal was subsequently succeeded by Nationalist Party (PN) candidate Marcos who came to power on December 30, 1965 through democratic elections (US Library of Congress 2010). Marcos encountered opposition when pushing for a third term as president even though the constitution did not allow for it. Moreover, a decrease in popularity that would have likely led him to lose elections, due to domestic troubles with the economy and a communist insurgency, led President Marcos to prolong his power through illegitimate means and as such his rule as the democratically elected president of the Philippines ends in 1968 (Guillermo 2012). Following bombings and attacks, likely perpetrated by pro-Marcos provocateurs, Marcos suspended habeas corpus and later declared martial law in what was effectively an autogolpe (US Library of Congress 2010). We code a SOLS change when Marcos came to office but we do not code a SOLS change in 1972 when Geddes codes the start date of Marcos' personalist regime. Note also that Cheibub et al (2010) code the Philippines as non- democratic from 1965 to 1985 and thus ignore this brief democratic period. Marcos was 'reelected' for a six-year term in an election held in 1981, under his personalist party known as the KBL (New Society Movement, created in 1978). Martial law was lifted in January 1981, but Marcos remained in power and civil liberties were still suppressed.

In 1983, opposition leader Benigno Aquino returned to the Philippines after a long period in exile. Upon exiting the aircraft that transported him to the Philippines, he was assassinated, setting off large-scale discontent to the Marcos regime. The opposition gathered to support Aquino's wife, Corazon, as snap elections were called in 1986. The election results showed a victory for Marcos once again, but international observers declared the results to be influenced by widespread fraud. After the "People Power Revolution", during which there were widespread nonviolent civilian and military demonstrations against Marcos, he fled the country, conceding the presidency to Corazon Aquino, a member of the UNIDO (National Democratic Organization) Party. This is a SOLS change. From that point until the present day, the Philippines has remained a democracy.

Aquino drafted a new constitution, but chose not to run for reelection in 1992. The next president was Fidel Valdez Ramos, a member of the LEN-NUCD party (People's Power/ National Union of Christian Democrats/ United Muslim Democratic Party). This is a SOLS change. He began a period of "national reconciliation", during which he legalized the

Communist party and reached out to rebel groups (United States Department of State 2010). In the 1998 Presidential elections, former movie actor Joseph Estrada, a member of the LMP (Struggle of the Philippine Masses) party was elected as President. This is a SOLS change. Estrada was in office until impeachment proceedings were brought against him (on allegations of corruption) in 2001. Estrada then stepped down and was replaced by his Vice- President, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. In the Philippines, the Vice-President is elected separately from the President. Macapagal-Arroyo was a member of the LE-NUCD-UMDP party (the new name for the former LEN-NUCD), so her assumption of office is a SOLS change. Arroyo was reelected in 2004.

In 2009, Lakas-CMD and Kampi merged, under the direction of president Maria Gloria Macaraeg Macapagal-Arroyo, to form Lakas-Kampi-CMD (Fonbuena 2009). As a result, Macapagal-Arroyo's affiliation changes from Lakas-CMD to Lakas-Kampi-CMD in 2009. This is a minor SOLS change.

The merged party, Lakas-Kampi-CMD, was expected to have a strong showing in the 2010 elections, but was hindered by internal divisions (Lansford 2015).
The Lakas-Kampi-CMD presidential candidate, Gilbert Teodoro did not do well in the elections and Benigno Simeon Cojuangco Aquino III from the PL party won the election (Lansford 2015). The Philippines is a democracy so the transition from Macapagal-Arroyo to Aquino is coded as a SOLS change due to their different political affiliations.

CHISOLS version 4 lists Macapagal-Arroyo's affiliation as LEN-UCD-UMDP from 2001 to 2008 and lists Fidel Valdez Ramos's affiliation as LEN-NUCD. Sources that describe political parties in the Philippines no longer use LEN to abbreviate the People's Power Party (Partido Lakas ng Tao) and instead use Lakas (Lansford 2015). As a result, we have updated Ramos's affiliation as Lakas-NUCD. Macapagal-Arroyo's affiliation is changed to Lakas-NUCD-UMDP from 2001-2002. In 2002, Macapagal-Arroyo proposed a new consolidated name Lakas ng Tao -Christian Muslim Democrats (Lakas ng Tao– Demokratikong Kristiyano at Muslim), abbreviated as Lakas-CMD (Lansford 2015). Macapagal-Arroyo's affiliation changes in 2002 to Lakas-CMD and stays this way until 2009. This change of affiliation in 2002 is not coded as a minor SOLS change because the change was not a result of fundamental changes in the party; the political party merely decided to consolidate its name.

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