Egypt
Rice

By 1945, Egypt had escaped Ottoman control and was ruled by the Muhammad ‘Ali dynasty, which began rule in the early 1800s. Farouk I, the last king of said dynasty, was forced to abdicate by revolutionary forces under the leadership of Muhammad Naguib (mil/LR – Liberation Rally) in 1952 (SOLS change).

Over the course of a year, the military leaders of the coup that had forced the abdication of Farouk I essentially battled each other for power through subtle political maneuvering. Finally, in June of 1953, Egypt was proclaimed a republic, the monarchy formally abolished, and Major General Muhammad Naguib became the president (among other positions).

Naguib was essentially in conflict and competition with Lieutenant Colonel Gamal Abdul Nasser, another chief leader of the revolutionary group of young officers that planned the coup against Farouk I. This rivalry came to a breaking point when, in 1954, a member of the Muslim Brotherhood tried to assassinate Nasser. Naguib was (questionably) implicated in the attack, and Nasser removed him from the presidency and took power himself. Since Nasser found support in virtually the same groups, no SOLS change was coded.

Nasser was also affiliated with the Liberation Rally, According to the Library of Congress, “the Liberation Rally headed by Nasser was launched to serve as an organization for the mobilization of popular support for the new government.” (US Department of State). In 1956, the Liberation Rally transformed into the National Union. According to Deeb (1991, 641), Nasser frequently changed his political allegiance. Nasser’s SOLS changing twice, from military/LR to National Union in 1956 and from National Union to Arab Socialist Union in 1962.[1] However, because the regime is a triple hybrid, these changes are not coded as SOLS changes. In 1970, Nasser died of a heart attack, and his successor and vice president Anwar Sadat took over the Egyptian government. In 1978 Sadat’s SOLS changed from ASU to HDW (Hizb al Dimuqratiyah al Wataniyah), this was not a SOLS change. Sadat was assassinated in 1981, and his vice president Hosni Mubarak in turn took power. Between Sadat and Mubarak, the party listed on World Statesmen again shifted from the Arab Socialist Union to the National Democratic Party in 1978; however, for the same reason stated above, this was not a SOLS change.

In February 2011, Muhammad Hosni Mubarak resigned after protests (Ahmed et al. 2011). He handed power to the military and Military Field Marshal Muhammad Hussein Tantawi Sulaiman served as the de facto leader of the caretaker government (Otterman 2011). Egypt is a nondemocracy throughout this period. We do not consider this a military coup as Mubarak chose to hand power over to the military. Instead, we consider the military led government an interim government that was intended to oversee elections and create a new constitution (Shadid 2011). We acknowledge that the military was slower than expected to hold elections and there were concerns that the military would attempt to stay in power (Wedeman & Greene 2012). However,

[1] Note that sources are contradictory on whether the NU was formed in 1956 or 1957. Hassan and Flower (p.205) say 1956, while worldstatesmen and Jankowski (p.123) say 1957.

the military was in power less than 18 months and was considered a interim government. As such, we do not code a SOLS change.

Muhammad Morsi Isa al-Ayyat, member of Muslim Brotherhood and candidate for the Freedom and Justice Party (FJP) established by the Muslim Brotherhood, was elected president in 2012 (The Guardian 2012). The transition from Tantawi to Morsi is coded as a SOLS change because Morsi was not the predesignated successor of Mubarak, the leader prior to the interim. In 2013, Morsi was overthrown in a military coup (Fontevecchia 2013). Adli Muhammad Mansour, the Constitutional Court chief, was sworn in as interim president following the coup in order to oversee elections (Karimi 2013). Former military Chief Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, who led the coup against Morsi, was elected president (BBC News 2014). The transition from Morsi to Mansour is not coded as SOLS change because Mansour an interim leader. We do code a SOLS change between Mansour and al-Sisi because al-Sisi led the coup against Morsi, the previous non-interim leader, so was not a predesignated successor and had a different source of support.

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