Guinea
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Guinea is coded as a non-democracy throughout the observation period. Guinea is coded as a single-party authoritarian system from independence in 1958 until 1984, during which time the country is ruled by its first president, Ahmed Sékou Touré of the Parti Démocratique de Guinée- Ahmed Sekou Touré (PDG). In 1984 Touré died and was replaced by Louis Lansana Beavogui, also of the PDG and PM at the time. Since he was also of the PDG and Touré's pre-designated successor (See O'Toole and Baker 2005, 28; Bienen and Van de Walle 1991, 1; and Helpman 2008, 507), we code no SOLS change here. A week after Beavogui assumes the presidency, there was a bloodless military coup (Ford 2004, 50) led by Lansana Conté, a military figure, who took power. This is a SOLS change. Starting in 1984, the country is classified as a personalist authoritarian system and remains so through 2008. "Pressured by international donors, [Conté] dissolved the military junta and embarked on a programme of political and economic reforms in 1991" (Sawyer 2004, 441). Accordingly, in 1991, in our frame Conté's SOLS changes from "Mil" to "PUP," Parti de l'Unité et du Progrès. But this change does not represent a SOLS change because Geddes codes his regime as a pure-personalist regime throughout his tenure until 2008. Conté becomes sick with leukemia in 2003 and conditions in the country deteriorate over the decade (inflation, division within the military) with riots in 2006 and a general strike in 2007. Conté dies in 2008 and is replaced by an interim leader Somparé, National Assembly Speaker, also of PUP (worldstatesmen.org), though there are questions whether Somparé was ever in power. (Some sources do not even mention him holding power for a day. See McGovern 2009, 106, for example.) In any event, the following day there is a military coup and Camara, a military figure, takes over the presidency. This is a SOLS change.

Camara was later indicted for his role in a 2009 massacre in which more than 150 protesters were killed (BBC News 2015). He was shot by his military aide in December 2009 and left the country to recover. Sékouba Konaté took over as interim leader (News Wires 2009). In January 2010, the military agreed to a transitional government to organize elections with Konaté as leader of the transitional government. Camara agreed to remain outside the country (Stearns 2010). In November 2010, Alpha Condé was elected president (Andre 2010). Guinea is a non-democracy during this period. Konaté is considered an interim leader, so the transition from Camara to Konaté is not coded as a SOLS change. The transition from Konaté to Conde is coded as a SOLS change because Conde had a different source of support than Camara and was not Camara's designated successor.

Ethnicity very important in Guinea. Conde has considered ethnicity in factionalized military regarding political and military appointments, especially to presidential guard. There has been some suppression of the opposition, as well as talks of eliminating term limits. Accordingly, we code Guinea as a personalist regime under Conde.

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Coded by Anna Carella June 24, 2010
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