

Botswana
Vanderbilt

Botswana is coded as a democracy from independence in 1966 until 2008. It is interesting to note that Geddes (1999) coded the country as a single-party authoritarian regime for the same period and Cheibub et al. (2009) do not provided democratic regime type coding for Botswana. Following our coding rules however we treat this as a parliamentary democracy, despite the effective leader being called a president (for details on this arrangement see U.S. Department of State 2010; van Cranenburgh 2013; Nijzink et al. 2013).

Seretse Khama of the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) ruled as the country's first president. There is no SOLS change at independence. In 1980 Khama died while in office and was succeeded by his vice president Quett Ketumile Joni Masire, also of the BDP, who went on to win the next elections. This is not a SOLS change since they had the same party affiliations. Masire retired in 1998 and was succeeded by his Vice President Festus Gontebanye Mogae, also of the BDP, who went on to win regular elections. This is not a SOLS change. In 2008 Mogae stepped down. His Vice President Seretse Khama Ian Khama, also of the BDP, ran in the subsequent elections and won. Even though there is a leadership change, this is not a SOLS change as the SOLS remains BDP. The country is coded as a democracy with a single-party regime There are no SOLS changes for the entire duration of the observation period given that all leaders had the same party affiliation.

References:

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