

Madagascar

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Madagascar is coded as a non-democracy from independence in 1960 until 1992. Geddes codes Madagascar as a single-party authoritarian regime from independence in 1960 until 1972. Madagascar's first President, Philibert Tsiranana of the Parti Social Démocratique du Madagascar (PSD), ruled during this period. In 1972 he resigned in response to antigovernment sentiment. Gabriel Ramanantsoa, Mil, took power. This is a SOLS change since Ramanantsoa relied on the military rather than the PSD for support. From 1972 to 1975 the country is coded as a military regime. In 1975, as a result of heavy protests against his regime, Ramanantsoa stepped down and handed power over to Lt. Col. Richard Ratsimandrava, his interior minister. Ratsimandrava himself was killed only a few days later and a provisional military government under Andriamahazo was put in place (Department of State, 2009). Neither leadership change is coded as SOLS change. Ratsimandrava could be considered a pre-designated successor since he was Ramanantsoa's interior minister and Ramanantsoa handed power over to him. Andriamahazo is also probably best considered a pre-designated successor since he was a former minister for Ramanantsoa (See Jessup 1998, 25; Crowder 1984, 684; Dahl 1999, 23; and International Business Publications 2006, 161). In any case, like Ramanantsoa and Ratsimandrava, Andriamahazo were also military so we do not code a SOLS change here.

There is, however, a leadership change later that year when a new regular government was formed with Didier Ratsiraka of the Front National pour la Défense de la Révolution/Andry sy Riana Enti-Manavotra an'i Madagasikara (FNDR/AREMA) ruling as president. This is a SOLS change since, while Ratsiraka is initially appointed by the military directorate, he establishes his own support basis. From 1975 until 1992 the country is coded as a personalist regime under Ratsiraka. Under pressure, Ratsiraka moved the country toward democracy. In 1991, Ratsiraka was stripped of his powers and an interim government was set up to prepare for elections in 18 months (U.S. Department of State 2009). However, following Archigos, we continue coding Ratsiraka as the effective ruler until 1993. In 1992 Albert Zafy of the Union Nationale pour le Développement et la Démocratie (UNDD) defeated Ratsiraka in a democratic election and became president. This is a SOLS change since it constitutes the end of Ratsiraka's personalist regime. From 1992 until 2008 the country can be considered a mixed presidential-parliamentary democracy. (Cheibub et. al. (2009) did not provide democratic regime type coding for the year 1992, but provided coding for subsequent years.) Zafy was impeached in 1996 and temporarily replaced by Norbert Lala Ratsirahonana (acting) of the Asa Vita no Ifampitsarana (AVI) party (U.S. Department of State 2009; Cahoon 2010). This is not a SOLS change. In 1997 Ratsiraka (AREMA) won the presidential elections to once again to become president. This is a SOLS change since Ratsiraka relied on a different party than the last regular leader, Zafy. In 2001, Ratsiraka ran against Marc Ravalomanana of the Tiako i Madagasikara (TIM) party. Both candidates claimed to have won. After a bout of political violence, in 2002 Ratsiraka went into exile in France and Ravalomanana became president. This is a SOLS change. He ruled through 2008.

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