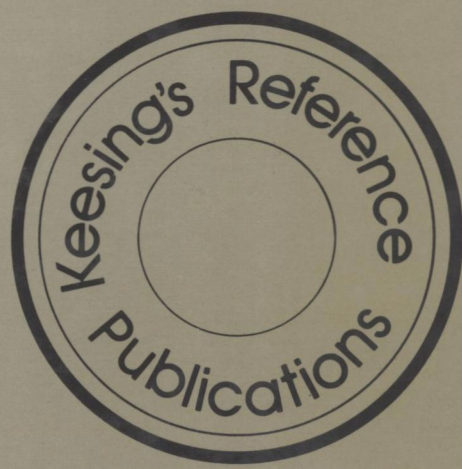


POLITICAL PARTIES OF THE WORLD

Second edition

**Compiled and edited by
Alan J. Day and
Henry W. Degenhardt**



POLITICAL PARTIES OF THE WORLD

2nd edition

A Keesing's Reference Publication

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and

Henry W. Degenhardt

POLITICAL PARTIES OF THE WORLD
2nd edition

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**POLITICAL PARTIES
OF THE WORLD**

Introduction

In our introduction to the first edition of *Political Parties of the World* (published in 1980) we expressed the hope that the book would fill a perceived gap “by presenting within a single volume concise factual data on all of the world’s active political parties, placed within the context of the prevailing constitutional situation in the particular country or territory”. The intention was then, and is now with the second edition, “to contribute to a greater understanding of the phenomenon of political parties, which over recent decades has become virtually world-wide”.

Between 1980 and mid-1984 (when the present volume went to press), many foreseeable and unforeseeable changes have taken place, not only in the addresses and leaderships of political parties but also, in some instances, in their orientation. Moreover, a substantial number of new parties have been formed, while quite a few listed in the 1980 volume have since become defunct. In countries with Western-type democracies many parties in power in 1980 are now in opposition, and vice versa. A number of countries—notably Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Suriname and Upper Volta—have undergone coups involving the suspension or banning of all parties. On the other hand, some countries in which parties were outlawed in 1980 have since reverted to a pluralist system of government.

In the new edition we have attempted to chart all these various types of change as well as to update the continually shifting pattern of inter-party alliances which is such an important feature of the political life of many countries. We have also sought, in the introductory sections for each country or territory, to give greater precision to descriptions of electoral arrangements, in particular by indicating whether state financial support is available to political parties. Attention has also been given to descriptions of voting systems with a view to defining whether a particular country has a system of proportional representation or one based on the simple-majority principle.

As regards the problem of defining what is a political party (as opposed to a pressure group or a protest movement), we have continued to accept self-definition as a political party as the basic criterion for inclusion, finding in practice that this usually means that the particular organization is seeking to obtain direct political power over the process of government. As in the first edition, illegal parties have as a general rule not been included: for descriptions of these the reader is referred to the companion volume published in the Keesing’s Reference Publications series in 1983 under the title *Political Dissent: An International Guide to Dissident, Extra-Parliamentary, Guerrilla and Illegal Political Movements*. As an exception to this rule, however, the present volume includes entries for officially unrecognized parties where the regime concerned has acknowledged the fact of their existence (e.g. in Bangladesh, Chile and Pakistan).

Information sources for the second edition have included data sent by the parties themselves, although as with the first edition the editors are themselves entirely responsible for the way and the extent to which such material has been used. Extensive use has again been made of the editorial resources of *Keesing’s*

POLITICAL PARTIES OF THE WORLD

Contemporary Archives, to whose staff the editors are indebted for assistance of various kinds. Particular thanks are due to Ciarán Ó Maoláin for his major contribution to the Irish sections, as well as to those for the Caribbean and Pacific states; to Rasmus Jakobsen for his detailed guidance on Danish political parties; and to Carlos Parra for his help with the section on Chile.

Harlow/Bath
June 1984

AJD
HWD

Abbreviations used

ch.	chairman	l.	leader
comm.	committee	nat.	national
est.	estimated	parl.	parliamentary
exec.	executive	pres.	president
dir.	director	s.g.	secretary-general
fed.	federal	sec.	secretary
g.s.	general secretary		

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Afghanistan

Capital: Kabul

Pop. 16,000,000

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was set up on April 27, 1978, by a Revolutionary Council which established a Government dominated by the (communist) People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) which effectively became the country's sole legal political party. Afghanistan has no parliament. Following massive Soviet intervention from December 1979 onwards, a provisional Constitution (known as the Basic Principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan) was ratified by the PDPA on April 13, 1980, and by the Revolutionary Council on the following day. It laid down inter alia that Afghanistan would proceed "from backwardness to social, economic and cultural progress under the leadership of the PDPA"; that "the sacred and true religion of Islam" would be protected; and that the "traditional friendship and co-operation with the USSR" would be strengthened and broadened. It also provided that a Grand National Assembly or Supreme Council (*Loya Jirga*) would be the highest organ of state power but that pending its election by free and direct vote the Revolutionary Council would hold supreme power.

A National Fatherland Front, a broad alliance of political parties, mass organizations and tribal bodies, formed at a congress on June 15, 1981, with the object of promoting national unity, was to be under the guidance of the PDPA and to have a national congress meeting at least once every five years. This Front was, however, in late 1981 reported to have failed because of dissension between its two factions—the dominant *Parcham* (Flag) faction and the larger but less influential *Khalq* (People) faction.

People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA, or *Khalq*)

Leadership. President Babrak Karmal (s.g.): Anahita Ratebzad, Soltan Ali Keshtmand, Dr Saleh Mohammed Ziray, Ghulam Dastagir Panjshiri, Nur Ahmed Nur, Maj.-Gen. Mohammed Rafi, Lt.-Col. Mohammed Aslam Watanyar, Mohammed Najibollah (other members of politburo)

Founded. 1965

History. The party was founded as an illegal organization by Nur Mohammed Taraki. In 1966 it was divided into two wings—the *Khalq* (People's) group led by Taraki and the *Parcham* (Flag) group led by Babrak Karmal. The *Khalq* group advocated the overthrow of the monarchy as a first step to socialism; after this overthrow had been carried out by left-wing officers in 1973 the group refused to abide by a Soviet directive to give wholehearted support to the regime of President

Daud (whereas the *Parcham* group co-operated with that regime). In July 1977 the two groups were reunited in the *Khalq* Party under Taraki's leadership with a view to building a Communist mass party.

The party came to power with the overthrow of President Daud by a Revolutionary Council in April 1978, when Taraki became Prime Minister and Babrak Karmal (known as a pro-Moscow hardliner) one of three Deputy Prime Ministers. The latter was, however, dismissed in July 1978 from his posts of Vice-President of the Revolutionary Council and of Deputy Prime Minister. In March 1979 Taraki surrendered the premiership to Hafizullah Amin (until then a Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs), and in September 1979 the latter replaced Taraki as President of the Republic and party leader. It was later revealed that Taraki had been killed in the takeover. It appeared that Hafizullah Amin did not enjoy Soviet

support (as Taraki had), and in late December 1979 a further change of regime occurred when Soviet troops entered the country and brought about the installation of Babrak Karmal as head of state and PDPA leader.

In subsequent years it was reported that disputes had continued between *Khalq* and *Parcham* supporters, and that the *Parcham* faction was dominating the National Fatherland Front.

Orientation. The PDPA is an orthodox Marxist-Leninist formation.

Structure. The party has a central committee, a politburo and a central committee secretariat.

Membership. 10,000 (est.)

Publications. *Haqiqat Enqelab Saur*

International affiliations. The PDPA is recognized by the Soviet-bloc Communist parties.

Albania

Capital: Tirana

Pop. 2,770,000

The Socialist People's Republic of Albania is, under its Constitution unanimously approved by the People's Assembly on Dec. 27, 1976, "the state of the dictatorship of the proletariat", exercised in effect by the Albanian Party of Labour, which is "the sole directing political power in state and society". The supreme legislative body is the (unicameral) People's Assembly of 250 members, elected once every four years, on a single list of candidates nominated by the Democratic Front (mass organization) and approved by universal suffrage of all citizens over the age of 18 years.

Elections to the Assembly held on Nov. 14, 1982, were officially stated to have resulted in an effective 100 per cent poll (with only one vote against and eight invalid).

Party of Labour of Albania (PLA)
Partia e Punës e Shqipërisë (PPS)

Address. Tirana, Albania

Leadership. Enver Hoxha (first sec. of central committee); Ramiz Alia, Muho Asllani, Adil Çarçani, Hajredin Celiku, Lenka Çuko, Hekuran Isai, Rita Marko, Pali Miska, Manush Myftiu, Simon Stefani (politburo members)

Founded. November 1941

History. During World War II the Albanian Communist Party took part in the resistance offered to the Italian occupiers by the National Liberation Front which in 1943, after certain anti-Communist elements had left it, became the Democratic Front under the leadership of Gen. Enver Hoxha, who proclaimed Albania's liberation from the Axis Powers on Nov. 29, 1944, and formed a provisional Government. In elections to a Constituent Assembly, held on Dec. 2, 1945, the Democratic Front obtained, according to official results, 93.18 per cent of the votes cast. The Assembly on Jan. 11, 1946,

proclaimed Albania a republic in which the Communist Party became the only authorized political organization. It changed its name to Albanian Party of Labour in November 1948.

The party, under Enver Hoxha's leadership, has maintained the Marxist concept of the class struggle as the basic criterion of the current international political situation and has opposed what it regarded as "revisionism", i.e. the 1948 Yugoslav break with the Soviet Union under Stalin and Khrushchev's alleged "abandonment of Marxism-Leninism", which Albania first attacked in 1961. As the country's ruling party, the PLA has embarked on a programme of "wiping out the economic base of feudalism and capitalism" in order "to build the economic base of socialism, to liquidate the economic and cultural backwardness left over from the past and to set up a developed multi-branch economy with modern industry and mechanized agriculture".

Orientation. As a Communist party based on Marxism-Leninism Mao Zedong

ALGERIA

thought, the party opposes all "revisionism"—the Yugoslav model, Soviet "social-imperialism" and China's "three-world" theory—and it propagates reliance on its own strength in building a socialist and communist society.

Structure. The party has a central committee of 77 full and 38 alternate members, a politburo, a six-member secretariat and a 21-member control and audit commission. Party congresses are held

once every five years, when office-bearers are elected.

Membership. 122,600 members and 24,363 candidate members (November 1981)

Publications. *Zeri i Popullit* (daily organ), 105,500; *Rruga e Partisë* (monthly theoretical organ) 17,750

International affiliations. The PLA has links with revolutionary Marxist-Leninist parties in other countries.

Algeria

Capital: Algiers (El Djezaïr)

Pop. 20,000,000

The Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria is, under its 1976 Constitution, a one-party state in which the ruling party is the National Liberation Front (FLN). There are an executive President (nominated by the FLN and elected, and re-eligible, for a five-year term by universal adult suffrage), a Cabinet headed by a Prime Minister, and a 281-member National People's Assembly elected by universal adult suffrage, also for five years, on a sole list of the FLN. In elections held on March 5, 1982, when three candidates were nominated for each seat, 136 sitting deputies sought re-election but only 68 of them were successful.

National Liberation Front Front de Libération Nationale (FLN)

Address. Place Emir Abdelkader, Algiers, Algeria

Leadership. President Benjedid Chadli (s.g.); Mohammed Cherif Messadia (head of secretariat); Rabah Bitat, Col. Abdallah Belhouchet, Boualem Ben Hamouda, Col. Mohammed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, Dr Taleb Ibrahimi, Boualem Baki, Mohammed Hadj Yalla (other members of political bureau)

Founded. November 1954

History. The party was established in Cairo under the leadership of Mohammed Ben Bella to conduct the war of independence from French rule. After the achievement of independence by Algeria in 1962 the FLN suffered internal factional strife from which Ben Bella emerged victorious, becoming Prime Minister in September 1962 and President in April 1963; however, Ben Bella was himself deposed in June 1965 by Col. Houari Boumedienne, who held the party and government leadership until his death in December 1978. The FLN was reorganized and received a new statute at its 4th congress in January 1979, at which

Benjedid Chadli was elected secretary-general of the party and selected as the sole candidate for the presidential election held the following month. In January 1984 President Benjedid Chadli was re-elected unopposed for a second five-year term.

Orientation. The FLN is a socialist party, advocating the maintenance of Islam as the country's religion, non-alignment and pan-Arabism. Under the 1976 Constitution the FLN constitutes "the vanguard, leadership and organization of the people with the aim of building socialism" and "the decisive responsibilities in the state are held by members of the party's leadership".

Structure. The party is based on the principles of democratic centralism and collective leadership. It has cells in town quarters and villages, divisions in municipalities, and federations in provinces. Its highest organ is the congress, which elects a central committee of 120-160 permanent members and 30-40 additional members elected for five years. The FLN congress also nominates the candidate for presidential elections. The central committee elects a political bureau of 17-20 members for a five-year term.

Publications. *Al-Chaab*, 50,000

Andorra

Capital: Andorra la Vella

Pop. 43,000

Joint suzerainty over the co-principality of Andorra (where loose party groupings operate within a parliamentary system) is held by the President of the French Republic and the Bishop of Urgel (in Spain), who both have local representatives in Andorra. The Andorran General Council (Parliament) has 28 members, the franchise being held by Andorran citizens over 21 (but over 28 for first-generation Andorrans). The total registered electorate in December 1981 was only 3,648.

It was not until 1981 that agreement was reached on the establishment of an Executive Council (Government), to be appointed by the elected General Council. Political parties are not officially admitted under Andorran law but the Democratic Party of Andorra (DPA) has nevertheless been formed. After elections held on Dec. 9, 1981, it was reported that the Conservatives had lost their majority on the General Council; about 74.5 per cent of the electorate took part in the vote, but of these 17.4 per cent cast blank votes. The country's first Executive Council was formed on Jan. 15, 1982, under the leadership of the First Syndic-General who described himself as a "liberal nationalist".

In a popular consultation held on May 28, 1982, 42.2 per cent of the voters opted for a new system of proportional representation at both national and parish level, 31.9 per cent voted in favour of maintaining the existing majority vote system and 23.4 per cent in favour of a mixed system of majority vote at national level and proportional representation at parish level. The abstention rate was 48.1 per cent. The two largest of the seven parishes, with 51 per cent of the electorate, voted for a fully proportional system.

Andorran Democratic Party Partit Democràtic d'Andorra (PDA)

Address. Andorra la Vella, Andorra

Founded. October 1979

History. The PDA was constituted as a political party after the dissolution of the Andorran Democratic Association (*Agrupament Democràtic d'Andorra*, ADA) founded in 1976 as a merger of the "Democracy and Progress" group and moderates. The PDA did not participate as such in the elections of Dec. 9, 1981, and called on voters to cast blank ballot papers.

Orientation. The PDA is a democratic and nationalist party which has accepted Andorra's form of state as a co-principality but has called for a state structure in which the legislative, executive and judiciary powers are separate and where there is "a system of representative and pluralist parliamentary democracy", as well

as for the preservation of Andorra's historic traditions.

Conservative Group

Address. Andorra la Vella, Andorra

History. Conservatives, holding a majority of seats in the General Council and representing mainly the older generation of Andorran citizens, had until 1978 traditionally held the post of Syndic-General (chief executive of the Government). However, after retaining only half the seats in the Council as a result of partial elections held in 1977, a councillor for a newly-established parish was, as an independent, elected Syndic-General in December 1978.

Orientation. Most of the Conservatives have been opposed to constitutional reforms (including those proposed by the PDA).

Angola

Capital: Luanda

Pop. 7,200,000

The People's Democratic Republic of Angola is a one-party state, its sole legal party being the (Marxist-Leninist) Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola—Party of Labour (MPLA-PT). This party is responsible for the political, economic and social leadership of the nation, and its chairman is also President of the Republic. The supreme state body is a National People's Assembly elected every three years by colleges composed of representatives chosen by all "loyal" citizens over 18 years old. There is a Government presided over by the head of state. The 206-member National People's Assembly was first elected in the latter half of 1980 and installed on Nov. 11 of that year.

Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola—Party of Labour
Movimento Popular de Libertação de Angola,
Partido do Trabalho (MPLA-PT)

Leadership. José Eduardo dos Santos (ch. and sec. for cadres); Lucio Lara (sec. for organization); Roberto António de Almeida (sec. for ideology, information and culture); Julio Mateus Paulo (Dino Matross) (sec. for defence and security); Henrique de Carvalho Santos Onambwe (sec. for state and judicial bodies); (Mrs) Maria Mambo Cafe (sec. for economic and social affairs); Santana André Pitra (sec. for production); Afonso van-Duném (Mbinda) (sec. for foreign relations); António Jacinto (director of secretariat)

Founded. Originally in 1956; December 1977 as MPLA-PT

History. The MPLA had been one of three national liberation movements fighting for Angola's independence from Portuguese rule. On Nov. 11, 1975, the People's Republic of Angola was proclaimed in Luanda under MPLA auspices, while the two other liberation movements—the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA)—jointly announced on Nov. 23, 1975, the formation of a rival Democratic People's Republic of Angola, based on Huambo (formerly Nova Lisboa); however, this "state" received no

international recognition and the MPLA, with Cuban military support, subsequently gained control of most of Angola's territory.

At its first congress held in Luanda in December 1977 the MPLA restructured itself into a Marxist-Leninist party, the MPLA-PT, as a "vanguard of the proletariat" uniting workers, peasants and the "revolutionary intelligentsia" to be "guided by the principles of scientific socialism" with the aim of building "a new society free from the exploitation of man by man". On Sept. 20, 1979, the MPLA-PT central committee unanimously elected José Eduardo dos Santos as party chairman and President of Angola in succession to Dr António Agostinho Neto, who had died on Sept. 10 after having held the party leadership since 1962 and the presidency of the country since independence.

Orientation. The MPLA-PT is Marxist-Leninist, with the aim of the "consolidation of national unity" without "any tribal, regional or racial compromise"; the party is "non-aligned" in international relations.

Structure. Structured according to territorial and productive criteria at the base, the party has a 75-member central committee, a 14-member political bureau and a nine-member secretariat, as well as a central control commission.

Membership. 31,000

Antigua and Barbuda

Capital: St John's

Pop. 77,000

The islands of Antigua and Barbuda (and their uninhabited dependency of Redonda) are an independent state within the Commonwealth with the British sovereign as head of state (represented by a Governor-General). It has a bicameral Parliament consisting of a 17-member House of Representatives elected for up to five years by universal adult suffrage and a 17-member Senate, 11 members of which are appointed on the advice of the Prime Minister, four on that of the Leader of the Opposition, one at the discretion of the Governor-General and one on that of the Barbuda Council. A Cabinet, with a Prime Minister appointed by the Governor-General and ministers appointed on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, is responsible to the House of Representatives.

In elections to the House held on April 17, 1984, the Antigua Labour Party won all 16 Antigua seats, while the single Barbuda seat was retained by an independent candidate.

Antigua Caribbean Liberation Movement (ACLM)

Address. P.O. Box 493, St John's, Antigua and Barbuda

Leadership. Tim Hector (l.)

Founded. 1979

History. The ACLM, previously known as the Afro-Caribbean Liberation Movement, took part in the 1980 elections but gained less than 1 per cent of the vote.

Orientation. As a party of the "new left" the ACLM supported the attainment of independence by a united Antigua and Barbuda.

Antigua Labour Party (ALP)

Address. P.O. Box 424, St John's, Antigua and Barbuda

Leadership. Vere C. Bird Sr. (l.); Lester Bryant Bird (ch.)

Founded. 1968

History. The ALP was affiliated to the Antigua Trades and Labour Union (ATLU), of which Vere C. Bird Sr. had been a founder-member before becoming Antigua's first Chief Minister in 1960. The ALP was continuously in power from 1946 to 1971 but was in opposition in 1971-76. It was returned to power after gaining 11 (out of 17) seats in the House of Representatives in 1976. It won an additional two seats in the elections of April 1980, after it had

campaigning for obtaining a mandate to proceed to full independence for Antigua and Barbuda (eventually achieved in November 1981).

Orientation. The ALP has favoured the economic and political integration of the Commonwealth Caribbean territories.

Publications. *The Workers' Voice* (twice weekly)

Barbuda People's Movement (BPM)

Leadership. Hilbourne Frank

History. Representatives of the BPM refused to sign the report of a constitutional conference held in London in December 1980, by which provision was made for independence for a united Antigua and Barbuda. In local elections held in March 1981 the BPM took all the seats on the Barbuda Council. In a "Barbuda Declaration" subsequently signed by a majority of Barbuda's 1,500 inhabitants a warning was issued that on attainment of independence of the two islands jointly they would establish a separate territory of Barbuda.

Orientation. In addition to its opposition to independence for Barbuda as part of Antigua, the BPM has campaigned for devolution of power to the Barbudan people and for Barbudan control of land (some of these demands being conceded in April 1981).

Organization for National Reconstruction

Leadership. Arthur Nibbs

History. This new party was created in Barbuda to challenge the dominant Barbuda People's Movement by co-operating with the central administration to promote the economic development of the island.

Workers' Union, which unsuccessfully pressed for early elections to the PLM leadership.

Orientation. At the London constitutional conference of 1980 the PLM proposed the introduction of proportional representation and a unicameral legislature, and as these and other demands it made were rejected it refused to sign the conference report.

Publications. *The New Leader* (twice weekly)

Progressive Labour Movement (PLM)

Leadership. Robert Hall (l.)

Founded. 1970

History. The PLM was formed as the political wing of the Antigua Workers' Union after a split in the Antigua Trades and Labour Union (to which the Antigua Labour Party was affiliated). In elections held in February 1971 the PLM gained 11 of the 17 seats in the then House of Assembly and thereupon formed a Government. In the 1976 elections, however, the PLM retained only five seats in the House of Representatives (also of 17 members) and the party therefore reverted to opposition. In 1981 it came into conflict with the Antigua

United People's Movement (UPM)

Leadership. George Herbert Walter (l.)

Founded. 1982

History. G. H. Walter had been Premier of Antigua in 1971-76 as leader of the Progressive Labour Movement (PLM), from which he resigned in 1979 in connexion with charges of having mishandled state finances during his premiership. He was, however, acquitted of these charges on appeal in February 1980. He founded the UPM (in 1982) after failing to regain the leadership of the PLM.

Argentina

Capital: Buenos Aires

Pop. 28,300,000

The Republic of Argentina has an executive National President and a Vice-President, both elected for a six-year term by a 600-member electoral college which is itself elected by a system of proportional representation and by universal adult suffrage of all citizens over the age of 18 years. The country also has (i) a 252-member Chamber of Deputies elected for a four-year term by direct universal adult suffrage, one half of the deputies being elected every two years, and (ii) a 48-member Senate, of whose members one-third are elected every three years.

After six years of military rule, impetus for a return to democratic government was generated by the poor performance of the military leadership in the 1982 war with Britain over the Falkland Islands. Under a nine-point statute on political parties promulgated on Aug. 26, 1982, all parties were required to re-register within eight to 13 months; in order to be recognized as a national political party each was required to have at least 35,000 registered members and adequate representation in at least five provinces; party leaders were to be elected for not more than four years by direct secret ballot; parties which denied human rights or advocated "the replacement of the democratic system, the illegal and systematic use of force and the personal concentration of power" continued to be prohibited. On Jan. 20, 1983, all parties were required to register by March 30 and to submit party membership lists by May 30, 1983.

In the first elections held for seven years, held on Oct. 30, 1983, parties gained seats as follows: Radical Civic Union (UCR) 317, Justicialist Nationalist (Peronist)