

## EGYPT

Polity5 regime codes:

fac	scode	polity	pers	bmon	bday	byear	emon	eday	eyear	exrec	exconst	polcomp
1X	EGY	6	1	10	16	1951	7	23	1952	6	7	6
1O	EGY	-7	24	7	24	1952	10	27	1976	3	3	1
1Oa	EGY	-6	29	10	28	1976	2	26	2005	3	3	2
2X	EGY	-3	6	2	27	2005	2	11	2011	3	3	6
2O	EGY	-2	1	2	12	2011	8	12	2012	5	2	5
2Oa	EGY	-88	1	8	13	2012	7	3	2013	-88	-88	-88
2Ob	EGY	-4	5	7	4	2013	99	99	9999	5	3	2

PITF Problem Events:

- 1) 02/92-03/99 (REV 02/92-03/99)
- 2) 01/11-present (REV 01/11-present)

Following the popular uprising against British occupation known as the 1919 Revolution, the British government unilaterally declared Egyptian “independence” on February 28, 1922; however, Egypt’s status was transformed only to limited self-rule and it remained a key British protectorate. Fighting between British forces and Germany’s *Afrikakorps* during World War II weakened Britain’s hold on Egypt and, in December 1945, the Egyptian prime minister, Mahmud Nuqrashi, demanded renegotiation of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of 1936, which had formalized Egypt’s status as a British protectorate, and evacuation British troops from the country; that demand was refused. Britain’s control was further challenged by its role in the emergence of the Israeli state in 1948 and Israel’s defeat of the Egyptian forces sent to oppose it.

**1X) Date of Change to Factional-Democratic:** October 16, 1951 (independence)

### Brief Explanation of Change To:

On October 16, 1951, the Egyptian parliament voted to abrogate both the 1936 Treaty and the Anglo-Egyptian Condominium Agreement of 1899, which had linked Egypt with Britain in its control over the Sudan, thereby establishing Egypt’s formal independence as a constitutional monarchy. Egypt had been administered under a constitution promulgated on April 22, 1923, that recognized an Egyptian monarchy under King Fuad I (succeeded by King Farouk I in 1936) and an elected parliament controlled mainly by Egyptian nationalists, organized as Al Wafd al Misri. The unilateral decision to abrogate the 1936 treaty triggered anti-British fervor and an attempt to drive British forces out of the Suez Canal Zone. It also ushered in a heated political debate over the future course of Egyptian politics.

### Identify Main Factions:

- *Monarchists* — During the period of limited self-rule, rivalry for political supremacy by the monarchy and the nationalists had been used by the British to maintain their control of Egyptian politics. An attempt to implement a royalist coup in 1930 was thwarted by British intervention
- *Nationalists* — Egyptian nationalists were mainly organized as the Al Wafd al Misri (Wafd). The nationalists were more or less cohesive depending on circumstances; their influence was often undermined by internal differences and their attitudes toward the British. Expansion of

the Egyptian armed forces brought nationalists into the officer ranks and this led to the covert organization of the Free Officers Movement.

- *Muslim Brotherhood* — The Muslim Brotherhood was a populist, Islamist organization formed in 1928. Its anti-British attitude and its militancy contributed to its ban in 1948.

**10) Date of Change from Factional-Autocratic:** July 24, 1952 (military coup)

**Brief Explanation of Change From:**

On July 23, 1952, the Committee of the Free Officers Movement initiated a military coup and seized control of the government; King Farouk I was forced to abdicate on July 26. A Revolutionary Command Council was established, and Gen. Mohammed Naguib was designated leader and commander of the armed forces. On January 17, 1953, all parties were dissolved and banned. On November 14, 1954, Gen. Naguib was removed and replaced by his rival, Col. Gamal Abdel Nasser. Nasser pursued a policy of pan-Arabism in its regional relations and a doctrine of Arab socialism internally and, in 1962, he established the Arab Socialist Union as the country's sole political party. Nasser died on September 28, 1970, and was replaced by Muhammad Anwar al Sadat on October 5, 1970.

**Changes within Autocratic Period:**

**10a)** October 28, 1976 (multi-candidate elections) – President Sadat ended Egypt's alliance with the Soviet Union on March 14, 1976, and, in seeking support from the West, he announced limited reforms to the Arab Socialist Party (ASU) that would allow three separate groupings with the party to field candidates in parliamentary elections. In multi-candidate elections held on October 28 and November 4, 1976, about half of the more than 1500 candidates were independents and the others from the three ASU groupings. The centrist Arab Socialist Organization won 280 of the 350 seats in the People's Assembly. The Muslim Brotherhood and communists remained banned. Sadat was assassinated on October 6, 1981, and replaced by Vice President Muhammad Hosni Mubarak on October 14.

**Revolutionary War: February 1992 – March 1999**

Terror campaign by militant Islamic groups against secular government; largely suppressed by mid-1996. Widespread arrests of activists result in March 1999 renunciation of violence by the Gamaat-I-Islamiya (Egypt's largest resistance group).

**2X) Date of Change to Factional-Autocratic:** February 27, 2005 (partial lifting of restrictions on political activity)

**Brief Explanation of Change To:**

On February 27, 2005, President Mubarak announces "sweeping" democratic reforms that are largely unfulfilled. A national referendum held on May 1, 2005, to approve constitutional changes allowing multi-party, direct, presidential elections and subsequent elections are heavily manipulated by the government and boycotted by the opposition. Legislative elections held in November and December 2005 are marred by violence and government interference yet these

result in strong gains by "independent" candidates who largely represent the officially banned, but tolerated, Muslim Brotherhood (88 seats). Mubarak's National Democratic Party (NDP) won 311 seats in the 454-seat People's Assembly.

### **Identify Main Factions:**

- *National Democratic Party (NDP)* — The ruling NDP is the successor to the Arab Socialist Union established by Abdel Nasser in 1962 and is led by President Hosni Mubarak. Multi-candidate presidential elections were nominally introduced in 2005; however, opponents were subject to serious intimidation and arrest. Speculation centers on succession to the presidency with some evidence of a growing rift within the party over the leadership and reform issues.
- *Opposition to the NDP Regime* — Conventional party opposition to the regime remains highly fragmented and strongly suppressed; emerging opposition leaders are either co-opted by the NDP or face legal harassment.
- *Muslim Brotherhood* — Although it has been officially banned since independence, the Islamist and populist Muslim Brotherhood has continued to operate covertly and attract dissident elements in Egyptian politics. With the partial relaxation of political restrictions in 2005, the Brotherhood quickly emerged as the principle opposition to the NDP regime. A government crackdown on the Brotherhood in March 2008 was seen as an attempt to prevent, or at least dampen, their participation in April 2007 municipal elections; they responded by boycotting the elections.

**2O) Date of Change from Factional-Autocratic:** February 12, 2011 (executive resignation; caretaker government)

### **Brief Explanation of Change From:**

Popular demonstrations in Egypt began on January 25, 2011, following the example set earlier that month in Tunisia and led to the forced resignation of President Hosni Mubarak on February 11, 2011. Mubarak handed over executive authority to the Armed Forces Supreme Council which appointed a provisional government led by civilians, although governing authority remained with the military junta. The former-hegemonic National Democratic Party was disbanded.

### **Revolutionary War: January 2011 – present**

Inspired by popular protests in Tunisia, Egyptian liberal and Islamist activists hold mass demonstrations against the Mubarak regime and are met with lethal repression. The protests lead to Mubarak's resignation on 11 February 2011 and initiate a democratic transition; presidential elections result in a victory for Muslim Brotherhood candidate Mohamed Morsi but legislative elections won by the Muslim Brotherhood are overturned by the courts. President Morsi tries to push through a new constitution but is ousted by a military coup. The military violently represses protests against the coup and outlaws the Muslim Brotherhood. As a result, a militant-Islamist insurgency takes root in the Sinai Peninsula and southern Egypt.

**Changes within Autocratic Period:**

**20a)** August 13, 2012 (transitional government) – Following the forced resignation of President Hosni Mubarak on February 11, 2011, the country was effectively ruled by a military junta, the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, despite the inauguration of President Mohammed Morsi on June 30, 2012, following a close victory in elections concluded on June 17. On 14 June 2012 the Supreme Constitutional Court had ruled to dissolve the parliament elected in three phases ending 4 January 2012 whose sole accomplishment was the establishment of a Constituent Assembly which was promptly boycotted by parties opposed to the majority Freedom and Justice party. A largely "rudderless" transition began on August 13, 2012, following the resignation of the senior military leadership the previous day.

**20b)** July 4, 2013 (military coup) – Following the resignations of the senior leadership of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, elected-President Mohammed Morsi attempted to lead the promulgation of a new constitution despite lack of support from traditional seats of central authority in Egypt: the armed forces and bureaucracy, and a boycott by liberal parties. President Morsi was ousted by a military coup led by his appointed Commander of the Armed Forces, Field Marshal Abdul-Fattah el-Sisi, on July 3, 2013. The military government banned the Muslim Brotherhood, jailed its leaders, and suppressed all opposition. Sisi resigned his military commission on March 26, 2014, to run for president in May 2014 presidential elections: running against a token second candidate. Sisi won election in 2014, and re-election in 2018, with over 96% of the vote.