

**Refugee Review Tribunal
AUSTRALIA**

RRT RESEARCH RESPONSE

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Questions

- 1. Please provide a list of the political parties in Egypt.**
- 2. Are there any reports about the attempted registration of the “Independent party” or the “Young Egypt Party”?**
- 3. Are there any reports mentioning the Independent party or the Young Egypt Party?**

RESPONSE

- 1. Please provide a list of the political parties in Egypt.**

Egypt’s official State Information Service website lists the following political parties in Egypt:

...During Mubarak’s era, the number of political parties in Egypt has increased to reach 24 parties.

According to the ballot on March 26, 2007 Article (5) was amended to prohibit the establishment of any religious party “The political system of the Arab Republic of Egypt is a multiparty system, within the framework of the basic elements and principles of the Egyptian society as stipulated in the Constitution. Political parties are regulated by law. Citizens have the right to establish political parties according to the law and no political activity shall be exercised nor political parties established on a religious referential authority, on a religious basis or on discrimination on grounds of gender or origin”.

Serial	Party Name	Establishment Date
1	National Democratic Party	1977
2	The Socialist Liberals (Al Ahrar) Party	1977
3	Tagamoa Party	1977

4	The Socialist Labour (Labour) Party	1978
5	The New Wafd Party	1978
6	Ummah Party	1983
7	Egypt Arab Socialist Party	1985
8	The Greens Party	1990
9	The Democratic Unionist Party	1990
10	Misr El-Fatah Party [or Young Egypt Party]	1990 [Researcher emphasis]
11	The Arab Democratic Nasserist Party	1992
12	The People Democratic Party	1992
13	The Social Justice Party	1993
14	Takaful Party	1995
15	National Conciliation (Al-Wifak) Party	2000
16	Misr (Egypt) 2000 Party	2001
17	Democratic Generation (El-Geel) Party	2002
18	Al-Ghad (Tomorrow) Party	2004
19	Free Social Constitutional Party	2004
20	Egypt Youth Party	2005
21	Democratic Peace Party	2005
22	Conservatives Party	2006
23	Free Public Party	2006
24	Democratic Front Party	2007

(‘Political Parties’ 2008, Egypt State Information Service website <http://www.sis.gov.eg/En/Politics/Parties/Background/041101000000000001.htm> – Accessed 12 May 2008 – Attachment 1).

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs website lists twenty-one parties in Egypt; though states that there are fourteen current political parties. Pertinent extracts follow:

The political system is based on a Multi-party system. Law 40 of 1977 regulates the formation of political parties in Egypt. This law prohibits the formation of political parties based on racial class or religious affiliations.

There currently active parties on the Egyptian Political Arena are:

National Democratic Party (NDP), led by President Mohammed Hosni Mubarak, is the ruling party;

Al-Ghad Party;

Al-Wafd Party;

Arab Socialist Party;

Al-Tagammoe Party;

The People Democratic Party;

Egypt Youth Party;

Democratic Peace Party;

The Greens Party;

The Socialist Liberals Party;

Free Socialist Constitutional Party;

Misr al-Fatah Party (Young Egypt Party) [Researcher emphasis];

Nasserist Arab Democratic Party;

The Social Justice Party;

Democratic Generation Party;

Al-Umma Party;

National Conciliation Party;
Misr 2000 Party;
The Socialist Labor Party;
Democratic Unionist Party;
Takafol Party

...There are currently 14 political parties, the most active among which:

* National Democratic Party (NDP), led by President Mohammed Hosni Mubarak, is the ruling party;

* The Greens Party;

* Labor Party

* Liberal Party (LP)

* **Misr al-Fatah Party (Young Egypt Party)**

* Nasserist Arab Democratic Party

* New Wafd Party (NWP)

* National Progressive Unionist Rally (NPUR)

* Umma Party ('Political Parties: Egypt' (undated), Ministry of Foreign Affairs website <http://www.mfa.gov.eg/Missions/USA/Washington/embassy/en-GB/Inside+Egypt/Political+System/CIVILSOCIETY.htm> – Accessed 12 May 2008 – Attachment 2).

The Egypt State Information Service provides the following information on the Young Egypt Party (or Misr al-Fatah Party) on its official website:

Misr El-Fatah (Young Egypt) Party

Misr El-Fatah Party was established on October 12, 1989.

The Party is headed by Abdul Hakim Abdul Majid Khalil.

Platform

The Party platform calls for:

- Establishing a parliamentary/presidential ruling system.
- Enhancing the Egyptian-Arab ties.
- Achieving integration with African countries.
- Adopting non-alignment policies.

- Establishing the so-called socialist, Islamic economic system and boosting the role of the private sector.

The Party & legislative elections

The Party fielded seven candidates to run for the 2000 legislative elections ('Misr El-Fatah (Young Egypt) Party' (undated), Egypt State Information Service website <http://www.sis.gov.eg/En/Politics/Parties/Parties/041102000000000009.htm> – Accessed 12 May 2008 – Attachment 3).

2. Are there any reports about the attempted registration of the “Independent party” or the “Young Egypt Party”?

3. Are there any reports mentioning the Independent party or the Young Egypt party?

Two reports were located in the sources available that mention the Young Egypt Party (or Misr al-Fatah Party) which appear below as Attachments 4 and 5. No information could be found on a political party named the Independent Party in Egypt. No reports could be located in the sources available regarding the registration of either the Young Egypt Party (or Misr al-Fatah Party), or a party by the name of the Independent Party in Egypt in the time available to complete this response.

On 8 August 2005, *BBC News* reported that “Five candidates from Misr al-Fatah Party [Young Egypt Party]: Hisham Jabir al-Sharif, Ahmad Izz-al-Din Sulayman, Abd-al-Aziz Ahmad Salih, Sharif Mahjub Aziz and Majid Muhammad Bihiri” had been removed from the list of presidential candidates ('Egypt's election committee permits 10 presidential candidates' 2005, *BBC News*, 8 August – Attachment 4).

On 2 March 2005, *Reuters* reported that “Mohamed al-Wasif, head of Misr al-Fatah party, said he would stand in the presidential elections despite the party's limited resources” ('UPDATE 1-Cairo protest demands release of party leader' 2005, *Reuters*, 2 March – Attachment 5).

List of Sources Consulted

Internet Sources:

Google search engine <http://www.google.com.au>

Databases:

FACTIVA (news database)

BACIS (DIAC Country Information database)

REFINFO (IRBDC (Canada) Country Information database)

ISYS (RRT Research & Information database, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, US Department of State Reports)

RRT Library Catalogue

List of Sources Consulted

1. 'Political Parties' 2008, Egypt State Information Service website
<http://www.sis.gov.eg/En/Politics/Parties/Background/041101000000000001.htm> – Accessed 12 May 2008.
2. 'Political Parties: Egypt' (undated), Ministry of Foreign Affairs website
<http://www.mfa.gov.eg/Missions/USA/Washington/embassy/en-GB/Inside+Egypt/Political+System/CIVILSOCIETY.htm> – Accessed 12 May 2008.
3. 'Misr El-Fatah (Young Egypt) Party' (undated), Egypt State Information Service website
<http://www.sis.gov.eg/En/Politics/Parties/Parties/041102000000000009.htm> – Accessed 12 May 2008.
4. 'Egypt's election committee permits 10 presidential candidates' 2005, *BBC News*, 8 August. (FACTIVA)
5. 'UPDATE 1-Cairo protest demands release of party leader' 2005, *Reuters*, 2 March. (FACTIVA)