

Obdobje Enverja Xoxhe (1944-1985)

Ko so komunisti proti koncu leta 1944 prevzeli oblast v Albaniji je bila dežela v razsulu. Ekonomija je bila v zelo slabem stanju, infrastruktura pa po gverilskem bojevanju in umiku nemške vojske se v slabšem...

Xoxhevemu vodstvu so nasprotovali predvsem pripadniki plemena Gegov(ja, v Albaniji je po 2. s. v. še vedno delitev na plemena, predvojni kralj Zogu je iz plemena Gegov, Xoxha pa iz plemena Toskov...). Nasprotovali pa so mu tudi jugoslovanski »opazovalci« v albanski partiji, oni so hoteli za vodjo pro-jugoslovanskega Xoxa.

Albanija je imela po vojni veliko odprtih vprašanj s sosednjimi državami. Z Jugoslavijo glede Kosova, ki ga je ta »posvojila«, z Grčijo, ker je ta ni priznala za zaveznico, tudi zaradi italijanskega napada na Grčijo ravno iz Albanije, in ker je Grčija obnovila zahteve po severnem Epiru. Pri tem je imela Grčija podporo zahodnih zaveznic, kar je odvrnilo Albanijo od sodelovanja z zahodom, poleg tega pa sta bili ZDA in GB proti vstopu Albanije v Združene Narode.

Njegov program za Albanijo: on na čelu komunistične partije, partija na čelu države in v vseh nivojih življenja, modernizacija države po leninistično-stalinističnem modelu Sovjetske zveze in varovanje neodvisnosti in zemeljske celovitosti. Zaradi tega načrta je v različnih obdobjih prihajalo do konfliktov z Jugoslavijo, Sovjetsko zvezo, Kitajsko in ostalimi komunističnimi državami.

Politični trendi

Najprej si je zagotovil pozicijo v državi, v letih 1945 in 1946 je eliminiral vse prave in možne nasprotnike z vrsto sojenj »vojnim zločincem«.

Decembra 1945 so bile prve volitve v ustavodajno skupščino... lista Demokratske fronte (komunisti) je seveda zmagala. Ta je ukinila monarhijo in proglasila Albanijo za **Ljudsko republiko**. Kmalu so izdelali ustavo, v kateri pa komunisti, ki so se skrivali za Demokratsko Fronto, in njihov poseben status ni bil izpostavljen, izpuščeni so bili tudi pojmi kot je kolektivizacija, nacionalizacija in drugi, ki so izvirali iz socializma. Xoxha je seveda nosil vse možne nazive, premier, generalni sekretar AKP, predsednik DF, zunanji minister...

Glavna podpora komunističnega režima je bila seveda vojska.

Prva velika grožnja Xoxhevemu režimu je bil Xoxa, jugoslovanski kandidat za njegovo mesto. Zagovarjal je integracijo jugoslovanske in albanske ekonomije in v končni fazi popolno politično združitev. Xoxha je izrabil informbirojevski spor med Jugoslavijo in vzhodnim blokom in doma izvedel čistko v partiji, znebil se je Xoxe in njegovih privrženecv.

V začetku 50ih let se je v partiji pojavila struja, Spahiu in Jakova, ki je želela upočasniti industrializacijo, uvesti večjo toleranco do religije in demokratizacijo partijskega vodstva. Xoxha je bil seveda proti, ker naj bi to spodkopalo uspešno izgradnjo socializma. Vendar pa je privolil v uvedbo kolektivnega vodstva in se je odrekel večini funkcij razen predsednika DF in predsednika partije. Spahiu in Jakova sta izgubila svoji funkciji ampak so ideje o prenovi ostale prisotne, ob ponovnem vzponu ideje destalinizacije leta 1956 je Xoxha obračunal še z ostalimi »odpadniki«.

V tem času je popolnoma utrdil svoj položaj v partiji. Hkrati pa se takrat začne njegovo odmikanje od Sovjetske zveze. SZ zahteva rehabilitacijo žrtev titoističnih čistk, kar pa Xoxha zavrne. Moskvi se upre tudi ko napove pospešitev industrializacije in kolektivizacije. Do dokončnega razkola med Albanijo in SZ pride decembra 1961, ker se Xoxha noče odpovedati stalinistični ideologiji.

Vendar pa je eden od vzrokov oz. olajševalna okoliščina za razkol s SZ predvsem boljši odnos s Kitajsko, ki sedaj (1964) postane novi gospodarski partner oz. podpornik. Kar je pomembno ker od SZ ni več gospodarske pomoči.

S kitajsko finančno pomočjo in stabilizacijo gospodarstva pa začne Xoxha izvajati t.i. *ideološko in kulturno revolucijo*. Njeni cilji so bili predvsem utrditev marksistično-leninističnih načel, zmanjšati vpliv religije, zmanjšati preveliko navezanost na »družino« in buržoazne tendence. V glavni fazi so zmanjšali število birokratskega aparata, to naj bi preprečilo nastanek novega razreda, poveča se število žensk med delavkami. Posebnost te revolucije pa je ukinitvev državne cerkve leta 1967 in razglasitev Albanije za ateistično državo. Revolucija se je končala v začetku 70ih let.

V albanski družbi so se v 70ih letih začele pojavljati kritike sistema. Predvsem med študenti in pisatelji. Temu primerno je Xoxha kmalu reagiral, zamenjani so bili voditelji v Ligi albanskih pisateljev in umetnikov, začel se je tudi poostren nadzor nad mediji.

Po »čiščenju« med mladimi in intelektualci se je obrnil tudi k vojski. Tudi tam je počistil s svojimi nasprotniki (Balluku), ki so želeli zmanjšati vpliv partije v vojaških krogih. Naslednji so bili na vrsti ekonomisti in gospodarstveniki, ki so v tem času uvedli veliko sprememb, ki so delavcem prinesle presežke in, ki so spodbujale osebno iniciativo. Gospodarstveniki so se trudili zmanjšati odvisnost od Kitajske in so prejemale posojila od zahoda. Xoxha je to preprečil s čistkami...

Tako je v 70ih letih spremenil podobo albanske elite, saj je uvedel popolnoma nov kader v partijo in na visoke položaje v državi.

Leta 1976 izda novo ustavo. Spremenili so ime, Ljudska Socialistična Republika Albanija. Med drugim je poudarjala vodilno vlogo partije, predpisovala marksizem za uradno ideologijo, prepovedala je osebno lastnino, razen stanovanj, prepovedala je prejemanje kreditov iz tujine in verske obrede.

Za svojega naslednika je izbral Ramiza Alia. Ta je počasi prevzemal politične funkcije in bil po Xoxhejevi smrti leta 1985 izvoljen za generalnega sekretarja KPA.

V Xoxhejevem času:

- Naraščalo število prebivalstva
- Infrastruktura se je izboljšala, leta 1985 je štel železniški sistem že 603 km. Leta 1986 je bil priključen na evropskega.
- Kljub gospodarskemu napredku je bila najslabše razvita država v Evropi
- Družba je bila odrezana od ostalega sveta, ni tvja (dobijo ga 1971) ni telefonskega sistema
- Povečala se je pismenost. Velik poudarek na izboljšanju izobrazbe prebivalstva... zaradi indoktrinacije...
- Rivalstvo med plemeni (Toski in Gegi) je bilo zmanjšano
- Ni pa Xoxha uvedel sprememb s katerimi bi se lahko Albanija gospodarsko povzpela

Zunanja politika:

Od 1944 do 1948 je bila Albanija odvisna od Jugoslavije. Nato postane, od 1949 do 1960 sovjetski satelit. Leta 1955 postane članica Varšavskega pakta. Za razkol leta 1960 je krivo med drugim tudi povezovanje med SZ in JU. Nato se začne povezovanje s Kitajsko (1961-1978), istočasno izvedeta revoluciji, vendar pa se tudi Kitajska povezuje s SZ in z zahodnimi državami kar pripelje do razkola v odnosih med Albanijo in Kitajsko.

Albanija po Xoxhi

Ko je na oblast prišel Alia je želel spremeniti podobo Albanije kot zaprte države in je začel navezovati mednarodne stike. Vendar pa je še vedno utrjeval moč partije v državi.

Na gospodarskem področju je dopustil privatno iniciativo.

Poskušal je pridobiti tudi mlade in je zato izboljšal rekreativne objekte, uvedel je nove radijske programe ter dopuščal malo kreativne svobode. Takoj so se pokazale kritike intelektualcev.

V zunanji politiki, je Alia prekinil stanje vojne z Grčijo (1987), in navezal diplomatske stike s Kanado in Zahodno Nemčijo. Udeležil se je tudi mednarodnih konferenc.

Kljub poskusom reform pa je bila javnost nezadovoljna. Zato so politiki izdelali bolj dodelan program reform in jih v začetku 90ih let začeli tudi izvajati.

Gospodarstvo:

- Lastništvo živine je prešlo na posameznika
- Povišane so bile plače
- Uvažati so začeli »nebistvene« artikle
- Povezovanje s tujimi podjetji je bilo zaželeno, tuje podjetnike so vabili celo v Albanijo da bi predavali o načinu dela

Vendar pa so prišle reforme prepozno, gospodarska rast je samo še padala...

Konec leta 1990 je v Tirani in drugih mestih po državi prišlo do množičnih demonstracij. Zato je decembra Alia uvedel večstrankarski sistem. Opoziciji je bilo dovoljeno izdajati časopise.

Sprejeta je bila nova ustava, ki je uzakonila ekonomske spremembe in večstrankarski sistem.

Nazaj je bilo uvedeno ministrstvo za pravosodje (ukinjeno l. 1966), izdajati so začeli potne liste. Kar je imelo za posledico izseljevanje ljudi.

Izvedena je bila šolska reforma, obvezno 10letno šolanje, povečali so število mest na univerzah, učbenike so prilagodili novim spremembam v državi.

Politični pritisk na medije se je zmanjšal, začele so se »živahne« razprave v medijih. Povečalo se je tudi število turistov.

Maja 1991 so bile izvedene prve demokratične volitve. Zmagali so sicer komunisti ampak naj bi bile volitve pravično izvedene. Državo so preimenovali v Republiko Albanijo...

Monarchy

From 1925, the country was ruled by President Ahmet Zogu who, in 1928, declared himself [King Zog I](#). Italian fascists invaded Albania in April 7 1939. The communists took power after the Second World War. After the fall of the communist government, his son [Leka, Crown Prince of Albania](#) and the royal family returned to Albania on June 28, 2002.

Italy invaded Albania on [7 April 1939](#) and took control of the country. On April 12, the Albanian parliament voted to unite the country with Italy. Victor Emmanuel III took the Albanian crown, and the Italians set up a fascist government under Shefqet Verlaci and soon absorbed Albania's military and diplomatic service into Italy's.

Mussolini, in October 1940, used his Albanian base to launch an attack on Greece. During WWII, Albanian nationalist groups, including Communist partisans, fought against the Italians and subsequently the Germans. When the Germans withdrew in November 1944, the Communists seized control of Albania. The partially French-educated [Enver Hoxha](#) became the leader of the country by virtue of his position as secretary general of the Party of Labor (the Albanian Communist Party). The [Communist Party](#) was created on [November 8, 1941](#) with the help of other [Bolshevik Communist](#) Parties.

Communist Leadership (Socialist Republic)

From 1944 to 1991, Albania was a one-party state in which Enver Hoxha ruled with an iron hand. In 1961 he broke with Albania's closest ally, the Soviet Union, because he believed Khrushchev had abandoned the teachings of [Stalin](#). Subsequently, Albania's closest ally was the People's Republic of China. However, when the PRC established diplomatic relations with the U.S. in 1978, Hoxha denounced the Chinese as well and decided to pursue a policy of self-reliance. The result was not only extreme isolation but also absolute financial ruin for Albania. An example of this may be drawn from the construction between 1974 and 1986 of approximately 700,000 reinforced concrete bunkers to defend against an anticipated multi-front attack.

Upon Hoxha's death in 1985, Ramiz Alia succeeded him as Party and state leader. Alia was Hoxha's protégé, but was less repressive than the former leader and began to allow some reforms. This process was accelerated by news of the changes in the other Communist countries of Central and Eastern Europe. There are statistics which show that during this period about 6000 Albanian citizens were executed for political reasons. Despite this, the quality of life improved as both life expectancy and literacy showed large gains and economic growth continued until the mid 1970s.

The Return of Capitalism

The first massive anti-communist protests took place in July 1990. Shortly afterwards, the communist regime under Ramiz Alia carried out some cosmetic changes in the economy. At the end of 1990, after strong student protests and independent syndicated movements, the regime accepted a multiparty system. The first multiparty general elections were held on March 31, 1991 and saw the Communist Party (PPSH) win the majority. Opposition parties accused the government of manipulation and called for new elections, which were held on March 22, 1992 and resulted in a coalition (composed of the Democratic Party, the Social-Democrats, and the Republican Party) coming to power.

In the general elections of June 1996 the Democratic Party won an absolute majority and the results winning over 85% of parliamentary seats. In 1997 widespread riots erupted after the

government of [Aleksander Meksi](#) resigned and a [government of national unity](#) was built. In response to the anarchy, the Socialist Party won the early elections of 1997 and Berisha resigned the Presidency.

However, stability was far from being restored in the years after the [1997 riots](#). The power feuds raging inside the Socialist Party led to a series of short-lived Socialist governments. The country was flooded with refugees from neighboring [Kosovo](#) in 1998 and 1999 during the [Kosovo War](#). In June 2002, a compromise candidate, [Alfred Moisiu](#), a former general, was elected to succeed President [Rexhep Meidani](#). Parliamentary elections in July 2005 brought [Sali Berisha](#), as leader of the Democratic Party, back to power, mostly owing to Socialist infighting and a series of corruption scandals plaguing the government of [Fatos Nano](#).^[*citation*]
needed

Enver Hoxha

First Secretary of the [Albanian Party of Labour](#)

In office

[November 1944](#) – [April 1985](#)

Succeeded by [Ramiz Alia](#)

Born [16 October 1908](#)

Died [11 April 1985](#) (aged 76)

[Tirana, Albania](#) 

Nationality [Albanian](#)

Political party [KP Albanije](#)

Spouse [Nexhmije Hoxha](#)

[Enver Hoxha](#) [16 October 1908](#) – [11 April 1985](#)) was the dictator of [Albania](#) from the end of [World War II](#) until his death in 1985, as the [First Secretary](#) of the [Communist Albanian Party of Labour](#). He was also [Prime Minister of Albania](#) from 1944 to 1954 and the Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1946 to 1953. Hoxha's rule was characterized by isolation from the rest of [Europe](#) and his proclaimed firm adherence to [Anti-Revisionism](#), which has been dubbed "Hoxhism".^[*1*] Albania's government of the time projected the image that it had emerged from semi-[feudalism](#) to become an [industrialized](#) state.

Biography.

Leadership

Hoxha declared himself an orthodox [Marxist-Leninist](#) and strongly admired [Joseph Stalin](#). He adopted the model of the [Soviet Union](#) and severed relations with his former [Yugoslav](#) communist allies following their ideological breach with Moscow in 1948. He had defence minister [Koci Xoxe](#) executed a year later for alleged pro-Yugoslav activities. By 1949 the United States and British intelligence organizations were working with [King Zog](#) and the mountainmen of his personal guard. They recruited Albanian refugees and émigrés from Egypt, Italy, and Greece; trained them in Cyprus, Malta, and the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany); and infiltrated them into Albania. Guerrilla units entered Albania in 1950 and 1952, but Albanian security forces killed or captured all of them.

By 1950, many reforms were instituted. Illiteracy dropped from around 80-85% to 31%; the regime confiscated farmland from wealthy landowners and consolidated it into [collective farms](#), imprisoning and executing thousands in the process, though also averting famine and greatly improving the quality of agriculture, making it nearly self-sufficient. The practice of [blood feud](#) was made illegal and by 1970 women, who previously were not allowed to hold paying jobs among other things were given equality and were encouraged to take up jobs in order to help the economy. Industry, in 1944 almost non-existent, contributed over 50% of the [GDP](#) by the [1980s](#)^{[[citation needed](#)]}, malaria-infested swamplands were renovated, and life expectancy rose from 38 to around 60-70 by 1980^{[[citation needed](#)]}. The nation's first university, the [University of Tirana](#), was founded in 1957.

Despite his grandstanding, it appeared that Hoxha's major legacy was a complex of over 600,000 one-man concrete [bunkers](#) across a country of 3 million inhabitants, to act as look-outs and gun emplacements, pointed towards towns and villages just as often as away from them. The paranoid nature of Hoxha's character, which was beset by fears of an American invasion just as much as by fears of an internal revolution, was apparent in the design. The bunkers were built strong, and most easy to move, all there is to do is dig a hole and drop the bunker in with a crane or a helicopter. The types of bunkers vary from machine gun pillboxes, beach bunkers, to naval underground facilities, and even Air Force Mountain and underground bunkers. There were over 700,000 pillboxes built and around 500,000 pillboxes were reported to still be in good condition and ready to serve in case of war.

Hoxha had remained a firm Stalinist despite new Soviet leader [Nikita Khrushchev](#)'s repudiation of Stalin's excesses in 1956 at the [Twentieth Party Congress](#) of the [Soviet Communist Party](#), and this meant Albania's isolation from the rest of communist Eastern Europe. In 1960, Hoxha aligned Albania with the [People's Republic of China](#), which also continued to uphold Stalin's legacy, in the [Sino-Soviet split](#), severing relations with [Moscow](#) the following year. In 1968, Albania withdrew from the [Warsaw Pact](#) in response to the Soviet-led invasion of [Czechoslovakia](#).

In 1981, Hoxha ordered the execution of several party and government officials in a new purge. Prime Minister [Mehmet Shehu](#) was reported to have committed suicide following a further dispute within the Albanian leadership in [December 1981](#), but it is widely believed that he was killed.

Hoxha's death on [11 April 1985](#) left Albania with a legacy of repression, technological backwardness, isolation, and fear of the outside world, despite progress made by Hoxha. As communist party rule weakened throughout Eastern Europe, his succession by [Ramiz Alia](#) led to some relaxation in internal and foreign policies, culminating in Albania's abandonment of one-party rule in [1990](#) and the reformed Socialist Party's defeat in the [1992](#) elections. Hoxha was exhumed in 1992 and informally reburied.