

# Hungary: Lessons of transition and anti-corruption measures of the Magyary Programme

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# Introduction

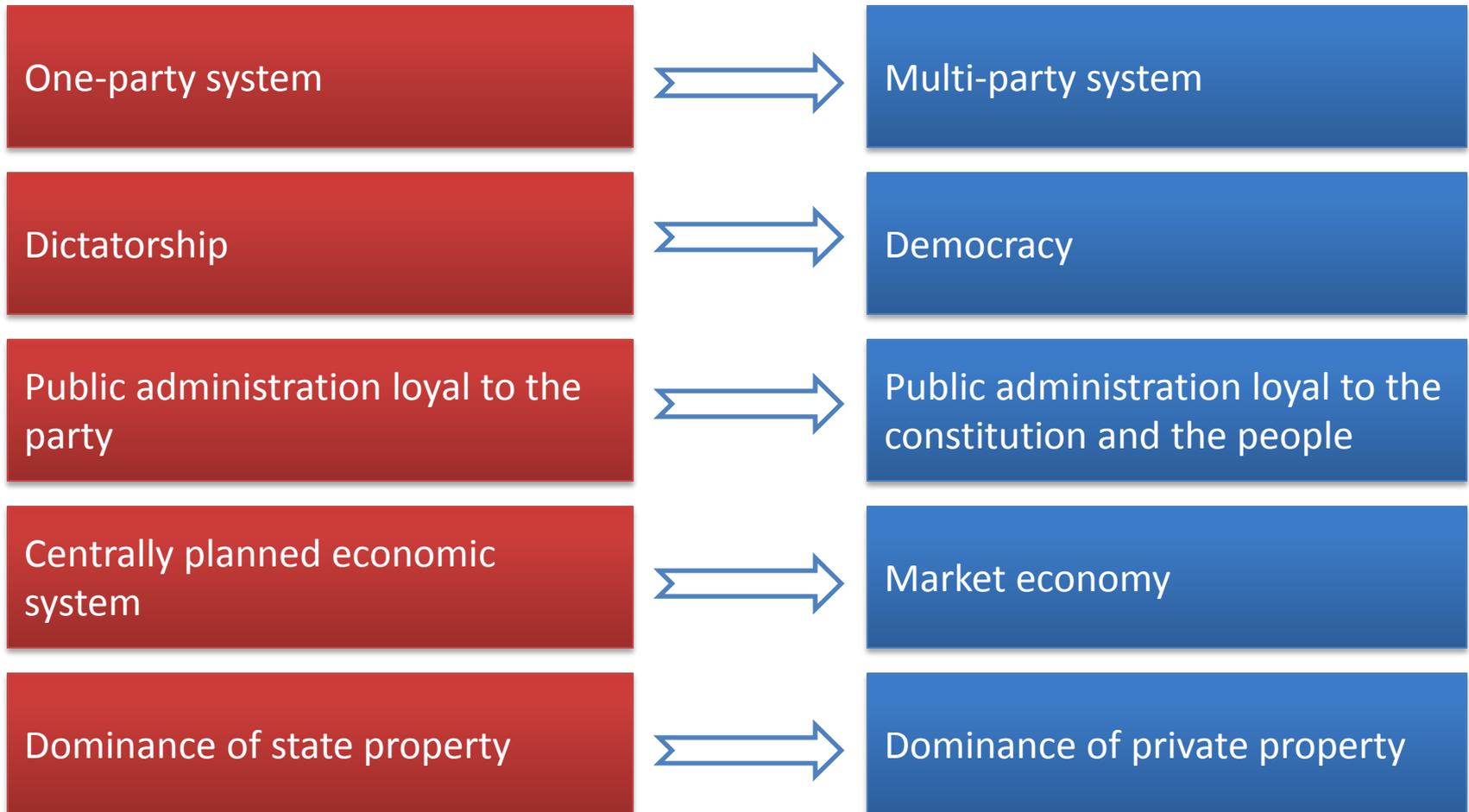
- Two parts of the presentation:
  - Key lessons of the Hungarian transition
  - Magyary Programme and its anti-corruption aspect
- Conclusions

**Key lessons of the Hungarian transition**

Magyary Programme and its anti-corruption aspect

Conclusions

# Systemic changes in 1989/90 in Hungary



# False expectations

- *New régime solves every single problem* – it solved many but raised new ones, such as:
  - Unemployment,
  - Inequality.

These are attributes of market economy
- *Quick convergence to developed countries (Western European economies)*
  - Convergence is gradual with ups and downs

# Lessons learned

- External environment matters (models)
  - Past: Foreign trips and information from abroad
  - Now: via modern ICT technologies
- Rule of law – checks and balances
  - Separation of powers: executive, legislative, judiciary
  - Transparency, accountability
  - Free media

Key lessons of the Hungarian transition

**Magyary Programme and its anti-corruption aspect**

Conclusions

# **Principles of the Magyary Programme – Development Strategy for the Public Administration in connection with anti-corruption**

- Improved client information
- Partnership and participation
- Transparency
- Competence-based selection of staff
- Committed and motivated staff

# **Anti-corruption measures of the Magyary Programme – Development Strategy for the Public Administration in connection with anti-corruption /1.**

- Rationalisation and streamlining of public administration procedures
- Full administrative information system and development of e-government services
- Online publication of plans and pre-decision making documents, development of thematic online forums
- Interactive monitoring system, development of publicly available databases of data and information of public interest

# **Anti-corruption measures of the Magyary Programme – Development Strategy for the Public Administration in connection with anti-corruption /2.**

- Competence map of government officials
- Introduction of new public administration career
- Performance-based wage system
- Introduction of basic ethical principles
- Non-financial motivation means: mentoring, coaching, involving staff in decision-making, delegation of responsibilities

Key lessons of the Hungarian transition

Magyary Programme and its anti-corruption aspect

**Conclusions**

# Conclusions /1.

- Democracy is a value beside economic growth
- Hopes and expectations could mix with misbelieves and delusion
- Leaders have responsibility to inform the people and "burst the bubbles"
- It is important to pick the correct benchmark
- Transparency makes it feel like corruption is larger (less hidden cases) after transition

# Conclusions /2.

- Fighting against corruption is a process and cannot be solved forever by one single measure,
- Constant adjustment to economic demand and new technologies is necessary,
- Anti-corruption measures cannot be managed as a single issue.