The more things change?

what was different in the 2014 election in Solomon Islands, what wasn’t, and what it means
electoral mechanics
Vote for local benefits not national government

Don’t vote for parties

Weak parties without support base means national politics lacking cohesion
Percentage of candidates standing as independents 2010 v 2014
average candidates per electorate over time
% of contesting incumbent MPs winning their seats

mean incumbent vote share over time
re-elected incumbents 2010 & 2014 party vs indeps

- Independents
- Party Members

2010:
- Independents: [value]
- Party Members: [value]

2014:
- Independents: [value]
- Party Members: [value]
new parties legislation
  + fewer candidates & more in parties
  + somewhat higher incumbent performance
  but
most winning incumbents not being from parties
  =
  huh
2. After a general election, the parliamentary party leader of the political party in the Coalition of Political Parties with the highest number of seats in Parliament shall be the Leader ("Leader") and, subject to paragraph 8, be nominated as Prime Minister when the Governor General calls for nomination for the election of the Prime Minister in accordance with Schedule 2 of the Constitution.

43. (1) Where a political party is represented in Parliament, that political party must appoint from among its members in Parliament a parliamentary party leader, who may or may not already hold a position in the executive provided under section 42.
Total Electorate Funding (RCDF+Other) Per Elec 2012 & 2012- Nominal SBD

- National Parliament Office
- Ministry Of Women, Youth And Children Affairs
- Ministry Of Home Affairs
- Ministry of Energy and Rural Electrification
- Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development
- Ministry Of Agriculture
- Ministry Of Culture And Tourism
- Ministry of Forestry
- Min Rural Deve - SIG
- Min Rural Deve - Taiwan Other
- Min Rural Deve - Taiwan RCDF

$AU852,585

Data from Solomons Parliament (2012) ANSI (2013) – all blocks are money available to MPs for Csty spending. Only bottom block is technically RCDF.
...central dynamics unchanged
POLITICAL PARTIES INTEGRITY BILL 2014

(NO. 5 OF 2014)
but devil could be in details & unintend consequences

(2) A political party intending to withdraw from, revoke or rescind an existing coalition agreement must give at least 30 days notice to the other parties to the agreement.

(2) A person who formally resigns as a member of a political party may become a member of another political party.
VOTE FOR IDIOT
VOTE FOR BITCH
VOTE FOR HEATHENISH
VOTE FOR INSANE
VOTE FOR MOLESTER
questions?