

Summarized Results of the Public Opinion Survey on the “Public’s View on Current Cross-Strait Relations” (July 26 – July 30, 2024)

- Nearly 90% of respondents disagreed with mainland Chinese military aircraft and warships continuing to operate around Taiwan and even deliberately crossing the median line of the Taiwan Strait (88.9%). Additionally, there were disapproval rates of over 85% both for the CCP coast guard conducting their so-called “regular law enforcement patrols” near Taiwanese waters in the Kinmen area (85.1%) and for the CCP’s “One Country, Two Systems” model (85.0%).
- Nearly 85% of respondents disagreed with the CCP’s announcement of the “Guidelines on Imposing Criminal Punishment for Diehard Taiwan Independence Separatists” (thereinafter the “Guidelines”) and new measures under its national security laws that enable the authorities to inspect the personal belongings and mobile phones of Taiwanese people traveling to mainland China (84.6%).
- The majority of respondents (88.5%) still supported “maintaining the status quo defined in a broader sense,” and over 85% supported the assertion that Taiwan’s future must be decided by its 23 million people (85.2%).

I. Survey Background and Methods

In order to understand the views of the Taiwanese people on issues related to cross-Strait relations, the Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) commissioned the Election Study Center at National Chengchi University to conduct a telephone survey of adults in Taiwan aged 20 and over from July 26 to July 30, 2024. A total of 1,073 valid samples were obtained, with a sampling error of $\pm 2.99\%$ at a 95% level of confidence.

II. Major Findings

(1) Views on mainland China's recent actions towards Taiwan

Nearly 90% of respondents did not agree with mainland Chinese military aircraft and warships continuing to operate around Taiwan and even deliberately crossing the median line of the Taiwan Strait (88.9%). Additionally, 85% of the public disapproved of the CCP coast guard conducting their so-called “regular law enforcement patrols” near Taiwanese waters off Kinmen (85.1%). They also opposed the CCP’s “One Country, Two Systems” model (85.0%) that views Taiwan as a local government and special administrative region under its rule, which leaves no room for the existence of the Republic of China. Nearly 85% of respondents disagreed with the CCP’s announcement of the “Guidelines” and new measures under its national security laws that enable the authorities to inspect the personal belongings and mobile phones of Taiwanese people traveling to mainland China (84.6%).

(2) Views on cross-Strait exchanges

Regarding cross-Strait exchanges, over 50% of respondents indicated that they believe “national sovereignty” (52.3%) is more important than “economic benefits” (37.8%). Furthermore, 37.1% of respondents indicated that they perceive the current pace of cross-Strait exchanges to be “just right,” which is comparatively higher than those who indicated that they perceive the pace to be “too slow” (36.2%) and “too fast” (7.3%).

(3) Views on unification and independence

An overwhelming majority of respondents (88.5%) supported “maintaining the status quo defined in a broader sense” (including “maintaining the status quo and deciding on independence or unification later,” “maintaining the status quo and moving towards unification later,” “maintaining the status quo and moving towards independence later,” and “maintaining the status quo indefinitely”). Among the six possible positions, “maintaining the status quo indefinitely” enjoyed the highest level of support (36.9%), followed by “maintaining the status quo and deciding on independence

or unification later” (25.5%) and “maintaining the status quo and moving towards independence later” (20.8%). Less than 10% of the public support “maintaining the status quo and moving towards unification later,” “declaring unification as soon as possible” or “declaring independence as soon as possible” (5.3%, 1.5%, and 4.8%, respectively). Additionally, over 85% of respondents supported the assertion that Taiwan’s future and development of cross-Strait relations must be decided by its 23 million people (85.2%).

(4) Views on mainland China’s attitude towards our government and people

The percentage of the public believing that the mainland Chinese government’s attitude toward our government is “unfriendly” (72.5%) is higher than the percentage believing it is “friendly” (14.1%). Regarding the mainland Chinese government’s attitude toward the Taiwanese people, 55.6% of the public believed it is unfriendly, higher than those who believed it is “friendly” (32.4%).