

Summarized Results of the Public Opinion Survey on the "Public's View on Current cross-Strait Relations"

(October 17~21, 2019)

- **Nearly 90% of the respondents disapprove the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP's) "one country, two systems" initiative, which treats Taiwan as a local government and special administrative region and implies that the Republic of China (ROC) no longer exist (89.3%). In addition, with the same percentage, the mainstream public opposes the CCP's refusal to commit to renouncing the use of force against Taiwan and its measures taken to force Taiwan to accept the "one country, two systems" (89.3%). Over 70% of the respondents support the government's approach of enhancing Taiwan's self-defenses, refusing the "one country, two systems model for Taiwan," and safeguarding national sovereignty and Taiwan's democracy (77.5%).**
- **The adopted stance stated in President Tsai's 2019 National Day Address enjoys high support. Nearly 70% of the respondents support that when Taiwan's freedom and democracy are challenged, and when the ROC's existence and development are threatened, the people of Taiwan must stand up and defend themselves (69.8%); over 70% approve of the policy, as emphasized by the President, that Taiwan will not act provocatively or rashly, rather, it will work with like-minded countries to ensure the peaceful and stable cross-Strait status quo (76.5%); and more than 60% stand by the view that the overwhelming consensus among Taiwan's 23 million people is the rejection of the "one country, two systems," regardless of party affiliation or political position (65.8%).**
- **More than 80% of the respondents support the position emphasized by the President in her 2019 National Day Address that Taiwan's future path is to ensure that the people continue to remain united under the banner of freedom and democracy, to defend our sovereignty, to build a stronger Taiwan, and to actively engage with the world (84.6%). And nearly 90%**

support the position that Taiwan's future and the development of cross-Strait relations must be decided by the 23 million people of Taiwan (89.3%).

- **The great majority of the public (87.4%) still support "maintaining the status quo defined in a broad sense," a highly stable trend. As for views on the current pace of cross-Strait exchanges, 38.7% of the public believe it to be "just right," while 10.5% and 32% believe to be "too fast" and "too slow," respectively.**

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 commissioned the Election Study Center of National Chengchi University to conduct telephone interviews with adults aged 20 and over in Taiwan from October 17 to 21, 2019. A total of 1,073 valid samples were obtained with a 95% confidence level and a sampling error of plus and minus 2.99%.

II. Major Findings

(1) Views on President Tsai's 2019 National Day Address and the government's cross-Strait policy

When asked about the adopted stance stated in President Tsai's 2019 National Day Address, here are the results. Nearly 70% of the respondents support that when Taiwan's freedom and democracy are challenged, and when the ROC's existence and development are threatened, the people of Taiwan must stand up and defend themselves (69.8%). Over 70% approve of the policy that Taiwan will not act provocatively or rashly, rather it will work with like-minded countries to safeguard the peaceful and stable cross-Strait status quo (76.5%). More than 60% stand by the view that the overwhelming consensus among Taiwan's 23 million people is the rejection of the "one country, two systems," regardless of party affiliation or political position (65.8%). And 62.1% approve the government's actions of putting forth five amendments to national security related laws and progressively improving the "security network for democracy" to counter mainland China's united front infiltration of Taiwan.

(2) Views on the CCP's actions towards Taiwan and the situation in Hong Kong

Nearly 90% of the respondents disapprove the CCP's "one country, two systems" initiative, which treats Taiwan as a local government and special administrative region, implies the acceptance of mainland China's rule and means the ROC would no longer exist (89.3%). With the same percentage, the respondents oppose Xi Jinping's refusal to commit to renouncing the use of force against Taiwan and repeatedly making military threats to force Taiwan to accept the "one country, two systems" (89.3%). Approximately 80% of the respondents disapprove of the CCP's recent poaching of two Taiwan's diplomatic allies, the Solomon Islands and Kiribati, through economic incentives and the obstruction of Taiwan's participation in the international arena (80.1%).

On the other hand, more than 50% of the respondents believe that the CCP has not lived up to its commitment to the "one country, two systems" in Hong Kong (54.8%). In addition, over 70% support the government's call for the Hong Kong government to respond to demands of its people for freedom and democracy and promptly engage in dialogues (72.0%). And over half of the respondents agree with the statement that, "The ROC government should, on humanitarian grounds, assist protesters at risk of persecution by the Hong Kong government and the CCP in the recent ongoing protests in Hong Kong" (54.1%).

(3) Views on the future of cross-Strait relations

Over 70% of the respondents stand by the government's approach, amidst political and military pressure from mainland China, of enhancing Taiwan's self-defenses, refusing the "one country, two systems model for Taiwan," and safeguarding national sovereignty and Taiwan's democracy (77.5%). More than 80% support the position emphasized by the President in her 2019 National Day Address that Taiwan's future path is to ensure that the people continue to remain united under the banner of freedom and democracy, to defend our sovereignty, to build a stronger Taiwan, and to actively engage with the world (84.6%). And nearly 90% of the respondents agree that Taiwan's future and the development of cross-Strait relations must be decided by the 23 million people of Taiwan (89.3%).

(4) Views on unification or independence

There is still an overwhelming majority (87.4%) support for "maintaining the status quo defined in the broader sense" (including "maintaining the status quo and deciding on independence or unification later," "maintaining the status quo and unification later," "maintaining the status quo and independence later," and "maintaining the status quo indefinitely"). Out of the six views provided, "maintaining the status quo and deciding on independence or unification later" enjoys the highest level of support (31%), followed by "maintaining the status quo indefinitely" (25.8%).

(5) Views on the pace of cross-Strait exchanges

Regarding the current pace of cross-Strait exchanges, 38.7% of the respondents believe to be "just right", while 10.5% and 32% believe to be "too fast" and "too slow", respectively.

(6) Public perception on the attitude of the mainland China government towards Taiwan

The perception of the public on mainland Chinese government's attitude towards the ROC government, 69.4% believe it to be "unfriendly", higher than those who see it as "friendly" (15.7%). Regarding the mainland Chinese government's attitude towards the people of Taiwan, 54.6% of the respondents believe it is unfriendly, slightly higher than those who believe it is being "friendly" (32.9%).