

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

(November 6 ~ 10, 2020)

- Nearly 80% of the public support the President's National Day Address emphasizing that maintaining cross-Strait stability is not a duty that Taiwan can shoulder alone, but a joint responsibility of both sides (79.8%). Over 80% support working with Beijing to facilitate meaningful dialogue while parity and dignity are maintained (85.3%).
- More than 80% of the people disapprove the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) "one country, two systems," which views Taiwan as a local government and special administrative region and will leave no space for the existence of the Republic of China (ROC) (86.7%). Over 70% of the public disapprove the CCP's positions on adhering to "one country, two systems," the "1992 Consensus" embodying the "one China" principle, and opposition to "Taiwan independence" (74.4%). People support the government to uphold sovereignty, defend democracy and freedom, and reject the "one country, two systems model for Taiwan" to maintain peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait (75.9%).
- Over 90% disapprove the CCP's constant navigation drills conducted by its fighter jets and warships in areas surrounding Taiwan, incursions into Taiwan's southwest air defense identification zone, and the crossing of the median line of the Taiwan Strait to militarily threaten Taiwan (90.3%). More than 80% disapprove the CCP's criticism of US arms sales as Taiwan colluding with foreign powers and undermining peace in the Taiwan Strait, on which it threatens to impose necessary sanctions (87.1%). Over 70% support the government to continue cooperating with the US to reinforce national security and self-defense capabilities (73.4%).

- More than 80% support that Taiwan's future and the development of cross-Strait relations must be decided by the 23 million people of Taiwan (86.4%). People in favor of "maintaining the status quo defined in a broad sense" still account for the great majority of the public (87.6%), maintaining a long-term stable trend. Regarding the current pace of cross-Strait exchanges, 43.7% of the public believe the pace to be "just right," while 7.5% and 32.6% believe it 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 a telephone survey between November 6 and 10, 2020. The surveyed included adults aged 20 and over in Taiwan, and a total of 1,074 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 the President's National Day Address and the government's cross-Strait policy**

Nearly 80% of the public support the President's National Day Address emphasizing that maintaining cross-Strait stability is not a duty that Taiwan can shoulder alone, but a joint responsibility of both sides (79.8%). People agree that the two sides should discuss ways to peaceful coexistence based on mutual respect, goodwill, and understanding, and that the government works with Beijing to facilitate meaningful dialogue while parity and dignity are maintained

(85.3%). In the face of the CCP's political and military pressuring, more than 70% support the government to uphold sovereignty, defend democracy and freedom, and reject the "one country, two systems model for Taiwan" to maintain peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait (75.9%). More than 80% of the people support the government's position that Taiwan's future and the development of cross-Strait relations must be decided by the 23 million people of Taiwan (86.4%). Moreover, nearly 70% of the people support the government's amendment of five national security related laws and the enactment of the Anti-Infiltration Act, and its continued efforts to promote related legal amendments to strengthen defense for democracy amidst the CCP's united front infiltration of Taiwan (68.6%). Nearly 50% of the people agree with the statement that, "To safeguard national security interests, the government should prevent mainland China from advancing its united front work through video exchanges with people in Taiwan" (47.9%).

## **(2) Views on the CCP's actions towards Taiwan and recent public concerns**

More than 80% of the people disapprove the CCP's "one country, two systems" proposal, which views Taiwan as a CCP-ruled local government and special administrative region and will leave no space for the existence of the ROC (86.7%). More than 70% of the public disapprove the CCP's positions on adhering to "one country, two systems," the "1992 Consensus" embodying the "one China" principle, and opposition to "Taiwan independence" (74.4%). More than 90% of the public disagree with the CCP's constant navigation drills conducted by fighter jets and warships in areas surrounding Taiwan, incursion into Taiwan's southwest air defense identification zone, and the crossing of the median line of the Taiwan Strait in an attempt to militarily threaten Taiwan (90.3%). More than 80% of the people disapprove the CCP's repeated criticism of US arms sales as Taiwan colluding with foreign powers and undermining peace in the Taiwan Strait, on which it threatens to impose necessary sanctions (87.1%). Over 70% of the public support the government to continue

strengthening cooperation with the US to reinforce national security and self-defense capabilities (73.4%). People also approve the gradual and orderly relaxation of border controls against people from mainland China as the government gives priority to business, education, and humanitarian needs and further resume cross-Strait personnel exchanges as the epidemic in mainland China subsides and comes under control (76.9%).

### **(3) Views on unification or independence**

An overwhelming majority of the public (87.6%) continue to support "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"). Among the six possible positions, "maintaining the status quo and deciding on independence or unification later" and "maintaining the status quo indefinitely" enjoyed the highest level of support (29.9%), followed by "maintaining the status quo and independence later" (20.8%).

### **(4) Views on the pace of cross-Strait exchanges**

Regarding the current pace of cross-Strait exchanges, 43.7% of the public believe the pace to be "just right," while 7.5% and 32.68% believe it to be "too fast" and "too slow," respectively.

### **(5) Public perception on the attitude of mainland Chinese government toward ROC**

The percentage of the public believing that the mainland Chinese government's attitude toward the ROC government is "unfriendly" (74%) is higher than the percentage believing it is "friendly" (11.3%). Regarding the mainland

Chinese government's attitude toward the Taiwanese people, 56.9% of the public believe it is unfriendly, slightly higher than those believe it is "friendly" (29.6%).