

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

(June 28~July 3, 2023)

- Nearly 90% of the public support the government's position that the two sides of the Taiwan Strait should interact in a rational, equal, and mutually respectful manner and engage in communication and dialogue without preconditions (89.3%). Over 80% of the public support the government's position that cross-Strait exchanges should be conducted in the spirit of equality, dignity, and in accordance with laws and regulations to prevent united front infiltration by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) (81.0%). Regarding the CCP's import bans on Taiwanese agricultural and fishery products on the grounds of discovering pests and viruses, a similar percentage of the public support the government's demand that the CCP provide notification in accordance with cross-Strait agreements (80.1%). More than 70% of the public support the government's approach of strengthening safety management for mainland Chinese people coming to Taiwan (76.8%).
- More than 80% of the people disapprove of the CCP's "one country, two systems" proposal, which views Taiwan as a local government and special administrative region ruled by the CCP and leaves no space for the existence of the Republic of China (84.3%). Nearly 90% of the public disapprove of the continued operations of CCP military aircraft and warships around Taiwan and CCP military's intentional crossing of the median line of the Taiwan Strait aimed at threatening the Taiwanese people with force (89.9%).
- People in favor of "maintaining the status quo defined in a broader sense" still account for the great majority of the public (87.1%). Over 90% of the public support the government's continued enhancement of self-defense capabilities to safeguard national sovereignty and Taiwan's democracy (90.1%). Over 80% of the public 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 (82.6%). A similar percentage of

respondents also believe in the importance to Taiwan of the successive statements made by senior officials of major countries worldwide on the need to maintain peace in the Taiwan Strait and oppose any disruption of the status quo (87.1%).

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 of National Chengchi University to conduct a telephone survey of adults aged 20 and over in Taiwan from June 28 to July 3, 2023. A total of 1,081 valid samples were obtained, with a sampling error of plus or minus 2.98% at a 95% confidence level.

II. Major Findings

(1) Views on the CCP's actions towards Taiwan More than 80% of the people disapprove of the CCP's "one country, two systems" proposal, which views Taiwan as a local government and special administrative region ruled by the CCP and leaves no space for the existence of the Republic of China (84.3%). Nearly 90% of the public disapprove of the continued operations of CCP military aircraft and warships around Taiwan and CCP military's intentional crossing of the median line of the Taiwan Strait aimed at threatening the Taiwanese people with force (89.9%)

(2) Views on cross-Strait exchanges and interaction after the COVID-19 pandemic

Nearly 90% of the public support the government's position that the two sides of the Taiwan Strait should interact in a rational, equal, and mutually respectful manner and seek to resolve our differences through communication and dialogue without preconditions (89.3%). Over 80% of the public support the government's position that cross-Strait exchanges should be conducted in the spirit of equality, dignity, and in accordance with laws and regulations to prevent united front infiltration by the CCP (81.0%). Regarding the CCP's import bans on

Taiwanese agricultural and fishery products on the grounds of discovering pests and viruses, a similar percentage of the public support the government's demand that the CCP provide notification in accordance with cross-Strait agreements to maintain the normal operations of cross-Strait trade and ensure the rights of Taiwanese farmers and fishermen (80.1%). To maintain the order of cross-Strait exchanges, more than 70% of the public support the government's approach of strengthening safety management for mainland Chinese people coming to Taiwan while gradually easing border controls (76.8%). More than 50% of the public believe that the CCP's recent amendments to the Anti-Espionage Law, which expand the interpretation of espionage activities and could potentially result in arbitrary arrests of individuals deemed a threat to national security, will affect their willingness to travel to mainland China (54.2%). Furthermore, 38.3% of the public believe that the current pace of cross-Strait exchanges is "just right," while 7.9% and 34.6% of the public believe it is "too slow" and "too fast," respectively.

(3) Views on the government's cross-Strait policy

Over 80% of the public 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 (82.6%). About 90% of the public support the government's continued enhancement of self-defense capabilities, protection of our national sovereignty and Taiwan's democracy, and upholding a non-provocative cross-Strait policy stance to maintain peace in the Taiwan Strait (90.1%). A similar percentage of respondents also believe in the importance to Taiwan of the successive statements made by senior officials of major countries worldwide on the need to maintain peace in the Taiwan Strait and oppose any disruption of the status quo (87.1%).

(4) Views on unification or independence

An overwhelming majority of the public (87.1%) continue to support "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

unification later," "maintaining the status quo and independence later," and "maintaining the status quo indefinitely"). Among the six possible positions, "maintaining the status quo indefinitely" and "maintaining the status quo and deciding on independence or unification later" enjoyed the highest level of support (34.3% and 27.4%, respectively), followed by "maintaining the status quo and independence later" (19.0%)

(5) Attitude of the mainland Chinese government toward the Republic of China

The percentage of the public believing that the mainland Chinese government's attitude toward the government of the Republic of China is "unfriendly" (69.6%) is higher than the percentage believing it is "friendly" (13.8%). Regarding the mainland Chinese government's attitude toward the Taiwanese people, 55.7% of the public believe it is unfriendly, higher than those who believe it is "friendly" (31.2%).

(6) Views on the situation in Hong Kong

Over 60% of the public agree with the statement that, "In recent years, the CCP's tight grip on Hong Kongers' freedom of speech, assembly, and other basic rights has left 'one country, two systems' in Hong Kong existing in name only" (63.6%). Nearly 50% of the public agree that the Hong Kong government's strengthened controls over its society and people will affect their willingness to travel to Hong Kong in the future (49.5%).