

# Summarized Results of the Public Opinion Survey on the "Public's Views on Supervision of Cross-Strait Agreements"

(April 9 to 13, 2014)

- Over 70% of the public agree that strengthened communication, consultations and national security reviews would be conducive to increasing the openness and transparency of negotiations, public participation (73.2%), congressional oversight (73.9%), and national security (72.6%).
- Regarding suggestions that previously signed cross-strait agreements should be required to pass a second review by the Legislative Yuan before implementation and that each agreement should undergo a minimum 270 day waiting period in the Legislative Yuan before it is signed, 69.1% of the public think that these requirements would affect the people's rights and interests and 62.2% of the public think that this would be too time-consuming.
- 42.5% of the public support the signing of the Cross-Strait Trade in Services Agreement, while 40.1% do not support this. Moreover, 70.4% public support starting at this time an article-by-article review and article -by- article vote on the Trade in Services Agreement by the Legislative Yuan.
- The majority of the public still believe that institutionalized cross-strait negotiations are conducive to the peace and stability of cross-strait relations (58.8%).

## I. Survey Background and Methods

In order to understand the public's views on issues concerning the supervision of cross-strait agreements, 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 the Taiwan Area from April 9 to 13, 2014. A total of 1,104 valid samples were collected, with a sampling error of 2.95% based on a 95% confidence level.

## II. Major Findings

### (1) Views on increasing openness and transparency, public participation, congressional oversight and national security in cross-strait negotiations

73.2% of the public believe that for the government to communicate and consult with the public at all stages of the negotiation process would be conducive to enhancing openness and transparency of negotiations and public participation. Moreover, 73.9% of the public believe that requiring the executive branch to fully communicate and consult with the Legislative Yuan at each stage before the agreement signing and respect the Legislative Yuan's procedures for review or for

record after the agreement signing would be conducive to increasing congressional oversight. As for requiring all future cross-strait agreements to undergo Executive Yuan review and secondary review and assessment by the National Security Council, 72.6% of the public believe this would be conducive to national security.

**(2) Views on retroactivity of the Cross-Strait Agreement Supervisory Act, waiting period for agreement signing, and legislator participation in negotiations**

69.1% of the public believe that requiring previously signed agreements to acquire a second Legislative Yuan approval would affect the public's rights and interests; and 62.2% of the public believe that requiring a minimum 270 day waiting period in the Legislative Yuan, excluding negotiation period, would be too time-consuming. Additionally, 46.6% people agree that allowing legislators to participate in negotiations as well as to review the signed agreements would be comparable to having players also serve as referees.

**(3) Views on the Cross-Strait Trade in Services Agreement**

42.5% public support the Cross-Strait Trade in Services Agreement, compared to 40.1% who do not support it. 70.4% of the public support starting immediately an article-by-article review and article-by-article vote on the Trade in Services Agreement in the Legislative Yuan, compared to just 15.8% who do not support this.

**(4) Views on institutionalized cross-strait negotiations**

58.8% of the public believe that institutionalized cross-strait negotiations are conducive to the peace and stability of cross-strait relations, compared to 27.3% holding the opposite view.