



Summarized Results of Public Opinion Survey on the “Public's Views on Current Cross-Strait Relations”

(September 1-5, 2010)

- Over 50 percent (51.9 percent) of the public believe cross-strait relations have become more relaxed since President Ma Ying-jeou came into office.
- Over 40 percent (40.3 percent) of the public believe that the current pace of cross-strait exchanges is just right.
- The overwhelming majority of the public (86.2 percent) support maintaining the status quo defined in a broader sense.
- Nearly 60 percent (59.7 percent) of the public approve of gradually allowing Mainland tourists to travel independently to Taiwan.

I. Survey Background and Methods

To understand the Taiwan people's views on issues related to cross-strait relations, the MAC commissioned the Election Study Center of National Chengchi University to conduct a telephone survey of adults aged 20 or older in the Taiwan Area from September 1 to 5, 2010. A total of 1,072 effective samples were collected, with a sampling error of about 3.1 percent based on a 95 percent confidence level.

II. Major Findings

(1) Views on overall cross-strait relations

Regarding the improvement of overall cross-strait relations, over 50 percent (51.9 percent) of the public believe that the relations have become "more relaxed" since President Ma Ying-jeou came into office, higher than the percentages saying the relations are "more tense" (10.2 percent) or "unchanged" (30.5 percent).

(2) Views on the pace of cross-strait exchanges

On the current pace of cross-strait exchanges, the largest percentage of the public (40.3 percent) believe the pace is "just right," while 37.5 percent of the public believe the pace is "too fast" and 13.2 percent believe it is "too slow."

(3) Views on unification or independence

The overwhelming majority of the public (86.2 percent) 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," "Maintaining the status quo indefinitely ") Among the six possible positions on this issue, "Maintaining the status quo and deciding on independence or unification later" enjoys the highest level of support (34.6 percent), followed by "Maintaining the status quo indefinitely" (30.5 percent).

(4) Public perception on the attitude of the Mainland government toward Taiwan

47.5 percent of the public believe the Mainland government is unfriendly toward the ROC government, higher than the percentage (37.3 percent) believing it is friendly; and 43.1 percent of the public believe the Mainland government is unfriendly toward the people of Taiwan, slightly higher than the percentage (39.9 percent) believing it is friendly.

(5) Views on allowing Mainland tourists to travel independently to Taiwan

59.7 percent of the public approve of allowing Mainland tourists to travel independently to Taiwan in the future if the government opens such travel gradually and initially restricts the opening to certain Mainland provinces and cities with residents of higher wealth, while 31.5 percent of the public disapprove.