

Summarized Results of the Public Opinion Survey on "Public Views on Current Cross-Strait Relations"

(March 7 to 10, 2013)

- 72.7% of the public support the continuous handling of cross-strait exchange issues through institutionalized negotiations.
- The majority of the people are satisfied with the results of the negotiations on the Cross-Strait Collaboration Agreement on Meteorology (77.6%) and Cross-Strait Collaboration Agreement on Seismological Monitoring (55%).
- 60% to 70% of the public support the negotiations issues for the next round of talks, including: cooperation on environmental protection (74.8%), flight safety and airworthiness standards cooperation (73.6%), Cross-Strait Trade in Goods Agreement and Cross-Strait Dispute Settlement Agreement (57.1%) under the ECFA framework, cooperation on the avoidance of double taxation and strengthening of tax cooperation (63.4%), and the reciprocal establishment of institutions by the Straits Exchange Foundation (SEF) and the Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Straits (ARATS) (65.8%).
- The overwhelming majority of the public (88.6%) still supports "maintaining the status quo defined in a broad 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").

I. Survey Background and Methods

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 the Taiwan Area from March 7 to 10, 2014. A total of 1,089 valid samples were collected, with a sampling error of minus or plus 2.97% at a 95% level of confidence.

II. Major Findings

(1) Views on institutionalized cross-strait negotiations

72.7% of the public support the continuous handling of issues related to

cross-strait exchanges through institutionalized negotiations, while 16.8% do not.

(2) Views on the Cross-Strait Collaboration Agreement on Meteorology and Cross-Strait Collaboration Agreement on Seismological Monitoring

77.6% of the people are satisfied with the results of the negotiations on the Cross-Strait Collaboration Agreement on Meteorology, including the timely exchange of information on severe weather, tracking weather changes, and issuing early disaster warnings, while 12.5% were not satisfied. As for the Cross-Strait Collaboration Agreement on Seismological Monitoring, 55% the public expressed satisfaction with the results of the negotiations, including the timely exchange of seismic data and monitoring seismic activities in the Taiwan Strait, while 27% were not satisfied.

(3) Views on negotiation issues for the next round of cross-strait talks

60% to 70% of the public support the negotiation issues planned for the next round of cross-strait talks, including: cooperation on environmental protection (74.8%), cooperation on flight safety and airworthiness standards (73.6%), Cross-Strait Trade in Goods Agreement and Cross-Strait Dispute Settlement Agreement (57.1%) under the ECFA framework, cooperation on the avoidance of double taxation and strengthening of tax cooperation (63.4%), and the reciprocal establishment of institutions by the SEF and the ARATS (65.8%).

(4) Views on unification or independence

An overwhelming majority of the public (88.6%) still support "maintaining the status quo defined in a broad 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"). Of the six possible positions, "maintaining the status quo and deciding on independence or unification later" enjoys the highest level of support (32.2%), followed by "maintaining the status quo indefinitely" (28.8%).

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

Regarding the current pace of cross-strait exchanges, 44.8% of the public believe it to be "just right", while 31.3% believe it to be "too fast" and 14.2% "too slow."

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

50.8% of the public believe that the mainland Chinese government's attitude

toward the ROC government is "unfriendly," higher than the percentage believing it is "friendly" (30.7%). Regarding the Mainland Chinese government's attitude toward the people of Taiwan, 44% of the public believe it is friendly, while 42.8% believe it is unfriendly.