

Summarized Results of the Snap Survey on "Public Views on the Government's Mainland Policy and Cross-Strait Relations"

(May 2 to 3, 2015)

- **The vast majority of the public support the government's policy of maintaining the cross-strait "no unification, no independence, and no use of force" status quo (75.2%) and normalization of official cross-strait interactions and institutionalized negotiations (71.4%).**
- **The majority of the people agree that an important achievement of the government's Mainland policy since 2008 has been to maintain peaceful and stable cross-strait relations (59.4%) and support the position of the 1992 Consensus of "one China with respective interpretations" (53.9%).**
- **Nearly 60% (58%) of the public feel that the resumption of institutionalized cross-strait negotiations has been conducive to the handling of cross-strait affairs; and nearly 50% of the people are satisfied with the results of cross-strait agreements (49.8%).**
- **The majority of the public support expanding cross-strait exchanges and interaction to spread Taiwan's core values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law and thereby increase mutual understanding (66.9%); support allowing Mainland students to study in Taiwan to promote mutual understanding among youth on the two sides (59.7%); and support the government's review and amendment of the Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area (50.3%).**

I. Survey Background and Methods

In order to understand the public's views on the government's Mainland policy and cross-strait relations, the MAC commissioned the Taiwan Real Survey Co., Ltd., to conduct a telephone survey of adults aged 20 and over in the Taiwan Area from May 2 to 3, 2015. A total of 1,070 effective samples were collected, with a sampling error of about 3% based on a 95% confidence level.

II. Major Findings

(1) Views on the government's Mainland policy and the overall development of cross-strait

relations

49.3% of the public feel that cross-strait relations are more relaxed compared to before 2008 (including those who feel relations are more "relaxed" or "unchanged or just as relaxed"); 59.4% of the public agree that the major achievement of the government's Mainland policy since 2008 has been to maintain peaceful and stable cross-strait relations; and 53.9% of the public support the government's approach of steadily promoting cross-strait negotiations and exchanges on the 1992 Consensus basis of "one China with respective interpretations." Furthermore, 40.4% of the public agree that, the improvement in cross-strait relations has protected the overall security of Taiwan in recent years (with 49% disagreeing); and 49.2% of the public agree with the statement that: "The improvement in cross-strait relations in recent years has expanded Taiwan's participation in the international community, enabling Taiwan to again participate in the World Health Assembly, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Assembly, and other international organizations and activities. Moreover, the number of countries and regions granting Taiwan visa-free treatment has increased from 54 in 2008 to 140 today."

(2) Views on cross-strait official interactions and institutionalized cross-strait negotiations

58.7% of the public feel that the government's promotion of normalization of official cross-strait interactions to enhance mutual understanding and reduce misjudgment of situations across the Strait is conducive to the peace and stability of cross-strait relations; and 45.2% of the public agree that the exchange visits by heads of cross-strait competent authorities and the establishment of normalized communication and liaison mechanisms between the MAC and the Mainland's TAO in 2014 is a major breakthrough after the 65 years of separate governance across the Taiwan Strait. Additionally, 58% of the public feel that the government's resumption of institutionalized cross-strait negotiations in 2008, enabling the two sides to gradually establish norms and mechanisms for resolving exchange-related problems, is conducive to the handling of cross-strait affairs. 49.8% of the public are satisfied that cross-strait agreements have facilitated exchanges between people on both sides, protected the Taiwanese people's personal safety and maintained social order, and also created more business opportunities. 44% of the public agree that the signing and implementation of cross-strait agreements has pressed the Mainland to adjust and establish more institutionalized norms while handling cross-strait issues.

(3) Views on cross-strait exchanges

66.9% of the public support the government's approach of expanding cross-strait exchanges and interaction to spread Taiwan's core values of freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law and thereby promote mutual understanding between the people on both sides. 59.7% support the government's approach since 2011 of allowing Mainland students to come to Taiwan to promote mutual understanding and interaction among youth on the two sides and lay a foundation for peaceful development across the Strait. 50.3% public support the government's review and amendment of the Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area, to gradually normalize cross-strait exchanges in response to the increasingly frequent exchanges between the two sides and implementation of human rights protections. 45.1% of the public feel that the overall pace of cross-strait exchanges over the past seven years has been "just right," 24% feel it has been "too fast," and 15.4% each responded "too slow" or "Don't know/No opinion."

(4) Views on the future direction of cross-strait relations

75.2% of the public support the government's policy of maintaining the cross-strait "no unification, no independence, and no use of force" status quo of under the ROC Constitution framework. 71.4% of the public support the government's continued normalization of official cross-strait interactions and institutionalized negotiations to facilitate institutionalized cross-strait ties.