

替補機制風波引發政府欠缺諮詢的問題，港大民意調查計劃主任鍾庭耀認為，針對替補機制，無論是政府、泛民主派，還是廣大市民，都在尋求一種合理的機制平息風波，相比起傳統的民意調查或現行的公眾諮詢，「協商性民意調查」更為科學，能夠在更高程度上體現民主。

香港大學和美國斯坦福大學剛聯合舉辦工作坊，討論「協商性民意調查」。講者之一的巴西南里奧格蘭德州前秘書長Erik Camarano也認同，協商性民調較公眾諮詢大會為佳，他說：「我們也舉辦傳統的公眾諮詢大會，但通常只會引來憤怒的『暴民』，在會場上喧鬧，難以獲得建設性的提議，還會把真正有意見發表的市民也被嚇走。」

## 有效反映市民所想

進行「協商性民意調查」，需要從社會中各個年齡層、行業中隨機抽取一定數量的參與者。首先進行一次傳統的民意調查，然後大會會為他們詳細講解一個特定公共議題，充分提供正反兩方面均衡的相關訊息，再把他們分成小組，由專業主持人帶領，就議題討論協商。之後，他們將有機會向有關的專家和政客提問。最後，大會將進行第二次民意調查，以獲得經過深思熟慮後的民意。

從事「協商性民意調查」多年的Angus Cheong更認為，這方式較公投為佳，能夠有意義地反映一個地區市民的想法和思考方式；相比之下，公投是一種「blunt tool（蠢鈍的工具）」。

Angus Cheong說，比如在美國加州，一次又一次的全民公投，已經讓政府失去管制能力，效果十分不理想。

Erik Camarano認為，「協商性民意調查」能夠清晰找出改變民眾意向的因素，以及市民缺乏了解，或希望了解的訊息；無論對政府還是對議員都甚有價值。Camarano還說，調查結果大多出乎意料，可能找到新的解決方案，也可能令議題繼續陷入僵局；因此，政府不能將調查結果當成決策的藉口，如果政府諮詢公眾時對特定結果有所期許，那麼「協商性民意調查」則會讓他們「更加無面」。

在浙江省澤國鎮，在Angus Cheong領導下已經進行過三次「協商性民意調查」，其中一次是政府提出修建一座大型公共交通樞紐廣場，資金卻不足，經調查後發現，市民根本沒有這方面的訴求，最後政府放棄了相關計劃。

鍾庭耀表示，他領導的港大民意調查計劃正在研究引入「協商性民意調查」，但沒有具體時間表，也不會取代現時使用電話訪問形式進行的民意調查。

# 鍾庭耀 擬引入協商性民調



■鍾庭耀指出，協商性民調較傳統民調更能體現民主。

## **Hong Kong Economic Journal:**

Tingyao Zhong: plans to introduce Deliberative Polling to Hong Kong

The replacement mechanism has reflected that the Hong Kong government did not pay enough attention on the public consultation. Tingyao Zhong, the director of POP, Hong Kong University pointed out that the government, democratic parties, and the citizens are looking for a reasonable mechanism to solve the problems brought by the replacement mechanism. Compared with traditional public polling or current public consultation, Deliberative Polling is more scientific and represents democracy at a higher level.

A workshop cohosted by Hong Kong University and Stanford University discussed the Deliberative Polling. Erik Camarano, one speaker at this workshop also agreed that Deliberative Polling is better than current public consultation methods. He said that we also hosted traditional public consultation events, but it often made the citizens angry and could not reach any constructive proposals; and sometimes the citizens with good opinions were not willing to express their opinions in such a noisy and chaotic environment.

Effectively reflects what citizens are thinking about

The Deliberative Polling randomly selects a certain amount of citizens from different age groups and industries. First, the DP conducts a traditional survey and the participants will be provided with balance and adequate information regarding a certain public topic. And then the participants will be divided into small groups where they will deliberate on the issue under the organization of trained moderators. Also, they will have opportunities to ask questions to the experts and politicians. At the end of the DP, the participants will fill out the survey again in order to get considered opinions.

Angus Cheong who has organized DP for many years said that the DP is better than the referendum, which can effectively represents the thoughts and thinking processes of citizens in certain areas. Compared with the DP, the referendum is a blunt tool.

Angus Cheong said that taking California as an example, the referendums, which have been conducted for many years, have made the government lost the regulation abilities without many positive outcomes.

Erik Camarano said that the DP can clearly find the factors that drive citizens' opinion changes and the information that citizens wants to know, which are valuable to both the governments and lawmakers. Camarano also pointed out that most of the DP produced surprising results which may lead to new solutions but also may get the issues stuck in a dilemma. Therefore, the

government should not take the DP results as an excuse of policy making. If the government has certain expectation of the DP results, the DP may embarrass them.

Under the organization of Angus Cheong, Zeguo in Zhejiang province has hosted the DP for three times, one of which discussed a government proposal to build big public transportation hub. But the DP results showed that citizens did not have the demands for this transportation hub, and finally the government gave up that proposal.

Tingyao Zhong said that his POP is planning to use the DP, but they don't have specific timetable to conduct the DP, and also they won't replace the telephone survey with the DP.