A third of the young people in Hong Kong are not confident about the implementation of ‘one country, two systems’, a new survey has found.

Many of them cited increasing interference by Beijing in SAR affairs as the reason.

A total of 522 people, aged from 15 to 34, were interviewed by Youth IDEAS (青年創研庫), a think tank of the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups (香港青年協會).

It found 19.1 percent are pessimistic about the development of society while more than two-thirds are optimistic about their own futures.

A correlation was found between the views of young people, their prospects and the outlook for society.

The main causes of their pessimism are the politicised social atmosphere, intensified competition, low social mobility and distrust of governance.

Generally they do not have confidence in the implementation of ‘one country, two systems’, as reflected by the average score of 4.7 out of 10.

More than 20 percent believe they are unable to influence government policies.

Another 9.5 percent would pass on their views to government and 5.7 percent would take part in social protest.

In a separate focus group, the think tank quizzed 20 people, aged from 15 to 28, who said they are pessimistic with the continuance of ‘50 years without change’.

(Sing Tao Daily)
LS in action

6 terms to know

implementation (n) 实施
- Implementation of the new policy has been smooth.

interference (n) 干预
- The media must be able to operate without government interference.

interview (v) 訪問
- The award winner was interviewed by a newspaper reporter.

correlation (n) 相互關係
- We have to find out the correlation between these two sets of data.

prospects (n) 指望
- Our business is making money and has bright prospects.

intensify (v) 加劇
- I need to see a doctor as the pain in my leg has intensified.

Writing tips

Pessimistic is an adjective that means thinking that bad things are more likely to happen
- The club is running out of money and its members are pessimistic about its future.
- We are pessimistic about the success of our project.

Pessimist is someone who feels that bad things are more likely to happen than good things.
- Being a pessimist will make you unhappy all the time.

Optimist is someone whose attitude is the opposite of a pessimist. An optimist always believes that good things will happen.
- Mary is a born optimist and is fun to be with.
- Life will be easier if you are an optimist.

Worksheet

A Matching
Match sentence fragments in Column A with those in Column B to make complete sentences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Many young people are not</td>
<td>A. about the development of society.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. About 19 percent were pessimistic</td>
<td>B. confident about ‘one country, two systems’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. But over two-thirds are optimistic about</td>
<td>C. their own future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Interference from Beijing</td>
<td>D. is blamed for the lost of confidence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. _____________  2. _____________  3. _____________  4. _____________

B Fill in the mind map

Cause: politicised social
2. ________.

3. ________ and low social mobility.

Many young people are doubtful about the
1. ________ of ‘one country, two systems’

No say: over 20 percent say they are unable to 4. ________ government policies.

Disbelief: many do not believe in the 5. ________ of ‘50 years without change’.

C Critical thinking

1. Do you think the implementation of ‘one country, two systems’ has failed?
2. What are your reasons?
3. What do you think of the promise of ‘50 years without change’?
4. Has Beijing been interfering with Hong Kong affairs?
5. What will happen to Hong Kong after 2047?